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INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL
MEDICINE

10 PARKS ROAD,
OXFORD

CAITHNESS COUNTY COUNCIL



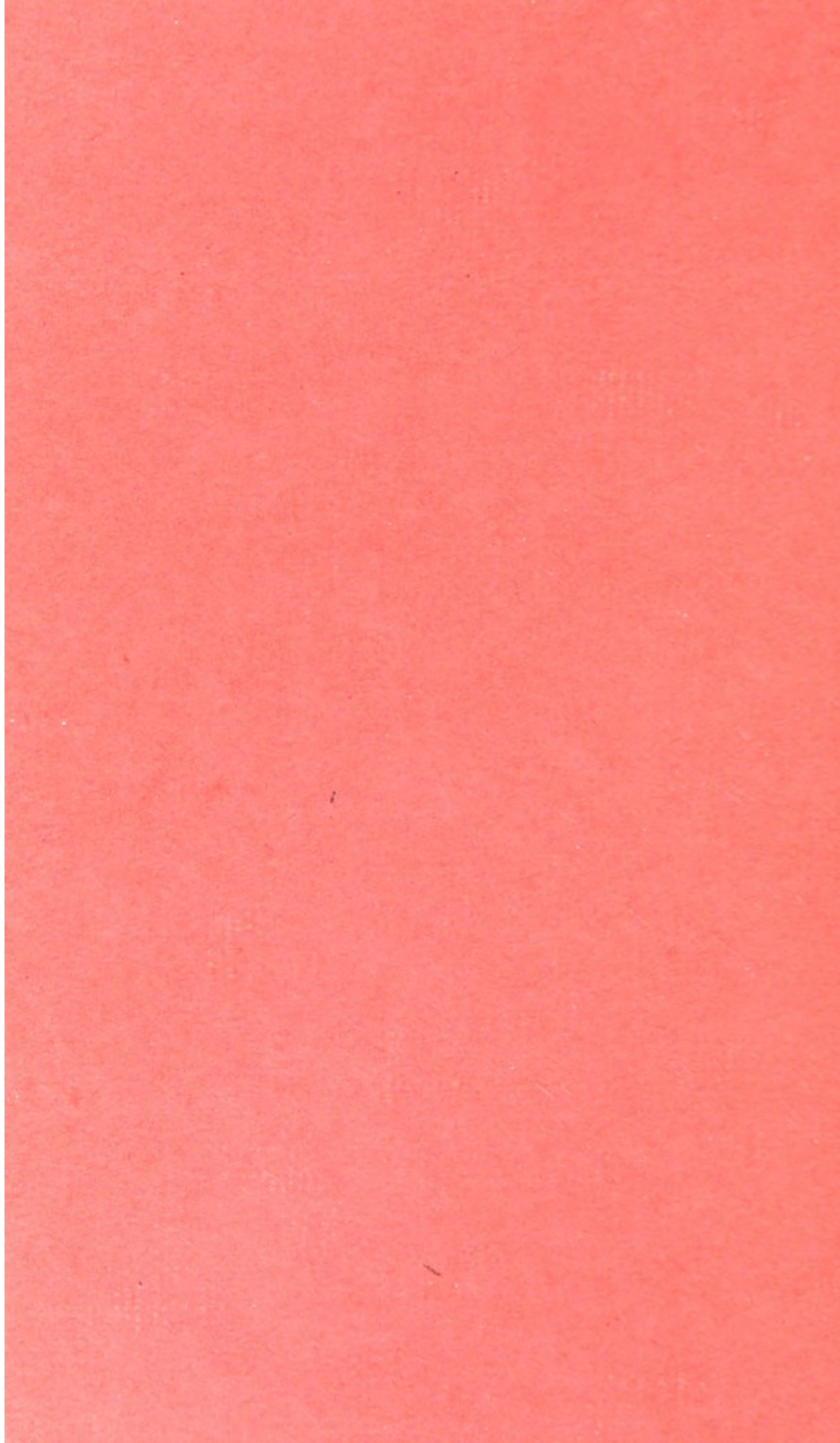
MEDICAL INSPECTION & SUPERVISION

OF

SCHOOL CHILDREN

FOR

Year ending 31st July, 1949



CAITHNESS COUNTY COUNCIL.

Medical Inspection and Supervision
OF
SCHOOL CHILDREN

For Year ending 31st July, 1949.

LIST OF STAFF.

<i>Medical Officer of Health</i> ...	R. F. MACDONALD, M.D., D.P.H. (Resigned September, 1948.) GEORGE DICK, M.B. Ch.B., B.Sc. (October, 1948-30th June, 1949.) A. F. MCCOUBREY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Commenced duty 1st July, 1949.)
<i>Asst. Medical Officer of Health</i> ...	HELEN R. T. HOOD, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Resigned March, 1949.) DORIS A. MACKINTOSH, M.B., Ch.B. D.P.H. (Com. duty April, 1949.)
<i>Dentist</i> ...	J. JOHNSTON, L.D.S.
<i>School Nurses (part-time)</i> ...	17 DISTRICT NURSES.
<i>Clerk</i> ...	Miss M. BRUCE.
<i>Others</i> ...	Miss M. BRUCE (Dental Attendant).

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Population of Area	...	...	...	23,664
		Primary	Secondary	Total
Number of Schools	...	49	5	54
Special Schools	...	—	—	—
Special Classes in Ordinary Schools	...	1	—	1

Number of Children on Registers	...	4,298
Number of Children in Average Attendance...	...	4,063.28

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF SCHOOLS.

Owing to the lack of an adequate water supply, many of the country schools still lack up-to-date sanitary arrangements.

Repairs and improvements have been carried out on many of the schools. In three of the schools, the drainage system and water supply has been overhauled.

Heating of the country schools is done by open fires and stoves. In most of the town schools, central heating is installed.

ORGANISATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

Routine Medical Inspection was carried out according to the circular D.H.S. No. 99/1948.

The District Nurses assisted at the Medical Inspection and followed up all cases needing treatment or observation.

In the country schools, the attendance of parents at the Medical Inspection was very poor. This was due chiefly to the distance of the homes from the schools.

The Findings of Medical Inspection.

CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR.

Out of a total of 1,110 inspected at the Systematic Examinations, 31 children were found with unsatisfactory clothing, and 6 were found with poor footwear. Clothing and footgear was provided for the necessitous cases.

No. of pupils examined ...	...	...	1,110
No. of pupils with defect ...	...	...	37
Percentage with defect ...	...	...	3.33%

UNCLEANLINESS OF HEAD AND BODY.

No. of pupils examined ...	...	...	1,110
No. of pupils with defect ...	...	...	76
Percentage with defect ...	...	...	6.8%

SKIN.

There were no cases of Ringworm head, but 2 cases of Ringworm body were found. There were also 2 cases of Scabies and 2 of Impetigo. The other cases found defective were of the minor skin conditions.

No. of pupils examined ...	...	...	1,110
No. of pupils with defect ...	...	...	43
Percentage with defect ...	...	...	3.8%

NUTRITIONAL STATE.

There were no bad cases of bad malnutrition. There were 31 cases of slight malnutrition.

No. of pupils examined ...	...	...	1,110
No. of pupils with defect ...	...	...	31
Percentage with defect ...	...	...	2.7%

MOUTH UNHEALTHY.

There were 44 cases of children suffering from "unhealthy mouth." Children with more than 3 carious teeth were included in this category.

No. of pupils examined ...	...	...	1,110
No. of pupils with defect ...	...	...	44
Percentage with defect ...	...	...	3.9%

NASO-PHARYNX.

(a) *Nose*—

There were 12 cases that needed treatment.

No. of pupils examined ...	...	...	1,110
No. of pupils with defect ...	...	...	85
Percentage with defect ...	...	...	7.6%

(b) *Tonsils*—

There were 38 cases of enlarged tonsils which needed treatment.
There were 92 cases placed under observation.

No. of pupils examined ...	...	...	1,110
No. of pupils with defect ...	...	...	130
Percentage with defect ...	...	...	11.7%

(c) *Glands*—

There were 76 cases of enlarged glands, only 1 of these being definitely diagnosed as tubercular.

No. of pupils examined ...	...	...	1,110
No. of pupils with defect ...	...	...	76
Percentage with defect ...	...	...	6.8%

EYES.

External Disease—₅₀

There were 39 cases of disease of the eye. Of these 25 were suffering from Blepharitis, 3 from Conjunctivitis, and 1 from Corneal Opacities. The remaining 10 were very minor defects.

No. of pupils examined ...	...	...	1,110
No. of pupils with defect ...	...	...	39
Percentage with defect ...	...	...	3.5%

Strabismus—

No. of pupils examined ...	...	...	1,110
No. of pupils with defect ...	...	...	20
Percentage with defect ...	...	...	1.8%

Visual Acuity—

No. of pupils examined ...	...	...	1,110
No. of pupils with "bad vision" ...	...	...	173
Percentage with "bad vision" ...	...	...	15.5%
No. of pupils examined ...	...	...	1,110
No. of pupils with "fair vision" ...	...	...	68
Percentage with "fair vision" ...	...	...	6.1%

All pupils suffering from "bad vision" were referred for refraction to the Ophthalmologist.

SPEECH.

There were 23 cases of defective articulation, and 4 cases of stammering. None of these required any special treatment and were doing quite well in the ordinary school.

No. of pupils examined ...	...	...	1,110
No. of pupils with defect ...	...	...	27
Percentage with defect ...	...	...	2.4%

MENTAL AND NERVOUS CONDITIONS.

There were 19 cases of Dull and Backward children, and 6 Mentally Defective (educable). Of these, 16 were in the Special Class, but owing to distance only the children whose home were in the near vicinity could attend.

No. of pupils examined ...	...	...	1,110
No. of pupils with defect ...	...	...	25
Percentage with defect ...	...	...	2.2%

HEART AND CIRCULATION.

There were 3 cases of Congenital Heart Disease, and 7 cases of Acquired, and 14 Functional.

No. of pupils examined ...	...	...	1,110
No. of pupils with defect ...	...	...	24
Percentage with defect ...	...	...	2.1%

LUNGS.

There were several cases of Asthma—these were mostly of the mild type, also 2 cases of Chronic Bronchitis, and 2 suspected T.B. cases.

No. of pupils examined ...	...	...	1,110
No. of pupils with defect ...	...	...	31
Percentage with defect ...	...	...	2.7%

DEFORMITIES.

There were 12 cases of Congenital Deformities, and 2 cases of deformity from Infantile Paralysis, and 4 cases of deformity due to Rickets, and 9 cases due to other diseases.

No. of pupils examined ...	...	...	1,110
No. of pupils with defect ...	...	...	27
Percentage with defect ...	...	...	2.4%

OTHER DISEASES OR DEFECTS.

There were 50 cases of other defects not included in the above categories. These were chiefly Anæmics.

No. of pupils examined ...	...	...	1,110
No. of pupils with defect ...	...	...	50
Percentage with defect ...	...	...	4.5%

SPECIAL CASES.

There were 216 children examined as special cases. Of these, 158 were found defective. Many of these were defective vision cases.

No. of pupils examined ...	...	...	216
No. of pupils with defect ...	...	...	158
Percentage with defect ...	...	...	73.1%

TABLE I.

TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN EXAMINED AT—

	Systematic Examinations	Other Systematic Examinations
Ordinary Schools {		
Entrants ...	338	49
Second Age Group <i>1940</i>	373	52
Third Age Group <i>1936</i>	116	4
Fourth Age Group <i>1933</i>	—	—
Secondary Schools—Age Group {		
1935 ...	247	—
1932 ...	36	—
Total... ..	1,110	105

Other Examinations—

Special Cases	216
Re-Inspections by Medical Officer ...	99
Total ...	315

Number of Individual Children inspected at Systematic Examinations who were notified to parents as requiring treatment (excluding uncleanliness and dental caries) —

Entrants	53
Second Age Group...	83
Third Age Group ...	18
Fourth Age Group ...	—
Secondary Age Group ...	103
Other Systematic Examinations ...	11
Total ...	268

No. examined for Visual Acuity and Hearing 348

TABLE II.

Systematic Examinations.

Return of Number and Percentage of Individual Children in each Age-Group suffering from particular Defects.

NATURE OF DEFECT	Entrants		1939		1935		1932		TOTAL	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Total	177	161	196	177	203	160	11	25	587	523
1. CLOTHING UNSATISFACTORY	2	2	10	8	4	5	...	...	16	15
Percentage	1.12	1.24	5.10	4.51	1.97	3.12	...	...	2.72	2.86
2. FOOTWEAR UNSATISFACTORY	...	...	3	1	1	1	...	...	4	2
Percentage	...	...	1.53	.56	.49	.62	...	...	.68	.38
3. CLEANLINESS—										
(a) Head	1	14	3	19	3	20	...	2	7	55
Percentage	.56	8.69	1.53	10.73	1.47	12.5	...	8.0	1.19	10.51
(b) Body	3	1	4	4	1	1	...	...	8	6
Percentage	1.69	.62	2.04	2.25	.49	.62	...	...	1.36	1.14
4. SKIN—										
Head—										
Ringworm	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Percentage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Impetigo	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Percentage	...	.62	.51	...	...	...	...	...	.17	.19
Other Diseases	...	...	2	3	4	...	...	...	6	3
Percentage	...	...	1.02	1.69	1.97	...	...	...	1.02	.57

TABLE II.—continued.

NATURE OF DEFECT	Entrants		1939		1935		1932		TOTAL	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Total	177	161	196	177	203	160	11	25	587	523
4. SKIN—continued										
Body—Ringworm	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...
Percentage	.56	...	...	...	.49	...	...	...	.34	...
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Percentage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scabies	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Percentage	...	.62	.51	...	...	...	...	...	.17	.19
Other Diseases	3	5	8	5	4	3	...	...	15	13
Percentage	1.69	3.10	4.08	2.88	1.97	1.87	...	...	2.55	2.48
5. NUTRITION—										
Slight	3	3	8	4	6	6	...	1	17	14
Percentage	1.69	1.86	4.08	2.25	2.95	3.75	...	4.0	2.89	2.67
Bad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Percentage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. MOUTH UNHEALTHY	12	7	9	7	4	4	...	1	25	19
Percentage	6.77	4.34	4.59	3.95	1.97	2.5	...	4.0	4.25	3.63
7. NASO-PHARYNX—										
Nose—										
Observation	9	4	10	8	3	3	...	...	21	15
Percentage	5.08	2.48	5.10	4.51	1.47	1.87	...	...	3.56	2.86
Treat Adenoids	2	2	4	4	...	...	...	...	6	6
Percentage	1.12	1.24	2.04	2.25	...	...	...	...	1.02	1.14
Other Conditions	7	5	5	4	6	9	...	...	18	18
Percentage	3.95	3.10	2.55	2.25	2.95	5.62	...	...	3.06	3.44

TABLE II.—continued.

NATURE OF DEFECT	Entrants		1939		1935		1932		TOTAL	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Total	177	161	196	177	203	160	11	25	587	523
7. NASO-PHARYNX—continued										
Throat—										
Observation—Tonsils	19	18	18	18	13	6	...	...	50	42
Percentage	10.73	11.18	9.18	10.16	6.40	3.75	...	...	8.51	8.03
Treat Tonsils	6	5	6	15	5	1	...	1	17	22
Percentage	3.38	3.10	3.06	8.47	2.46	.62	...	4.0	2.89	4.20
Glands—										
Observation	15	13	21	16	3	8	...	...	39	37
Percentage	8.47	8.07	10.71	9.03	1.47	5.0	...	...	6.64	7.07
Treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Percentage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. EYES—External—										
Blepharitis	5	2	3	5	5	3	1	1	14	11
Percentage	2.82	1.24	1.53	2.88	2.46	1.87	9.09	4.0	2.38	2.10
Conjunctivitis	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	1	2
Percentage	...	...	.51	1.12	...	...	...	...	.17	.38
Corneal Opacities	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Percentage	...	...	...	...	...	.62	...	...	...	.19
Strabismus	7	3	3	3	4	...	...	...	14	6
Percentage	3.95	1.86	1.53	1.69	1.97	...	...	...	2.38	1.14
Other Diseases	2	...	3	3	1	1	...	...	6	4
Percentage	1.12	...	1.53	1.69	.49	.62	...	...	1.02	.76

TABLE II.—continued.

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TABLE II.—continued.

NATURE OF DEFECT	Entrants		1939		1935		1932		TOTAL	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Total	177	161	196	177	203	160	11	25	587	523
10. SPEECH—Defective Articulation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Percentage	9	4	4	5	...	1	...	...	13	10
Stammering	5.08	2.48	2.04	2.88	...	.62	...	...	2.21	1.91
Percentage	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	2	2
Percentage	...	...	.51	.56	.49	.62	...	...	.54	.58
11. MENTAL AND NERVOUS CONDITIONS—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Backward	1	...	1	...	4	1	...	...	6	1
Percentage	.56	...	.51	...	1.97	.62	...	...	1.02	.19
Dull	2	2	2	3	1	2	...	...	5	7
Percentage	1.12	1.24	1.02	1.69	.49	1.25	...	...	.85	1.53
M.D. (educable)	...	...	...	...	4	2	...	...	4	2
Percentage	...	...	...	...	1.97	1.25	...	...	.68	.58
M.D. (ineducable)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Percentage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nervous (unstable)	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Percentage	.56	.62	.51	...	...	...	...	...	.34	.19
Behaviour (difficult)	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	1
Percentage	...	...	...	...	.49	.62	...	...	.17	.19
12. HEART AND CIRCULATION—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	2
Percentage	.56	...	...	.56	...	.62	...	...	.17	.58
Acquired	...	2	2	1	...	1	...	1	2	5
Percentage	...	1.24	1.02	.56	...	.62	...	4.0	.54	.95
Functional	2	3	2	1	2	1	2	1	8	8
Percentage	1.12	1.86	1.02	.56	.98	.62	18.18	4.9	1.56	1.14

TABLE II.—continued.

NATURE OF DEFECT	Entrants		1939		1935		1932		TOTAL	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Total	177	161	196	177	203	160	11	25	587	523
13.—LUNGS—										
Chronic Bronchitis	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...
Percentage	.56	...	...	...	.49	...	...	...	.34	...
T.B. (suspected)	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	1
Percentage	...	...	...	...	.49	.62	...	...	.17	.19
Other Diseases...	5	5	8	6	3	...	...	...	16	11
Percentage	2.82	3.10	4.08	3.33	1.47	...	...	...	2.72	2.10
14. DEFORMITIES—										
Congenital	1	2	2	3	1	3	...	...	4	8
Percentage	.56	1.24	1.02	1.69	.49	1.87	...	...	.68	1.52
Acquired (infantile paralysis)	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	1
Percentage	...	...	...	...	.49	.62	...	...	.17	.19
Acquired (rickets)	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	3	1
Percentage	...	...	1.53	.56	...	...	...	...	.51	.19
Acquired (other diseases)	3	1	2	...	3	...	...	...	8	1
Percentage	1.69	.62	1.02	...	1.47	...	...	...	1.36	.19
15. INFECTIOUS DISEASES										
Percentage	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Percentage	...	.62	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.19
16. OTHER DISEASES OR DEFECTS										
Percentage	9	8	10	10	5	4	1	3	35	25
Percentage	5.08	4.96	5.10	5.64	2.46	2.5	9.09	12.0	4.25	4.76

TABLE III.
Systematic Medical Examinations

CLASSIFICATION	ENTRANTS		SECOND AGE-GROUP		THIRD AGE-GROUP		FOURTH AGE-GROUP		TOTAL	
	No. of Child- ren	Per- c'tage	No. of Child- ren	Per- c'tage	No. of Child- ren	Per- c'tage	No. of Child- ren	Per- c'tage	No. of Child- ren	Per- c'tage
I. Children free from defects	217	61.22	221	59.24	223	61.43	16	44.44	677	60.99
II. Children (otherwise free from defects) who suffer from—										
(a) Defective vision not worse than 6/12 in the better eye with or without glasses; or	4	1.18	13	3.48	11	3.03	1	2.66	25	2.25
(b) Conditions of the mouth and teeth requiring treatment	4	1.18	4	1.07	6	1.65	...	...	14	1.26
(c) Both (a) and (b)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	4	1.18	17	4.53	17	4.68	1	2.66	39	3.51
III. Children suffering from ailments (other than those mentioned in II.) from which complete recovery is anticipated within a few weeks	73	21.59	78	20.91	56	15.42	11	30.55	218	19.63
IV. Children suffering from (or suspected to be suffering from) defect less remediable than defects specified in II. or III., distinguishing cases—										
(a) Where complete cure or restoration of function (in the case of eye defect, full correction) is considered possible	43	12.72	54	14.47	51	14.04	7	19.44	155	13.96
(b) Where improvement only is considered possible, e.g., without complete restoration of function	1	.29	3	.80	16	4.40	1	2.66	21	1.89
Total	44	10.05	57	15.28	67	18.45	8	22.22	176	15.85
Total number of Children examined	338	100%	373	100%	363	100%	36	100%	1110	100%

✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓

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 .....	....	1	....	1
2. PARTIALLY SIGHTED—				
(a) Refractive errors in which the curriculum of an ordinary school would adversely affect the eye condition .....	....	....	....	....
(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 .....	....	....	....	....
3. DEAF—				
Grade I.	7	....	....	7
Grade II.a	3	....	....	3
Grade II.b ....	....	....	....	....
Grade III. ....	....	3	....	3
4. DEFECTIVE SPEECH—				
(a) Defects of articulation requiring special educational measures .....	....	....	....	....
(b) Stammering requiring special educational measures .....	....	....	....	....
5. MENTALLY DEFECTIVE (Children between 5 and 16 years)—				
(a) Educable (I.Q., approx. 50-70)	6	21	....	27
(b) Ineducable (I.Q., generally less than 50) ....	....	....	1	1
6. EPILEPSY—				
(a) Mild and occasional	2	....	....	2
(b) Severe (suitable for care in a residential school) ....	....	1	....	1
7. PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE (Children between 5 and 16 years)—				
(a) Non-pulmonary tuberculosis (excluding cervical glands)....	1	....	....	1
(b) General orthopaedic conditions	14	....	1	15
(c) Organic heart disease	10	....	....	10
(d) Other causes of ill-health	1	1	....	2
8. MULTIPLE DEFECTS—				
(a) ....	....	....	....	....
(b) ....	....	....	....	....

PROVISION OF SPECTACLES.

Total number of children examined by the Ophthalmic Surgeon	108	79
Total number of children for whom glasses were ordered	72	38
✦ Total number of children examined by opticians	1,555	79
✦ Total number of children for whom glasses were ordered	110	49
Total number of children waiting for glasses	36	123
Total number of glasses provided	174	

ORTHOPÆDIC TREATMENT.

A specialist attends at the hospital once every two months and sees any school child requiring treatment.

TONSILS AND ADENOIDS.

Operations for tonsils and adenoids are carried out at the Dunbar and Bignold Hospitals.

Number of children operated on 92

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Six children were immunised during the period under review, and two hundred and seventeen received a reinforcing dose

ULTRA VIOLET RAY TREATMENT.

An Ultra Violet Ray Clinic was held one afternoon per week, the average attendance being 15.

STATISTICS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st JULY, 1949.**TABLE V.**

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

Number of Children—

(1) Inspected by Dental Officer—

Age	(a) Systematic Examinations	(b) Special and Emergency Cases	Total
5	357	4	361
6	346	6	352
7	400	12	412
8	331	7	338
9	333	7	340
10	370	5	375
11	379	2	381
12	52	35	87
13	31	33	64
14	6	26	32
15	—	14	14
	2,605	151	2,726

	Systematic Exami- nations	Special and Emergency Cases
(2) Found to require treatment	1,551	151
(a) Accepting treatment	1,389	151
(3) Actually treated by School Dentist	1,334	151
(4) No. of Attendances made by Children for treatment	1,410	292
(5) Fillings—(a) Permanent teeth	739	222
(b) Temporary teeth	59	4
(6) Extractions—		
(a) Permanent teeth	155	86
(b) Temporary teeth	1,794	76
(7) No. of administrations of a general anæsthetic for ex- tractions	<i>nil</i>	<i>nil</i>
(8) Other Operations—		
(a) Permanent teeth	308	91
(b) Temporary teeth ...	3	19
(9) Half-days devoted to inspections	45	
Half-days devoted to treatment	342	
(10) No. of Children treated under private arrangements		7

