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COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE  
COUNTY OF WEST LoTHIAN

*(Public Health Department)*

# ANNUAL REPORT

for the Year 1952

BY THE

**County Medical Officer**



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COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE  
COUNTY OF WEST LoTHIAN

*(Public Health Department)*

**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

**for the Year 1952**

BY THE

**County Medical Officer**

# LIST OF STAFF

## MEDICAL OFFICER'S DEPARTMENT

County Medical Officer of Health—  
L. J. HOWIE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Executive School Medical Officer—  
CHRISTA B. ROSS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers—MOLLY B. WILSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. ;  
J. MURRAY McEWAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Dental Officers—  
MARGARET LONNON, L.D.S. ; ROGER H. WHITE, L.D.S. (App. 8/9/52) ;  
FRANK B. MARSHALL, L.D.S. (App. 23/10/52) ;  
JOHN O'CONNOR, L.D.S. (App. 16/10/52)

Speech Therapists—  
ELLEN M. C. CLARK, M.A., L.C.S.T. (Senior) ; MOIRA MUNRO, L.C.S.T.  
(Res. 7/9/52) ; MARJORIE KINNEAR, L.C.S.T. (App. 8/9/52)

Orthopaedic After-Care Sisters—  
Whole-time—ROSEMARY M. YOUNG, M.C.S.P. (Res. 21/11/52)  
Part-time — EILEEN J. KERR, M.C.S.P.  
M. JEAN STEWART, M.C.S.P. (App. 10/11/52)  
MARGARET FINLAYSON, M.C.S.P. (Res. 30/9/52)

Health Visitors—

HELEN BAIKIE	MARION STEVENSON
ELIZABETH GILLIES	MURIEL ROGERS
MARY DUNN	MARGARET LUMSDEN
HELEN FLEMING	HELEN GLASGOW
AGNES McCUBBIN	MARION SANDERSON
MARGARET GIBSON	ALEXANDRIA MACKENZIE
THOMASINA BROWN	MARY McMEECHAN
AGNES LIDDLE	(App. 16/5/52)
(App. 16/5/52)	

Chief Clerkess—MARION F. GILLON

Clerkesses—

DOROTHY PROVEN	MARION LIDDLE
MARGARET WEIR	FLORENCE MIDDLEMASS
JEAN TWEEDHOPE	CATHERINE URE

Dental Attendants—

MARY PATERSON	MARGARET ADAMSON
MARY O'BRIEN	ARLENE THOMSON
(App. 27/10/52)	(App. 3/11/52)

Specialist Consultants—

Orthopaedic—W. V. ANDERSON, F.R.C.S. (Ed.) ; G. W. BAKER,  
F.R.C.S. (Ed.)

Ear, Nose, and Throat Specialist—J. P. STEWART, F.R.C.S. (Ed.)

Radiologist—ANGUS CAMPBELL, M.B., Ch.B., D.R. (Ed.)

Ophthalmologist (Temporary Appointment)—  
Dr D. BECHER, M.D. (Vienna)

## INTRODUCTION

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### VITAL STATISTICS

The *Birth Rate* for 1952 was 19.6, and the *Death Rate* 9.9, the corresponding figures for Scotland being 17.7 and 12.0 respectively. The birth rate was rather higher than in 1951 and the death rate noticeably lower, being indeed the lowest yet recorded. Deaths from the three principal causes, heart disease, cancer, and cerebral haemorrhage, did not, however, contribute to this low rate, as all three accounted for more deaths than in the previous year. The *Marriage Rate* at 7.6 was a little lower than the previous year's, and below the average of 8.0 for Scotland. The *Infant Mortality Rate* was 34, and thus again failed to reach the abnormally low figure of 30 recorded in 1950. Scotland's rate was 35. Of the 59 infant deaths, 35 were of infants under 4 weeks old, giving a *Neo-natal Mortality Rate* of 20 against Scotland's rate of 22. It is to be noted that 33 of these 35 infants survived for less than one week, so that practically all the neo-natal deaths were of new born children, and more than half (56%) of the whole range of infant mortality occurred in the first week of life. In 17 of the 33 deaths among the new born, immaturity was a chief or a contributory cause, and was confined to this age group. The *Still Birth Rate*, at 27, showed no tendency to decline, being just above the average for Scotland (26). The death roll of still born and live born immature infants was 65, and this out of a total of 1,808 live and still births represents the wastage of potential infant life. As can be seen, the greater part of the wastage is due to still birth, and until more is known about its causation and the causes of immaturity, it is not possible to assess the effect of ante-natal care in their prevention. The infant deaths in the age group 1-12 months, on the other hand, were fewer than in 1951, although the principal cause of death, pneumonia, accounted for a higher proportion of them. The *Tuberculosis Death Rate* was 20 per 100,000 population and was the lowest ever recorded in the County. It was entirely due to the *respiratory* form of the disease, no deaths from the *non-respiratory* forms being registered. The rate for Scotland in 1952 was 27 for respiratory and 4 non-respiratory, making a total rate of 31.

There was an almost entire absence of serious infectious disease in the County during the year, the only widely prevalent infection being mild scarlet fever. Deaths from the principal epidemic diseases amounted to only 2, both due to influenza.

From these figures it is evident that the healthy conditions of the previous year were well maintained in 1952, and the tuberculosis position in particular showed a further encouraging improvement. The mortality from heart disease and cancer, on the other hand, showed no sign of diminution.

## CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

There were 13,454 attendances of children at the 16 County Child Welfare Clinics during the year, 11,637 of these being of children under 1 year old at the time of attendance. This is a satisfactory record, although not comparable with the figures of former years, owing to a change in the method of recording now required by the Department of Health. Only one of the clinics is without the attendance of a local practitioner, and there is close collaboration between doctor and health visitor in making these clinics centres for the diffusion of sound knowledge on the care of infants and young children, and the inculcation of healthy habits in the home.

One of the clinics conducted in premises in Harthill for the benefit of mothers in the Greenrigg area was closed during the year owing to the poor attendances recorded. With this exception the clinics have had a very successful year.

In accordance with an agreement made between the Associations of Local Authorities and representatives of the medical profession, the County Council is now providing maternity outfits free of charge as part of their arrangements for the care of mothers and young children. Contracts are held, in rotation so far as possible, with chemists throughout the County for the supply of these outfits, which include the main dressings required at the confinement. Only practitioners, district nursing sisters, and private midwives are authorised to obtain outfits under these contracts ; 759 were supplied during the year.

## DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY

The number of home confinements, productive of 743 live and 14 still births, was almost exactly the same as in the previous year, and in all except three of the births a doctor was engaged along with the midwife, both collaborating in the ante- and post-natal care of the mother. There are now 13 gas and air analgesia sets in use by the district nursing sisters, and it has been thought desirable not to increase the number until a decision has been reached by the Central Midwives Board on the use of lighter and less bulky apparatus. The number of cases in which the gas was used reached 173, a big increase on the previous year's total of 99. The analgesic pethidine, also used for easing the pains of childbirth, was administered in 334 cases, as against 264 in 1951.

## HEALTH VISITING

The staff of health visitors was increased by two during the year to a total of 15. They made 26,525 visits to 7,604 persons ; 86% of these visits were in connection with child welfare and 10% were to tuberculosis cases. The balance of 4% were visits in connection with the home help service, which are costly of time, visits to expectant

mothers, to aged persons, and miscellaneous special visits of investigation and advice on a variety of matters concerning the health of the family unit and the prevention of illness. Considering that at least one-third of the health visitors' time is spent on the school health service, with its demands on school medical inspection, diphtheria immunisation, mass radiography, etc., this is a very satisfactory record.

#### HOME NURSING

The work of this service was marked by a high proportion of visits to persons over 65 years of age. Nearly one-quarter of the medical and surgical cases attended by the district nursing sisters were in this category, and the average number of visits paid to each was over 30. The home nursing of elderly and aged persons often involves heavy work and the service is performing an important function in easing the over-taxed hospital bed accommodation. Co-operation between hospital almoners, health visitors, and general practitioners may often secure the release of a hospital bed by the discharge of a patient who can suitably be nursed at home.

#### HOME HELP SERVICE

Increasing use of the home help service has been made since its inception in 1951, and it has now come to be regarded as an indispensable addition to the County health and welfare services. The number of cases supplied with a home help during the year rose from 99 to 152, and at the end of the year 72 home helps were in employment, against a total of 65 the previous year. More than half of the applicants were supplied with home helps for reasons of illness in the home or absence in hospital of a key member of the household, and rather less than a quarter of the cases dealt with were on account of home or hospital confinements. Of the 40 remaining cases 31 were elderly or aged persons, many of whom were incapacitated through illness or debility.

#### SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

Attention is directed to Dr Ross's full report on the School Health Service, which gives an up-to-date picture of the extent of the work being done. The report includes Mrs Lonnon's account of the School Dental and Emergency Dental Services.

#### VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Co-operation exists between practitioners, midwives, and health visitors in securing a high proportion of infant vaccinations, and the results are certainly better than could be inferred from the number of record cards received from doctors. The figure for successful vaccinations in 1952, which includes adult vaccinations, is 722. No reaction following vaccination was reported in a further 57 records.



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The incidence of infectious disease in 1952 was again light, the number of confirmed cases being 488, compared with 767 the previous year. The large reduction is due to an abatement of the *whooping cough* epidemic which took effect early in the year. Only 136 cases were notified, as against 495 in 1951. Mild *scarlet fever*, with 228 cases, was rather more prevalent. Of the remaining 124 cases, the various forms of *pneumonia* accounted for more than half. After an entire absence of *diphtheria* for three years, three cases were confirmed, two occurring in non-immunised children. Fortunately, all three made good recoveries, although one case was of moderate severity. The organisms isolated proved to be of intermediate virulence. This occurrence illustrates the fact that there are still diphtheria carriers in the community, and emphasises the need for parents not only to consent to the immunisation of their children, but to see that they receive the two inoculations in early infancy and the reinforcing dose during the first year at school. Long absence of the disease does not mean that it has been finally banished—it only means that the child population has so far been well protected. In December the County Council approved of a proposal to introduce combined inoculation against diphtheria and whooping cough and to offer whooping cough immunisation to children already immunised against diphtheria. Although the same high protection cannot be guaranteed against whooping cough as against diphtheria, there is ample evidence to show that preparations now available for inoculation considerably reduce the risk of whooping cough in the immunised, and probably mitigate the attack should the disease be contracted. The low incidence of whooping cough at the end of the year, following a period of epidemic prevalence, was regarded as a good opportunity to begin the work, and the response of parents was expected to be high, especially as the recent heavy inroads of the disease would be fresh in their minds.

There were no cases of *typhoid* or *paratyphoid fever*, and 14 cases of *dysentery* were notified. Five cases of *poliomyelitis* occurred, one of which was a mild non-paralytic case. The others, including one child on holiday from Canada, all developed paralysis of a severe or moderate nature, from which two made a complete recovery and two are progressing favourably.

## TUBERCULOSIS

There was again a decline in the number of new cases. Notifications of respiratory tuberculosis fell from 173 in the previous year to 150. More than half of these notifications were of persons from 15 to 35 years of age, with a 62% preponderance of females in this age group. The infection is therefore still taking a comparatively heavy toll of young women, though the excess is somewhat less than in the previous year.

There were 28 non-respiratory notifications, 2 fewer than in 1951. As the search for new cases has continued to intensify, it is reasonable to conclude that there has been a definite reduction of infection in the County. The methods of case finding and control of infection which are being undertaken by the chest physician's staff at Bangour Hospital in collaboration with the health visitors and the Mass Radiography Unit were summarised in last year's report. A further strengthening of this liaison was made by a new arrangement whereby a member of the chest physician's staff and the medical officer of health meet each of the health visitors in turn for discussion and interchange of information on the cases under her care. Particular attention is paid to securing the attendance of out-patients and contacts, and arranging for skin testing and B.C.G. vaccination of children, at the Bangour clinics. The numbers vaccinated continued to increase steadily, and of 206 negative reactors 194 were successfully vaccinated, 73 more than in the previous year. Grateful acknowledgments are due to the chest physician and his staff for their close collaboration throughout the year in the preventive work of the department.

The annual survey of children of school leaving age was carried out by the mobile mass radiography unit of the Regional Hospital Board in May, June, and September, and details are to be found in the School Health Report, p. 28. At the same time the unit paid a more comprehensive round of visits to employees of industrial firms and public services than in the previous year. In all, 4,366 employees were X-rayed against a total of 1,816 in 1951. Of the 98 employees recalled for large films, 9 were found to have active and 19 quiescent or healed lung tuberculosis; two were known cases. Of the remainder, 60 had disease or abnormalities of a non-tuberculous nature, one was referred for further investigation, and 7 had no disease or abnormality.

The rehousing of tuberculous families made encouraging progress in 1952 in face of difficulties which continued to be severe. Landward and burghal house-letting committees succeeded in rehousing 58 such cases, compared with 49 in 1951.

In the previous year's report the big drop in the death rate from respiratory tuberculosis was commented on. In 1952 there was a further fall from 24 to 20 per 100,000, and thus in two years the County rate has been more than halved (44 to 20). This is a momentous record, and indicates that early diagnosis is having its effect in reducing the number of advanced cases to be treated, and points to the influence of the new chemotherapy on prognosis. It encourages the hope that there will be no return to the persistently high rates of the war and post-war years, and augurs well for a further reduction in mortality, less dramatic no doubt, but sufficient to indicate that a decisive stage is being reached in the campaign against tuberculosis.

## VENEREAL DISEASES

The number of new cases seen at the treatment centre during the year was 116, the lowest yet recorded. Of these, 31 were found to have venereal disease, and 34 non-specific disease. The remaining 51, or 44% of the new cases, had no disease. There were also fewer out-patients attending at the end of the year.

## STAFF

Outstanding among a number of staff changes during the year were the appointments, in September and October, of three dental officers to fill the vacancies on the school dental staff, the last of these vacancies having occurred in April, 1950. One of the two part-time posts for orthopaedic after-care sisters was made whole-time, bringing the establishment up to two whole-time and one part-time staff, but unfortunately on the resignation of Miss Young (whole-time) and Miss Finlayson (part-time), who had given excellent service, the only replacement found possible was one part-time officer. There is at present an acute shortage of these medical auxiliaries. The staff suffered a further severe loss through the resignation of Miss Munro, speech therapist, whose outstanding work has contributed so much to this important service. We were fortunate in obtaining a worthy successor in Miss Kinnear. The appointment of two more health visitors has proved a welcome addition to a service, the ramifications and responsibilities of which are still growing.

It is once more a pleasure to acknowledge the loyal and devoted service of the department staff, both indoor and outdoor, and the ungrudging assistance received from the Sanitary, Welfare, and other departments, and from the District Council Officers.

L. J. HOWIE,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

County Buildings,  
Linlithgow.  
30th April, 1953.

**COUNTY OF WEST LOTHIAN**  
**VITAL STATISTICS—YEAR 1952**

	West Lothian	Armadale	Bathgate	Bo'ness	Linlithgow	South Queensferry	Whitburn	Landward
Population Census, 1951 ... ..	88576	5803	11290	9949	3929	2486	5232	49887
Population, Estimated, to middle of 1952 ... ..	89652	5956	11524	10057	3961	2549	5303	50302
No. Births (Corrected) ... ..	1760	134	220	200	87	61	121	937
Illegitimate ... ..	52	5	4	4	2	2	2	33
Still Births (Corrected) ... ..	48	2	8	7	—	2	2	27
Marriages (Registered) ... ..	677	67	105	90	34	17	42	322
No. Deaths (Corrected) ... ..	886	47	131	110	56	28	51	463
No. Deaths of Children under 1 year	59	1	7	3	5	2	4	37
<b>CAUSES OF DEATH</b>								
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	18	1	4	1	2	—	—	10
Tuberculosis, other forms ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis and its sequelae	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Typhoid Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery, all forms ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever and Streptococcal sore throat ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Infectious & Parasitic Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasms ... ..	141	10	27	16	6	4	5	73
Benign and unspecified Neoplasms	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diabetes Mellitus ... ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Anaemias ... ..	8	—	—	2	—	—	1	5
Other General Diseases ... ..	7	1	2	2	—	—	—	2
Vascular Lesions affecting central nervous system ... ..	140	6	16	19	14	7	8	70
Nonmeningococcal Meningitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases of Nervous System	13	1	1	3	1	—	—	7
Rheumatic Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease ...	14	—	2	1	—	—	1	10
Arteriosclerotic and degenerative Heart Disease ... ..	252	18	43	35	12	10	13	121
Other Diseases of Heart ... ..	15	1	—	1	1	1	1	10
Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	15	—	1	—	—	—	2	12
Hypertension without Heart Disease	15	2	2	2	—	—	3	6
Other Circulatory Diseases ... ..	20	1	5	4	3	—	—	7
Influenza ... ..	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia (except of newborn) ...	25	1	4	2	—	1	3	14
Bronchitis ... ..	23	—	1	3	5	1	—	13
Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	16	2	2	—	—	—	2	10
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	10	—	2	2	1	—	—	5
Appendicitis ... ..	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia ...	8	—	1	1	—	—	2	4
Gastritis and Duodenitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea (except of newborn) ...	4	1	1	—	1	—	—	1
Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	1
Other Diseases of Liver ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Carry forward ... ..	758	45	117	94	47	24	41	390

CAUSES OF DEATH (contd.)

	West Lothian	Armadales	Bathgate	Bo'ness	Linlithgow	South Queensferry	Whitburn	Landward
Brought forward ... ..	758	45	117	94	47	24	41	390
Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis ... ..	8	—	1	2	1	—	1	3
Hyperplasia of Prostate ... ..	3	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Other Diseases of Genito-Urinary System ... ..	6	—	—	1	—	1	—	4
Puerperal Sepsis (including post- abortive Sepsis) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diseases of Skin and Organs of Locomotion ... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations ... ..	11	—	1	3	—	1	—	6
Birth injuries, post-natal asphyxia, and atelectasis .... ..	17	—	1	1	3	—	—	12
Pneumonia of newborn ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diarrhoea of newborn ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infections of the newborn ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases peculiar to early In- fancy ... ..	12	—	2	—	1	1	2	6
Senility ... ..	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Causes Ill-defined and Unknown ...	13	1	—	—	2	—	1	9
Suicide ... ..	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents ... ..	11	—	1	—	1	—	1	8
Other Road Transport Accidents ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other Violence ... ..	39	1	5	9	—	1	3	20
All Causes ... ..	886	47	131	110	56	28	51	463

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES FOR COUNTY  
(Landward and Burghal) per 1,000 Population

	1952	1951	Scotland 1952
Birth Rate (corrected) ... ..	19.6	19.1	17.7
*Illegitimate Birth Rate ... ..	3.0	2.7	4.8
Death Rate, all causes (corrected) ...	9.9	10.4	12.0
Death Rate, Tuberculosis (corrected)—			
All forms ... ..	0.20	0.29	0.31
Respiratory ... ..	0.20	0.24	0.27
Non-Respiratory ... ..	0.00	0.05	0.04
†Death Rate, Principal Epidemic Dis- eases ... ..	0.02	0.19	0.08
Infant Mortality Rate, per 1000 live births ... ..	34	33	35
Neo-natal Death Rate, per 1000 live births ... ..	20	16	22
‡Still Birth Rate ... ..	27	26	26

\* Per 100 live births.

† Typhoid fever, scarlet fever, diphtheria, whooping cough, meningococcal infections, measles, and influenza.

‡ The Still Birth Rate is calculated on all births; others on live births only.

NUMBER OF DEATHS IN THE VARIOUS AGE GROUPS  
DURING 1952

Ages at Death	West Lothian	Armadaile	Bathgate	Bo'ness	Linlithgow	South Queensferry	Whitburn	Landward
Under 1 ...	59	1	7	3	5	2	4	37
1—4 ...	10	1	1	1	—	—	1	6
5—9 ...	6	1	1	1	—	—	1	2
10—14 ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
15—24 ...	23	2	2	1	2	—	2	14
25—34 ...	15	—	—	3	1	—	1	10
35—44 ...	40	2	8	3	2	—	1	24
45—54 ...	77	7	14	10	2	—	6	38
55—64 ...	153	2	22	19	11	6	7	86
65—74 ...	207	17	30	26	14	6	12	102
75—84 ...	235	11	36	34	12	13	11	118
85 and over ...	60	3	10	9	7	1	5	25
All ages ...	886	47	131	110	56	28	51	463

**INFANT MORTALITY****DEATHS CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE GROUPS**

Cause of Death	Under 1—4	1—3	3—6	6—12	Total	
	1 week	weeks	m'ths	m'ths		
Pneumonia (except of newborn) ... ..	—	—	6	2	4	12
Pneumonia of newborn ...	1	—	—	—	—	1
Bronchitis ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	1
Diarrhoea ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	1
Congenital Malformations ...	4	2	—	2	—	8
Birth injuries, post-natal asphyxia, atelectasis, and diseases peculiar to early infancy, in association with immaturity ... ..	17	—	—	—	—	17
Birth injuries, post-natal asphyxia, atelectasis, and diseases of early infancy, not in association with immaturity ... ..	10	—	1	—	1	12
Causes ill-defined and unknown ... ..	1	—	2	—	—	3
Accidental causes (except in newborn) ... ..	—	—	2	1	1	4
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>33</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>59</b>

**MATERNAL MORTALITY**

(a) Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	—
(b) Deaths from other Puerperal causes ... ..	—

**I.—MEDICAL SERVICES****I.—CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN****(1) ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL SERVICE**

The County Council does not at present maintain any ante-natal or post-natal clinics.

**(2) CHILD WELFARE CLINICS**

	No. of Clinics provided at the end of the year	No. of Children who first attended the Clinics during year and who on the date of their first attendance were:—		Total No. of attendances made during year by Children who at the time of attendance were:—	
		Under 1 year of age	Over 1 year of age	Under 1 year of age	Over 1 year of age
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Local Health Authority Clinics ...	16	1835	663	11637	1817
Clinics provided by Voluntary Organisations	—	—	—	—	—

### LIST OF CHILD WELFARE CLINICS

Clinic	Situation of Clinic	Day of Meeting	Time of Meeting	Health Visitor in attendance	Doctor in attendance
Armadale	Dr Gardiner's Surgery	Every Wednesday	2 p.m.—4 p.m.	Stevenson	Gardiner
Bathgate	67 Mid Street	Every Thursday	2 p.m.—4 p.m.	Gillies	Rossie
Bathgate	West School	Every Tuesday	2.15—4 p.m.	Mackenzie	Rossie
Blackburn	Miners' Welfare Institute	2nd, 3rd, and 4th Wednesday of each month	2 p.m.—4 p.m.	Fleming	Lang
Blackridge	Public School	Every Thursday	2 p.m.—4 p.m.	Brown	Hopkins
Bo'ness	Duchess Nina Home	Every Thursday	2 p.m.—4 p.m.	McCubbin	—
Broxburn	Community Centre	Every Thursday	2 p.m.—4 p.m.	Rogers	Scott
Fauldhouse	Public School	Every Tuesday	2 p.m.—4 p.m.	McMeechan	Nelson
Harthill (discon. 19/3/52)	Masonic Hall	Every Wednesday	2 p.m.—4 p.m.	Dunn	—
Linlithgow	Masonic Hall	2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month	3 p.m.—4 p.m.	Lumsden	Reid
Livingston Station	Institute	2nd and 4th Friday of each month	2 p.m.—4 p.m.	Liddle	Lang
Stoneyburn	R.C. School	Every Wednesday	2 p.m.—4 p.m.	Sanderson	Sherry
Seafield	Works Institute	1st Wednesday of each month	2 p.m.—4 p.m.	Fleming	Lang
So. Queensferry	Burgh Chambers	Every Tuesday	2 p.m.—4 p.m.	Baikie	Hughes
Uphall	Community Centre, Broxburn	Every Tuesday	2 p.m.—4 p.m.	Glasgow	Thomson
Winchburgh	Public School	1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month	2 p.m.—4 p.m.	Lumsden	Gracie
Whitburn	7a East Main Street	Every Thursday	2 p.m.—4 p.m.	Dunn	Gilchrist



Details of Attendances at these Clinics are as follows:—

	Armadale	Bathgate (Mid Street)	Bathgate (West School)	Broxburn	Blackridge	Bo'ness	Fauldhouse	Linlithgow	Liv'ston Stn.	Harthill	Stoneyburn	S. Queensferry	Blackburn	Seafield	Uphall	Winchburgh	Whitburn
(a) No. of Children Attending—																	
Under 1 year	255	137	120	171	71	177	135	66	60	14	126	108	97	34	71	43	150
Over 1 year	98	28	54	50	29	22	104	8	22	1	92	64	7	8	22	9	45
(b) Total No. of Attendances of Children—																	
Under 1 year	1681	1215	846	744	464	1094	624	345	346	26	910	853	457	127	443	192	1270
Over 1 year	231	59	78	115	112	95	127	16	57	1	421	295	38	46	46	13	67

### (3) DENTAL CARE

Nil.

### (4) MOTHER AND BABY HOMES

There are no Mother and Baby Homes in the County.

### VITAMINS

#### GOVERNMENT SCHEME FOR DISTRIBUTION OF CHEAP OR FREE MILK AND VITAMIN PREPARATIONS

Annual statistics are not available this year.

2 Layettes were supplied during the course of the year.

759 Maternity Outfits were supplied during the course of the year.

### (5) DAY NURSERIES (INCLUDING 24-HOUR NURSERIES) AS AT END OF YEAR

There are no day or residential nurseries in the County.

## II.—MIDWIFERY

- (i) Total number of births occurring in the area during year—that is, before correction for mother's residence:—  
Live Births—1,448      Still Births—43      Total—1,491
- (ii) Total number of births in (i) occurring in institutions (including private maternity homes):—
- |              |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Live Births  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 734 |
| Still Births | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 29  |
- (iii) Number of births in (i) occurring at home:—
- |              |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Live Births  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 743 |
| Still Births | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14  |
- (iv) Number of births in (iii) classified to show nature of attendance at birth:—

	Cases dealt with under Section 23 (2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947			Other domiciliary cases			Total
	Doctor engaged and pres- ent at confine- ment	Doctor engaged and not present at con- finement	Mid- wife alone (no doctor en- gaged)	Doctor and mid- wife en- gaged	Mid- wife alone (No doctor en- gaged)	With- out doctor or mid- wife	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
(a) Midwives employed by the Authority (in- cluding those engaged on fee per case basis)	150	604	3	—	—	—	757
(b) Midwives employed by Voluntary Organ- isations under ar- rangements made by the Authority ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Midwives employed by Hospital Boards of Management under arrangements made by the Authority with the Regional Hospital Board ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(d) Private practising Midwives ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(e) Other cases not classified ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(f) Totals ...	150	604	3	—	—	—	757

**(v) Medical Aid**

(a) No. of cases in which medical aid was summoned during the year under Section 14 (1) of the Midwives (Scotland) Act, 1951, by a Midwife:—

(i) for Domiciliary Cases	...	...	...	...	Nil
(ii) for Institutional Cases	...	...	...	...	Nil

**(vi) Administration of Analgesics**

(a) No. of domiciliary midwives in the area qualified to administer gas and air analgesia in accordance with the requirements of the Central Midwives' Board for Scotland (including superintendents, non-medical supervisors of midwives, midwife teachers, midwives employed by the local health authority and by voluntary organisations, private practising midwives, and hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases under arrangements made by the local health authority and the Regional Hospital Board, but excluding pupil midwives undergoing training in the district) ... 25

(i) No. in (a) employed on local health authority work ... 25

(ii) No. in (a) not employed on local health authority work ... Nil

(b) No. of domiciliary midwives who received training during year ... ..	Nil
(c) No. of sets of Apparatus for the administration of gas and air in use in the area at 31st December, 1952 ... ..	13
(i) No. in (c) in use by domiciliary midwives employed on local health authority work (including those in use by hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases) ... ..	13
(ii) No. in (c) in use by domiciliary midwives not employed on local health authority work ... ..	Nil
(d) No. of sets on order at 31st December, 1952 ... ..	Nil
(e) No. of cases in which gas and air was administered by midwives in domiciliary practice during the year (including cases attended by hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases)—	
(i) When doctor was not present at delivery ... ..	148
(ii) When doctor was present at delivery ... ..	25
(f) No. of cases in which pethidine was administered by midwives in domiciliary practice during the year (including cases attended by hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases)—	
(i) When a doctor was not present at delivery ... ..	267
(ii) When doctor was present at delivery ... ..	67
(vii) No. of cars in use by midwives at 31st December, 1952 ... ..	14

### OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

There were no cases notified during the year.

### PUERPERAL FEVER AND PUERPERAL PYREXIA

	Puerperal Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia
1. Notified by Doctors ...	1	—
2. Notified by Midwives ...	—	—
3. Admitted to Hospital ...	1	—
4. Number of Deaths ...	—	—

### III.—HEALTH VISITING

No. of Visits paid by Health Visitors (or by District Nurses  
in their capacity as Health Visitors) during the year.

1.	Expectant Mothers		Children under 1 year of age		Children between the ages of 1 & 5		Tuberculosis Cases		Other Cases		Total Visits paid
	First Visits	Total Visits	First Visits	Total Visits	First Visits	Total Visits	First Visits	Total Visits	First Visits	Total Visits	
	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.
Health Visitors employed by the Authority	149	266	2522	11050	3914	11700	763	2693	256	816	26525
Health Visitors employed by Voluntary Organisations	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

### IV.—HOME NURSING

(1)	(2)	(3)
	No. of cases attended by Home Nurses (or by District Nurses in their capacity as Home Nurses) under arrangements made under this Section	No. of Visits paid by Nurses to these Cases
Home Nurses directly employed by the Authority ...	2460 (630)	43802 (19147)
Home Nurses employed by Voluntary Organisations under arrangements made by the Authority ...	—	—

Elderly patients (e.g., those aged 65 or over) are included and also shown separately in the brackets.

### V.—DOMESTIC HELP

(i) No. of Domestic Helps employed at end of year ...	72
(a) Whole-time ...	20
(b) Part-time ...	52
(c) Retaining Fee basis ...	—
(ii) No. of cases for which Helps were provided during the year	152
(iii) No. of cases in (ii) provided on account of confinement—	
(a) At home ...	25
(b) In hospital ...	2
(iv) No. of cases in (ii) provided on account of chronic sick, including aged and infirm ...	38

Of the 152 cases in which home helps were supplied, 78 cases were because of illness, 31 because of old age, 34 because of confinements, 4 because of tuberculosis, and 5 because of young children.

**DISTRIBUTION OF HOME HELPS EMPLOYED AS AT 31st DECEMBER,  
1952, WITH MAXIMUM HOURS PER WEEK PREPARED TO WORK**

Location	48	44	42	40	36	30	24	20	8	Emergency Cases	Total
Armadale ...	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	6
Bathgate ...	2	1	—	1	1	3	—	—	—	—	8
Blackridge ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Blackburn ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Broxburn ...	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	—	—	—	5
Bo'ness ...	5	—	—	1	4	4	2	1	—	—	17
Fauldhouse ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	3
Harthill ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Livingston Village	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Livingston Station	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Linlithgow ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Longridge ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kirkliston ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Stoneyburn ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	3
Seafield ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	4
So. Queensferry ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Uphall ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Uphall Station ...	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	3
New Breich ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Winchburgh ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	5
Whitburn ...	3	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	6
	19	2	3	4	12	12	13	6	—	1	72

**DISTRIBUTION OF CASES IN WHICH HOME HELPS WERE SUPPLIED**

Location	No. of Cases
Armadale ...	6
Bathgate ...	20
Blackridge ...	5
Blackburn ...	14
Broxburn ...	16
Bo'ness ...	32
Fauldhouse ...	4
Harthill ...	1
Livingston Village ...	1
Livingston Station ...	5
Longridge ...	—
Linlithgow ...	3
Stoneyburn ...	3
Seafield ...	3
So. Queensferry ...	6
Uphall ...	3
Uphall Station ...	1
New Breich ...	1
Winchburgh ...	7
Whitburn ...	12
Kirkliston ...	3
Dalmeny ...	1
Philpstoun ...	2
Bridgend ...	3

## VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Period 1st January to 31st December, 1952

Year of Birth	Number of persons primarily vaccinated during period				Number of persons re-vaccinated during period				Number of persons specially reported during period because of actual or alleged complication of vaccination
	Typical vaccinia greatest at 7th-10th day	Accelerated (vaccinoid) Reaction 5th-7th day	Reaction greatest at 2nd-3rd day	No local reaction	Typical vaccinia greatest at 7th-10th day	Accelerated (vaccinoid) re-action 5th-7th day	Reaction greatest at 2nd-3rd day	No local re-action	
1952	331	7	—	26	—	—	1	—	—
1951	194	7	—	21	1	—	1	—	—
1950	10	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
1949	3	—	—	—	2	—	3	—	—
1948	4	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
1947	3	—	—	—	3	1	1	—	—
1946	2	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	—
1945	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
1944	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—
1943	—	—	—	—	4	—	1	—	—
1942	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1941	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
1940	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
1939	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1938	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
1937 or earlier	15	—	1	—	46	25	54	8	—
Totals	564	15	1	48	65	27	66	9	—

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

During the year, 1623 pre-school and 127 school children were immunised, and 1484 maintenance doses were given. The effect of immunisation is indicated by the following:—

	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Notifica- tions	170	81	106	83	46	40	26	10	—	—	—	3

### B.C.G. VACCINATION

I. Number of contacts tuberculin tested under the B.C.G. Vaccination Scheme:—

Group	Tuberculin Tested		Negative Reactors		Vaccinated During 1952	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
(a) Nurses	20	123	3	13	1	9
(b) Medical Students	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Contacts	138	130	102	104	95	99
(d) New Born Babies	—	—	—	—	7	18
(e) Others	3	37	—	9	—	6

## TUBERCULOSIS

Area	Notified in 1952		Total Cases Confirmed in Area	
	Respiratory	Non-Resp.	Respiratory	Non-Resp.
Landward ...	80	14	357	75
Armadale ...	9	4	47	4
Bathgate ...	24	2	114	11
Bo'ness ...	13	6	80	16
Linlithgow ...	5	3	25	5
So. Queensferry	11	—	30	2
Whitburn ...	9	1	46	6
	151	30	699	119

**Number of Persons resident in the area at 31st December, 1952, who were known to be suffering from Tuberculosis**

		under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	Total
		<b>Respiratory</b>									
Notified in 1952	... M.	1	2	8	6	19	14	6	15	2	73
	F.	—	4	5	9	34	19	3	3	1	78
Total Cases Confirmed in Area 31/12/52	M.	1	7	26	14	89	91	25	47	5	305
	F.	—	6	14	15	169	135	36	16	3	394
		<b>Non-Respiratory</b>									
Notified in 1952	... M.	—	1	1	1	3	4	3	—	—	13
	F.	1	1	3	2	5	2	1	1	1	17
Total Cases Confirmed in Area 31/12/52	M.	—	2	5	7	13	5	2	2	4	40
	F.	—	2	12	9	34	8	5	7	2	79

		In Sanatoria on 1st Jan., 1952	Admitted during 1952	Discharged or died 1952	In Sanatoria on 31st Dec., 1952
Males	... ..	62	69	57	74
Females	... ..	80	85	78	87
Children	... ..	26	25	29	22
		168	179	164	183

286 cases treated during 1952 suffered from Respiratory Tuberculosis, and 61 from Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis.

**Number of Persons who died from Tuberculosis in the area during the year, with particulars as to period elapsing between notification and death, and between discharge from an Institution and death**

	Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
No. of Persons who died from Tuberculosis ... ..	12	6	—	—
Not notified or notified only at or after death ... ..	4	—	—	—
Notified less than 1 month before death	1	2	—	—
Notified from 1 to 3 months before death	1	—	—	—
Notified from 3 to 6 months before death	1	—	—	—
Notified from 6 to 12 months before death	—	—	—	—
Notified from 1 to 2 years before death	3	1	—	—
Notified over 2 years before death ...	2	3	—	—
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
No. who died within 28 days after discharge from an institution ... ..	—	—	—	—
No. who died more than 28 days after discharge from an institution ...	2	4	—	—

**Tuberculous Families re-housed in 1952 by reason of Priority Recommendation**

Landward—

Whitburn District					
including Fauldhouse, Blackburn, and Stoneyburn ...					8
Broxburn District					
including Uphall and Uphall Station ... ..					14
Bathgate District ... ..					—
Queensferry District					
including Winchburgh and Kirkliston ... ..					4
Bo'ness District					
including Newtown, Castleloan, and Carriden ...					—
Linlithgow District					
including Bridgend and Linlithgowbridge ... ..					5
					—
					31

Burghs—

Bathgate ... ..						1
Armadale ... ..						2
Whitburn ... ..						4
Bo'ness ... ..						16
Linlithgow ... ..						1
South Queensferry ... ..						3
						—
						27
						—
						58
						—

**ADDITIONAL NOURISHMENT**

139 prescriptions were issued to 51 patients during the year for Malt and Oil, and Halibut Oil Capsules, at a cost of £37, 3s. 7d.

**SUPPLY OF BEDS AND BEDDING**

9 patients were supplied with Beds and Bedding at a cost of £34, 17s. 6d.

**INSTITUTIONAL AFTER-CARE**

1 patient, who was admitted to Papworth Village Settlement in 1951, is still in residence.



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS)

The cases notified and confirmed during the year are shown on the appended table :—

	Landward	Armadale	Bathgate	Bo'ness	Linlithgow	South Queensferry	Whitburn	Total, 1952	Not admitted to Hospital	Total, 1951
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	8
Diphtheria ... ..	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	12	—	1	1	—	—	—	14	13	56
Erysipelas ... ..	7	6	1	1	—	1	—	16	10	11
Jaundice, Acute Infective ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Malaria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia, Acute Primary ...	25	—	11	4	—	1	3	44	23	57
Pneumonia, Acute Influenzal	5	1	3	—	—	—	—	9	8	10
Pneumonia, not otherwise notifiable ... ..	10	14	—	—	—	2	—	26	10	6
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Puerperal Fever ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Poliomyelitis, Acute ... ..	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	5	—	2
Scarlet Fever ... ..	137	24	18	11	—	31	7	228	57	115
Typhoid Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Whooping Cough ... ..	108	—	7	10	—	11	—	136	136	495
	<u>316</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>488</u>	<u>257</u>	<u>767</u>

The following Table shows the Landward distribution of the infectious disease notifications (excluding tuberculosis) :—

Parish of	Abercorn	Bathgate	Bo'ness	Dalmeny	Ecclesmachan	Kirkliston	Linlithgow	Livingston	Torphichen	Uphall	Whitburn	Total
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	5
Diphtheria ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Dysentery ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	12
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	4	7
Jaundice, Acute Infective ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia, Acute Primary	1	2	1	1	—	1	—	1	3	3	12	25
Pneumonia, Acute Influenzal	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	5
Pneumonia, not otherwise notifiable ... ..	—	3	—	1	—	1	—	—	3	1	1	10
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis, Acute ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	4
Scarlet Fever ... ..	6	5	6	2	1	20	1	17	13	39	27	137
Typhoid Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	1	11	10	6	—	37	2	1	14	5	21	108
	<u>8</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>316</u>

## VENEREAL DISEASES

Patients resident in West Lothian treated at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, during 1952:—

	Males	Females	Total	Approximate Number still attending at 31st December, 1952	
				Males	Females
New Cases ...	69	47	116	24	20
Syphilis ...	3	13	16		
Gonorrhoea ...	14	1	15		
Chancroid ...	—	—	—		
Non-specific Disease ...	23	11	34		
Nil ...	29	22	51		

## LUNACY AND MENTAL DEFICIENCY

Lunatics and Mental Defectives dealt with for the Year ended 31st December, 1952

	Age Group	Males	Females	Total
1. No. of lunatics removed to mental hospitals ...	Under 20	1	1	2
	20—30	3	1	4
	30—40	3	5	8
	40—50	—	2	2
	50—60	1	4	5
	60—70	—	3	3
	Over 70	2	3	5
		10	19	29
2. No. of voluntary patients removed to mental hospitals ...		2	2	4
3. No. of lunatics boarded out in private dwellings at 31st December, 1952 ...		5	5	10
<b>Mental Defectives—</b>				
4. No. of mental defectives removed to Certified Institutions ...		1	—	1
5. No. of mental defectives re-certified and detention continued ...		4	—	4
6. No. of new cases placed under guardianship ...		—	—	—
7. No. of certified and uncertified mental defectives boarded out in private dwellings		19	25	44
8. No. on waiting lists for admission to Certified Institutions ...		17	4	21

## PORT SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

200 Vessels arrived from foreign ports during 1952; all had clean bills of health. No action was necessary under the Port Sanitary Regulations.

## SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

Report for the year ending 31st July, 1952, prepared in accordance with instructions issued by the Department of Health for Scotland.

### 1. LIST OF STAFF

See Page 2.

### 2. GENERAL STATISTICS

Estimated Population of the Area	88,701
Number of Schools—	
(a) Primary	29
(b) Junior Secondary	10
(c) Senior Secondary (of which three have Primary Departments)	6
(d) 1. Special Schools	—
2. Special Classes in ordinary schools	5
(e) In receipt of grant from Education Committee and under medical inspection	—
Number of Children on the registers	15,465
Number of Children in average attendance	14,228

### 3. SANITARY CONDITIONS OF SCHOOLS

The most pressing problem during the year has again been accommodation for the increasing school population. The building of the new Greenrigg and Blackburn R.C. Schools and the extension at Blackburn Public School were well under way by the end of the session, and it was estimated that work at the two latter schools would be completed by the end of the summer vacation.

At Bo'ness Academy the shortage of classrooms made it necessary for the Committee to decide to use, as classrooms, the medical inspection room and the dental clinic. This step was very much regretted, as ophthalmic and orthopaedic clinics for the whole of Bo'ness area were held there. Accommodation for these services was found in Carri-den Community Centre and has proved reasonably satisfactory. It was feared that the somewhat remote situation of the Centre might affect adversely the attendance at the clinics, but this has not proved to be the case.

Accommodation for medical inspection and treatment is inadequate in a number of schools, and it is not easy for the head-teachers to provide rooms for the medical staff or for the medical officers to fit in with school time-tables.

The maintenance of the schools is undertaken by the County Architect's department, and defects affecting health noted by the school medical officers are referred to the architect. Redecoration of schools is done in rotation and there are now few classrooms where the paintwork is not bright and cheerful.

#### 4. ORGANISATION AND ADMINISTRATION

The primary schools and primary departments of schools in the County are divided into three groups, and a group is allotted to each of the doctors, who is responsible for the routine medical inspection of pupils and for the examination of handicapped children in that group. In the secondary and junior secondary schools the senior girls are examined by the women doctors and the senior boys by the male doctor. Other work, such as examination of applicants for attendance at school camps, of candidates for pre-nursing or pre-apprenticeship courses, and of those for whom Approved School Reports are required by Juvenile Courts, is undertaken by the doctor responsible for the school where the work arises. These duties, along with the immunisation against diphtheria of school and pre-school children, fully occupy the two assistant medical officers. The executive school medical officer is responsible for routine duties in a smaller group of schools, in addition to the organisation and administration of the various school health services.

The executive school medical officer meets the assistant medical officers daily in the County Buildings after school hours so that problems can be discussed as they arise. Health Visitors, speech therapists, and physiotherapists also pay regular visits to the office with the result that the staff work harmoniously as a team.

#### A. System and Extent of Medical Inspection and Treatment

##### 1. MEDICAL INSPECTION

The following groups of children underwent systematic inspection :

- (1) Entrants, i.e., children entering school for the first time.
- (2) Pupils born in 1942.
- (3) Pupils born in 1938.
- (4) Pupils born in 1935.
- (5) Pupils born in 1944 (visual acuity and hearing only tested).
- (6) Other systematic examinations—pupils not previously subjected to detailed routine inspection, as well as those who, because of absence or for any other reason, were missed in the age group the previous year.
- (7) Special examinations—Pupils examined at the request of parents, teachers, or health visitors.
- (8) Re-examinations—Pupils found at previous inspection to be suffering from disease or defect and re-examined at each subsequent visit.

## 2. TREATMENT

(a) Minor Ailments.—Clinics for the treatment of minor ailments were held in twenty schools in the County. These clinics are staffed by District Nursing Sisters and are held in some schools on each school day and in others twice weekly ; the attendance of the nurse depending on the demands of her general nursing and midwifery duties.

(b) Defective Vision.—The examination and treatment of children suffering from defective vision or squint were carried out at the five County Eye Clinics at St. Mary's Secondary School, Bathgate, Broxburn Public School, Bo'ness (Carriden Community Centre), and Fauldhouse Junior Secondary School. Although the treatment of defective vision became a function of the Regional Hospital Board on 5th July, 1948, the services of an ophthalmic specialist were not provided by the Board until December, 1951, and the executive school medical officer performed these duties until the end of October, 1951. Dr D. Becher was appointed temporarily by the Hospital Board as school oculist in West Lothian, and took up duty in December, 1951. Spectacles were provided and repaired under the National Health Service (Scotland) Act. As in the past, children who required operative treatment for squint were referred to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, through the agency of the family doctor or with his consent.

(c) Orthopaedic Conditions.—The aim of the orthopaedic care and after-care service is to treat defects, often mild in character, as early as possible in order to prevent handicap and deformity in later life, as well as to supervise and guide into suitable employment those more severely affected. The numbers treated during the session under review again show a rise compared to the previous year's returns. To prevent deterioration the majority of children suffering from orthopaedic conditions are kept under supervision during all the years of growth, and consequently the number of cases referred still exceeds the number of cases discharged.

Two orthopaedic consultants, Mr W. V. Anderson and Mr G. W. Baker, are on the staff of Princess Margaret Rose Hospital. They held clinics at sixteen different centres, and each devoted two days per month to this work. The physiotherapists work under the direction of the consultants and, as far as possible, treat the children in their own schools to reduce the loss of school time to the minimum. Many pre-school and house-bound children are visited in their homes. The work of the physiotherapists includes remedial exercises, massage and electrical treatment, application of plasters, and supervision of appliances and of surgical alterations of footwear. X-ray examination and major treatment are carried out at Princess Margaret Rose Hospital.

(d) Speech Defects.—Details of the system and extent of the treatment of speech defects for the year under review are given in the following report from Miss Clark, Senior Speech Therapist :—

The 877 cases with which we began the session showed an increase of 264 over the number at the beginning of the previous session 1950-51. This was due in some measure to the growing number of children requiring prolonged treatment, for example, stammerers and those with cleft palate, but in the main to the difference between the number of new cases being referred and the number of cases being discharged.

Even by considerably exceeding the recommended case load of 100 for each therapist less than half of the list could receive treatment at any one time. Time for treatment was also shortened by the fact that the visits to schools where clinics were not held took longer owing to the longer lists of untreated cases. An effort was made to fit in one or two visits during the session to children not receiving regular treatment.

The policy of making treatment widely available over the County was again adhered to. Fifteen weekly and twelve fortnightly clinics were held in 27 centres. At those clinics 640 cases were treated and 161 of these discharged—70 more than in the previous session.

At the risk of increasing the waiting list, time was found for intensive training of a few severely handicapped children, spastic and hard of hearing, in particular, for teaching reading to those speech cases with a language disability, for treating some pre-school children, and for doing a survey of the speech of all children born in 1943.

During the session 400 new cases were referred by school medical officers, health visitors, teachers, and parents, approximately the same number as was referred in the previous sessions. The remainder of the new cases were discovered by the survey. About one-third of those had defects, for example, hoarse voice or adenoidal speech or tone, of a type which has not been treated in the past because of the pressure of other work, and they have tended not to be referred. It is gratifying to find from this survey that stammerers and children with articulatory defects are being put forward for treatment, and that only a few with minor defects are not being referred.

From the results of the audiometric test given to this same group of children born in 1943 it was found that 33 of the children with faulty speech had also a hearing loss. The defects occurring in conjunction with hearing loss were (a) adenoidal speech and tone, (b) hoarse voice, (c) whispery speech, (d) clenched articulation, (e) slurred speech, (f) defects in "s", "th", and "l". In the cases of defect in particular sounds (section 'f') dental malocclusion and poor intelligence seemed to play a part in causing the defect as much as the hearing loss.

Parents were generally co-operative and appreciative of the work being done.

We should like to thank school medical officers, health visitors, and dentists for their assistance and advice freely given, and headmasters and teachers for their willing co-operation.

It is worthy of note that during the session 10 students from the Edinburgh School of Speech Therapy did part of their clinical training at Broxburn, Whitburn, and Armadale clinics.

(e) Mass Radiography.—By limiting the offer of X-ray examination to priority groups in school and industry, it has been possible to make arrangements with the Director of the Mass Radiography Unit for the unit to visit the County annually. Claims for the service of the unit by other counties in the South Eastern region of the Hospital Board caused this limitation. In the school population, the children of 14 years and upwards were regarded as the priority group, and they, along with members of the teaching, medical, school meals service, and janitorial staffs, were offered chest X-ray examination. The unit was set up at Linlithgow Academy, Bo'ness Academy, St. Mary's Secondary School, Bathgate, Bathgate Junior Secondary School, and Broxburn High School. Children from the Junior Secondary Schools and from Wallhouse Residential Centre were brought by 'bus to these centres for examination. In all, 1,600 pupils and 248 adults were X-rayed. Four pupils were found to have early tuberculosis.

## **B. System and Extent of Dental Inspection and Treatment**

(Mrs Lonnon, County Dental Officer, has submitted the following report) :—

The dental report for the County falls into two separate parts as two dental services were carried out at the same time. This was due to the fact that there was only one dental officer and to augment the service, the emergency scheme which was started in June, 1951, was continued so as to offer dental treatment to as many children in the County as possible.

The Health Committee recommended that the three vacancies should be advertised. This was done, but unfortunately it was only possible to fill one during the current school session. The dentist appointed, however, could not take up duty until September, 1953, as he was engaged in private practice.

The two dental services maintained throughout the County were :—

- (a) School Health Service.
- (b) Emergency Dental Scheme.

### (a) School Health Service—

Under this scheme the following schools were inspected and treated—Lindsay High School, St. Mary's Infant School, St. Mary's Secondary School, and Bathgate West School. The acceptance rate was 84% which was an increase of 7% on the previous year.

Whenever possible the policy of conservation of the teeth has been carried out, by fillings in the temporary and permanent dentitions and by the use of silver nitrate. Only when the teeth of the permanent

dentitions were quite unserviceable were they extracted or in certain cases to find space in an overcrowded mouth.

There were nine regulation cases in which orthodontic appliances were used, in eight of these treatment was complete by the end of the session. Three children were referred to the Edinburgh Dental Hospital for treatment by Dr Russell Logan. Seven children were supplied with dentures. These were necessitated in most cases by the children being involved in accidents, falls, etc.

(b) Emergency Dental Scheme—

The emergency dental scheme for the inspection of children made good progress, and twenty-one schools were inspected.

No. of pupils inspected ... ..	3,063
No. of pupils requiring treatment ... ..	2,010 66%
No. of pupils accepting treatment ... ..	1,513 75%

The dental officer inspected the children and referred them to the dental practitioners of their parents' choice for treatment. The following schools were inspected and treatment was begun by the local dentists:—Fauldhouse J.S., Fauldhouse R.C., Dalmeny Public, Abercorn Public, South Queensferry J.S., Broxburn High, Linlithgow Public, Bridgend Public, Linlithgow R.C., Uphall Public, Broxburn R.C., Linlithgow Academy, Armadale J.S., Armadale R.C., Blackridge J.S., Westfield Public, Kirkliston Public, Winchburgh R.C., Winchburgh J.S., Bo'ness Public, Kinneil Public.

By July, 1952, the acceptance cards for the above schools had been sent to the local dentists and of these 45% had been returned by the dentists, and 37% of the children had been treated. The remaining 8% of the children accepting treatment had not been treated for various reasons, e.g., left the district or failed to keep appointments.

We are greatly indebted to the Rectors and Head-teachers for their constant help and collaboration both at the time of dental inspection and in assuring the maintenance of the pupils' appointments with the dentists.

### C. School Nursing and Arrangements for Follow-up

There are fifteen Health Visitors in the County and each in her own area undertakes duties in connection with the School Health Service. She assists at routine medical inspection and her intimate knowledge of the family history and home conditions of the children is of inestimable value to the medical officers. The Infant Welfare schedules of the entrants are brought to school by the Health Visitor for the first medical inspection, and these give the doctors particulars of the child's early history.

Following medical inspection, a list of all children found defective is sent to the Health Visitor for follow-up purposes. She examines the children in school and, when necessary, visits the home to advise



parents. Children who fail to come up to the required standard of cleanliness are kept under her supervision, and class inspections for cleanliness are carried out by her.

The Health Visitors also assist at clinics for immunisation against diphtheria, at eye clinics, at mass radiographic examinations, and in any other work that may arise in connection with the health of the school child.

#### **D. Co-ordination with the Public Health Service and with other Departments of the Authority which render Services to Children**

The Medical Officer of Health is the Administrative School Medical Officer and the Executive School Medical Officer is also the Deputy Medical Officer of Health. All the medical services provided for school children are available for the pre-school population, and the duties of the staff are not limited to the work in the School Health Service.

Members of the Health Department co-operate with the Children's Officer particularly in respect of mentally handicapped and deprived children. Wallhouse Residential Centre for deprived children is visited at frequent intervals by one of the Assistant Medical Officers for the purpose of examining the children of pre-school age.

There is also co-operation with the Director of Education, the County Architect, and the Probation Officer. All departments are housed in the County Buildings so that there is no obstacle to full co-ordination of the different services.

#### **E. Co-operation with Voluntary Bodies and other outside Agencies**

There is co-operation between this department and various voluntary organisations including the Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, the Scottish Orthopaedic Council, the Scottish Council for the care of Spastics, and the British Red Cross Society.

Within the past few years there has been increased co-operation with the staffs of the Edinburgh hospitals. Where follow-up is required under the School Health Service, notification is made to this office of children discharged from hospital, and the recommendations of the hospital staff regarding convalescence and after-care are passed on by the almoners.

The co-operation of the general practitioners in the County is gratefully acknowledged. Children found defective at Medical Inspection and requiring treatment outwith the scope of the School Health Service are referred to the family doctors, and they in their turn refer their young patients for treatment when such is provided under the School Health Service.

The County Orthopaedic Service is an excellent example of co-ordination of effort of the general practitioners, Hospital Board Consultants, and the Health Department of the Local Authority.

## F. Co-operation with Teachers and Parents

Throughout the County there is a happy relationship between the teachers and the members of the medical staff. All those who assist in school health work have expressed their appreciation of the consideration and help they have received from the headmasters and teachers. The teachers co-operate cordially in all that is being done for the welfare of the pupils. They are quick to note defects in the children and to refer them for examination.

Parents are invited to be present at medical inspection and, during the session under review, 68.8% of the parents of Entrants availed themselves of this invitation. This interview with parents at medical inspection is regarded as important as it is through personal contact with them that co-operation and confidence are gained. The attendance of parents with children at the various treatment clinics is very good. Much of the success of treatment depends on the parents carrying out the instructions given at clinics, and generally they are co-operative and appreciative of what is being done for their children.

## 5. THE FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION

The number of children examined in the routine groups was 4,263. Special examinations numbered 1,271.

### CLOTHING

	Routine Cases	Special Cases
Insufficient ... ..	1 (0.02%)	10
In need of repair ... ..	4 (0.09%)	7
Dirty ... ..	20 (0.46%)	30
Footgear unsatisfactory ... ..	14 (0.32%)	28

The percentage of those with unsatisfactory clothing corresponds closely to that found in 1951. The number of special cases, though small, shows an increase under all four sub-headings.

### CLEANLINESS

	Routine Cases	Special Cases
Head—		
Dirty ... ..	-- —	—
Verminous ... ..	8 (0.18%)	24
Nits ... ..	213 (4.99%)	388
Body—		
Dirty ... ..	9 (0.21%)	5
Verminous ... ..	2 (0.04%)	3

Although the number of children referred as specials and found to have infested heads shows an increase of 97 compared to the previous year, the percentage in the routine groups shows an overall improvement. (1951—7.28%, 1952—5.44%).

#### CONDITION OF SKIN

	Routine Cases	Special Cases
Head—		
Ringworm ... ..	—	—
Impetigo ... ..	6 (0.14%)	8
Other Diseases ... ..	23 (0.53%)	10
Body—		
Ringworm ... ..	—	—
Impetigo ... ..	2 (0.04%)	2
Scabies ... ..	2 (0.04%)	—
Other Diseases ... ..	41 (0.96%)	13

The incidence of skin condition was low, showing an improvement on the already low figures of the previous two years.

#### NUTRITION

	Routine Cases	Special Cases
Average ... ..	4,120 (96.65%)	—
Average minus ... ..	143 (3.35%)	4
Malnutrition ... ..	—	—

The percentage of children of slightly defective nutrition was slightly higher than in the previous year (2.56%). The heights and weights recorded in Table VI show that there was a slight drop in weight in all groups with the exception of 13-year-old boys. Table VIa gives heights and weights in the year 1950-51.

#### NOSE, THROAT, AND GLANDS

	Routine Cases	Special Cases
Nose—		
Requiring observation ... ..	45 (1.05%)	2
Requiring operation ... ..	48 (1.12%)	9
Other conditions ... ..	22 (0.51%)	55
Throat—		
Requiring observation ... ..	86 (2.01%)	30
Requiring operation ... ..	92 (2.15%)	25
Glands—		
Requiring observation ... ..	41 (0.96%)	16
Requiring operation ... ..	—	—

Fewer children were found to require attention for conditions of nose and throat. During the last two years the waiting period for operation has been gradually reduced and more operations performed, so that there is not now the accumulation of cases which existed previously.

## EXTERNAL EYE DISEASES

	Routine Cases	Special Cases
Blepharitis ... ..	16 (0.37%)	24
Conjunctivitis ... ..	4 (0.09%)	4
Corneal Opacities ... ..	—	—
Strabismus ... ..	83 (1.94%)	14
Other Diseases ... ..	15 (0.35%)	10

There were fewer cases of all the above conditions with the exception of strabismus, which has risen from 1.21% last year.

## VISION

As a result of routine inspection, 86 children were referred for refraction. Of the 1,271 children in the fifth age group 69 were referred for further examination. In all, 567 children were examined at eye clinics.

## EARS

	Routine Cases	Special Cases
Otorrhoea ... ..	34 (0.79%)	27
Other conditions ... ..	138 (3.23%)	103

Otorrhoea was present in the same percentage of pupils as last year. There has been an improvement both in the number of special cases and in the number of those with other conditions, which include infection of the outer ear, presence of excessive wax, and abnormal conditions of the ear drums.

## HEARING

	Routine Cases	Special Cases
Grade I (Conversational voice heard at 20 ft. and over) ...	5 (0.11%)	13
Grade IIa (Can be educated in ordinary class if seated near the teacher) ... ..	8 (0.18%)	19
Grade IIb (Special School education required) ... ..	—	—
Grade III (Special School education required) ... ..	—	—

The above figures relate to those examined at routine inspection when the forced whisper test was used to test the hearing, and the grading was based on the hearing in the better ear.

## Audiometric Survey—

By arrangement with Edinburgh Corporation audiometric testing was done by teachers from St. Giles School for Hard of Hearing Children, under the guidance of the Headmaster, Mr Heath. The test-

ing of certain groups will take place annually, and the equivalent of the half-time service of one teacher will be made available to this County.

In the session under review, 1,480 children born in 1943, and 228 children of all ages known or suspected to have defective hearing, were examined. In this investigation, grading was based on the hearing loss in the worse ear and the results were as follows :—

	Routine Cases	Special Cases
Grade I ... ..	78 (5.27%)	50
Grade IIa ... ..	30 (2.02%)	46
Grade IIb ... ..	—	8
Grade III ... ..	—	—

All the children found defective were subsequently examined by the school medical officers and, where it was considered that treatment would improve the hearing, or where further investigation was indicated, those cases were referred to the family doctor. Of the children with IIb deafness, one has since been transferred to St. Giles School, two have improved with treatment, and the remaining five, all previously known cases, are meantime, with suitable placing in class or with the help of a hearing aid, making progress in the ordinary school.

## SPEECH

The majority of cases of speech defect are referred as special cases. Table VII gives details of the work done by the Speech Therapists, including the results of the special survey of children born in 1943.

## MENTAL AND NERVOUS CONDITIONS

	Routine Cases	Special Cases
Backward ... ..	2 (0.04%)	17
Dull ... ..	10 (0.23%)	20
Mentally Defective, Educable ...	12 (0.28%)	32
Mentally Defective, Ineducable ...	2 (0.04%)	1
Nervous and unstable ... ..	2 (0.04%)	5
Difficult in behaviour ... ..	1 (0.02%)	1

Seventy-nine children were referred as specials for mental assessment, and of these, 20 were transferred to special classes, 37 proved to be in the dull and backward groups. In addition, 19 children attended Child Guidance Clinics, of whom 9 were new cases referred during the session.

## HEART AND CIRCULATION

	Routine Cases	Special Cases
(a) Organic Disease—		
Congenital ... ..	14 (0.32%)	3
Acquired ... ..	4 (0.09%)	—
(b) Functional Disease ... ..	9 (0.21%)	7

In the groups examined this year fewer children were found to be suffering from acquired and from functional heart disease, while there has been an increase in those with congenital disease. Table IV shows that, in the whole school population, there are 42 children who suffer from congenital heart lesions.

## LUNGS

			Routine Cases	Special Cases
Chronic Bronchitis	...	...	24 (0.56%)	2
Suspected Tuberculosis	...	...	8 (0.18%)	12
Other Diseases	...	...	48 (1.12%)	29

The increase of chronic bronchitis and other diseases of the lungs may perhaps be related to the previous year's epidemic of whooping cough. Ten of the twelve special cases of suspected tuberculosis were contacts of known cases and were under the supervision of the tuberculosis physician.

## DEFORMITIES

			Routine Cases	Special Cases
(a) Congenital	...	...	54 (1.26%)	2
(b) Acquired—				
Infantile Paralysis	...	...	2 (0.04%)	—
Probable Rickets	...	...	74 (1.73%)	2
Other Causes	...	...	136 (3.19%)	44

Fewer children were found to be suffering from orthopaedic defects in both the routine and special groups.

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## OBSERVATIONS ON THE FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION

Of the children examined, 75.95% were found to be free from defects. Table III gives the percentage of defects, classified according to severity, and in all groups there has been improvement compared to last year when the percentage free from defects was 69.83. The height and weight of children, at all ages, have improved gradually and steadily over a period of many years, and the slight fall in weight recorded this year is not regarded as an indication of worsening health. The fact that there are more children without any physical defect this year than in the past three years supports this view. In general the physical condition of the school children in the County is regarded as satisfactory.

## 6. MEDICAL TREATMENT

## A. MINOR AILMENTS

Conditions	Number of Cases	Number of Attendances
Cuts, Bruises, etc. ... ..	3,425	7,969
Ears, Nose, etc. ... ..	224	866
Eyes ... ..	111	297
Diseases of the Skin—		
Ringworm (scalp) ... ..	—	—
Ringworm (body) ... ..	2	25
Scabies ... ..	1	1
Impetigo ... ..	159	484
Other Diseases ... ..	271	773
Total ... ..	4,193	10,415

## B. DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

No. of Cases examined for the first time ... ..	362
No. of Cases re-examined ... ..	205
Total ... ..	567
No. of Cases where glasses were prescribed ... ..	429
Glasses or change of lenses not prescribed ... ..	138

## Treatment of Squint—

Amblyopia was treated by occlusion and cases suitable for operative correction were referred, through the family doctor, to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

## C. OPERATIONS FOR THE REMOVAL OF TONSILS AND ADENOIDS

No. of children treated by operation ... ..	303
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Children requiring the removal of tonsils and adenoids were referred to the family doctor, who arranged for operation.

## D. ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS (SPECIALIST TREATMENT)

(1)

## No. of Cases examined by Orthopaedic Surgeons—

School ... ..	1,390
Pre-school ... ..	451
Post-school ... ..	81
Total ... ..	1,922

No. of New Cases—					
School	...	...	...	...	346
Pre-school	...	...	...	...	171
Post-school	...	...	...	...	2
					—
					519
No. of Old Cases—					
School	...	...	...	...	1,044
Pre-school	...	...	...	...	280
Post-school	...	...	...	...	79
					—
					1,403
No. of Attendances—					
School	...	...	...	...	2,614
Pre-school	...	...	...	...	783
Post-school	...	...	...	...	111
					—
					3,508
Number of Admissions to Hospital—					
School	...	...	...	...	27
Pre-school	...	...	...	...	8
Post-school	...	...	...	...	8
					—
					43
No. of Cases X-rayed—					
School	...	...	...	...	121
Pre-school	...	...	...	...	22
Post-school	...	...	...	...	3
					—
					146
No. of Cases Discharged ...	...	...	...	...	176

(2)

## Record of Work Done by Physiotherapists

No. of Cases treated in Clinics—					
School	...	...	...	...	572
Pre-school	...	...	...	...	113
Post-school	...	...	...	...	4
					—
					689
Attendances at Clinics—					
School	...	...	...	...	8,723
Pre-school	...	...	...	...	326
Post-school	...	...	...	...	17
					—
					9,066
Treatments in the home ...	...	...	...	...	1,409
No. of Plasters applied ...	...	...	...	...	68
Visits to Princess Margaret Rose Hospital	...	...	...	...	31

## E. DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

No. inoculated for first time (2 doses)	...	...	...	...	109
No. of maintenance doses	...	...	...	...	1,538

(Pre-school children immunised not included)



## 7. DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT

Details of the year's work are given in Tables V and Va.

## 8. SPECIAL SCHOOLS AND CLASSES

### (a) Physically Defective Children—

Severely crippled Children.—Two boys were in residence at the Trefoil School, Hermiston, Midlothian.

Epileptic Children.—One girl was educated in the Colony for Epileptics, Bridge of Weir.

Other Physical Defects.—One girl was in residence at Castlecraig Residential School, Peeblesshire, at the beginning of the session and was discharged in April. Two girls and one boy were admitted there during the session. All four children were asthmatics.

### (b) 1. Blind Children—

One boy and one girl were in residence in the Royal Blind School, Craigmillar, Edinburgh, during the session.

### 2. Partially Sighted Children—

Two boys received their education at the above school.

### (c) Deaf and Deaf-Mute Children—

Donaldson's School for the Deaf, Edinburgh—

Six boys and two girls were in residence during the session.

Langside School for the Deaf, Glasgow—

There were two girls in residence at this school.

St. Vincent's School for the Deaf, Tollcross, Glasgow—

One girl was in residence here during the session.

### 2. Partially Deaf Children—

St. Giles School, Edinburgh—

Eight children, four boys and four girls, attended this school as day pupils during the year.

St. Vincent's School, Glasgow—

Two partially deaf children, one boy and one girl, were in residence at this school during the year.

### (d) Mentally Handicapped Children—

There are five special classes in the County for the education of mentally handicapped children. The numbers in attendance at these classes during the session are given in Table VIII.

## 9. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND PERSONAL HYGIENE OF THE CHILDREN

Mr W. A. Henderson, M.C., M.A., Organiser of Physical Education, has kindly furnished the following report :—

Staff. — The shortage of specialist teachers of Physical Education, particularly women, continues to make difficult the provision of sufficient teaching power in the Secondary departments, and permits of very limited allocation for specialist guidance to Primary Class teachers. The staff consists of 8 men and 4 women—an unbalance which in itself makes time-tabling difficult and requires that certain girls' classes be taken by male teachers. One of the male teachers, a graduate, teaches additionally mathematics and geography in one centre. It is worthy of note that one of the female teachers is an American graduate who sought a post in this country, for a session, with a view to gaining an experience of Physical Education on this side.

Recruitment of staff from the Training Colleges is at a low level, mainly because of a lack of County trainees and also because of local difficulties of housing and boarding accommodation.

Facilities for the Conduct of Physical Education Lessons. — The increase in the number of classes, and additional demands on gymnasias and halls for the provision of school meals, impose considerable restrictions on access for the conduct of indoor lessons. Out of doors a systematic programme of tar-macadamising is resulting in an improvement in playground conditions. One new school playing field is under construction at Stoneyburn J.S., but the maintenance of existing fields, especially at Fauldhouse J.S., in reasonable state, is a matter of concern.

In the absence of provision by the Committee of clothing and footwear for Physical training, the standard of such provision by parents varies greatly over the County schools.

Swimming. — This aspect of Physical Education is making noteworthy progress in the Bathgate schools, which are fortunate in having access to the only County Baths, through the co-operation of Bathgate Town Council. During the session, 20,194 pupil attendances from the four Bathgate schools were recorded, and 26 awards for Life Saving Certificates were gained by school pupils.

County School Sports. — The District and County Sports Meetings, held during the final term, maintain a bright standard of performance, reflecting the interest and enthusiasm of Head-teachers and their staffs under the direction of an active Central Sports Committee.

Schools Holiday Camps. — This related activity, inaugurated in the summer vacation, 1949, by the Camps Sub-Committee, provided eight weekly camps for 1083 boys and girls in the P.VII—Secondary II class group at two centres, Abington and Gorebridge, belonging to the Scottish National Camps Association. In these well equipped camps,

situated in ideal rural surroundings, pupils are introduced, under the guidance of voluntary staff, to the benefits of a healthy communal outdoor life and to the practical application of sound hygienic principles.

## 10. HEALTH EDUCATION

Instruction in the simple rules of healthy living is given daily by the teachers in primary schools and by the teachers of physical education in the secondary schools. The annual School Holiday Camps, arranged by the Committee, offer a splendid opportunity for instruction in personal and communal hygiene.

The Scottish Council for Health Education give the services of their lecturer for one week each year to give health talks in schools. In October, 1951, Dr Margaret Scott spent a week in the County and gave extremely interesting health talks to the pupils of the following schools :—South Queensferry J.S., Blackridge J.S., Bathgate J.S., Westfield Public, Armadale R.C., Bridgend Public, Fauldhouse J.S., and Fauldhouse R.C. Schools.

## 11. MISCELLANEOUS

### (a) Additional Medical Examinations—

1. Candidates for Pre-Nursing Course	...	...	...	12
2. Candidates for Pre-Apprenticeship Courses	...	...	...	35
3. Applicants for attendance at School Holiday Camps	...	...	...	1,186
4. Number of examinations of pre-school children at Wallhouse Residential Centre	...	...	...	23
5. Number of children examined for Approved Schools	...	...	...	6
6. Number of children examined in connection with the National Survey of the Health and Development of Children	...	...	...	14

### (b) Examination of children suspected of being mentally handicapped :

87 children were examined ; of these 13 were found to be ineducable and 30 mentally handicapped, of whom 20 were transferred to Special Classes.

TABLE I

## FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION

Total number of children examined at :—

A.

	Systematic Examinations			Other Systematic Examinations		
	Boys	Girls	Totals	Boys	Girls	Totals
Entrants ... ..	839	780	1619	26	21	47
Second Age Group ...	674	604	1278	83	81	164
Third Age Group ...	674	593	1267	65	173	238
Fourth Age Group ...	58	41	99	1	3	4
Totals ... ..	2245	2018	4263	175	278	453
Fifth Age Group (Vision and Hearing only) ...	640	631	1271	61	41	102
Grant Totals ...	2885	2649	5534	236	319	555

B. Other Examinations—

	Boys	Girls	Totals
Special Examinations ...	533	738	1271
Re-examinations ... ..	2716	2972	5688
Totals ... ..	3249	3710	6959

Number of individual children inspected at systematic examinations who were notified to parents as requiring treatment—

	Boys	Girls	Totals
Entrants ... ..	35	30	65
Second Age Group ...	37	18	55
Third Age Group ...	27	25	52
Fourth Age Group ...	2	3	5
Totals ... ..	101	76	177
Fifth Age Group ...	32	41	73
Special Cases ... ..	133	117	250
	103	105	208
	236	222	458

(Exclusive of mentally handicapped children)

TABLE II

## Systematic Examinations

Return of number and percentage of individual children in each group suffering from particular defects

Age Groups	Entrants		2nd Age Group		3rd Age Group		4th Age Group		All Ages	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Number Examined	839	780	674	604	674	593	58	41	2245	2018
<b>Nature of Defects found</b>										
<b>1. Clothing Unsatisfactory—</b>										
Insufficient ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Ragged ... ..	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	4	—
Dirty ... ..	—	2	5	5	—	8	—	—	5	15
Totals	1	3	6	5	2	8	—	—	9	16
%	(0.24)		(0.86)		(0.78)		—		(0.58)	
<b>Footgear Unsatisfactory—</b>										
	3	1	3	—	7	—	—	—	13	1
%	(0.24)		(0.23)		(0.55)		—		(0.32)	
<b>3. Uncleanliness—</b>										
<b>Head—</b>										
Dirty ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nits ... ..	7	50	6	73	3	74	—	—	16	197
Verminous... ..	2	1	1	2	1	1	—	—	4	4
<b>Body—</b>										
Dirty ... ..	1	—	3	—	4	1	—	—	8	1
Verminous... ..	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—
Totals	10	51	11	75	9	76	—	—	30	202
%	(3.76)		(6.72)		(6.70)		—		(5.44)	
<b>4. Skin—</b>										
<b>Head—</b>										
Ringworm ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Impetigo ... ..	3	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	3
Other Diseases ... ..	3	2	4	2	2	10	—	—	9	14
<b>Body—</b>										
Ringworm ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Impetigo ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Scabies ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1
Other Diseases ... ..	6	7	9	2	5	12	—	—	20	21
Totals	14	11	13	4	8	24	—	—	35	39
%	(1.54)		(1.33)		(2.52)		—		(1.73)	
<b>5. Nutrition—</b>										
Slightly Defective ... ..	34	34	14	28	10	23	—	—	58	85
Bad ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	34	34	14	28	10	23	—	—	58	85
%	(4.20)		(3.28)		(2.60)		—		(3.35)	

TABLE II (continued)

Age Groups	Entrants		2nd Age Group		3rd Age Group		4th Age Group		All Ages	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Number Examined	839	780	674	604	674	593	58	41	2245	2018
<b>Mouth and Teeth Unhealthy—</b>	5	2	9	9	17	11	1	1	32	23
%	(0.43)		(1.40)		(2.20)		(2.02)		(1.29)	
<b>Naso-Pharynx—</b>										
<b>Nose—</b>										
Observation ...	24	13	3	1	3	1	—	—	30	15
Treatment ...	22	19	2	3	2	—	—	—	26	22
Other Diseases ...	7	7	2	1	3	1	1	—	13	9
<b>Throat—</b>										
Observation ...	25	38	7	11	3	2	—	—	35	51
Treatment ...	32	35	8	5	4	8	—	—	44	48
<b>Glands—</b>										
Observation ...	19	10	3	4	3	2	—	—	25	16
Treatment ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	129	122	25	25	18	14	1	—	173	161
%	(15.50)		(3.91)		(2.52)		(1.01)		(7.83)	
<b>Eyes—</b>										
(a) <b>External Diseases</b>										
Blepharitis ...	8	2	2	—	—	4	—	—	10	6
Conjunctivitis ...	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	3
Corneal Opacities	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Strabismus ...	27	23	7	7	14	5	—	—	48	35
Other Diseases ...	4	2	1	2	1	5	—	—	6	9
Totals	40	27	10	9	15	17	—	—	65	53
%	(4.13)		(1.48)		(2.52)		—		(2.76)	
<b>Nature of Defects found</b>										
<b>Eyes—</b>										
(b) <b>Visual Acuity*</b>										
Fair, 6/9 or 6/12 ...	—	—	13	10	15	15	—	3	28	28
%	—		(1.79)		(2.36)		(3.03)		(2.11)	
Bad, 6/18 or worse	—	—	11	4	13	10	5	4	29	18
%	—		(1.17)		(1.81)		(9.09)		(1.77)	
Recommended for Refraction ...	5	5	24	7	17	23	2	3	48	38
%	(0.61)		(2.42)		(3.15)		(5.05)		(2.01)	
<b>Ears—</b>										
(a) <b>Diseases—</b>										
Otorrhoea ...	8	5	3	6	6	6	—	—	17	17
Other Diseases ...	36	36	20	16	12	18	—	—	68	70
Totals	44	41	23	22	18	24	—	—	85	87
%	(5.25)		(3.52)		(3.31)		—		(4.03)	

\*Number Examined—Boys 1406, Girls 1238, Total 2644

TABLE II (continued)

Age Groups	Entrants		2nd Age Group		3rd Age Group		4th Age Group		All Ages	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Number Examined	839	780	674	604	674	593	58	41	2245	2018
<b>(b) Defective Hearing</b>										
Grade I ... ..	2	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	2	3
Grade IIa ... ..	—	1	2	—	4	1	—	—	6	2
Grade IIb ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grade III ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	2	1	2	2	4	2	—	—	8	5
%	(0.18)		(0.31)		(0.47)		—		(0.30)	
<b>10. Speech—</b>										
Defective Articulation ... ..	10	5	4	2	1	—	—	—	15	7
Stammering ... ..	3	—	2	—	2	1	—	—	7	1
Totals	13	5	6	2	3	1	—	—	22	8
%	(1.11)		(0.62)		(0.31)		—		(0.70)	
<b>11. Mental and Nervous condition—</b>										
Backward ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Dull ... ..	—	—	5	2	2	1	—	—	7	3
Mentally Defective (Educable) ... ..	—	—	2	—	8	2	—	—	10	2
Mentally Defective (Ineducable) ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
Highly Nervous ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Difficult in Behaviour ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Totals	2	—	8	2	11	6	—	—	21	8
%	(0.12)		(0.78)		(1.34)		—		(0.68)	
<b>12. Circulatory System</b>										
<b>(a) Organic Heart Disease—</b>										
Congenital ... ..	2	2	3	1	3	2	1	—	9	5
Acquired ... ..	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	3	1
<b>(b) Functional Conditions ... ..</b>	4	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	6	3
Totals	6	4	5	2	6	3	1	—	18	9
%	(0.61)		(0.54)		(0.71)		(1.01)		(0.63)	
<b>13. Lungs—</b>										
Chronic Bronchitis	10	10	—	2	—	2	—	—	10	14
Suspected Tuberculosis ... ..	1	3	—	2	2	—	—	—	3	5
Other Diseases ... ..	20	10	4	4	6	4	—	—	30	18
Totals	31	23	4	8	8	6	—	—	43	37
%	(3.33)		(0.93)		(1.10)		—		(1.87)	

TABLE II (continued)

Age Groups	Entrants		2nd Age Group		3rd Age Group		4th Age Group		All Ages	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Number Examined	839	780	674	604	674	593	58	41	2245	2018
<b>Deformities—</b>										
(a) Congenital ...	34	12	3	3	2	—	—	—	39	15
(b) Acquired—										
Infantile Paralysis	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Probable Rickets...	28	38	3	5	—	—	—	—	31	43
Other Causes ...	16	16	17	15	36	32	2	2	71	65
<b>Totals</b>	79	66	24	23	38	32	2	2	143	123
%	(8.95)		(3.67)		(5.52)		(4.04)		(6.23)	
<b>5. Infectious Diseases</b>	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	2
%	(0.24)		(0.07)		—		—		(0.11)	
<b>6. Other Diseases or Defects—</b>	24	16	18	5	14	9	1	1	57	31
%	(2.47)		(1.79)		(1.81)		(2.02)		(2.06)	



**TABLE III**  
**Systematic Medical Examination**

Classification	Entrants		2nd Age Gp.		3rd Age Gp.		4th Age Gp.		Totals	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
I. Free from defects ...	1094	67.57	1049	82.08	1012	79.87	83	83.83	3238	75.95
II. (a) Defective Vision not worse than 6/12 in the better eye with or without lenses	—	—	22	1.72	30	2.36	3	3.03	55	1.29
(b) Condition of mouth and teeth requiring treatment ...	3	0.18	12	0.93	17	1.34	—	—	32	0.75
(c) Both (a) and (b) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	3	0.18	34	2.65	47	3.70	3	3.03	87	2.04
III. Suffering from ailments (other than those mentioned in II) from which complete recovery is anticipated in a few weeks ...	368	22.73	99	7.74	93	7.34	2	2.02	562	13.18
IV. (a) Defects less remediable than those mentioned in II and III where complete cure or restoration of function is considered possible ...	144	8.89	86	6.72	87	6.86	10	10.10	327	7.67
(b) Defects less remediable than those mentioned in II and III where improvement only is considered possible, e.g., without complete restoration of function ...	10	0.61	10	0.78	28	2.20	1	1.01	49	1.14
Total ...	154	9.50	96	7.50	115	9.06	11	11.11	376	8.81
Totals ...	1619		1278		1267		99		4263	

TABLE IV

## Return of all Exceptional Children of School Age in the Area

Disability	At Ordinary Schools	At Special Schools or Classes	At no School or Institution	Total
1. Blind ... ..	—	2	—	2
2. Partially Sighted—				
(a) Refractive errors in which the curriculum of an ordinary school would adversely affect the eye condition ...	1	2	—	3
(b) Other conditions of the eye, e.g., cataract, ulceration, etc., which render the child unable to read ordinary school books or to see well enough to be taught in an ordinary school ...	2	—	—	2
3. Deaf—				
Grade I ... ..	27	—	—	27
Grade IIa ... ..	11	—	—	11
Grade IIb ... ..	3	10	—	13
Grade III ... ..	—	11	1	12
4. Defective Speech—				
(a) Defects of Articulation requiring special educational measures ...	1207	—	1	1208
(b) Stammering requiring special educational measures ... ..	196	—	—	196
5. Mentally Defective—				
(Children between 5 and 16 years)				
(a) Educable (I.Q. approx. 50-70) ... ..	28	69	—	97
(b) Ineducable (I.Q. generally less than 50) ...	2	1	32	35
6. Epilepsy—				
(a) Mild and occasional ...	12	—	—	12
(b) Severe (suitable for care in a residential school)	4	1	3	8
7. Physically Defective—				
(Children between 5 and 16 years)				
(a) Non-Pulmonary tuberculosis (excluding cervical glands) ... ..	7	—	1	8
(b) General Orthopaedic conditions ... ..	1390	2	1*	1393
(c) Organic heart disease ...	42	—	2	44
(d) Other causes of ill-health ... ..	23	4	3*	30
8. Multiple Defects—				
v ... ..	—	7	—	7
viii ... ..	—	2	—	2
xi ... ..	8	22	1	31

\*Pupils receiving home tuition.

**TABLE V**  
**Dental Inspection and Treatment**

Number of Children who were :—

		Age	Systematic Examinations	Special and Emergency Cases
1. Inspected by Dental Officers—		5 ...	123	11
		6 ...	80	16
		7 ...	69	14
		8 ...	54	16
		9 ...	54	13
		10 ...	52	20
		11 ...	90	6
		12 ...	283	10
		13 ...	280	17
		14 ...	201	21
		15 ...	84	8
		Total ...	1370	152
2. (a) Found to require treatment ...			727	149
(b) Accepting treatment (84.0%) ...			613	149
3. Actually treated by S.D.O.s ...			606	144
Continued from last session ...			60	12
4. Number of attendances made by children for treatment ...			1535	290
5. Fillings—				
(a) Permanent Teeth ...			565	67
(b) Temporary Teeth ...			38	10
6. Extractions—				
(a) Permanent Teeth ...			71	12
(b) Temporary Teeth ...			422	105
7. Number of administrations of a general anaesthetic for extractions ...			—	—
8. Other Operations—				
(a) Permanent Teeth ...			365	79
(b) Temporary Teeth ...			23	16
Scalings and Cleanings ...			330	7
Silver Nitrate Treatments ...			80	7
Gum Treatments ...			95	48
Dentures ...			5	2
Orthodontic Appliances ...			5	3
9. Half-days devoted to inspection ...				10
Half-days devoted to treatment ...				334
10. Number of children treated under private arrangements ...				72

TABLE Va  
**Emergency School Dental Service**

	Age	No. Inspected
	7 ...	7
	8 ...	15
	9 ...	86
	10 ...	622
	11 ...	721
	12 ...	549
	13 ...	502
	14 ...	455
	15 ...	106
	Total ...	<hr/> 3063 <hr/>
2. (a) No. found to require treatment ...		2010
(b) Accepting treatment (75.0%) ...		1513
3. Half-days devoted to inspection ...		26
4. No. of schools inspected ...		21
5. Percentage of children treated ...		37

TABLE VI  
Average Heights and Weights

		Number Measured	Average Age		Average Height (inches)	Average Weight (pounds)
			Years	Months		
Boys	...	155	4	9	41.60	40.18
	...	664	5	4	42.82	43.18
	...	18	6	1	44.11	45.94
	...	413	9	7	52.38	64.87
	...	260	10	1	53.41	67.25
	...	14	12	10	56.28	80.92
	...	601	13	5	59.23	94.41
	...	55	14	0	60.14	100.60
	...	49	16	6	66.14	135.42
	...	9	17	0	67.00	133.33
	Girls	...	159	4	9	41.22
...		604	5	4	43.77	41.50
...		17	6	1	43.05	43.35
...		382	9	7	51.66	61.51
...		222	10	1	52.59	64.39
...		19	12	10	58.68	94.21
...		455	13	6	59.70	98.79
...		70	14	0	61.25	105.74
...		36	16	6	63.91	124.03
...		5	17	4	62.60	122.00

TABLE VIa  
Average Heights and Weights

		Number Measured	Average Age		Average Height (inches)	Average Weight (pounds)
			Years	Months		
Boys	...	149	4	9	42.46	40.78
	...	542	5	4	42.91	43.45
	...	18	6	1	44.55	47.88
	...	3	7	5	46.00	50.33
	...	335	9	7	52.38	65.26
	...	174	10	1	53.12	68.64
	...	14	12	10	58.42	86.64
	...	541	13	6	59.64	93.26
	...	55	14	0	60.96	104.45
	...	49	16	6	67.93	140.26
	...	2	17	0	67.50	152.00
Girls	...	125	4	9	41.08	39.63
	...	553	5	4	42.43	41.75
	...	16	6	2	43.87	43.93
	...	351	9	7	51.47	62.79
	...	193	10	1	52.63	65.35
	...	24	12	10	58.54	84.33
	...	375	13	6	60.24	99.27
	...	61	14	1	61.13	103.85
	...	38	16	6	64.10	125.57

TABLE VII  
Speech Defects

				Stammering	Other Disorders
Total No. continued from 1950/51—					
	School	...	...	155	706
	Pre-school	...	...	—	16
	Total	...	...	<u>155</u>	<u>722</u>
Cases newly referred—					
	School	...	...	54	515
	Pre-school	...	...	4	17
	Total	...	...	<u>58</u>	<u>532</u>
Total cases treated				<u>83</u>	<u>557</u>
Attendances—					
	School	...	...	831	5321
	Pre-school	...	...	7	312
	Total	...	...	<u>838</u>	<u>5633</u>
Cases discharged—					
	School	...	...	13	148
	Pre-school	...	...	—	—
	Total	...	...	<u>13</u>	<u>148</u>
Cases left—					
	School	...	...	27	43
	Pre-school	...	...	—	1
	Total	...	...	<u>27</u>	<u>44</u>
Total cases to be continued to Session 1952/53—					
	School	...	...	169	1030
	Pre-school	...	...	4	32
	Total	...	...	<u>173</u>	<u>1062</u>

## SURVEY OF CHILDREN BORN IN 1943

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No. examined in Survey ...	...	...	...	...	1504
No. of new cases found—					
Stammering ...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective Articulation	...	...	...	...	176
No. of cases already known and under treatment—					
Stammering ...	...	...	...	...	18
Defective Articulation	...	...	...	...	101
No. of cases treated and discharged—					
Stammering ...	...	...	...	...	3
Defective Articulation	...	...	...	...	65

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TABLE VIII

**Special Schools or Classes**

	Bathgate J.S.	Blackburn P.S.	Bo'ness P.S.	Bridgend P.S.	Broxburn P.S.
No. on Roll at commencement of Session ...	17	17	14	7	18
No. on Roll at close of Session ...	16	11	16	10	16
No. of M.D. Children in Class ...	14	20	18	11	16
No. of very dull children in Class ...	4	—	1	—	3
Attendance % ...	94.5	78.5	87.1	90.0	92.8
Range of I.Q.'s ...	50—76	55—70	60—76	49—75	45—90
Range of Ages (actual) ...	8—15	11—15	9—16	7—16	9—15
No. leaving during year ...	2	10	3	1	3
No. admitted during year ...	1	3	5	4	1

## SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Mr J. Splitt, County Sanitary Inspector, reports as follows on the Landward Area of the County :—

### INTRODUCTORY

As far as sanitary matters generally are concerned, the year 1952 has been one of progress in the landward area of the County.

The Health Committee of the County Council has pursued the policy of having improvements effected at various sewage purification works with a view to having modern and satisfactory methods of treatment of sewage.

Many years will be required to have the necessary works completed but it is pleasing to the Sanitary Department to have such schemes approved and promoted by the Local Authority. By so doing, the Local Authority will bring about a much-needed improvement in an important health service.

After a lapse of many years, the past year also found the Local Authority giving consideration to statutory reports on the unsatisfactory condition of several properties throughout the County. With the progress being made on housing, it is hoped that the same consideration may be given to "slum clearance" as was the case in pre-war years.

Another important step taken during the year was the appointment of a lady Milk Officer. As will be seen from the detailed reference to Milk Acts, Orders, etc., the appointment has been justified by the good results obtained.

The staff of the County Sanitary Department comprises the County Sanitary Inspector, 1 Depute, 4 qualified Assistants, 1 Apprentice, 1 Milk Officer, 1 Clerks, and 1 Typist, together with 1 Rat Officer and 1 Rivers Pollution Inspector.

All, in their several ways, have endeavoured to serve the County to the best of their ability, and the thanks of the County Sanitary Inspector are due to his staff for their services during the year.

The following report is now given in terms of D.H.S. Circular No. 98/1952 :—

### WATER SUPPLY

As formerly, supplies for the County are derived from Baddingsgill Reservoir in the Parish of West Linton, Peeblesshire; Forrestburn Reservoir in the Parish of Shotts, Lanarkshire; Binny Reservoir in the Parish of Uphall; Beecraigs Reservoir in the Parish of Linlithgow; Morton Reservoir in the Parish of Kirknewton, Midlothian; and underground tanks in the Parish of Torphichen.

The County Water Engineer reports that there has been no material change in the distribution throughout the County, gravitation water being available in all but the higher reaches of the County, and supplies have been well maintained.

As has been the custom, samples for bacteriological examination are taken by the County Water Department once fortnightly at Forrestburn Reservoir, once monthly at the other Reservoirs, and once weekly from the tanks at Torphichen. Chemical samples are obtained twice per year from each source. The results of all the examinations and analyses are passed to the County Medical Officer of Health for his consideration. During the year, all chemical samples proved to be satisfactory as did also nearly all of the samples taken for bacteriological examination. The County Water Engineer also reports that temporary chlorination plants are still operating at Forrestburn, Baddinsgill, Bee-craigs, and Morton Reservoirs, while another temporary plant has been installed at Stonerigg Filters where unsatisfactory bacteriological samples have been experienced.

The extensive works in connection with the chemical filters at Forrestburn and construction of slow sand filters at Morton Reservoir are now nearing completion.

During the year various extensions to mains distribution were carried out where housing development took place.

## DRAINAGE

At the end of the year there were 24 Special Drainage Districts within the County, being situated at—West End, Armadale; Bathville; Blackness; Blackburn; Blackridge; Bridgend; Burnside; Carri-den; Dalmeny; East Whitburn; Fauldhouse; Greenrigg; Kirkliston; Lanrigg; Linlithgowbridge; Livingston Station; Muirhouses; Newton; Newtown; Seafield; Stoneyburn; Torphichen; Uphall (including Broxburn, Uphall, Uphall Station, and Dechmont); Whiteside; and Winchburgh.

Private drainage systems are in operation in the following small villages—Breich; Philpstoun; Roman Camp, Broxburn; Westfield; and Woodend, Armadale.

Many of the sewerage systems and sewage disposal works are overloaded, but every effort is being made with a view to maintaining them in as satisfactory a state as is possible.

So far as sewerage systems are concerned, during the year a new intercepting sewer was provided in the Whiteside area of Bathgate to cope with housing development. In Blackburn, as a preliminary to extensive improvements to the system, a storm overflow drain and chamber were constructed at West Main Street with a view to obviating complaints of flooding.

Arrangements were also completed with regard to the commencement of a contract for improvement to sewerage system in Dechmont Village prior to commencement of housing development.

Preliminary arrangements were also completed with respect to the laying of a new intercepting sewer from the sewage disposal works to new housing development to be proceeded with in the Stewartfield area of Broxburn.

In the areas of housing development, relative extensions to sewers were carried out in conjunction with site preparation work.

With regard to the necessary improvements to various sewage disposal works in the County, some progress can be recorded. At Dalmeny, new works begun in April were completed and in operation at the end of the year.

Contract was also determined with respect to construction of new sewage disposal works at Bridgend, and a commencement will be made to the works in the first few weeks of 1953.

Improvements to sewage works required at Broxburn and Livingston Station, reports on which were referred to in the previous Annual Report, were duly submitted to the Department of Health, but so far no starting date has been awarded.

Reports have also been submitted by the Consulting Engineers with regard to improvements at Fauldhouse and Muirhouses and Carriiden, but here again the Department of Health have not issued any starting dates for carrying out the necessary improvements.

The Engineers' reports with respect to Blackburn, Blackridge, and Seafield are in process of completion, and should be submitted for consideration by the County Council in the early part of 1953.

In addition to the areas referred to, the Consulting Engineers have been requested by the Health Committee of the County Council to submit reports with regard to sewerage systems and sewage disposal works at Kirkliston, Pardovan, and Westfield.

From this it will be seen that much remains to be done in carrying out improvements to sewerage systems and sewage disposal works in the landward area of the County, and while it is appreciated that the question of finance has an important bearing on the carrying out of the necessary works, it is hoped that the Department of Health will give sympathetic consideration to all schemes of improvement put forward by the County Council.

## SCAVENGING

As mentioned in the previous report, all individual Special Scavenging Districts, together with other villages in the landward area of the County, have been formed into one Special Scavenging District, the scheme having been in operation since 16th May, 1952.

The refuse collection in the Special District is undertaken by 8 vehicles, 3 of which are 16/18 cubic yard fore and aft tippers, 3 are 10 cubic yard side loaders, 1 is an 11.3 cubic yard side loader, the other being a side loader of 7 cubic yard capacity.

The vehicles are stationed throughout the County and a good service, mainly thrice weekly, is being maintained.

The coups serving the various areas are being kept in a reasonable manner and free from nuisance.

With regard to outdoor staff, it is recorded that each vehicle has a driver and 2 loaders, while scavengers are employed throughout the District to sweep streets and to assist, where necessary, in the collection of refuse.

In common with other Authorities, difficulty has been experienced in disposing of salvaged paper during the year, with the result that in 1952 only 45 tons, 7 $\frac{3}{4}$  cwts. were disposed of to papermills. A large amount of waste paper is held in stock, suitably baled, for ready disposal as soon as a market is available.

As an added item of interest, it is recorded that since the new cleansing service came into force on 16th May last, 4,093 loads of refuse were uplifted throughout the district, involving a tonnage of 13,171, equivalent to approximately 2,000 tons per month.

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASE

This matter is dealt with fully by the Medical Officer of Health in his report and I have only to record that during the year, 217 visits were made by members of the staff in investigating the cases for report to the Medical Officer of Health.

#### OFFENSIVE TRADES

There is only one offensive trade within the landward area of the County, being a fertiliser plant situated at Cawburn, Drumshoreland, Broxburn. Considering the nature of the work carried out at this factory, the premises are reasonably well maintained.

#### BURIALS

During the year, 21 burials of persons, being 19 males and 2 females, were arranged for and carried out by the County Welfare Officer at the instance of the Local Authority in terms of Section 50 of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

#### BURIAL GROUNDS

During the year there were no complaints with regard to the conduct of burial grounds in the landward area of the County, and it has to be recorded that all the burial grounds were maintained in a very satisfactory manner.

## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

During the year several complaints were received with respect to smoke nuisance. Most of these referred to smoke emission from the brickworks in Winchburgh and from the Goblin Factory at the east end of Broxburn. After communicating with the parties concerned, visits of inspection were made by an official of the Ministry of Fuel and Power, Fuel Efficiency Committee, who made certain recommendations in each case. In Winchburgh, the recommendations are being given effect to and remedial work carried out over the New Year holiday period. Some replacement of fittings is still outstanding, but it is hoped that with the efforts being made on behalf of the firm, any cause for complaint will be removed.

With regard to the factory at Broxburn, the main recommendation is that the chimney should be heightened considerably. This is a matter which has been taken up with the Scottish Industrial Estates, Ltd., who at the end of the year were in process of receiving an expert's advice on their own behalf.

Several other complaints received were of a minor nature, and no great trouble was experienced in having them remedied.

Complaints with respect to smoke and fume nuisance from colliery bings were not so numerous as in past years despite the fact that two or three of these bings are still on fire.

## COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There is one common lodging house in the landward area, situated in Broxburn, which is suitably constructed and equipped for the purpose, and provides accommodation for 95 lodgers. Some little improvement is being called for with respect to part of the sanitary accommodation, and an endeavour will be made to have the necessary improvement effected at an early date.

## SCHOOLS

Several visits were made with respect to the sanitary accommodation at schools within the landward area of the County, but owing to pressure of other work it was not found possible to carry out detailed inspections at all the schools in the landward area of the County. It is intended, however, to give this matter careful attention in the forthcoming year to ensure that a reasonable standard of accommodation is being maintained throughout the County.

It is worthy of note that with respect to improvements effected at Blackburn Public School, the original outside sanitary accommodation has now been discontinued, the necessary arrangements being made internally when the school was extended.

## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

There are at present suitably constructed conveniences in 4 villages in the County, while similar accommodation is in course of being provided at 2 other villages. In addition, consideration is being given to the provision of conveniences in a further 2 villages.

The conveniences in use are well maintained and free from nuisance and complaint.

## RIVERS POLLUTION

The Rivers Pollution Inspector was employed as formerly in carrying out regular inspection of streams throughout the County, and every endeavour was made so far as possible to obviate or at least restrict the amount of any pollution observed.

Difficulty is still being experienced with respect to effluents from some of the collieries in the area, no material improvement having been effected at any during the year under review.

With regard to pollution from Westfield Paper Mill referred to in the Annual Report for 1951, it has been ascertained that the Paper Company did contact the British Paper and Board Industry Research Association, but up to date the Research Association do not appear able to advise the Paper Company as to the best means of preventing pollution. At meetings held with the officials of the Paper Company, the statement has been made that if satisfactory means of treatment can be evolved, the Paper Company will be only too pleased to provide the necessary works. With the Research Association being unable to advise the Paper Company, it is difficult to know what to do with regard to this pollution.

## NUISANCES

22 written intimations referring to nuisances were issued under Section 19 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897. These related to defective drains, defective and choked w.c.s, defective sink, depositing of refuse, and defective roof. With the exception of the last-mentioned defect, all matters were attended to satisfactorily.

Several other nuisances of a minor nature were observed and remedied by negotiation without the necessity of issuing formal notices.

Statutory notice in terms of Section 20 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897 was served with regard to defective roof, the matter being outstanding at the end of the year pending full report on housing conditions of the property concerned being submitted to the County Council.

One intimation was issued during the year under Section 191 of the Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1892, with respect to dangerous buildings. In view of the considerable danger involved, the four tenants of the first floor houses in the property were rehoused by the County Council pending the carrying out of necessary repairs. Due to neglect in carrying out repairs, report on the condition of the property generally was submitted to the County Council for consideration under the Housing Statutes.

## FACTORIES

There are now 163 factories within the landward area of the County. During the year, 156 inspections were made. All premises inspected were found to be in a reasonable condition, and only in 3 instances were complaints made to the owners. These related to conditions of sanitary conveniences. After due notification of defects, the premises were put in order.

## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS

The County Rat Officer employed by the County Council was engaged throughout the year on disinfection and examination of houses infested with rats, mice, fleas, cockroaches, bugs, etc. Appropriate action was taken at affected premises, and in addition, periodic gassing, bait laying, and trapping operations took place at the various refuse coups.

The number of properties, etc., examined by the Rat Officer during the year was 1,276, on which 1,376 inspections were made. The result of his labours, so far as destruction of rats was concerned, is summed up as follows :—

Estimated number of rats destroyed	...	...	...	4,849
Of these there were—				—
Trapped	...	...	...	1,147
Poisoned	...	...	...	1,871
Gassed	...	...	...	1,831

The increase over last year in the number of rats trapped and poisoned is largely accounted for by the County Rat Officer having been engaged in disinfecting one or two of the larger piggeries in the area.

During the year, instruction courses run by the Department of Agriculture were attended by one of the Assistant Sanitary Inspectors and the County Rat Officer. The service being afforded appears to be fairly satisfactory and is proving of benefit throughout the County.



With regard to the County Rat Officer's supervision of threshing operations throughout the County, he had occasion during the year to report five farmers who were contravening terms of the regulations. In all instances the matter was pursued by the Procurator-Fiscal and the offending parties taken to court, each of them being fined £5.

### MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

During the year, 1½lb of canned meat were seized at the slaughterhouses and condemned by the Meat Inspector as being unfit for human consumption.

6 tons, 54lb of tinned foods and 2 cwts., 2 qrs., 25lb of other foodstuffs were seized and condemned by the Sanitary Department with the consent of the various owners, being a total of 6 tons, 3 cwts., 1 st., 8lb.

The majority of the tinned foodstuffs condemned was in connection with the large Victualling Depot belonging to the Admiralty near South Queensferry. In addition, 9¾ gallons of vinegar were condemned, being of a sour and discoloured nature.

In all, 52 visits were entailed at food premises.

Only one complaint was received from a member of the public; this was with respect to supply of tainted butter. On investigation, the complaint was found to be justified, and arrangements made with the shopkeeper to issue a new supply to the customer.

The total amount of foodstuffs condemned during the year was therefore 6 tons, 3 cwts., 1 st., 9½lb.

All the foodstuffs were voluntarily surrendered by the owners of the food premises.

### FOOD HYGIENE

During the year there was no work of any special nature carried out with respect to this subject, but from observations made it is found that, generally speaking, food premises are being maintained in a reasonable condition, and there has been no occasion on which complaint required to be made.

### SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are two public slaughterhouses in the County, one at Linlithgow and one at Armadale, both of which are maintained by the Town Councils of the Burghs concerned.

Statement for the year in relation to the number of animals slaughtered and the weight of condemnations for each slaughterhouse is as follows :—

## Number of Animals—

## Linlithgow—

Class of Animals	Slaughtered	Wholly Condemned	Weight (in lb) of Con-	
			Partially demned Condemned	Meat and Offals
Cattle ... ..	1,584	7	9	} 22,420
Calves ... ..	336	4	1	
Sheep ... ..	9,540	20	7	
Pigs ... ..	447	2	9	

## Armadale—

Cattle ... ..	1,950	46	23	} 55,769
Calves ... ..	1,904	23	—	
Sheep ... ..	10,492	35	9	
Pigs ... ..	491	7	5	

The method of transportation of meat to the various shops from the slaughterhouses is as formerly,\* and it is recorded that during the year no complaints were received by the Sanitary Department with regard to the service.

## MILK AND DAIRIES ACT, 1914

During the year, routine inspection of dairy premises was continued and defects found brought to the attention of the farmers, who attended to the various defects in a satisfactory manner. In the course of the year, major improvements were carried out at five premises, at four of which farmers applied for licence to produce Tuberculin Tested milk. After the usual investigations, these applications were approved and the necessary licences issued. Alterations to a further six premises were in progress at the end of the year. These figures indicate that some progress continues to be made in having all the dairy premises within the landward area of the County brought into conformity with the Dairy Byelaws.

At the end of the year there were 184 registered producers in the County, being 23 producer retailers and 161 producers only. 14 milk dealers resident in the County and 7 dealers from outwith the County retail milk throughout the area. These numbers exclude the retail service of the various Co-operatives of Armadale, Bathgate, Broxburn, Bo'ness, Crofthead, Hillwood, West Benhar, and West Calder.

The number of cows in registered dairy premises is approximately 4,740.

16 samples of milk from non-attested herds were taken during the year for biological examination. All the samples gave negative results, and were therefore satisfactory.

In carrying out of routine visits of both designated and non-designated milk premises in the County, 856 visits of inspection were made by the Milk Officer and members of the staff of the Sanitary Department.

The premises of all milk retailers were examined during the year and advice given with respect to improvement of premises, where necessary.

It is pleasing to record that in 3 of the cases where premises were unsatisfactory, the dealers agreed to carry out the necessary work. 2 of the dealers elected to construct new premises, one of which is now in operation complete with sterilising and bottle washing equipment. The other at the end of the year had the building erected and was awaiting electricity supply and installation of equipment.

The third dealer referred to, reconstructed the existing premises complete with sterilising and bottle washing equipment, the work being almost complete at the end of the year.

#### MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS (SCOTLAND)

During the year, 746 samples of designated milks were obtained from Certified, Tuberculin Tested, and Standard milk producers, being 541 for bacteriological examination and 205 for chemical analysis. Of those taken for bacteriological examination, 459 complied and 82 failed to comply with the Milk Orders, unsatisfactory samples being 15.2% of the number taken. This continues the improvement effected during the past year or two and is the lowest annual figure on record so far as this County is concerned. The comparative figure last year was 17.95%.

In all cases where unsatisfactory results were recorded, producers were visited and advised as to methods, etc. Thereafter, subsequent samples were taken. The follow up process brought out the fact that with regard to the 82 failures referred to, 16 failed at the second time of sampling, and 7 failed at the third sampling. In all cases, satisfactory results were ultimately obtained, thus avoiding the necessity of the taking of any statutory action with regard to production of unsatisfactory milk.

Of the 205 samples taken for chemical analysis, only 3 failed to meet the requirements so far as butter fat and other solids are concerned. The average butter fat content of all the samples taken was 4.05%, the average for solids not fat being 9.03%.

Subsequent samples of failures referred to were taken under the Food and Drugs Act and found to be satisfactory.

27 samples of pasteurised milk were obtained from the Creamery, Bathgate, for bacteriological examination, all of which were found to comply with the Milk Orders.

In addition, 10 samples of pasteurised milk were taken at various schools, when no failures were recorded. In taking the samples at schools, opportunity was taken to examine the conditions of storage of milk and in no instance was any evidence found worthy of complaint.

Several inspections were made of the pasteurising plant at Bathgate Creamery during the year, when observations made indicated that the plant was being well maintained and giving good results. At the end of the year, commencement was made with work of improving the wall finishings of the apartment housing balance tank, which work should be completed early in the new year.

At the beginning of the year 1953 the number of designated licences in force was as follows:—

Producers—

Certified	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	114
Standard	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	1

— a Total of 118

Dealers and Supplementary Dealers—

Certified,	Tuberculin	Tested,	Tuberculin
Tested	Pasteurised,	Pasteurised	and
Sterilised	...	...	...

— a Total of 54

In the course of the year the herds of certified and tuberculin tested producers were examined by Veterinary Surgeons appointed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. From copies of certificates lodged here it is noted that of 8,088 tuberculin tests carried out, 64 animals reacted to the test and were removed from the herds.

All the herds in designated premises were also subjected to clinical examinations, and of 4,110 clinical examinations made there were no cases of tuberculosis, and only two cases of mastitis were reported. These results are very satisfactory and indicate that the health standard of the milk cows in the County is being maintained at a high standard.

The number of herds designated as attested by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is now 226 as compared with 206 last year. Several of these herds, of course, are not milk producing herds and refer to herds of "beef cattle".

## SCOTTISH MILK TESTING SCHEME

During the year, 2,105 samples of milk were taken at Bathgate Creamery and tested in the County laboratory where they were subjected to the Resazurin Keeping Quality Test. 1,902 samples refer to milk produced by West Lothian producers, of which number 99 failed in the test, the total for unsatisfactory samples being 5.2% of the total

number. The other 203 samples refer to milk produced by Lanark and Stirling County producers, of which number 25 failed in the test, being 12.3% of the total taken.

The over-all average of failures in the 2,105 samples taken was 5.9%. This figure commends itself and indicates a high standard of clean milk production.

In addition to delivery of milk produced in this County to Bathgate Creamery, it is also to be recorded that a considerable amount of milk, particularly in the northern part of the County, is conveyed to and treated at Creameries in Stirlingshire and the City of Edinburgh.

During the year, only 4 complaints were received with regard to milk delivered to the Stirlingshire area, and 20 complaints with regard to milk delivered to the City of Edinburgh. Only 6 of these complaints were with regard to failure in Resazurin Keeping Quality Test, the other 18 being complaints with regard to the appearance of the milk.

This information given with respect to milk delivered to creameries outwith the County further indicates the satisfactory nature of milk being produced within the County, and leads one to the conclusion that with respect to production of milk within the County, the conditions can be considered satisfactory.

#### FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928

In 1952, 78 samples were taken under the above Act, being 15 milk, 17 ice-cream, 18 sausages, 10 whisky, 5 mince, 3 camphorated oil, 3 jam, 2 sugar, 2 butter, 1 sweets, 1 pepper, and 1 tapioca. Only one of these was of an informal nature, the others being formal samples.

The informal sample of milk was found to be unsatisfactory, but a subsequent formal sample of the same milk proved to be genuine.

One sample of mince was unsatisfactory, the case being reported to the County Clerk. At the end of the year, proceedings were pending.

All other samples were satisfactory.

The average milk fat content in milk samples was 3.66%, and of solids other than fat 8.97%, compared with the minimum requirements of 3% and 8.5% respectively.

The average fat, solids not fat, and sugar content in ice-cream were 4.97, 7.2, and 12.1% respectively as compared with the minimum contents of 4, 5, and 10% respectively.

#### ICE-CREAM (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS, 1948

At the beginning of 1952, registrations had been issued with respect to 39 premises and 33 vehicles.

At the end of the year, 41 premises and 43 vehicles were duly registered.

There are no outstanding applications and all premises and vehicles are being well maintained.

#### PREMISES WHERE FOODS ARE MANUFACTURED, PREPARED, STORED, OR EXPOSED FOR SALE

Premises coming within this category were inspected during the year and found to be generally satisfactory.

#### BUILDING REGULATIONS

Under the Building Byelaws, 154 sets of plans were submitted, examined, reported upon, and approved for erection of new buildings and improvements to existing buildings.

34 applied to improvements to dwellinghouses, 32 to the erection of garages, 12 to the erection of sheds, poultry houses, etc., 13 to the erection of piggeries, 8 to the layout and erection of housing schemes, 8 to the erection of dwellinghouses, 7 to the extension of factories, 6 to the erection of greenhouses, 5 to the erection of school classrooms, 4 to alterations to halls, 4 to the erection of stores, 3 to the erection of pigeon lofts, 2 to improvements to dairy premises, 2 to erection of football pavilions, 2 to alterations to stores, and 1 each to the erection of garage, erection of school, alterations to shop, erection of Royal Observer Corps post, conversion of hospital ward, extension to power station, erection of lamp room at colliery, erection of rifle range, conversion of store into garage, additions to laboratory, and extension to pithead baths.

#### HOUSING, ETC., INSPECTIONS

During the year the necessary inspections were made and certificates of occupation issued with respect to 168 houses erected and completed by the County Council and 244 houses erected and completed by the Scottish Special Housing Association, a total of 412 houses. These comprised 150 traditional and 262 non-traditional houses.

Inspections carried out with respect to letting and reletting, relating to cleanliness and condition of furniture, numbered 782.

In addition, 104 visits were made with respect to preparation of reports with a view to representing to the County Council unsatisfactory housing conditions in various properties for consideration under the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950.

Other 134 visits were made in connection with drain tests, examination of sewers, etc.

CINEMATOGRAF ACT, 1909, AND CINEMATOGRAF  
REGULATIONS, 1923

During the year, 24 inspections were carried out in connection with the 7 premises coming within the scope of the above provisions.

All the premises were found to be eligible for re-registration, and the County Clerk was notified accordingly.

In the course of the year outstanding work at the Stoneyburn and Fauldhouse Cinemas was completed satisfactorily.

J. SPLITT,  
*County Sanitary Inspector.*





9 - JUL 1953

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