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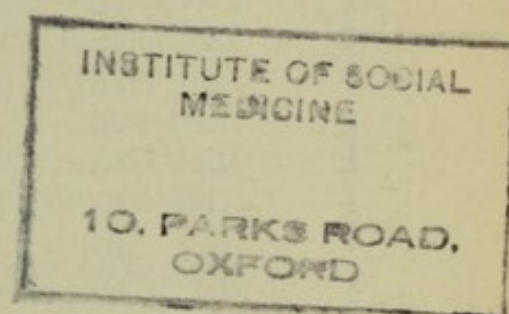
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COUNTY COUNCIL OF FIFE



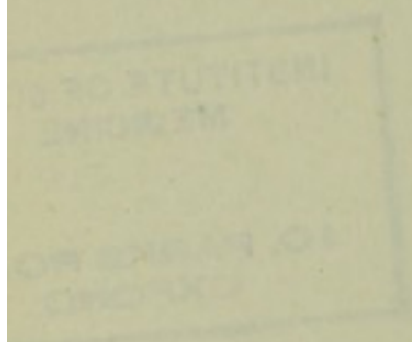
ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE
HEALTH AND SANITARY CONDITION
OF THE COUNTY AND DISTRICTS

DURING
1948

CUPAR-FIFE :
J. & G. INNES, LTD.
(C39041)

COUNTY COUNCIL OF FIFE



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH AND SANITARY CONDITION
OF THE COUNTY AND DISTRICTS

DURING

1948

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GLASGOW

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Miss A. W. BISSETT.	Miss B. S. MELDRUM.
Miss A. CAMPBELL.	Miss E. MOIR.
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Mrs M. FOSTER.	Miss M. N. TAYLOR.
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Miss R. S. ANDERSON.	Miss M. A. MANN.
Miss J. A. ANDREW.	Miss A. B. METHVEN.
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Miss B. S. CHRISTIE.	Miss E. MUNRO.
Miss J. M. CLARK.	Miss C. B. T. McCALLUM.
Miss A. S. CLUNIE.	Miss I. MacDONALD.
Miss M. B. CONNOCHIE.	Miss I. E. MacDONALD.
Miss G. M. COWAN.	Miss M. MacDONALD.
Miss M. A. CROMAR.	Miss I. F. McFADYEN.
Miss A. CUMMINGS.	Miss F. C. McLENNAN.
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Miss E. GRAHAM.	Miss A. S. ROBERTS.
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Miss L. KEDDIE.	Miss M. A. URQUHART.
Miss G. KEIR.	Miss F. R. WALKER.
Miss A. LATIMER.	Miss M. WALKER.

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MISS BOOTH, Orthopaedic Nurse-in-Charge.

MISS ARMSTRONG, Physiotherapist.

MRS KYDD, Physiotherapist (part-time).

MRS BACKHOUSE, do.

MISS ROBINSON, do.

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Psychiatric Social Workers—

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MISS M. S. JOHNSTONE.

County Sanitary Inspectors.

WILLIAM FALCONER.

IAN L. GOODFELLOW.

ROBERT JUST.

GEORGE MARK.

JOHN S. E. RIDDLE.

THOS. ROBERTSON.

A. M. THOMSON.

Milk Officers.

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MISS KITCHING.

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West Fife—D. C. LEEDS, M.D., Ch.B., F.R.C.S. (Ed.),
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FOREWORD.

From the point of view of preventive medicine, the year 1948 was, in general, a satisfactory one. New records were established in the saving of the lives of infants and mothers, and deaths from the principal infectious diseases were noticeably few. On the other hand, perhaps concomitantly with the ageing of the population, the number of deaths from cancer showed a still further increase while the epidemic of tuberculosis which commenced in 1943 showed no definite signs of waning; otherwise, there was every indication that the people were benefiting from an increasing use and appreciation of the Local Authority's health services.

From the administrative point of view, the outstanding event of the year was the enforcement of the National Health Services (Scotland) Act, 1947, which, wisely enforced, should inaugurate a new era in the practice of curative and preventive medicine. Some say that its terms have been ill-considered and that the radical changes it entails have been over abruptly thrust upon a profession insufficiently numerous and too divided in opinion to permit of concerted action. There can be no doubt, however, that the Act affords opportunities, not hitherto available, of allowing people free access to the widest possible range of medical facilities. Others say that the division of the health services into three compartments—hospital, general practitioner and local health authority—will militate against all chances of the development of a unified, comprehensive service such as the Act envisages. It may be so. In the meantime, three salient features emerge from the present state of confusion. Firstly, there can be little hope of final success unless coalescence for the common purpose of securing the highest standard of national health is effected of all health agencies under the mature time-tested experience of Local Authorities. Secondly, the ultimate objective will never be reached unless, with a view to the detection of disease at an early stage, the potential energies which have been created are directed towards the continuous safeguarding of the family, rather than the occasional treatment of the individual. Thirdly, the public will never experience the full benefit of the new

health service unless there is a reorganisation of Local Authority responsibilities compelling a new outlook on the practice of preventive medicine on the part of the Public Health Departments and permitting on a wider basis than hitherto contemplated the study of the reaction of human beings to their environment and the study of the common ailments of the people both physical and mental which are more destructive to human comfort and enterprise than are now infectious diseases. If these three objectives are kept in view by all those who play a part in operating the new health service, there is every hope that we, in this country, are indeed on the verge of a promising new field of activity in the promotion of human welfare.

In submitting this report, I gladly avail myself of the opportunity of acknowledging the unfailing help and encouragement which I have received from the various Councils and Committees concerned with the promotion of health in the County and from all my colleagues in the Department.



The Health of the County of Fife, 1948.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total (excluding Large Burghs).	Male.	Female.	Rate. 1948.	Average for previous 5 years.
Population ...	209,702	—	—	—	—
Live Births ...	4,280	2,220	2,060	20·4	21·4
Still Births ...	107	61	46	24·0	31·0
Illegitimate Births	216	105	111	5·0	6·0
Marriages ...	1,582	—	—	7·5	8·1
Deaths ...	2,449	1,207	1,242	11·7	12·5
Tuberculosis (all forms) ...	105	48	57	0·5	0·51
Tuberculosis (Re- piratory System)	89	38	51	0·42	0·38
Principal Epidemic Diseases ...	18	10	8	0·09	0·15
Infant Mortality	170	95	75	40·0	48
Maternal Mortality	8	—	8	1·87	2·35
Cancer Mortality	377	171	206	1·79	1·73

The following table shows the causes of deaths classified according to age groups :—

Cause of Death. Landward Area and Small Burghs, 1948.

Cause of Death.	Both Sexes	Males	Females	1-	5-	10-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	85-
Infectious and Parasitic Diseases ...	137	62	75	4	10	2	7	25	36	13	11	10	16	3
Cancer and Malignant Tumours ...	377	171	206	—	—	—	—	—	6	21	51	77	113	93
Tumours, Non. malignant or not de- fined ...	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1
Acute Rheumatism ...	4	2	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Diabetes Mellitus ...	17	6	11	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	2	1	4	6
Other General Diseases ...	38	17	21	2	3	1	—	1	2	1	3	6	7	12
Cerebral Haemorrhage: Diseases of Spinal Cord and other Diseases of Nervous System ...	339	133	206	5	4	1	1	—	4	9	22	49	107	111
Diseases of Circulatory System ...	842	419	423	1	—	2	—	1	6	21	45	115	251	296
Diseases of Respiratory System ...	172	96	76	17	3	1	—	2	3	3	14	40	44	35
Diseases of Digestive System ...	84	50	34	20	3	—	1	1	—	6	11	12	16	14
Diseases of Genito-Urinary System...	73	45	28	—	—	—	—	7	2	4	9	5	19	23
Diseases of Pregnancy and Childbirth	8	—	8	—	—	—	—	2	6	—	—	—	—	—
Diseases of Skin and Organs of Movement ...	9	5	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	3
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, &c. ...	111	65	46	108	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Old Age ...	69	24	45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	29
Suicide ...	18	14	4	—	—	—	—	1	2	4	3	5	2	1
Road Transport Accidents ...	26	19	7	—	6	3	2	3	1	3	3	2	3	—
Other Violence ...	104	63	41	10	6	2	3	11	7	9	10	12	13	14
Causes ill-defined or unknown ...	17	13	4	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	4	7	3
Total ...	2449	1207	1242	169	36	14	16	58	75	97	186	341	610	644
														203

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

Maternity Services Scheme.

Number of births under the County Council's arrangements for domiciliary midwifery :—

(a) Domiciliary cases under Maternity Services Scheme (<i>i.e.</i> , up to and including 4th July, 1948).	600	Doctor in attendance—39%
	947	Doctor not in attendance—61%
(b) Domiciliary cases under Section 23 (2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947.	465	Doctors engaged and present 36%
	750	Doctor engaged but not present—60%
	46	Midwife—no doctor engaged—4%
(c) Cases not attended by midwife or doctor.	47	(38 in 1947).
(d) Cases born in Institutions ...	639	Attended by Midwives.
	713	Attended by Doctors.
	1352	—(1476 in 1947).

Midwives (Scotland) Acts.

The number of Midwives registered in County Midwives Roll as practising midwives was 103.

Dunfermline	...	...	...	...	14
Cowdenbeath and Lochgelly	...	...	...	...	21
Kirkcaldy	...	...	...	...	15
Wemyss	...	...	...	...	21
Cupar	...	...	...	...	15
St Andrews	...	...	...	...	10
Anstruther	...	...	...	...	7
					103

The total number of Midwives possessing a certificate of proficiency in the administration of Nitrous Oxide and Air Analgesia was 3. Towards the end of the year arrangements were made for all the Midwives obtaining instruction in the administration of Analgesia in Forth Park Maternity Hospital.

The total number of cases in which Nitrous Oxide and Air Analgesia has been administered by Midwives, including cases attended by Midwives in Institutions, was 118.

Domiciliary Cases.

	Total Births occurring in Area (un- corrected)	Total Domicili- ary Births.	Doctor in attend- ance at Confine- ment.	Doctor not in attend- ance at Confine- ment.	Midwife alone. No Doctor engaged.	Cases not attended by Midwife or Doctor.
Births	4213	2861	1065	1703	46	47
Deaths of new-born Children (within 14 days of birth) ...	85	48	15	31	—	2
Still Births	94	49	18	31	—	—
Cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum	24	16	4	12	—	—
Puerperal Sepsis cases	2	1	—	1	—	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia cases	11	9	3	6	—	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—

Number and Nature of Forms received at Public Health Department from Midwives.

- (a) Medical Assistance—126.
- (b) Deaths (before Doctor's arrival)—2.
- (c) Still Births—21.
- (d) Laying out of dead body—5.
- (e) Liability to be a source of infection—5.
- (f) Artificial feeding—31.
- (g) Failure to follow advice—0.

The following were the conditions for which Medical Assistance was sought :—

	1948.	1947.
Delayed labour and uterine inertia ...	33	36
Abnormal labour	10	16
Torn Perineum	25	30
Maternal Haemorrhage—		
(a) Ante-partum	6	3
(b) Post-partum	4	4
Weakness of Baby	—	4
Premature Births	7	13
Still-births	13	16
Inflamed and Discharging Eyes ...	15	28
Adherent and Retained Placenta ...	4	13
Raised Temperature of Mother ...	1	3
Albuminuria	—	3
Precipitate Labour	—	2
Miscellaneous Conditions	8	5
	<u>126</u>	<u>176</u>

The miscellaneous cases were :—

Infant Collapsed and Died after 22 Hours ...	1
Placenta praevia	1
Foetal distress	1
No foetal heart sounds	1
Macerated foetus	1
Eclampsia	1
Hysteria of Patient	1
Miscarriage	1

Supervision of Midwives.

WESTERN AREA (Dr Gumley).—So far as midwives visited were concerned, books and bags were in good order and the general standard of service rendered was satisfactory.

LOCHGELLY AREA.—Dr Wilson reports that there had been a fair amount of illness among the midwives. There was evidence of co-operation between the midwives in this area. The Queen's Nurses at Glencraig were overworked—one nurse relieving at Cowdenbeath. This area has enlarged very considerably with the housing expansion.

AUCHTERDERRAN-MARKINCH AREA.—Dr Somerville reported that two Minnet gas apparatus were in use in this area. One midwife, concerning whom adverse reports had been made, showed a distinct improvement in the manner in which her records were kept. Two midwives had to be instructed in use of 20 per cent. Argyrol—not albucid.

EAST FIFE.—Dr Comrie reports that so far as he was able to judge the work was done satisfactorily. No complaints had been received and no serious difficulties in the working of the service brought to notice.

WEMYSS-CUPAR AREAS.—Dr Scott stated that work appeared satisfactory. She drew attention to different strengths of Argyrol used, some five, some ten, and others twenty per cent. One midwife, on the advice of a general practitioner, used albucid. Dr Scott is of opinion that nurses in country districts would be better able to deal with mothers in the rural districts if they were provided with pituitrin or ergometrin. She also pointed out that not all midwives carried out urinary testing as some of the family doctors are opposed to their undertaking this investigation.

Breast feeding was still not satisfactory. Breast feeding among domiciliary cases was about equal to that among cases leaving maternity hospitals.

It is recommended that a bag for each midwife should be reserved purely for confinements, and the ordinary midwifery bag reserved for the puerperium.

Three nurses received training in analgesia. The local authority considered that there was a strong likelihood of an inexpensive but reliable type of apparatus becoming available in the near future. Accordingly, they wisely declined to undertake the expenditure of over £20 per nurse which would be required if all the nurses were to be equipped.

Over all, there appears to have been an increase in the number of emergency hospital admissions among domiciliary cases.

Midwives Acts (Claims), 1948.

The number of cases claiming under the Midwives Act, 1915 and 1927, was 87, and the total amount paid was £313 13s 0d. After the 5th of July, 1948, claims were made by Medical Practitioners in terms of the Medical Practitioners Fees (Scotland) Regulations, 1948, and these amounted to £10 13s 6d for three cases.

Maternity Hospitals.

The following table gives the number of cases admitted to the various maternity hospitals :—

	Total	Women.	Infants.
Dunfermline	713	693	20
Forth Park, Kirkcaldy ...	232	224	8
Dunfermline Home and Hospital	11	11	—
Edinburgh Royal Infirmary ...	5	5	—
Meikleour House Hospital ...	62	61	1
Netherlea	28	28	—

DUNFERMLINE HOME AND HOSPITAL.—One case was transferred to Dunfermline Maternity Hospital.

MEIKLEOUR HOUSE HOSPITAL.—Two patients were transferred to Perth Royal Infirmary.

NETHERLEA MATERNITY HOSPITAL, NEWPORT.—In July, 1945, the County Council received from Mrs Edith Brackenridge, 43 Lebanon Park, Twickenham, Middlesex, the generous gift of the house "Netherlea," in Newport, for use as a maternity home. The offer was accepted and plans put in hand for the necessary alterations and furnishings. The usual post-war difficulties and scarcities delayed the work considerably but the building was officially opened as a maternity hospital on 21st July, 1948, and at the same ceremony it was handed over by the County Council to the Regional Hospital Board. The Hospital was ready to admit patients on 16th October, 1948.

It was designed to accommodate 17 patients and 15 of a staff inclusive of the Matron. Full modern facilities and equipment for maternity work were incorporated and the hospital was the first step towards the urgently needed increase of maternity bed accommodation in the County. In time, it is hoped that a central maternity hospital will be provided at Cameronbridge to serve the needs of a large area of the County. When that time comes Netherlea Hospital may be available for other purposes.

Premature Infants.

On nine occasions during 1948, premature infant outfits were issued from the Public Health Department.

The following number of infants were admitted to the Babies' Nursery at the Child Welfare Centre, St Andrews :—

Premature Babies	...	...	...	...	15
Feeding Problems	...	...	...	...	21
Healthy Children (admitted for care during illness or death of mothers)	...	...	...	...	6
Neglected Children	...	...	...	...	3
Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	...	3
Respiratory Infections	...	...	...	...	2
Nursing Mothers	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/> 51 <hr/>

Four deaths occurred due to prematurity.

The number of nursing mothers admitted was less than that in the previous year owing to lack of proper accommodation for the purpose. With increased accommodation of this type it is hoped to reduce the premature birth death rate in the future.

The nursery continues to render valuable service and has been the means of saving many infant lives. In design and in equipment, however, the premises leave much to be desired, and it is hoped that before long the local authority will have the necessary alterations and improvements carried out.

Home Visitations.

The number of Homes to which a "first visit" was made was 213—(4602 in 1947).

Condition of Homes on First Visit.

Area.	Clean.	Indifferent.	Dirty.	No. of Plural Births.
Anstruther	211	2	1	1
Cowdenbeath and Lochgelly	1091	105	10	17*
Cupar	380	16	4	6
Dunfermline	523	70	36	10
Kirkcaldy	402	12	1	4
St Andrews	333	23	14	1
Wemyss	859	57	13	10
	<hr/> 3799 <hr/>	<hr/> 285 <hr/>	<hr/> 79 <hr/>	<hr/> 49 <hr/>

* 1 Still Birth.

Number of New Cases.

	Expectant Mothers.	Infants and Nursing Mothers.	Children 1-5 Years.
Anstruther	47	215	49
Cowdenbeath and Lochgelly	434	1267	342
Cupar	153	427	301
Dunfermline, Landward	274	685	334
Kirkcaldy, Landward	161	424	40
St Andrews	87	371	284
Wemyss	214	937	189
Totals	<hr/> 1370 <hr/>	<hr/> 4326 <hr/>	<hr/> 1539 <hr/>

Number of Home Visits.

	Expectant Mothers.	Infants and Nursing Mothers.	Children 1-5 Yrs.
Anstruther	66	693	672
Cowdenbeath and Lochgelly	385	4472	4602
Cupar	344	1851	1360
Dunfermline	403	5710	3283
Kirkcaldy	364	2537	1187
St Andrews	139	1529	1384
Wemyss	281	4158	2371
Totals	1982	20950	14859

Other Conditions Investigated.

	Pneumonia Cases.	Pneumonia Visits.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum Cases.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum Visits.	Puerperal Pyrexia Cases.	Puerperal Pyrexia Visits.	Puerperal Sepsis Cases.	Puerperal Sepsis Visits.
Anstruther	5	7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cowdenbeath and Lochgelly	161	263	2	3	1	1	—	—
Cupar	12	18	1	4	—	—	—	—
Dunfermline	85	111	6	17	5	7	—	—
Kirkcaldy	41	69	7	16	2	3	1	2
St Andrews	14	24	1	3	—	—	1	1
Wemyss	68	89	7	22	3	6	—	—
Totals	386	581	24	65	11	17	2	3

Tuberculosis Visitation.

Area.	Cases Notified to Health Visitor for Supervision.		Visits.		Total Home Visits.
	Pulmonary.	Non-pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Non-pulmonary.	
Anstruther	—	—	—	—	—
Cowdenbeath and Lochgelly	3	2	54	74	128
Cupar	4	3	38	33	71
Dunfermline	11	1	56	27	83
Kirkcaldy	2	—	36	9	45
St Andrews	3	1	9	3	12
Wemyss	7	—	36	17	53
Total	30	7	229	163	392

Infant Protection.

	Dunfermline, Lochgelly, Cowdenbeath.	Kirkcaldy, Wemyss.	Anstruther, Cupar, St Andrews.	Total
No. on Register	4	4	3	11
No. added (Preliminary Cases)	6	2	4	12
No. Removed from District ...	—	—	—	—
No. Returned to Relatives	2	1	1	4
No. Legally Adopted by Guardian	3	3	2	8
No. Legally Adopted by other than Guardian	—	—	1	1
No. of Children seen	10	6	7	23
No. of Home Visits	22	14	17	53

Of the "Preliminary" cases, three had no fireguards. These guardians all signed the usual form indicating that they had been informed of their responsibility.

Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics.

The number of Welfare Clinics (General and Weighing) was 30, and the number of cases seen was 3,436 (2,618 Infants and Toddlers, and 818 other cases), as against 3,468 in 1947. The total number of attendances was 26,295 (23,813 in 1947).

Clinic.						New Cases.	Attendances.		
Blairhall	}								
Kincardine									
Torryburn		...	...	...	168	668	
High Valleyfield	}								
Steelend									
Inverkeithing	}	...	...	...	33	348	
Crossgates		...	...	...	74	997	
Dunfermline Area					275	2013
Cowdenbeath	...	...	...	...	...	257	3076
Kelty	...	...	...	...	...	425	1427
Lochgelly	...	...	...	...	...	377	3040
Auchterderran	...	...	...	...	...	102	1384
Crosshill	...	...	...	...	...	335	1613
Lochgelly and Beath Area					...	1496	10540		
Markinch	}								
Leslie		...	...	...	93	1219	
Kinghorn	...	...	...	...	...	102	627
Burntisland	...	...	...	...	...	71	322
Thornton	}								
Coaltown of Balgonie		...	...	...	112	841	
Kinglassie									
Kirkcaldy Area					378	3009
East Wemyss	...	...	...	...	...	152	478
Buckhaven	...	...	...	...	...	101	1384
Methil	...	...	...	...	...	247	2033
Leven	...	...	...	...	...	189	1957
Wemyss Area					689	5852
Auchtermuchty	...	...	...	...	...	40	255
Castlehill	...	...	...	...	...	70	766
Ladybank	...	...	...	...	...	43	411
Newburgh	...	...	...	...	...	26	525
Cupar Area					179	1957

Clinic.						New Cases.	Attendances.
St Andrews	...	...	...	...	...	182	1504
Tayport	...	...	...	...	...	115	532
Anstruther	...	...	...	...	...	122	888
Anstruther-St Andrews Area						419	2924
Grand Total						3436	26295

Ante-Natal Clinics.

Clinic.				New Cases.	Returns.	Attendances.
Auchterderran	}	...	...	97	423	520
Lochgelly		...	...	
Methil		...	...	93	170	263
Total	...	...	...	190	593	783

In 1947, the number of cases was 151 and these made 936 attendances.

Ultra Violet Radiation.

The total number of cases treated was 978 and 6,853 treatments were given.

	Lochgelly.		Cowdenbeath.		Methil.	
	Cases.	Attendances.	Cases.	Attendances.	Cases.	Attendances.
Infants	7	80	—	—	1	4
Pre-School Children	34	712	53	393	295	943
School Children	50	1691	204	1500	311	1401
Nursing Mothers	—	—	—	—	—	—
Others	5	59	11	40	7	30
Totals	96	2542	268	1933	614	2378
Totals for 1947	318	2645	55	716	584	2209

Nursery Classes.

The following classes functioned during the year :—

School.					No. of Classes.	Average Roll.
Cellardyke P. S.	...	...	...	...	1	21.6
Buckhaven Primary	...	...	...	...	1	24.4
Leslie Infant	...	...	...	...	1	23.5
Crosshill P. S.	...	...	...	...	1	20.6
Kelty Public	...	...	...	...	3	68.2
Lumphinnans P. S.	...	...	...	...	1	20
<i>Kirkcaldy Burgh—</i>						
Hayfield Nursery School	...	...	...	...	2	35.9
Sinclairtown	...	...	...	...	2	29.6
					12	243.8

County Radiological Scheme.

Radiographic Clinics were held at Canmore School Clinic, Dunfermline; Welfare Clinic, Cowdenbeath; Welfare Clinic, Lochgelly; Adamson Hospital, Cupar; and at the Wemyss Memorial Hospital, Buckhaven.

Number of Radiographic Clinics ...	...	...	17	
Number of Cases Radiographed—				
(a) Orthopaedic ...	...	...	143	(101)
(b) Nasal Sinus ...	...	...	78	(18)
(c) Dental ...	...	...	1	(49)
(d) Chest (suspected T. B.) ...	...	...	1	
			<hr/> 223	(168)

The figures in brackets refer to the number done in 1947. The cost entailed was £190 6s 3d.

There were also seven cases of ringworm of the scalp, which were treated by radiotherapy and for which thirteen treatments were given. The cost amounted to £20 9s 6d.

Home Help Scheme.

The work under this Scheme, which was inaugurated in 1944, is continued. The distribution of cases and home helps was as follows:—

Area.	No. of Cases.	No. of Home Helps.	Paying Cases.	Necessitous Cases.
Cowdenbeath ...	26	15	21	5
Dunfermline ...	2	1	1	1
Lochgelly ...	27	31	20	7
Wemyss ...	97	25	89	8
Kirkcaldy ...	2	2	1	1
Anstruther ...	3	3	2	1
	<hr/> 157	<hr/> 77	<hr/> 134	<hr/> 23

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICES.

School Population :—

Total Roll at September, 1947	...	...	...	41,753
Average Roll (1947-48)	...	...	...	44,329.43
Average Attendance	...	...	...	39,811.434
Percentage Attendance	...	...	...	89.7%

Number of Schools :—

(a) Primary	...	...	...	...	133
(b) Secondary	...	...	...	...	22
(c) 1. Special Schools	...	...	...	...	1
2. Special Classes in Ordinary Schools	...	...	...	...	4
(d) 1. Nursery Schools	...	...	...	...	1
2. Nursery Classes attached to Ordinary Schools	...	...	...	...	7
(e) Occupation Centres	...	...	...	...	1

School Buildings.

During the year the following work was completed :—

(1) Erection of prefabricated Dining Huts at the following schools :—

Kelty (double hut) ; Torryburn ; Dairsie ; Carnbee ; Moss side ; New Gilston ; Collessie ; Lumphinnans ; Park Road (double hut) ; Dunnikier ; Foulford ; Lochgelly South ; St Leonard's ; Thornton and Kinglassie.

(2) Wash-up facilities were provided as follows, where school feeding is taking place in classrooms :—

Kirkcaldy East ; Dysart North ; Pittencreeff ; Kirkton o Largo ; Anstruther West ; West Wemyss ; Hillend ; S Monance.

At Ceres a new scullery was built and at Queen Ann dining hut lavatory accommodation was added for the servers.

(3) Alterations were carried out at the following schools for the provision of Nursery Classes :—

Foulford ; Buckhaven Primary ; Gallatown ; Lumphinnan and Crosshill.

(4) Sinclairtown Infant School was reinstated.

(5) A new staffroom was provided for St Margaret's R. C. School.

(6) Latrines at Leslie J. S., Lochore R. C., and Thornton School were remodelled.

(7) Electric light was installed at Leslie J. S., Dunnikier, Auchtermerran J. S., and Parkhill Schools.

(8) New H. O. R. S. A. Huts were erected and occupied as follows :—

St Columba's R. C. High—five huts ; Buckhaven High—two huts ; Bell-Baxter—three huts ; Aberhill—two huts.

Organisation and Administration.

There were no changes in the Area Medical staff. The number of whole-time Welfare Nurses was twenty-two and these were assisted by twenty-nine District Nurses in the rural areas.

Two new Health Visitors appointed—one for Cowdenbeath and the other for Thornton area.

During the school year, the Welfare Nurse (including the District Nurses) made 2,432 visits to the County schools:—Dunfermline area 404; Cowdenbeath and Lochgelly area 679; Cupar area 308; Anstruther area 200; St Andrews area 191; Kirkcaldy area 306; Vemyss area 344. The nurses in Kirkcaldy Burgh (453) and Dunfermline Burgh (224), made 677 school visits. These, with the County, made a total of 3109.

Physical Condition of the School Children.

Nurses' Inspections.

		County.	Dunfermline. Burgh.	Kirkcaldy Burgh.
No. of Children Inspected	...	21,825	5,556	6,538
No. of Children re-inspected	...	48,188	28,553	10,746
Total	...	70,013	34,109	17,284

Analysis of Defects found at First Inspection.

		County.	Dunfermline. Burgh.	Kirkcaldy. Burgh.
Head Vermin	...	1,417	80	73
Body Vermin	...	2	1	—
Ringworm (Scalp)	...	4	—	7
Scabies	...	73	37	23
Uncleanliness or Neglect	...	164	365	44
Impetigo Contagiosa	...	173	61	58
Other Skin Conditions	...	96	163	14
Otorrhoea	...	56	11	17
Eye Disease (external)	...	101	89	16
Ear Cases	...	32	12	6
Nose and Throat Cases	...	76	33	9
Cuts and Bruises	...	283	—	71
Septic Conditions	...	180	—	43
Other	...	309	64	126
		2966	916	506

Home Visits (Follow-up).

		County.	Dunfermline. Burgh.	Kirkcaldy Burgh.
No. of Cases	...	1,892	52	78
No. of Home Visits	...	1,850	54	70

Medical Inspection and Examinations.

The number of children examined and belonging to the routine age groups were distributed as follows:—Kirkcaldy Burgh 1,821; Dunfermline Burgh 2,064; North East Fife 1,133; Kirkcaldy Landward and Wemyss 2,369; Cowdenbeath and Lochgelly 2,153; Dunfermline Landward 840; the total (10,380) is analysed according to age groups in the following table:—

				Systematic Examinations.		Other Systematic Examinations.
				County.	Large Burghs.	County.
(a) Ordinary Schools	{	Entrants	... ..	2153	1306	195
		Second Age Group (visual acuity)*	... ..	—	—	—
		Third Age Group	... ..	1709	1136	203
		Fourth Age Group	... ..	1998	1283	69
Secondary Schools	{	Age Group	... ..	165	160	3
			6025	3885	470	
Total				9,910		
(b) Other Examinations—						
Special Cases				5384	386	
Re-Inspections				2715	507	
Visual acuity*				1430	422	
				9529	1315	
Total				10,844		

Table I.

The number of individual children inspected at the systematic examinations who were notified to the parents as requiring treatment (excluding uncleanliness and dental caries) was as follows:—

						County.	Large Burghs.
Entrants						585	283
Second Age Group						76	66
Third Age Group						296	302
Fourth Age Group						329	243
Secondary Age Group						20	30
Other Systematic Examinations						82	—
						1388	924
Total						2,312	

Table II.

SUMMARY OF DEFECTS.

Nature of Defect.	Entrants		Third Age Group		Fourth Age Group		Secondary Age Group		All Ages		Nursery Classes	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Clothing—												
Unsatisfactory in respect of	15	5	10	10	5	9	—	—	30	24	—	—
Footgear—												
Unsatisfactory in respect of	10	6	8	6	8	2	—	—	26	14	—	1
Cleanliness—												
(a) <i>Head</i> —												
Dirty, nits or vermin ...	29	104	34	198	19	150	—	1	82	453	—	3
(b) <i>Body</i> —												
Dirty or verminous ...	20	26	16	11	12	9	1	—	49	46	—	2
Skin—												
(a) <i>Head</i> —												
Ringworm ...	2	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	4	1	—	—
Impetigo ...	7	6	7	7	—	2	—	—	14	15	1	—
Other Diseases ...	13	13	13	11	22	22	2	2	50	48	1	2
(b) <i>Body</i> —												
Ringworm ...	—	—	—	1	2	4	—	—	2	5	—	—
Impetigo ...	4	3	4	2	—	1	—	—	8	6	1	—
Scabies ...	13	16	13	10	4	5	—	—	30	31	—	—
Other Diseases ...	37	33	47	26	41	33	6	2	131	94	3	1
Nutritional State—												
Slightly defective ...	113	100	125	113	106	76	6	3	350	292	1	1
Bad ...	6	3	2	6	7	3	—	—	15	12	—	—
Mouth and Teeth—												
Unhealthy ...	285	282	342	373	273	218	20	9	920	882	9	14
Naso Pharynx—												
(a) <i>Nose</i> —												
(i) Obstruction requiring observation ...	120	63	48	44	21	14	—	—	189	121	5	6
(ii) Requiring operation ...	68	55	13	12	1	6	—	—	82	73	6	3
(iii) Other conditions... ..	58	41	23	19	7	15	5	—	93	75	6	2
(b) <i>Throat</i> —												
(i) Tonsil requiring observation ...	272	232	136	159	160	164	9	12	577	567	20	21
(ii) Requiring operation ...	112	107	56	53	54	55	1	2	223	217	5	2
(c) <i>Glands</i> —												
(i) Requiring observation ...	180	130	50	85	91	88	7	4	328	307	13	20
(ii) Requiring operation ...	—	—	36	2	—	—	—	—	36	2	1	—
Eyes—												
(a) <i>External Diseases</i> —												
Blepharitis ...	16	19	16	15	14	16	2	—	48	50	—	2
Conjunctivitis ...	9	9	1	2	5	4	—	—	15	15	—	2
Corneal Opacities ...	—	—	—	1	1	3	—	—	1	4	—	—
Strabismus ...	46	58	31	28	18	18	1	1	96	105	—	2
Other diseases ...	13	11	9	3	8	6	2	1	32	21	—	—
(b) <i>Visual acuity</i> —												
$\frac{6}{6}$...	1	6	957	834	1090	1074	152	138	2200	2052	—	—
$\frac{6}{9}$ — $\frac{6}{12}$...	5	4	88	121	85	97	7	5	185	227	—	—
$\frac{6}{18}$ and over ...	2	4	61	66	98	94	14	12	175	176	—	—
No. C. Glasses ...	7	20	25	49	47	60	6	7	85	136	1	3
Recommended for Refraction ...	25	30	74	86	65	74	8	3	172	193	—	1
Ears—												
(a) <i>Diseases</i> —												
Otorrhoea ...	24	14	18	17	17	17	1	—	60	48	3	2
Other diseases ...	91	64	87	71	93	79	4	2	275	216	6	5
(b) <i>Defective Hearing</i> —												
Grade I. ...	14	8	6	7	9	9	1	—	30	24	1	—
„ IIa. ...	4	—	1	2	3	—	—	—	8	2	—	—
„ IIb. ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
„ III. ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—

SUMMARY OF DEFECTS—*Contd.*

Nature of Defect.	Entrants		Third Age Group		Fourth Age Group		Secondary Age Group		All Ages		Nursery Classes	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
10. Speech—												
Defect. articulation ...	29	12	10	6	7	6	—	1	46	25	1	—
Stammering ...	8	—	3	3	3	3	—	—	14	6	—	—
11. Mental and Nervous Condition	3	4	1	5	—	1	—	—	4	10	—	—
(a) Backward (due to irregular attendance, &c.) ...	3	1	7	—	2	—	—	—	12	1	—	—
(b) Dull (intrinsically) ...	8	5	20	11	17	5	—	—	45	21	—	—
(c) Mentally defective (educable) ...	2	—	2	1	4	1	—	—	8	2	—	—
(d) (ineducable) ...	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—
(e) Highly nervous or unstable ...	5	10	2	2	—	1	—	—	7	13	—	—
(f) Difficult in behaviour ...	—	4	1	—	3	1	—	—	4	5	—	—
12. Circulatory System—												
(a) <i>Organic Heart Disease—</i>												
(i) Congenital ...	3	3	1	1	3	7	1	—	8	11	—	—
(ii) Acquired ...	6	8	5	5	8	11	—	1	19	25	—	—
(b) <i>Functional Conditions</i> ...	15	13	2	4	8	11	—	1	25	29	—	3
13. Lungs—												
Chronic Bronchitis ...	16	11	16	7	9	5	1	1	42	24	—	—
Suspected Tuberculosis ...	2	1	6	2	3	2	—	—	11	5	—	—
Other Diseases ...	76	61	39	22	25	25	2	—	142	108	8	5
14. Deformities—												
(a) Congenital ...	70	59	32	32	50	36	—	2	152	129	—	—
(b) Acquired (Infantile Paralysis) ...	—	1	3	2	1	1	—	—	4	4	2	—
(c) Acquired (probable) Rickets ...	26	14	20	11	21	14	2	—	69	39	5	9
(d) Acquired (other causes) ...	65	47	42	37	41	58	7	6	155	148	9	18
15. Infectious Disease ...	5	4	1	—	2	4	—	—	8	8	—	—
16. Other Diseases or Defects ...	95	45	59	64	59	53	7	5	220	167	6	2
Diphtheria Immunised ...	1274	1275	634	530	672	584	83	68	2663	2457	52	52
Vaccinations ...	935	835	620	537	850	733	94	83	2499	2188	34	34
17. Classification—												
I. ...	932	920	827	743	1024	978	116	109	2899	2750	49	50
IIa. ...	8	17	59	90	54	57	8	6	129	170	—	—
IIb. ...	126	127	195	193	185	148	12	13	518	481	6	—
IIc. ...	—	7	38	50	12	12	—	—	50	69	—	—
III. ...	643	542	329	264	302	329	25	24	1299	1159	25	41
IVa. ...	178	129	131	99	115	91	6	2	430	321	14	10
IVb. ...	12	13	17	13	21	22	6	1	56	49	3	—
Total No. Examined ...	1899	1755	1596	1452	1713	1637	173	155	5381	4999	97	111
Parents Present ...	935	944	220	240	24	31	—	—	1179	1215	—	—
No. Defective—												
(Less Dirt and Dental) ...	612	512	363	381	378	365	34	31	1387	1289	—	—
No. Requiring Treatment—												
(Less Dirt and Dental) ...	319	277	185	186	239	227	9	18	752	708	—	—

SYSTEMATIC MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS (including two Large Burghs).

CLASSIFICATION	ENTRANTS.		THIRD AGE-GROUP.		FOURTH AGE-GROUP.		SECONDARY AGE-GROUP.		TOTAL.	
	No. of children.	Per-centage of the children, examined in this group.	No. of children.	Per-centage of the children, examined in this group.	No. of children.	Per-centage of the children, examined in this group.	No. of children.	Per-centage of the children, examined in this group.	No. of children.	Per-centage of the children examined at systematic medical examinations.
I. Children free from defects ...	1852	50·69%	1570	51·5%	2002	59·76%	225	68·6%	5649	54·42%
II. Children (otherwise free from defects) who suffer from)— (a) Defective Vision not worse than than 6/12 in the better eye with or without glasses; or ... (b) Conditions of the mouth and teeth requiring treatment ... (c) Both (a) and (b) ...	25 253 7	·68% 6·92% ·19%	149 388 88	4·89% 12·73% 2·89%	111 333 24	3·31% 9·94% ·72%	14 25 —	4·27% 7·62% —	299 999 119	2·88% 9·62% 1·15%
Total ...	285	7·79%	625	20·51%	468	13·97%	39	11·89%	1417	13·65%
III. Children suffering from ailments (other than those mentioned in II.) from which complete recovery is anticipated within a few weeks ...	1185	32·44%	593	19·46%	631	18·84%	49	14·94%	2458	23·68%
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; ... (b) Where improvement only is considered possible, <i>e.g.</i> , without complete restoration of function	307 25	8·4% ·68%	230 30	7·55% ·98%	206 43	6·15% 1·28%	8 7	2·44% 2·13%	751 105	7·24% 1·01%
Total ...	332	9·08%	260	8·53%	249	7·43%	15	4·57%	856	8·25%
Total number of children examined ...	3654	100%	3048	100%	3350	100%	328	100%	10380	100%

Table IV.

Return of all Exceptional Children of School Age in the Area (including two Large Burghs).

Disability.	At Ordinary Schools.	At Special Schools or Classes.	At no School or Institution.	Total
1. Blind	—	1	1	2
2. Partially Sighted—				
(a) Refractive errors in which the curriculum of an ordinary School would adversely affect the eye condition	25	—	1	26
(b) Other conditions of the eye, <i>e.g.</i> , cataract, ulceration, &c., which render the child unable to read ordinary school books or to see well enough to be taught in an ordinary School	3	—	—	3
3. Deaf—				
Grade I.	84	—	—	84
Grade IIa.	22	—	—	22
Grade IIb.	12	—	—	12
Grade III.	4	8	1	13
4. Defective Speech—				
(a) Defects of articulation requiring special educational measures	70	3	—	73
(b) Stammering requiring special educational measures	35	—	—	35
5. Mentally Defective (Children between 5 and 16 years)—				
(a) Educable (I. Q. approx. 50-70)	46	88	9	143
(b) Ineducable (I. Q. generally less than 50)	3	21	22	46
6. Epilepsy—				
(a) Mild and Occasional	24	6	1	31
(b) Severe (suitable for care in a residential school)	2	—	4	6
7. Physically Defective (Children between 5 and 16 years)—				
(a) Non-pulmonary tuberculosis (excluding cervical glands)	17	—	—	17
(b) General Orthopaedic conditions	476	6	9	491
(c) Organic Heart Disease	85	—	4	89
(d) Other causes of ill-health*	30	—	4	34
8. Multiple Defects—				
(a)	6	1	5	12
(b)	—	—	—	—

* Definition of Ill-Health—"Children who by reason of ill-health are unable to attend ordinary schools or are incapable of receiving proper benefit from the instruction in ordinary schools."

Medical Treatment.

Treatment is given in twenty-four Clinics throughout the County.

Minor Ailments.

(a) County.

No. of Clinic Visits by (a) Welfare Nurses	...	...	2,285
(b) District Nurses	...	...	469
No. of Children Treated at Clinics	...	...	9,585
No. of Attendances made by Children at Clinics	...	...	39,026
No. of Home Treatments given	...	...	120

(b) Two Large Burghs.

No. treated for minor ailments—

Kirkcaldy	...	...	1,656 Children	5,908 Attendances
Dunfermline	...	...	4,738 „	20,779 „

(c) Analysis of Cases Treated at the Minor Ailments Clinics, 1947-48.

COUNTY AND LARGE BURGHS.

Condition.	Cases.	Attendances.
Head Vermin	392	2438
Body Vermin	1	5
Ringworm (Scalp)	43	167
Scabies	269	1072
Uncleanliness or Neglect	28	201
Impetigo Contagiosa	1256	5962
Other Skin Conditions	991	6994
Otorrhoea	359	3778
Eye Disease (external)	828	4570
Ear Cases	437	1528
Nose and Throat Cases	488	900
Other Cases	2037	6222
Cuts and Bruises	3931	14377
Septic Conditions	4273	15313
Accidents	111	194
Advisory Cases	428	502
Atropine	1	43
Sunlight Treatment	106	1370
T. B. Inunction	1	77
	15980	65713

Clinic Treatment (Minor Ailments).

(a) New Cases.

CONDITION	Blairhall	Inverkeithing	Crossgates	Cowdenbeath	Kelty	Lumphnans	Ballingry	Auchterderran	Markinch	Burntisland	East Wemyss	Methilhill	Buckhaven	Aberhill	Leven	Cupar	Newburgh	St Andrews	Tayport	Total for County	Total for Kirkealdy Burgh	Total for Funnemline Burgh	Totals
Head Vermin ...	70	14	—	2	—	47	1	25	4	24	—	21	23	82	50	15	—	—	—	378	—	14	392
Body Vermin ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Ringworm (Scalp) ...	—	—	—	4	—	4	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	19	7	17	43
Scabies ...	12	16	—	17	—	23	8	5	1	2	10	—	5	19	6	8	1	—	—	143	54	72	269
Uncleanliness or Neglect	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	15	13	—	28
Impetigo Contagiosa ...	12	17	27	23	73	70	28	21	5	57	23	50	65	151	29	7	—	2	2	662	169	425	1256
Other Skin Conditions	21	6	3	10	5	13	14	—	—	13	5	—	—	12	6	21	1	1	11	142	110	739	991
Otorrhoea ...	11	10	5	28	3	18	24	18	—	5	3	17	19	22	10	30	—	—	—	193	59	107	359
Eye Disease (external)	12	33	10	23	13	43	40	20	3	15	96	41	22	56	20	30	—	—	—	477	66	285	828
Ear Cases ...	15	23	1	2	—	23	32	9	6	10	51	23	29	35	3	13	—	1	—	276	8	153	437
Nose and Throat Cases	9	2	—	—	—	27	7	—	—	19	34	1	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	103	4	381	488
Other Cases ...	47	—	53	168	4	247	56	1	—	69	3	205	37	8	23	13	—	—	126	1060	289	688	2037
Cuts and Bruises ...	89	127	49	2	351	366	439	238	16	169	533	246	127	23	13	44	4	17	103	2956	297	678	3931
Septic Conditions ...	55	112	127	246	110	290	290	150	21	82	316	212	265	349	54	34	—	16	2	2731	469	1073	4273
Accidents ...	17	—	3	2	3	4	21	8	10	19	1	1	—	—	2	3	—	3	—	97	14	—	111
Advisory Cases ...	—	—	12	176	—	—	10	—	7	—	42	—	—	—	4	7	—	—	—	331	97	—	428
Atropine ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Sunlight ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculin Inunction...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	106	—	106
Totals ...	444	364	291	703	562	1175	978	495	75	4841	117	817	593	760	229	196	6	40	256	9585	1656	4738	15979

Clinic Treatment (Minor Ailments)

(b) Attendances.

CONDITION	Blairhall	Inverkeithing	Crossgates	Cowdenbeath	Kelty	Lumphinnans	Ballingry	Auchterderran	Markinch	Burntisland	East Wemyss	Methilhill	Buckhaven	Aberhill	Leven	Cupar	Newburgh	St Andrews	Tayport	Total for County	Total for Kirkealdy Burgh	Total for Funfermline Burgh	Totals
Head Vermin ...	218	89	—	6	—	601	172	280	6	134	—	88	59	375	332	43	6	—	—	2409	—	29	2438
Body Vermin ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	5	—	5	—
Ringworm (Scalp) ...	—	—	—	16	—	54	19	18	—	—	15	—	—	9	42	33	7	10	60	98	1	68	167
Scabies ...	44	136	—	43	—	106	36	74	2	8	—	—	5	30	13	—	—	—	—	146	55	265	1072
Uncleanliness or Neglect	11	58	50	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	267	552	132	15	—	84	3	3080	901	1981	5962
Impetigo Contagiosa ...	47	64	512	79	325	358	83	74	15	194	91	185	—	74	18	48	3	7	22	872	398	5724	6994
Other Skin Conditions	64	30	135	31	65	274	46	67	—	43	7	5	—	85	146	—	—	—	—	2443	451	884	3778
Otorrhoea ...	40	126	203	141	43	521	161	72	6	101	86	204	519	283	98	46	—	—	—	3150	273	1147	4570
Eye Disease (external)	40	165	306	41	159	914	174	48	12	52	214	137	443	283	12	22	—	—	11	1163	26	339	1528
Ear Cases ...	45	194	15	6	—	123	192	—	—	39	73	49	29	38	12	—	—	255	—	451	10	439	900
Nose and Throat Cases	39	2	—	—	—	286	21	—	—	49	47	1	2	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Cases ...	240	12	571	603	15	1204	301	3	—	146	44	420	71	17	47	29	—	—	129	3852	856	1514	6222
Cuts and Bruises	424	1333	223	2	612	1876	1392	1220	39	443	790	482	300	44	30	74	8	169	186	9647	851	3879	14377
Septic Conditions	289	1282	471	614	284	1554	948	486	56	232	690	601	1107	1278	178	71	—	290	4	10435	1738	3140	15313
Accidents ...	32	1	3	6	3	5	30	20	24	24	1	1	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	155	39	—	194
Advisory Cases	115	5	12	204	—	—	12	—	7	—	47	—	—	—	4	7	—	—	—	413	89	—	502
Atropine ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	33	—	—	—	—	43	—	—	43
Sunlight ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculin Inunctions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	77	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	77	—	1370	77
Totals	1648	3497	2501	1792	1506	7876	3587	2365	173	1465	2107	2173	2812	2785	1093	392	24	815	415	39026	5908	20779	65713

Major Accidents.

No. of Major Accidents in Schools.

20	Schools—	1	Accident
11	„	—	2 „
13	„	—	3 „
7	„	—	4 „
5	„	—	5 „

Schools with Larger Number of Major Accidents.

School.	Gymnasium.	Classroom.	Playground.	Total.
St Columba's, Cowdenbeath	1	—	6	7
Newburgh J. S. ...	2	1	6	9 (13)
Queen Anne J. S., Dunfermline ...	1	3	5	9 (10)
Thornton P. S. ...	1	2	9	12
Kirkcaldy High ...	—	12	—	12 (11)
Dunfermline High ...	—	2	11	13 (8)
Bell-Baxter, Cupar ...	7	1	6	14 (11)
All Schools ...	26	43	150	219 (200)

Minor Accidents in Schools.

No. of Schools sending in Reports ...	155
No. of Schools Recording no Accidents ...	6
Total number of Accidents in Gymnasias ...	1407 (1378)
„ „ Classrooms ...	5750 (3780)
„ „ Outside ...	8959 (7,942)
Grand Total of Accidents ...	16,116 (13100)

(Figures in brackets are those for the previous year.)

(a) Accidents in Gymnasias.

No. of Schools.	No. of Accidents.
139	29 or less
9	30 to 40
6	41 to 100
1	over 100

Schools outstanding are :—

Pittenweem	92
Ballingry	130

(b) Accidents in Classrooms.

No. of Schools.	No. of Accidents.
124	49 or under
23	50 to 100
8	101 upwards

Schools outstanding :—Pathhead 135; Kirkcaldy High 501
Dunfermline High 640; Viewforth 994.

(c) **Accidents Outside the School (Playground, &c.).**

No. of Schools.	No. of Accidents.
105	49 or under
39	50 to 150
11	151 and upwards

Schools outstanding :—Broad Street, Cowdenbeath 228 ; Burgh School, St Andrews 269 ; Blairhall 314 ; Pathhead 315 ; Pittenweem 330 ; St Leonard's 400 ; Dysart 515 ; Viewforth 612.

General Analysis.

	Gymnasium.	Classroom.	Outside.	Total.
Cuts	212	2375	4989	7576
Bruises	227	546	2970	3743
Splinters	851	507	234	1592
Burns	20	473	75	568
Sickness or Fainting ...	44	1575	209	1828
Other Accidents ...	51	241	477	769
Fits	2	33	5	40
Totals	1407	5750	8959	16116

County Dental Scheme.

The start of the National Health Scheme on 5th July, 1948, caused several changes in the County Dental Scheme. From that date Police and Social Welfare patients were transferred to the national health organisation. The patients at Glenlomond Sanatorium should also have been transferred, but owing to the shortage of dentists, the work still remained with the County. It was not possible to carry out much treatment at the Sanatorium owing to the shortage of dental staff.

A dental caravan was delivered in the Spring of the year and was in daily use until July. Owing to lack of staff it has only been in occasional use since then. It has been very useful and in future will be the principal method used to treat patients in outlying areas. All who inspected the caravan were favourably impressed with the facilities provided in the limited accommodation.

In the Spring a portable x-ray machine was obtained on loan from the Department of Health. This was much appreciated and it is believed that Fife is the first authority to have a machine of this type in operation. It has been of great assistance in dental diagnosis. The only fault is the weight of the parts. It is transportable rather than portable and an effort is being made to get a lighter machine for test, also on loan.

The following tables give the numbers of children inspected during the year and the types of treatment carried out :—

Age.	(a) Systematic Examination.	(b) Special and Emergency Cases.	(c) Total.
-5	149	30	179
5	1275	69	1344
6	1104	49	1153
7	1064	74	1138
8	1076	98	1174
9	1181	105	1286
10	1082	88	1170
11	1194	87	1281
12	1166	139	1305
13	1097	140	1237
14	827	120	947
15	236	36	272
16	78	13	91
17	34	6	40
18	7	2	9
	<u>11570</u>	<u>1056</u>	<u>12626</u>

	Systematic Examination.	Special and Emergency Cases.	Total
(2) Found to require treatment ...	6865	1039	7904
(2a) Accepting treatment ...	4279 (62.33%)	1039	5318
(3) Actually treated by School Dental Officers ...	4279	1039	5318
(4) No. of attendances for treat- ment ...	11110	2011	13121
(5) Fillings (a) Permanent teeth ...	6963	481	7444
(b) Temporary teeth ...	1458	153	1611
(6) Extractions—			
*(a) Permanent teeth ...	1008	174	1182
(b) Temporary teeth ...	3036	834	3870
(7) No. of Administrations of a General Anaesthetic for ex- tractions ...	377	72	449
(8) Other Operations—			
†(a) Permanent teeth ...	2260	552	2812
(b) Temporary teeth ...	717	310	1027
(9) Half-days devoted to Inspection	—	—	137
Half-days devoted to Treatment	—	—	1978
(10) No. of Children treated under private arrangements ...	—	—	—

† Other operations in permanent teeth consisted of:—

	Systematic.	Special.	Total
Crown and Inlays ...	16	—	16
Orthodontic appliances ...	65	—	65
Dentures for School Children ...	18	—	18
X-ray Films ...	214	—	214
Root Treatment ...	29	—	29
Silver Nitrate Treatment ...	17	3	20
Scaling and Gum Treatment ...	1238	399	1637
Dressings, &c. ...	663	150	813
	<u>2260</u>	<u>552</u>	<u>2812</u>

* Extractions of permanent teeth consisted of :—

982 extractions of carious teeth.

200 extractions of teeth for orthodontic purposes (if a tooth was very carious and had to be extracted this was not counted an extraction for orthodontic purposes).

The acceptance rate of children accepting treatment has risen to 62.3% of all routine inspections. This figure could be increased if it was possible to obtain staff who would remain with the County. During the year there was an average of 4.5 school dentists. The official complement is nine and even this number would be insufficient. It should be noted that only one-third of the school children in the County were examined during the year. It was obvious by the end of the year that the position was becoming serious. Owing to the great difference in salaries between school dentists and assistants in private practice there is a drift from school dentistry. If a levelling out of dental salaries does not take place by the end of 1949 there is a risk that the County Dental Service may become moribund owing to lack of staff. Certain areas in the County are closed owing to the shortage and this will become worse in the future, if present conditions persist.

The County Council as the Local Health Authority are responsible for the dental treatment of priority classes, *i.e.* (children of school age, expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children). Recently an increasing number of parents have been refused treatment for their children by private practitioners and have been demanding dental attention at school clinics. Owing to shortage of staff it has not always been possible to arrange this: nor can any encouragement be given that the situation will improve until such time as those in whose hands the matter rests reach a decision in regard to the conditions of service of local authority dentists as compared with those in private practice.

Improvements in several clinics were started during the year and some equipment modernised. It is hoped to continue with this work over a period but difficulties in obtaining licences at the moment are great. Search has also been made for suitable sites for clinics in new housing areas.

Under the new Act the County Council is responsible for priority treatment of expectant and nursing mothers and young children under five years of age. From July there was a marked falling off in numbers of expectant and nursing mothers attending the clinics. The few cases seen were mostly special patients referred by the obstetrician through the Area Medical Officer. It is not considered that there will be a great increase in the number of patients of this type. On the other hand, it was noted that at the end of the year there was a definite increase in some areas in the

number of pre-school children attending for treatment. It is considered that the number of patients of this type will increase considerably in the near future.

The tables below show the number of patients and treatment carried out for (1) Expectant and Nursing Mothers, and (2) Pre-School Children :—

EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS.

No. treated	...	...	...	18
No. of extractions	...	...	...	125
No. of fillings	...	...	...	4
No. of dentures	...	...	...	26
Other treatment	...	...	...	3

PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN.

No. inspected	...	...	...	39
No. treated	...	...	...	39
Attendances for treatment	...	...	...	72
No. of extractions	...	...	...	82
No. of fillings	...	...	...	48
Other treatment	...	...	...	10

As already stated the scheme for dental treatment of Police Officers and Social Welfare patients came to an end in July and the table below refers only to treatment carried out before that date.

POLICE.

No. inspected	...	...	...	21
No. treated	...	...	...	21
No. of fillings	...	...	...	29
No. of extractions	...	...	...	38
No. of dentures	...	...	...	15
Repairs to dentures	...	...	...	3
X-rays	...	...	...	3
Other treatment	...	...	...	11

SOCIAL WELFARE.

No. treated	...	...	...	21
No. of extractions	...	...	...	79
No. of dentures	...	...	...	31
Repairs to dentures	...	...	...	1

Eye Clinics.

COUNTY.

Eye Clinics.—St Andrews, Cupar, Tayport, Anstruther, Newburgh, Ladybank, Markinch, Methil, Burntisland, Auchterderrar, Lochgelly, Cowdenbeath, Kelty, Dunfermline (Canmore School and Torryburn.

School and pre-school children were examined by Area Medical Officers.

No. of eye clinics	...	...	...	129
No. of school children examined	...	...	...	606
No. of pre-school children examined	...	...	...	69
No. of adults examined	...	...	...	28
No. re-examined	...	...	...	157

REFRACTIVE CONDITIONS FOUND.

Hypermetropia	...	...	...	154
Myopia	...	...	...	23
Hypermetropic Astigmatism	...	...	...	158
Myopic Astigmatism	...	...	...	30
Mixed Astigmatism	...	...	...	20
Anisometropia	...	...	...	51
Other Conditions	...	...	...	44
				<hr/>
				480
				<hr/>

No. of glasses prescribed :—

(a) School Children	...	...	...	385
(b) Pre-School Children	...	...	...	49
(c) Others	...	...	...	15
				<hr/>
				449
				<hr/>

LARGE BURGHS.

	Kirkcaldy.	Dunfermline.
No. of Clinics	12	38
No. of Children examined	184	205
No. re-examined	17	210

REFRACTIVE CONDITIONS FOUND—DUNFERMLINE.

Hypermetropia	...	...	...	134
Myopia	...	...	...	63
Hypermetropic Astigmatism	...	...	...	130
Myopic Astigmatism	...	...	...	28
Mixed Astigmatism	...	...	...	16
Anisometropia	...	...	...	—
Other Conditions	...	...	...	44
				<hr/>
				415
				<hr/>

Eye Specialist Clinics.

The Eye Specialists for the County were Dr A. R. Moodie (North-East Fife) and Dr C. R. D. Leeds (Central and West Fife).

	West Fife.	East Fife.	Total.
No. of clinics	36	15	51
No. of children examined	581	200	781
No. of children re-examined	354	103	457
No. of glasses prescribed	290	140	430
No. of cases referred to general clinics	16	—	16
No. of cases referred to general practitioners	5	—	5
No. of cases requiring special educational arrangements—			
(a) Classroom	2	—	2
(b) Supervision	1	—	1
(c) Institution	3	4	7

Analysis of New Cases Examined.

	West Fife.	East Fife.	Total
Hypermetropia	108	32	140
Myopia	26	12	38
Hypermetropic Astigmatism	99	24	123
Myopic Astigmatism	38	7	45
Mixed Astigmatism	9	28	37
Anisometropia	21	11	32
Other conditions	68	6	74
			<hr/> 489 <hr/>

NOTE.—There were also 148 (130 West ; 18 East) children with strabismus.

Ear, Nose and Throat Scheme.

The Ear, Nose and Throat Consultants were Dr I. Malcolm Farquharson and Dr G. D. MacDowell.

No. of clinics held during 1947-48	52
No. of Children seen by Specialists :—	
(a) School Children	1028
(b) Pre-School Children	172
(c) Re-examinations	214
No. Referred for Clinic Treatment :—	
(a) Ear (Syringing, &c.)	91
(b) Speech Therapy	13
(c) Politzerisation	4
(d) X-Rays	63
(e) Ultra-Ray Therapy	17
(f) Breathing Exercises	27
(g) Other	16
No. Referred for Operative Treatment :—	
(a) Removal of Tonsils and/or Adenoids	609
(b) Other (Proof Puncture, &c.)	40
No. Referred for Special Educational Arrangements :—	
(a) Class	11
(b) Institution	5
(c) Supervision	10

Dr I. Malcolm Farquharson, Senior Aurist to Fife County Council, reports as follows :—

“ A review of the figures for the year reveals that the number children attending the clinics—school, pre-school and re-examinations were all far in excess of the previous year.

“ The number of cases requiring operation for the removal tonsils and adenoids was up by a hundred. This increase can be explained as the result of the ban laid on the operation by the Medical Officer of Health the previous summer following the epidemic poliomyelitis.

“ The number of children referred to other hospitals was reduced as Cameron Hospital was utilised more fully.

“ The use of Penicillin in the clinics has given excellent results in the milder cases and subacute cases of otitis media.

“ Audiometer examination of the deaf child and other special methods of examination have tended to fall behind due largely

lack of suitable accommodation and equipment. This is a state of affairs to be regretted after the favourable start made in this branch of medicine.

"A review of cases previously operated upon for the removal of tonsils and adenoids was carried out during the year and the results are most encouraging."

Orthopaedic Scheme.

No. of Staff:—One Orthopaedic Nurse, four whole-time and four part-time Physiotherapists.

Clinics:—Dunfermline, Lochgelly, Burntisland, Markinch, Methil, Cupar, St Andrews, Tayport, and Anstruther. One Clinic started at Ladybank in December, 1948.

Cases Seen at Orthopaedic Treatment Clinics.

	No. of Cases on Register at January, 1948.		No. of New Cases.		No. of Cases Discharged.	
	Pre-Sch.	Sch.	Pre-Sch.	Sch.	Pre-Sch.	Sch.
METHIL ...	80	193	92	114	26	59
LOCHGELLY ...	66	101	86	112	15	30
DUNFERMLINE ...	17	50	33	28	8	12
MARKINCH ...	14	15	19	23	3	7
BURNTISLAND ...	13	14	21	26	8	11
ST ANDREWS...	8	23	6	23	2	7
TAYPORT ...	5	15	3	18	1	6
ANSTRUTHER ...	18	11	22	28	5	7
CUPAR ...	22	23	26	53	10	16
LADYBANK ...	—	—	—	1	—	—
TOTAL ...	243	445	308	426	78	155

No. of Supervision Cases	Pre-School ...	91
	School ...	202
No. of Unsatisfactory Cases	Pre-School ...	73
	School ...	73

Number of Treatments Given at the Orthopaedic Clinics.

	Pre-School Children.	School
Methil ...	1140	1987
Lochgelly (including Crossgates Cases) ...	2000	2275
Dunfermline ...	343	611
Markinch ...	380	320
Burntisland ...	285	485
St Andrews ...	225	476
Tayport ...	125	214
Anstruther ...	401	284
Cupar ...	348	670
Ladybank (Started in December, 1948) ...	—	25
	5247	7347

12,594

(8,735 in 1947)

Total No. of Clinics held ...	644
" " Domiciliary Cases	142
" " " Visits	195

Orthopaedic Specialist Clinics.

Orthopaedic Consultant—Mr R. I. Stirling, who was assisted by Surgeons Jack, Paterson, Baker, and Campbell.

No. of Clinics held ...	53
No. of Children seen:—	
Pre-School ...	814
School ...	1207
	<hr/> 2021 <hr/>

No. of Cases referred to their own Doctor for further Treatment	...	0
No. of Children recommended for Hospital Treatment	...	124
No. of Children referred to Orthopaedic Clinics for Treatment	...	956
No. of Cases referred to Radiologist	...	160
No. of Children advised regarding Apparatus	...	111

New Cases Seen by Specialists.

Congenital Deformities	...	24
Poliomyelitis	...	47
Other Forms of Muscular Paralysis	...	11
Rickets	...	2
Arthritis (Rheumatic)	...	1
Injuries	...	11
Other Conditions—		
Affecting Feet	...	362
Affecting Legs	...	154
Posture	...	64
Miscellaneous	...	58
Total Number	...	<hr/> 734 <hr/>

Children requiring operative treatment were admitted to the Princess Margaret Rose Hospital in Edinburgh. The number of children continued from the previous year was 29, and 34 cases were re-admitted. The new cases numbered 93. This gives a total of 156 children against 128 in the previous year.

The cost of maintenance for these cases to 4th July was £3,091 10s 0d.

Adult Physiotherapy.

A Scheme under which the Fife Branch, British Red Cross maintained two mobile physiotherapy vans continued. In the course of the year the two physiotherapists dealt with 1031 patients.

The greater part of the work was undertaken in the homes of people at the request of general medical practitioners, but for the convenience of some patients and in the interests of economy, during working hours, groups of patients were seen at the local authority clinics at Buckhaven and Lochgelly. The physiotherapists worked under the general direction of the County Orthopaedic Specialist.

who is always available for the purpose of consultation at the various County Clinics and their work has been of excellent quality.

A Scheme for the physiotherapeutic treatment of adults under the auspices of the Fife Civilian and Ex-Service Cripples Association came into operation at the Lochgelly Welfare Clinic on 1st July, 1948. The Committee in charge of arrangements is composed of representatives of the British Red Cross, Miners' Welfare Commission and the County Council. The necessary funds were accrued from private sources. Apparatus to the value of £459 0s 6d was provided by the Committee but several items of equipment, *e.g.*, plinths and gymnastic stools, were shared with the children's orthopaedic clinic. Facilities for exercises are limited by the amount of space and equipment available and arrangements for extending the size of the clinic are under consideration.

Mr G. A. Heskins, the Physiotherapist in charge, reports that the cases treated have been of fairly general nature, arthritic and rheumatic conditions predominating. Cases requiring specialist advice are sent to the clinic by the local doctors and referred to the orthopaedic surgeon who visits regularly. General ultra violet radiation is rendered as there is no apparatus suitable for local therapy.

A donation of 2/6 (or less, according to means) is requested.

No. of patients treated (July-December, 1948)	215
No. of patients discharged	169
No. of patients retained on Register at end of year	43

TYPES OF TREATMENTS GIVEN.

Infra Red	535
Massage Exercises	710
Medical electricity (galvanic, faradic, and sinusoidal)	65
Short-wave diathermy	450
Wax baths	50
Ultra Violet Ray (general)	60

ANALYSIS OF CASES TREATED.

Fibrositis	53
Osteo Arthritis	30
Arthritis	16
Rheumatic conditions	15
Lumbago and Sciatica	20
Disc lesions and sacro-iliac strain	10
Injuries	11
Fractures	8
Dislocations	2
Ruptured tendons	3
Effusion in knees	2
Synovitis	2
Coccydynia	3
Flat and painful feet	11
Miscellaneous	29

215

Speech Therapy.

There were two whole-time Speech Therapists (Kirkcaldy-Burntisland ; Wemyss-Methil-Leven), and two part-time Therapists (Lochgelly ; Cowdenbeath).

Number of Cases Treated.

Area.	Stammerers.	Cleft Palate.	Other Speech Defects.	Total.
Kirkcaldy ...	42	6	89	137
Buckhaven ...	31	5	133	169
Lochgelly ...	9	—	27	36
Cowdenbeath ...	8	—	2	10
	90	11	251	352

Total Number of Treatments.

Area.	Stammerers.	Cleft Palate.	Other Speech Defects.	Total.
Kirkcaldy ...	1149	161	2243	3553
Buckhaven ...	906	135	2909	3950
Lochgelly ...	318	—	416	734
Cowdenbeath ...	325	—	44	369
	2698	296	5612	8606

Number of Children Discharged from Treatment.

Area.	Stammerers.	Cleft Palate.	Other Speech Defects.	Total.
Kirkcaldy ...	11	2	26	39
Buckhaven ...	2	—	35	37
Lochgelly ...	3	—	5	8
Cowdenbeath ...	2	—	2	4
	18	2	68	88

Of the cases discharged, 45 were satisfactory, 30 not so satisfactory, and there were 13 cases where the result was indefinite or the child had left before completing the treatment.

Mentally and Physically Defective Children.

SPECIAL CLASSES—

	Average Roll.
Castlehill	36·7
Buckhaven Primary	44·9
Lochgelly J. S.	42·2
McLean Public School	75·3
Eastbank (School)	55·9
Dunfermline Occupation Centre	7·6
	262·6

CHILDREN IN INSTITUTIONS—

PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED—

	Boys.	Girls.
East Park Home for Infirm Children	1	1
Trefoil Residential School	3	3
Rudolph Steiner School	1	1
Derwen Cripples' Training College ...	7	—

12	5
==	==

BLIND—

Royal Blind School, Edinburgh ...	11	6
	==	==

DEAF AND DUMB—

Dundee Institution	2	4
Donaldson's School	12	9
St. Vincent's School, Glasgow ...	—	4
	14	17
	==	==

MENTALLY HANDICAPPED—

St Joseph's Certified Institution ...	3	1
R. S. N. I., Larbert	7	4
Waverley Park Home, Kirkintilloch ...	—	2
Lennox Castle, Lennoxtown	2	—
	12	7
	==	==

Mr David Wilson, the County Physical Education Organiser, reports as follows on the year's work :—

STAFF: During the school session 1947-48, the Physical Education Staff numbered 40, 22 women teachers and 18 men, of whom 8 were uncertificated. It was found necessary to employ unqualified staff because of the inadequate supply of trained teachers.

REMEDIAL WORK: Three qualified physio-therapist members of the P. E. Staff continued to give part-time service in County Clinics, and in a number of schools also, work of a remedial nature was carried out by Specialist staff.

STUDENT TEACHING PRACTICE: Facilities in local schools were again made available to provide teaching practice for the students of the Dunfermline College of Hygiene and Physical Education, who, by kind permission of the Principal, rendered valuable assistance during the County Health Week by giving demonstrations of modern physical training at the prize-giving concerts held at Dunfermline and at Kirkcaldy.

COUNTY HEALTH WEEK: All members of the Physical Education Staff co-operated in this venture in a practical way by emphasising various aspects of personal hygiene in lessons to pupils, *e.g.*, cleanliness—care of teeth—hair, &c. In addition many Health talks given locally by medical staff were supplemented by displays of physical training and folk-dancing.

TRAINING COURSES:

(i) With the approval of the Director of Education, a Residential Course for specialist staff was held at Strathkinness Youth House during the Easter holidays. 20 Teachers attended voluntarily at their own expense and all voted the Course highly successful. A highlight of the programme was a lecture given by an eminent ortho-

paedic surgeon who followed up his talk by directing a practical demonstration, given by a County physiotherapist, of remedial exercises suitable for the more common physical defects found in school children. I am indebted to Dr Krause, Depute County Medical Officer, for so kindly arranging for the services of the surgeon and physiotherapist for this important part of the Staff course.

(ii) By arrangement with the County Youth Organiser, further residential week-end courses in physical recreation for Youth Leaders were conducted at Strathkinness, and these Courses were well attended.

ATHLETICS: As a follow-up from the previous Athletics season, 3 Area Athletics meetings were held thus covering the entire County, and well over 400 Secondary boys took part thanks to the co-operation of Head Teachers and Specialist Staff. It is most unfortunate, however, that so few schools have access to really good facilities for training in pure Athletics and this can be rectified only by the provision of more playing fields.

PLAYING-FIELDS: The appointment of a County Parks Superintendent has resulted in more adequate arrangements for the cutting and maintenance of existing playing-fields. As it is generally acknowledged that there are too few playing-fields, several joint visits have been made with the Parks Superintendent to inspect ground with a view to possible acquisition and development as playing-fields.

SWIMMING: Although Fife has nearly 115 miles of coast-line, facilities for the actual teaching of swimming are poor since there is only one indoor pool with heated water in the entire County. In our climate it is quite impossible to give regular and systematic instruction to large classes taken outside in unheated water even in the Summer term. Like playing-fields, modern swimming baths are urgently needed, and should be regarded as essential requirements to be provided within each populous area of the County whenever conditions permit.

CAMP SCHOOLS: Members of the Physical Education Staff again willingly helped at the Schools held at Belmont and Broomlee.

FURTHER EDUCATION: In the field of Further Education, attendance at Folk-dancing classes has been well maintained, and as a direct result of one such class, a branch of the Scottish Country Dance Society was constituted at Leven and has since been functioning successfully."

Spray Baths in Schools.

Shower Baths taken Session 1947—48.

Bell-Baxter	...	...	...	3351	
Newburgh	...	...	...	310	
Waid Academy	...	...	...	213	
Buckhaven High	...	...	...	Nil	(defective showers)
Kirkcaldy High	...	...	...	1582	
Viewforth	...	...	...	53	(number reduced because no hot water available)
Kirkcaldy West	...	...	...	118	
Crossgates	...	...	...	1600	(approx.)
Moss-side	...	...	...	1143	
Fife Mining School	...	...	...	370	(approx.)
Beath High	...	...	...	Nil	(shower defective)
St Columba's R. C. High	...	...	...	Nil	(shower defective)
Kelty Oakfield	...	...	...	Nil	
Queen Anne	...	...	...	Nil	(defective showers)
Dunfermline High	...	...	...	2147	
Total	...	...	...	10,887	

Residential Camp Schools.

(a) In view of the prevalence of infantile paralysis throughout the country, the Scottish National Camps Association, after consultation with the Department of Health for Scotland and the Scottish Education Department, decided to cancel arrangements made for the occupation of the Residential Schools during the month of September. All arrangements made for Fife Children attending Dounans Residential Camp School in September were therefore cancelled.

(b) *Broomlee Residential Camp School (West Linton).*

Girls from Fife attended this Camp School from 1st June to 30th June, 1948.

Girls Examined for Attendance.

Area.	No. Examined.	No. found Fit.	No. found Unfit.
Cupar	9	9	—
St Andrews	11	10	1
Markinch-Burntisland	38	36	2
Wemyss	22	22	—
Cowdenbeath	5	5	—
Lochgelly	13	13	—
Dunfermline	31	31	—
Kirkcaldy Burgh	50	49	1
Dunfermline Burgh	48	47	1
	227	222	5

Mothercraft Classes.

School.	No. of Classes.	No. of Pupils.
Queen Anne J. S., Dunfermline	4	65
St Margaret's R. C., Dunfermline	2	29
Moss-side J. S., Cowdenbeath	3	43
St Columba's High, Cowdenbeath	2	34
Oakfield J. S., Kelty	3	37
Ballingry	4	79
Burntisland J. S.	1	19
Kirkcaldy High	3	65
Viewforth J. S., Kirkcaldy	3	45
Buckhaven High	2	31
Denbeath J. S.	2	34
Aberhill J. S.	3	45
Leven J. S.	3	41
Burgh J. S., St Andrews	1	14
	36	581

Use of "Dusmo" Method of Cleaning in Fife Schools.

A careful study of the reports by the Head Teachers of schools in which the "Dusmo" method is employed for sweeping and cleaning, shows general agreement that hygienically this method is definitely superior to the old practice of sweeping and soap-water cleaning.

It must be emphasised that where there is any doubt at all it is only in those schools where experience with this method has been relatively short and where the short-lived whiteness of the floors after washing seemed to impress more than the darker but dust free floors.

The only points which arise for possible criticism are, (1) the quality of the brushes which have been in use—but even here there seems to be some divergence in the various reports and one wonders to what extent the criticism is not in part due to different ways in which the brushes were used : (2) the efficiency of D. G. R. in removing milk and grease stains. Here there is some difference of opinion probably due in part to the mottled appearance produced on the floor where there are many grease spots. Spilling of milk entails more application of water and soap where the old method of cleaning is in use and consequently repeated and greater damage to the wood of the floors. It is very unfortunate that milk must be consumed in classrooms but some schools manage to reduce to a minimum the spilling of milk by pupils.

It, therefore, stands to reason that in schools where rooms are used for different purposes, different problems arise as regards cleaning and this applies to whatever method of cleaning is used.

There is no doubt that the ordinary method of sweeping with sawdust (dry or wet) is not effective in keeping down dust and we know that it causes dust to lie on desks and on walls whereby special dusting is necessary. It also affects the health of the cleaners. Scrubbing with soap and water may produce a whiter surface but this does not last long and the use of soap and water definitely helps to disintegrate wood fibre and so increases splintering of wood. Such wood also harbours dust and microbes despite its white appearance.

The "dusmo" method from observation over a large number of years, helps to preserve and conserve wood and only minimal quantities of dirt lodge in the seams between the wood. Properly used it removed the bulk of the dust and dirt without scattering it around classrooms on or in desks and cupboards. It is obvious that the maximum benefits of the "dusmo" method cannot be obtained with old and worn boards although even here the results are superior to that of the old method.

The "dusmo" method is not a labour or money saving device. If the technique is understood and properly applied excellent results will be obtained, and it would seem that its cost should not exceed that of the older method, nor should the technique be more difficult or burdensome. Actually, it has been demonstrated that it has improved the working conditions of the cleaners.

In view of the definite hygienic and conserving qualities of the "dusmo" method, it is recommended that the method be extended to all the schools in the County.

Table showing number of cases of Infectious Diseases taken from Head Teachers' Attendance Returns during the Year 1948.

School Management Areas.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Mumps.	Whooping Cough.	Other Infectious Diseases.	Scabies.	Other Contagious Diseases.	TOTAL.	
CUPAR	35	16	2	611	66	131	13	26	900
ST ANDREWS	267	55	1	310	109	73	26	10	851
ANSTRUTHER	124	10	1	240	77	30	4	20	506
WEMYSS	112	45	14	182	131	376	8	61	929
KIRKCALDY	275	131	14	1231	23	628	17	75	2394
BEATH	188	232	20	702	66	376	33	138	1755
DUNFERMLINE	296	380	8	780	223	516	54	107	2364
TOTALS	...	1297	869	60	4056	695	2130	155	437	9699

It must be emphasized that where there is any doubt as to the quality of the work, it is only in the case of a very small percentage of the work that the quality is poor. The majority of the work is of a high standard and is well finished. The only reason for this is that the work is done by a highly skilled and experienced workman.

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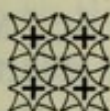
It, therefore, seems that the work is of a high standard and is well finished. The only reason for this is that the work is done by a highly skilled and experienced workman.

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CARNEGIE DUNFERMLINE TRUST



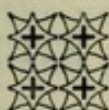
ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

TREATMENT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN

IN

DUNFERMLINE AND ROSYTH CLINICS



FOR YEAR ENDED

— 31st JULY, 1948 —

STAFF ENGAGED IN THE SCHOOL TREATMENT SERVICE.

Administrative Medical Officer.

C. BARCLAY REEKIE, M.B., ChB., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

Medical Staff.

ROBERT M. WINK, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Assistant Medical Officer of Health.

GUY H. SCOULAR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Assistant Medical Officer of Health.

VICTOR D. RANDALL MARTIN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Assistant Medical Officer of Health.

Consulting Aural Surgeon.

B. ELIZABETH NESBITT, F.R.C.S.

Consulting Orthopaedic Surgeon.

R. I. STIRLING, F.R.C.S.

Defective Speech Clinic.

NORAH WOOD.

Dental Officer.

MADELEINE G. LESLIE, I.D.S., R.C.S. (Ed.).

Physiotherapist.

AGNES B. WHITE.

Nurses.

A. E. BENNET. E. B. STENHOUSE.

Secretary.

M. C. McLAREN.

Clinic Attendants.

E. D. McLAREN, A. CLARK, J. ROSS, E. SMALL,
J. FRASER (part-time).

						Dunfermline.	Rosyth.
Number of Schools	...	...	...	...	10	3	
Average No. of Children on Register	...	...	...	...	6,919		

INTRODUCTION.

In November 1947, following the completion of negotiations between the Dunfermline Town Council and the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust, the Burgh Medical Officer of Health was appointed Medical Administrative Officer to the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust, and assumed responsibility for the supervision of the work at the General and Dental Clinics at Inglis Street and Rosyth. The medical work is undertaken by the medical members of the Dunfermline Health Department Staff.

This arrangement has proved very satisfactory and beneficial, and has further strengthened the relationship which has always existed between school medical inspection and treatment at the various Clinics. It is an advantage for the treatment to be supervised by the personnel undertaking the medical inspection.

During the year which ended on 31st July, 1948, the number of children treated at the General Clinics in Dunfermline and Rosyth amounted to 5,114 new cases and 21,585 attendances. As compared with the previous year, these figures show an increase of 515 new cases and 2,221 attendances. This increase reflects that greater use is being made of the Clinics, and it is gratifying to note that parents seek early advice and treatment for their children, thus avoiding much chronic ill-health.

An outstanding feature of the year's work has been the marked increase in the number of cases and attendances at the Orthopaedic Clinic. Parents are becoming more conscious of the benefits to be derived from attendance at this Clinic, and the interest and co-operation of the parents have been noticed to a marked degree during the past year. Four Clinics have been held during the year by the Orthopaedic Specialist, and the numbers attending these have correspondingly increased. The privilege of attending these Specialist Clinics has been greatly appreciated by the parents.

Accounts of the year's work carried out by Miss Madeleine G. Leslie, Dental Officer, and Miss Norah Wood, Speech Therapist, are included in this Report.

For some time it has been apparent that the volume of dental work has increased to such an extent as to be beyond the scope of one dental officer. The Trust has agreed to the appointment of an additional dental officer, and this will be implemented when new equipment is available.

The following report on the work of the Clinics is mainly statistical.

Minor Ailments (General Clinics), 1947-48.

The following tables give the number of cases treated during the year at Dunfermline and Rosyth.

Any child returning after a month's unprescribed absence was considered to be a new case, as were children returning after an interval with a different defect.

Return of Cases Treated.

				INGLIS STREET CLINIC.	
				No. of Cases.	No. of Attendances.
E—					
Middle Ear Suppuration	...	...	...	62	685
Other Conditions	...	...	...	91	226
				153	911
NOSE AND THROAT—					
Nasal Conditions	...	...	...	171	210
Sore Throat	...	...	...	7	7
Other Throat Conditions	...	...	...	178	194
				356	411
EYE—					
Blepharitis	...	...	...	40	297
Styes	...	...	...	58	214
Conjunctivitis	...	...	...	68	378
Corneal Inflammation and Ulceration	...	...	...	1	4
Injuries	...	...	...	8	15
Errors of Refraction	...	...	...	—	—
Other Conditions	...	...	...	21	42
				196	950
SKIN (HEAD)—					
Dirty	...	...	...	9	20
Ringworm	...	...	...	—	—
Impetigo	...	...	...	30	263
Other Conditions	...	...	...	6	21
				45	304
SKIN (BODY)					
Body Vermin	...	...	...	—	—
Impetigo	...	...	...	184	1072
Scabies	...	...	...	68	261
Ringworm	...	...	...	6	43
Molluscum	...	...	...	4	10
Other Conditions	...	...	...	374	2947
				636	4333
GENERAL—					
Septic Sores	...	...	...	315	1892
Injuries	...	...	...	437	1936
Other Conditions	...	...	...	472	1069
Sunlight	...	...	...	106	1370
				1330	6267
				2716	13,176

Return of Cases Treated.

					ROSYTH CLINICS.	
					No. of Cases.	No. of Attendances.
EAR—						
Middle Ear Suppuration	...	...	...	...	45	199
Other Conditions	...	...	...	...	62	113
					107	312
NOSE AND THROAT—						
Nasal Conditions	...	...	...	...	1	3
Throat Conditions	...	...	...	...	24	25
					25	28
EYE—						
Blepharitis	...	...	...	...	22	72
Styes	...	...	...	...	35	61
Conjunctivitis	...	...	...	...	23	54
Corneal Inflammation and Ulceration	...	...	...	...	—	—
Injuries	...	...	...	...	4	4
Errors of Refraction	...	...	...	...	1	1
Other Conditions	...	...	...	...	4	5
					89	197
SKIN (HEAD)—						
Dirty	...	...	...	...	5	9
Ringworm	...	...	...	...	—	—
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	19	38
Other Conditions	...	...	...	...	3	11
					27	58
SKIN (BODY)—						
Body Vermin	...	...	...	...	—	—
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	192	608
Scabies	...	...	...	...	4	4
Ringworm	...	...	...	...	11	25
Molluscum	...	...	...	...	4	10
Other Conditions	...	...	...	...	348	2725
					559	3372
GENERAL—						
Septic Sores	...	...	...	...	363	1248
Injuries	...	...	...	...	636	1943
Other Conditions	...	...	...	...	216	445
					1215	3636
Total—Rosyth Clinics	...	...	...	...	2022	7603
Add—Inglis Street Clinic Total	...	...	...	...	2716	13176
Total No. of School Children	...	...	...	...	4738	20779
Add—Pre-School Children—Inglis Street	...	...	...	...	359	734
Add—Pre-School, Rosyth Clinics	...	...	...	...	17	72
GRAND TOTAL	...	...	...	...	5114	21585

Diseases of the Ear, Nose and Throat.

The following table shows the distribution of new cases :—

	Inglis Street Clinic.	Rosyth Clinics.	Pre-School Age.
Ear	153	107	41
Nose and Throat	356	25	119

The number of attendances for treatment amounted to :—

School Children...	1662
Children of Pre-School Age	186
	<hr/> 1848 <hr/>

I. AFFECTIONS OF THE EAR.

260 School children attended at Dunfermline and Rosyth Clinics on account of diseases of the ear. As compared with last year, this shows an increase of 56 cases of affections of the ear.

Otitis Media.—107 cases of otitis media in school children were treated.

The figures for the two types of the affection are :—

Acute Otitis Media	29
Chronic Otitis Media	78

II. AFFECTIONS OF THE NOSE AND THROAT.

381 new cases in school children were treated.

The following table gives the nature and distribution of the cases in the various groups :—

	Inglis Street Clinic.	Rosyth Clinics.
NOSE—		
Catarrh	15	—
Other Conditions	156	1
THROAT—		
Acute Sore Throat	7	8
Other Conditions	178	16

As compared with the previous year, the above figures show a decrease of 133 nose and throat affections.

The bulk of throat affections were cases of enlarged tonsils, many of whom were treated by operation.

Children of Pre-School Age.—The following table shows the diseases from which they suffered :—

	Inglis Street Clinic.	Rosyth Clinics.
Otitis Media	17	2
Other Affections of the Ear ...	20	2
Affections of the Nose	58	—
Affections of the Throat	61	—

Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist Clinics.—Eleven Clinics were held during the year by the Consulting Aural Surgeon, at which 206 school children and 56 school children were seen by the Specialist, who advised suitable treatment. Where necessary, operative treatment was subsequently carried out by her at the Dunfermline and West Fife Hospital.

Defective Speech Clinic.

REPORT BY MISS NORAH WOOD.

During the year the following cases were dealt with :—

Stammerers	...	...	...	...	20
Defective Speech	...	...	...	...	32
Cleft Palate Speech	2
Nasal Speech	1
Poor Voice Production	1
					56

No. of Attendances	1115
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The session just concluded has been busy and interesting. The numbers receiving treatment showed an increase over last year, and attendances were good, though the usual crop of epidemics in the Spring Term was responsible for a fairly large number of absences.

Results have, on the whole, been satisfactory, and a number of cases have been discharged throughout the session.

Amongst the many defective speakers, who attended in the course of the year, was a group of three children of pre-school age—two girls and a boy—suffering from very backward speech. It is worth noting that these retarded speakers are often rather "difficult" little people, and their defects are frequently caused more by lack of the will to speak than by any fault in the articulative organs. Once their interest is caught, good progress is usually made. The two girls, who have attended regularly since December, became quite talkative during the Summer, but the boy only came into the Clinic in June, and at the close of the session was just beginning to get accustomed to his surroundings. When these children return in the Autumn, it will be interesting to see how far their speech has developed during the holidays.

Of the two Cleft Palate cases, one—a girl of ten—has attended for a number of years, and continues to make slow but steady progress. The other, a girl of four, is a new case, who has, unfortunately, made little progress owing to long absences through illness. She is, however, an extremely teachable child with a very good home influence, so when her general health improves, she should prove a responsible pupil.

The stammerers have made varying degrees of progress. Although most of them have really put their backs into the task of overcoming their difficulties, there are one or two who do not realise the necessity of helping themselves. One cannot help feeling that the time spent on the slackers would be far more profitably used in giving extra help to the keen workers, as it is extremely difficult to help those who do not try to help themselves.

One cannot conclude this brief report without paying tribute to the parents and teachers, who, by the interest they take in the progress of these young people, do so much to help on the work of the Clinic.

Eye Clinic.

285 new cases in school children were treated at the Clinics in Dunfermline and Rosyth. The number of attendances was 1,147. These figures show an increase of 59 cases of eye affection in school children, some of them being of a somewhat severe nature.

In addition to the above, 3 children of pre-school age received treatment and made 11 attendances.

The following table shows the distribution of the cases and the main classes of the defects treated :—

	INGLIS STREET.		ROSYTH.	
	School Children.	Pre-School Children.	School Children.	Pre-School Children.
Blepharitis ...	40	1	22	—
Styes ...	58	1	35	—
Conjunctivitis ...	68	1	23	—
Corneal Inflammation	1	—	—	—
Injuries ...	8	—	4	—
Errors of Refraction	—	—	1	—
Other Conditions	21	—	4	—
	196	3	89	—

Skin Diseases.

The number of new cases of skin affections in school children at all of the Clinics amounted to 1,267. The number of attendances amounted to 8,067. The average number of treatments per case was 6.3.

The number of new cases in infants and children of pre-school age was 55, and the number of treatments 215.

Group I.—Impetigo Contagiosa.—In the year under review, 25 new cases in school children were treated. The number of attendances was 1,981. These figures show an increase of 48 cases and 217 treatments.

In addition to the above, 24 children of pre-school age were sent for treatment. The attendances were 123. These figures also show increases.

Group II.—Ringworm of the Head and Body.—There were no cases of Ringworm of the scalp. There were 17 of Ringworm of the body, an increase of 11 cases as compared with last year.

Group III.—Warts, Chilblains and Corns.—The number of new cases was :—Warts 345, Chilblains 58, Corns 50.

Group IV.—All Other Conditions :—

(1) *Vermin.*—14 cases of nits and pediculi of the head were sent for treatment during the year, an increase of 10 cases as compared with last year.

(2) *Scabies*.—The number treated was 72, a decrease of 56 cases as compared with last year.

Children of Pre-School Age.—55 Infants and children of pre-school age were referred to the Clinics for treatment.

The following table shows the diseases and the numbers treated :—

Impetigo	...	...	...	...	24
Scabies	...	...	...	...	17
Ringworm	...	...	...	...	1
Pediculi and Nits	...	...	...	...	1
Other Conditions	...	...	...	...	12
					<hr/> 55 <hr/>

Defective Teeth.

DENTAL EXAMINATION.

As in former years the ten Primary Schools in Dunfermline Burgh were systematically inspected. All children whose ages range from 5 years to 12 years were examined. The pupils attending the two Secondary Schools and the Advanced Divisions of St Margaret's and King's Road Schools were treated as casual cases.

The total number examined was 4,085. 784 of the children examined were found to have sound dentitions, which represents 19·19% of the total examined. These children, if so desirous, were brought to the Clinic for prophylactic treatment.

The following figures show the general state of the teeth as disclosed by examination and the numbers accepting and refusing treatment :—

		Per Cent.
1. No. Examined	4085	—
2. No. with sound dentition	784	19·19
3. No. requiring treatment	3301	80·81
4. No. in 3 accepting treatment at Clinic	3027	91·70
5. No. in 3 refusing treatment at Clinic	274	8·30

Dental Treatment.

During the year, 3,027 children attended the Clinics for systematic treatment and made 4,127 attendances. In addition, 532 children attended the Clinics as casual cases and made 1,320 attendances. 88 of these casual cases were of pre-school age.

The following figures show the treatment carried out throughout the school year :—

	Temporary Teeth.	Permanent Teeth.
Extractions	3509	106
Fillings—		
Amalgam	877	1335
Silicate	—	217
Root Fillings	—	57
Other Operations—		
Silver Nitrate Treatment	1205	
Dressings Inserted		296
Scaling and Cleaning		1272

Deformities and Other Conditions treated at the Orthopaedic Clinic.

Treatment by physiotherapy was carried out by Miss A. B. Whyte. The defects treated included cases of Paralysis; Club Foot; Flat Foot; Knock Knees; Sprains, Fractures and Injuries; Postural defects, including round shoulders and curvature of the spine; and other conditions.

During the year 353 cases were treated, including 116 children of pre-school age. The total attendances were 3,293, including 847 of pre-school age. The average number of treatments per case was approximately 9.

Most of the cases of local children on discharge from Princess Margaret Rose Hospital, Edinburgh, were sent to attend the Orthopaedic Clinic for further treatment.

Orthopaedic Specialist Clinics.

These clinics provide for the examination and treatment of children suffering from physical defects who require orthopaedic care in addition to what can be done for them by massage and other methods at the Orthopaedic Clinic.

Four Clinics were held during the year, at which 56 new cases (29 school and 27 pre-school children) were examined, and 87 old cases (61 school and 26 pre-school children) re-examined, making a total of 143 examinations.

Nineteen cases were recommended by the Orthopaedic Specialist for admission to Princess Margaret Rose Hospital for operation or in-patient treatment. Treatment by various orthopaedic methods was advised in the case of other children who were seen at the Clinics.

Artificial Sunlight Clinic.

This Clinic remains open throughout the year, except during the summer months.

Most of the treatment is by a weekly general exposure of the body to a long flame Carbon Arc lamp, but local applications from Mercury Vapour lamp are given in suitable cases.

Attendances.—During the year, the following children were treated, viz. :—

School Children	...	...	...	...	...	106
Infants and Children under School Age	...	...	...	...	...	13
						<hr/> 119 <hr/>

The number of treatments given was 1,453, of which 83 were to children under school age. The average number of treatments per case was 12.2.

A number of children who had been operated on for tubercular glands of the neck were referred to the Clinic for treatment by Ultra Violet Light. The results obtained in these cases were most satisfactory.

EXAMINATION AND CERTIFICATION OF BLIND PERSONS.

EYE SPECIALISTS.—Dr A. R. Moodie and Dr C. R. D. Leeds attended at the following Clinics:—St Andrews; Glebe Park, Kirkcaldy, and Dunfermline Hospital.

Total number examined—63.

Note.—This number included three re-examinations.

Number resident in the County 46

Number resident in Kirkcaldy Burgh 6

Number resident in Dunfermline Burgh... .. 11

Analysis of Results at Examination.

	Clinic Cases.		Bedridden Cases.		Total.
	Blind.	Not Blind.	Blind.	Not Blind.	
County	30	3	13*	—	46
Kirkcaldy Burgh	5	—	1	—	6
Dunfermline Burgh	7	1	3	—	11
	42	4	17	—	63

* Including one case examined in Edinburgh Royal Infirmary.

	Treatment Recommended.		
	Blind.	Not Blind.	Total.
Medical	3	—	3
Surgical	11	—	11
Optical	—	3	3
	14	3	17

Wassermann Test—1 Positive

1 Negative

Primary Eye Conditions as Certified by Eye Specialists.

	Aged.			Total.
	Above 65.	35-65.	Below 35	
(a) BLIND—				
Primary Cataract	7	5	—	12
Glaucoma	5	1	—	6
Myopia	2	4	—	6
Degenerative Retinitis	3	3	—	6
Primary Optic Atrophy	3	1	—	4
Choroiditis	2	1	—	3
Iridocyclitis	—	3	—	3
Congenital Nystagmus	—	3	—	3
Congenital Cataract	—	2	—	2
Exudative Retinitis	1	1	—	2
Superficial Keratitis	2	—	—	2
Retinitis Pigmentosa	—	2	—	2
Primary Detachment of Retina	—	2	—	2
Miscellaneous	3	1	1	5
	28	29	1	58
(b) NOT BLIND—				
Myopia	1	1	—	2
Retinitis Pigmentosa	—	—	1	1
Degenerative Retinitis	—	1	—	1
	29	31	2	62

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Unlike 1947 there were no major incidents to record in 1948 and the incidence of disease generally was fairly low. The confirmed cases of infectious diseases notified, excluding tuberculosis, numbered 1,269 (m. 654, f. 615) which is 218 greater than in 1947.

The following table shows the cases of infectious diseases notified within the County, including the small burghs, cases removed to hospital and those treated at home during 1948:—

Table I.

**Return of Cases of Infectious Disease (Excluding Tuberculosis)
Notified during the Year ended 31st December, 1948.**

**Number of Cases coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of
Health and accepted by him as suffering from the stated Disease.**

DISEASE.		At all ages (1)	AT AGE—YEARS								Cases removed to hospital (10)	Case not remov to hospi (11)
			Under 1 (2)	1 & under 5 (3)	5 & under 15 (4)	15 & under 25 (5)	25 & under 35 (6)	35 & under 45 (7)	45 & under 65 (8)	65 & upwards (9)		
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	M. F.	9 10	1 2	2 4	4 3	1 —	1 1	— —	— —	— —	8 10	1 —
Chickenpox	M. F.	— —										
Cholera	M. F.	— —										
Continued Fever	M. F.	— —										
Diphtheria	M. F.	9 7	— —	5 1	3 —	— 3	1 3	— —	— —	— —	9 7	— —
Dysentery	M. F.	8 20	— —	2 5	2 4	1 1	— 1	— —	2 6	1 3	3 2	5 18
Erysipelas	M. F.	33 36	1 —	1 2	— 2	1 —	4 2	4 13	16 13	6 4	8 13	25 23
Malaria	M. F.	4 —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	1 —	2 —	— —	— —	2 —	2 —
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	M. F.	8 13	8 13	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	2 3	6 10
Pneumonia, Acute Influenzal	M. F.	11 5	— —	— —	— —	3 —	2 —	3 3	2 1	1 1	4 2	7 3
Pneumonia, Acute Primary	M. F.	211 126	25 17	31 17	40 25	10 16	19 13	26 8	40 20	20 10	158 106	53 20
Pneumonia (not otherwise notifiable)	M. F.	15 11	1 1	4 1	3 2	— —	1 —	2 1	3 5	1 1	6 4	9 7
Poliomyelitis, Acute	M. F.	12 7	— 1	3 2	7 1	1 2	— —	— 1	1 —	— —	11 7	1 —
Puerperal Fever	M. F.	— 2	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 2	— —	— —	— —	— 2	— —
Puerperal Pyrexia	M. F.	— 19	— —	— —	— —	— 7	— 9	— 3	— —	— —	— 16	— 3
Scarlet Fever	M. F.	332 357	— 1	110 84	201 227	12 32	5 8	2 4	2 1	— —	327 348	5 9
Para-Typhoid A.	M. F.	1 —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	— —
Para-Typhoid B.	M. F.	1 2	— —	— 1	— —	— —	— 1	— —	1 —	— —	1 2	— —
Total	M. F.	654 615	36 35	158 117	260 264	31 61	34 40	39 33	67 46	29 19	540 522	114 93

Poliomyelitis:—

Following the epidemic of 1947, events in 1948 were awaited with some apprehension, as it was not impossible that the epidemic might herald a permanent increase in the incidence of the disease. Although definitely higher than in the pre-epidemic years, the number of cases in 1948 did not reach serious proportions. In all, nineteen cases were confirmed, eighteen of which were treated in hospital and one at home. Of these nineteen cases, three were admitted to hospital as meningitis and one as pneumonia. Twelve other cases were either notified as poliomyelitis or sent to hospital for investigation as possible cases. The final diagnosis in these twelve cases were:—

No abnormality detected 2 ; cerebral abscess 1 ; disseminated sclerosis 1 ; fibrositis 1 ; osteitis and arthritis 1 ; meningismus 1 ; tonsillitis 1 ; teething 1 ; neuritis 1 ; rheumatism and arthritis 1.

The seasonal distribution of the nineteen confirmed cases was as follows:—

February 1 ; May 2 ; June 6 ; July 1 ; August 2 ; September 3 ; November 1 ; and December 3.

The cases were widespread within the County, domiciles being Cardenden 1 ; Methilhill 1 ; Leven 1 ; East Wemyss 1 ; Methil 5 ; Burntisland 1 ; Markinch 1 ; Lumphinnans 1 ; Kennoway 1 ; Thornton 1 ; Glencraig 1 ; Cupar 1 ; Crail 1 ; Elie 1 ; Craigrothie 1. The age incidence varied from 1 year to 48 years, six cases being below school age, 8 of school age, and 5 over school age.

Scarlet Fever:—

The incidence of scarlet fever was considerably greater than in 1947 but at no time did it assume epidemic form. There were 341 cases more than in 1947 but the disease was mild in form throughout the year.

Diphtheria:—

Only sixteen cases of diphtheria occurred in Fife County, including small burghs, during the year. This is nineteen fewer than in 1947 and by far the lowest number of cases ever recorded in any one year. It clearly shows the value of immunisation as a preventive measure. Since the national scheme for diphtheria immunisation was started in January, 1941, the number of cases notified in Fife County has steadily fallen year by year. Prior to immunisation, diphtheria cases formed a large proportion of the total cases of infectious diseases notified in any one year. Cases notified since 1936 were as follows:—

1936	...	...	...	354
1937	...	...	...	314
1938	...	...	...	427
1939	...	...	...	329
1940	...	...	...	475
1941	...	...	...	343
1942	...	...	...	259
1943	...	...	...	222
1944	...	...	...	203
1945	...	...	...	154
1946	...	...	...	107
1947	...	...	...	35
1948	...	...	...	16

We can therefore look to the future with confidence and, provided the immunisation effort is not relaxed, with the full knowledge that diphtheria will never again prove the grave menace to health that it was in former years.

Pneumonia:—

Pneumonia (all forms) again contributed largely to the total number of cases of disease notified in 1948. There were 379 cases as compared with 410 in 1947, a decrease of 31 cases.

Vaccination:—

The County Scheme for vaccination against smallpox under the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947, has now been in operation since 5th July, 1948. A return for the period 5th July, 1948, to 31st December, 1948, was submitted to the Department of Health showing the number of vaccinations carried out during that period, as shown in the following table. The figures given do not represent the true position since it is known that several general medical practitioners are not submitting returns.

Vaccination.

Return for period 5th July, 1948, to 31st December, 1948.

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) Reaction 5th-7th day	Reaction greatest at 2nd-3rd day	No Local reaction.	
	12	3	110	79	14	23	38	—
TOTALS— 505								

Under the Scheme, Registrars of births, deaths and marriage have been supplied by the Local Health Authority with a leaflet explaining the necessity for infant vaccination and urging the vaccination be undertaken before the child reaches the age of six months. Registrars have been asked to hand a leaflet to each person registering the birth of a child. The leaflet details the facilities available for free vaccination. Subsequent action on the part of the parent is followed up by Health Visitors who, on making their initial visit to a home where a child has recently been born, draw direct attention to the leaflet issued by the Registrar urging the importance of early vaccination. If, after an interval of three or four months, it is found that vaccination has not been undertaken, the parent is again reminded by the Health Visitor or by a special letter.

Every medical practitioner in Fife has been given an opportunity of entering into agreement with the Local Health Authority for his vaccinating, free of charge, any patient for whom he is responsible. The Local Health Authority also arrange for free vaccination at clinics by their own medical staff. Lymphocera is supplied free of charge by the Secretary of State to the Local Health Authority and medical practitioners participating in the Scheme.

All general practitioners who undertake to participate in the Authority's arrangements are required, for record purposes, to furnish particulars on a suitable form of the vaccination performed by them whether in course of their general practice or at clinics or sessions. Special payment will be made for the returns in accordance with fees to be fixed by the Secretary of State.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The Scheme for immunisation against diphtheria was continued in 1948 and the following table shows the number of children pre-school and school, who were protected during the year. The work is mainly carried out by area medical officers at clinics but a certain amount of immunisation is also undertaken by private practitioners. The figures given below include private immunisations :—

First Injection.		Second Injection.		Third Injection.
Pre-School.	School.	Pre-School.	School.	School.
3205	352	3126	392	1830

The number of pre-school children receiving full protection (2 doses) was 542 greater than in 1947. While there were 625 more school entrants given a boosting dose (3rd injection).

Whooping Cough Immunisation.

During the year the total number of children inoculated by the County staff in 1948, was as follows :—

First Dose.	Second Dose.	Third Dose.	Fourth Dose.
882	797	55	21

In most cases the two dose method was employed to obviate the need for mothers to attend the clinics so often. The number treated in 1948 was greater by 208 for the first dose and 166 for the second dose but 39 fewer received a third dose and 65 fewer were given a fourth dose than in 1947.

Tuberculosis.

Much publicity has been focused on the tuberculosis problem in Scotland. While the high war-time death rate has been falling since the cessation of hostilities in England and nearly all the western European countries, in Scotland the death rate has gone up. So serious was the view taken of the position in Scotland that a special Committee was set up in July, 1948, to advise the Secretary of State for Scotland. The problem is a most complicated one and an early report from the Committee cannot be expected.

In Fife, the incidence of the disease, as measured by notifications, is again a little higher, but the death rate, a more reliable index, shows a slight, but scarcely significant, fall. There is certainly no room for complacency in considering the tuberculosis problem in Fife; the death rate may show the beginning of a downward trend, but the increase of pulmonary disease in children gives cause for serious thought.

The real black spot is the lack of hospital beds for tuberculosis patients. In spite of empty beds being gradually brought into use at Glenlomond Sanatorium as staff became available and of finishing the year with all beds occupied, the waiting list did not decrease and never stood at less than seventy to eighty persons. This is bad from whichever angle one views it—it increases the risk of spread of the disease to other members of the household, delays treatment and the chance of recovery and lowers the morale of the patient—and when one is searching for methods of mitigating this evil in Scotland, the lack of beds is a very obvious one to tackle.

NOTIFICATIONS.

PULMONARY.		NON-PULMONARY.		TOTAL.
Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male and Female.
1946 ... 133 (121)	127 (108)	55 (46)	56 (54)	371 (329)
1947 ... 149 (136)	146 (127)	48 (42)	53 (46)	396 (351)
1948 ... 156 (144)	158 (139)	48 (45)	53 (49)	415 (377)

The numbers in brackets indicate confirmed cases.

NOTIFICATIONS—Age and Sex Distribution and Site affected in Confirmed Cases.

	-1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Total	Total	Total														
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.														
Pulmonary ...	1	5	2	10	9	3	13	20	15	13	40	23	15	19	14	7	7	11	9	19	8	8	5	3	1	2	1	144	139	283	
Glands...	1	6	9	6	2	4	5	2	3	1	—	1	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	22	24	46	
Abdomen ...	—	2	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	7	6	13	
Spine ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	7	
Knee ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	
Hip ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	
Meninges ...	1	—	2	2	—	1	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	7	11	11	
Lupus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	2
Genito-Urinary ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	5	2	7	7
Sacro-iliac ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Other Areas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	4	4
TOTAL	3	27	31	34	44	62	42	38	17	23	28	18	7	3	189	188	377														

Deaths and Rate per 100,000 Population.

	Pul.		Rate Pul.	Non-Pul.		Rate Non-Pul.	Pul. and Non-Pul.		Total	Rate all Forms.
	M.	F.		M.	F.		M.	F.		
46	46	31	39	14	14	14.1	60	45	105	53.1
47	42	41	40.3	12	11	10.2	54	52	106	51.5
48	38	51	42	10	6	8	48	57	105	50

Although there was one death less than in 1947 for all forms of tuberculosis the number certified as dying from respiratory tuberculosis went up from 83 to 89 and the death rate for pulmonary tuberculosis increased from 40.3 to 42. In 1947, of those dying from pulmonary tuberculosis, the numbers were almost equal in the two sexes, but in 1948 there was a preponderance of female deaths—1 compared with 38 male. The bulk of the female deaths fell in the age group 15-34 years and the deaths here equalled the male deaths for all ages.

The rise in the number of notifications was mainly due to a greater occurrence of pulmonary disease: there was little difference between the sexes as regards total pulmonary notifications but the age distribution differed considerably. Women outnumbered men 55 to 33 in the age group 15-24 years, whereas in each succeeding decade there were more cases among men: in the five year period 10-14 years the female notifications were 13 compared with 3 male. This high incidence among adolescent and young adult females is the usual finding and parallels the high death rate in this group.

Meningeal cases in children were less than in either of the two preceding years but the pulmonary cases in children under 10 years increased from 15-27, and for all children under 15 years from 29-43. This is perhaps the most disquieting feature in the analysis of the notifications and indicates a continuing high level of infection.

Cases of Tuberculosis—Notification Register.

Analysis of all persons on the notification register shows that a total of 1491, 953 have pulmonary tuberculosis and 538 non-pulmonary disease, and that 746 are men and 745 women. As has been said before, the figures should be accepted with reserve, until such time as the register has been completely revised. With the high notification rate ruling in recent years, however, the figure of 1491 cases is not likely to exaggerate the position to any degree.

Cases Examined.

		New.	Old.	Contacts.	Total.
1947	...	569	1594	669	2832
1948	...	722	1654	570	2946

There has been a significant increase in the number of cases referred to the tuberculosis department for investigation and this is welcomed, but the number of contacts examined remains below what is desirable and supervision of cases already on the register is not adequate.

Patients Admitted to Sanatorium.

		PULMONARY.				NON-PULMONARY.				Total.
		Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
1947	...	74	45	4	10	5	14	14	12	178
1948	...	78	72	12	16	8	13	12	5	216

Of the 216 admissions to Sanatorium, 189 were to Glenlomon Sanatorium and the remainder either to the pleurisy unit at Bridge of Earn Hospital, or to Cameron Hospital, Windygaates, where the treatment of meningeal cases is carried out. This hospital also receives a number of cases of pulmonary and abdominal tuberculosis sent in under a variety of diagnoses. It was possible, towards the end of the year, to increase the part-time staff at Glenlomon and bring all the beds into use. For the first time in the history of the Institution every bed was occupied at the close of the year.

It should be noted that the above figures refer to admissions and not to persons. A number of persons were admitted on more than one occasion. These included cases that had been to another hospital for thoracoplasty or an orthopaedic operation; cases that were awaiting operation and were well enough to be home in the interval; persons who were in receipt of out-patient treatment and had developed some complication demanding hospital treatment; and patients admitted for a few days for renewal of plaster. By this arrangement the best use was made of the beds and a greater turnover of cases was effected but, even so, it was not found possible to deal properly with the waiting list and many patients had to wait a long time for a bed. The long period waiting between diagnosis and the institution of treatment perhaps the worst feature of the tuberculosis problem to-day.

X-Ray Examinations.

1307 X-ray examinations were carried out during the year, 40 of these being done at Glenlomon. The total number was a little less than that for last year, but this does not mean that the number of people having x-ray examination of the chest was less. Until 5th July the cost of all x-ray examinations arranged by the Tuberculosis Officers was borne by the County Council, but after that date no charge was made by the hospitals doing the work. As a doctor was free to send a patient to hospital for an x-ray examination and many cases came to the tuberculosis department with a history of already having been x-rayed and the examination was not repeated, the existing film being obtained from the hospital. It is very unlikely that the total number x-rayed was less than in 1947 and when the field work is covered more adequately by additional medical staff the number of x-rays will increase considerably. X-ray examination is one of the best methods of detecting early lesions and is of great value in the supervision of contacts. With the rather limited number of contacts seen in 1948, 17 were found to have pulmonary tuberculosis on routine x-ray. Patients requiring tomograms or bronchograms were dealt with at Glenlomon. Since x-ray will, in future, be freely available to all at the hospitals, it will be rather pointless including these figures in the report in future years.

Sputum Examinations.

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Tuberculosis Officer	37	162	199
General Practitioners	16	148	164
Total	53	310	363

When a case occurred in which the direct sputum examination was negative and it was necessary, either from the point of diagnosis or the need for active treatment, to decide with greater certainty whether tubercle bacilli were present or not, the sputum was sent to the laboratory at Glenlond for culture or animal inoculation.

Supply of Drugs and Dressings.

The cost to the County Council for the provision of drugs and dressings to persons suffering from tuberculosis for the half-year was £116 5s 0½d.

Lupus Treatment.

No. of Patients.	Cost of Travel.
4	£63 16 6

The above figures refer to the period from 1st January to 5th July, 1948.

Supply of Additional Nourishment.

The cost of this for the year was £211 5s 6¼d—an increase of £6 0s 3¼d over the previous year.

Tuberculosis Allowances.

Although the money paid to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis under the Tuberculosis Allowances Scheme was recoverable in full from the Treasury, the Scheme has been administered by the County Council since its inception. In July the payment of all money allowances passed to the National Assistance Board. The new arrangement is less advantageous to some people than the old scheme in so far as one must now establish the need for financial help, but when assistance is given, provided the person suffers from pulmonary tuberculosis, a rate of benefit higher than the standard rate is paid. As the special tuberculosis allowances scheme has stopped this item will not appear in future reports. The Scheme had certain limitations, the one causing most controversy being that which excluded cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis from benefit, but it was undoubtedly a considerable advance on anything that had been done before for the care of the tuberculous person and his dependents, and many had cause to be grateful for its provisions.

General Comments.

With the advent of the National Health Service on 5th July a change in the tuberculosis service officially occurred. Diagnosis and treatment became the responsibility of the regional hospital

boards, while the local authorities remained responsible for prevention and after care, and the tuberculosis medical staff became servants of the hospital boards, charged with the duty of supervising those functions remaining with the local authorities. This split responsibility for the control of tuberculosis has caused much argument and heart burning as well as a crop of rather rash statements about the scheme being unworkable. This is most unlikely. As a people we are credited with an ability for compromise and there is little doubt that in time the problems created by dual control can be smoothed out and an efficient service established.

In Fife the Regional Hospital Board proposes to amalgamate the County and the Burghs of Kirkcaldy and Dunfermline into one scheme and the whole County will then be divided into three areas based on clinics at Cupar, Kirkcaldy and Dunfermline. Medical staff will be appointed to carry out the work in each of these clinic areas, and the service will be co-ordinated and generally supervised by the medical superintendent of Glenlomond as senior tuberculosis physician for the County. It should be possible with the increased medical staff and the provision of clinics to cover the field of work more adequately in the future. The Regional Board, however, starts off under considerable difficulties in Fife; the County Council has no tuberculosis dispensary and the dispensaries in Kirkcaldy and Dunfermline, while able in the past to deal with the work in the respective burghs, are too small to cope with the numbers which will follow the inclusion of county areas with populations larger than the burghs. New clinics are required and alterations to existing clinics. This will take time and any rapid change is not to be expected. Up to the end of 1948 no change had occurred in the County tuberculosis service other than that the medical staff had been transferred to the Regional Hospital Boards; the work went on exactly as before.

A more pressing problem facing the Regional Hospital Board is that of hospital accommodation for persons suffering from tuberculosis. Additional hospital beds are urgently needed but as Fife suffers from a shortage of beds for almost every type of sickness other than the acute infectious diseases, there will be no easy solution to this difficulty.

Venereal Diseases.

The decline in the incidence of venereal diseases which was referred to in the Annual Report for 1947, continued as the following table indicates :—

		Syphillis.	Gonorrhoea.	Other Ven. Disease.	Total Ven. Disease.	Non-Ven. Disease.
DUNDEE	1945	11	30	4	45	19
CENTRE	1946	21	39	13	73	20
	1947	10	26	17	53	17
	1948	8	13	18	39	15
DUNFERMLINE	1945	41	60	59	160	89
CENTRE	1946	63	110	91	264	110
	1947	62	71	53	186	93
	1948	43	56	72	171	108
KIRKCALDY	1945	54	105	54	213	120
CENTRE	1946	129	181	110	420	107
	1947	109	91	34	234	65
	1948	43	64	24	131	43
ALL CENTRES	1945	106	195	117	418	228
	1946	213	330	214	757	237
	1947	181	185	103	470	175
	1948	94	133	114	341	166

Diabetes.

SUPPLY OF FOOD AND INSULIN.

In terms of the scheme under the Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1925, 6 patients were granted insulin and special articles of diet free of cost or at reduced rates. The cost of insulin during the year was £52 16s 0d, while the amount spent on grants of additional nourishment was £26 17s 7d.

Pathological Examinations.

The number of specimens submitted for examination by Medical Practitioners during 1948 was 95, namely 81 Throat Swabs, of which 5 were positive for Diphtheria, and 14 bloods of which one was positive for Enteric.

HOSPITAL SERVICES.

Until 4th July the hospitals continued under the control of the County Council but thereafter they became the concern of the South Eastern Regional Hospital Board. In the inter-war years the County Council maintained seven infectious diseases hospitals, including Dunfermline and West Fife Infectious Diseases Hospital, which also served the needs of the Burgh of Dunfermline. In addition, they controlled Glenlomond Sanatorium.

In furtherance of the hospital policy which was defined in 1942 and which was outlined in the Annual Report covering the War Years, the County Council closed some of the hospitals and put others to different uses. Accordingly, on the appointed day there was handed over to the Regional Hospital Board, Cameron Infectious Diseases Hospital, one of the most up-to-date fever hospitals in Scotland, and Dunfermline and West Fife Infectious Diseases Hospital. Glenlomond Sanatorium being situated in the County of Kinross, was handed over to the Eastern Regional Hospital Board. Thornton Infectious Diseases Hospital had been converted by the County Council into a hospital for the accommodation of low grade mental defectives. The South Eastern Regional Hospital Board took over management of this hospital.

In furtherance of their policy, the County Council had brought into being two maternity hospitals—Netherlea Maternity Hospital, Newport (17 beds), and Craigtoun Maternity Hospital, near St Andrews (38 beds). These two maternity hospitals were converted out of spacious mansion houses and afforded excellent examples of modern hospitals in design and equipment. They passed on to the South Eastern Regional Hospital Board.

It can, therefore, be stated that the County Council have handed over to the new hospital organisation a group of modern hospitals, skilfully designed and excellently equipped. In equity the Hospital Board will be expected at least to maintain the standard which has been set.

To manage these hospitals and the other local authority hospitals and voluntary hospitals in the County comprising a total of 860 beds for general sickness and 1,109 beds for mental sickness the South Eastern Regional Hospital Board appointed three Boards of Management; one Board responsible for the mental hospitals at Stratheden and Strathore; the second responsible for the small group of hospitals in Dunfermline and its neighbourhood; the third group for the hospitals in Kirkcaldy and East of Fife. The County Council took the opportunity of expressing grave doubts as to the wisdom of dividing responsibility in the comparatively small area which comprises the County of Fife between three Boards.

of Management. Control, however, now rests with the new hospital organisation and the new set up will be watched with interest from every point of view.

Registration of Nursing Homes.

The position as regards Nursing Homes has remained unchanged throughout the year, and the following are registered in terms of Section 1 (3) of the Nursing Homes Registration (Scotland) Act, 1938 :—

1. " Orcadia "—Burntisland—Angus J. Macdonald and Mrs Catherine Linklater or Macdonald.

This home accommodates mainly elderly infirm persons unable to care for themselves and in need of nursing care.

2. Miramar Nursing Home, Marketgate, Crail—Miss Ann Mackenzie.

This home has similar facilities to the above and can accommodate 13 patients.

3. Craigmount Nursing Home—St Andrews—Miss Rachel White.

This home admits medical and maternity cases and has 12 beds.

4. Dunreggan Nursing Home—Elie—Miss Mollie Robb.

This home accommodates medical cases only and has 12 beds.

All the above are run on satisfactory lines, and meet a much felt want in the County, especially in so far as they are able to deal with elderly cases, unable to care for themselves, and without relatives able to nurse them. Under the National Health Scheme, hospital accommodation is envisaged for all such cases, but there is no early prospect of such being available. In addition, there will always be a certain proportion of people unwilling to avail themselves of state run institutions. The continuation of such private accommodation will be essential, at least during the next few years, and could with advantage, be increased in present circumstances, but the difficulty of staffing private homes is a serious one.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

During the year, the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947, brought about a re-organisation of health service arrangements. Hospitals and the employment of Specialists became the concern of the Government through Regional Hospital Boards; Local Executive Councils undertook to provide a General Medical Practitioners' Service and the prevention of disease and the care and aftercare of persons handicapped through ailment became the function of Local Health Authorities. The Health Care Scheme has been little affected by these changes largely because it had anticipated in many respects, the shape of things to come. The County Council in conformity with their duties under the Act, prepared a Scheme of arrangements for the promotion of Mental Health. This Scheme introduced all the essential features of the County Health Care Scheme. One of its principal requirements is that a Committee is to be appointed from representatives from the Health and Welfare Committee and from the Education Committee with the following functions:—

- (a) the prevention and treatment of mental illness by the employment of suitable staff and the establishment of suitable clinics, including child guidance clinics;
- (b) propaganda and the giving of advice;
- (c) co-operation with employers in relation to the conditions under which employees work so as to limit the causes of mental illness;
- (d) the disposal of mental defectives in whose cases boarding-out is deemed to be the appropriate treatment, including the selection and supervision of guardians and the supervision of mental defectives remaining in the care of their parents;
- (e) Children's Homes and Remand Homes;
- (f) the treatment of problem children under the Education Acts;
- (g) the care and protection of juvenile offenders under the Children and Young Persons Acts;
- (h) under Section 51 of the Act of 1947 to provide suitable training and occupation for—
 - (i) persons under the age of 16 years who have been reported by the Education Authority under Section 56 of the Education (Scotland) Act, 1946, as having been found incapable of receiving education or training in a Special School;
 - (ii) mental defectives over the age of 16 years reported by the Education Authority under Section 57 of the

Education (Scotland) Act, 1946, and otherwise ascertained, it being understood that the Committee shall not deal with mental defectives in mental deficiency institutions.

For the purpose of undertaking this work and other duties specified in the Scheme, the County Council have undertaken to provide adequate premises, equipment and clerical assistance. They have also agreed to arrange with the Regional Hospital Board for the appointment of Specialists in psychiatry and mental health (at least one whole-time and three part-time), with the Education Committee for the appointment of psychologists (at least three whole-time) and with the Public Health Committee for the appointment of psychiatric social workers (at least six).

The duties specified above and the arrangements made to bring them into effect are largely in accordance with existing arrangements. As was to be expected, therefore, in spite of the upset which the introduction of the new legislation might have effected arrangements at the various clinics provided under the Health Care Scheme have so far continued without interruption.

During the year there have been changes in the Medical Staff. Dr Louise Eickhoff received an appointment as Senior Lecturer in Child Psychiatry at Leeds University.

Dr James Milne was appointed in her place and brings to the Fife Scheme considerable experience of adult and child psychiatry.

These changes in personnel taken in conjunction with the new legislation have called for re-organisation so that all the staff qualified to do so should take an active part in the clinical work. Since Dr Eickhoff left Dr Milne has attended the Child Guidance Clinic regularly and with the passage of time it has been more and more realised that each member of the clinical team has a contribution to make so that now there is very harmonious co-operation between psychiatrist, psychologist and psychiatric social worker. The ever changing social developments are having an effect on the psychology of the people and so there are ever changing problems to be solved in the field of psychiatry. It is because of this complexity that those working in the fields of psychiatry, of education and of social medicine must unite in a common effort to solve these problems.

(1) **Adult Psychiatry.**

Adult Psychiatry Clinics are established at the General Hospitals in Kirkcaldy, St Andrews, Cupar and Dunfermline. Patients are also seen at the Mental Hospital.

The *Kirkcaldy Clinic* functioned on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays up to October and since then on Mondays and Thursdays. The Clinic is well established and, situated in an industrial centre,

is regarded as the main clinic. The unsatisfactory accommodation referred to in the previous report prevents a full therapeutic service but much useful treatment is effected and it is hoped that better facilities will become available with the re-planning of hospitals.

The clinic attendances were as follows :—

New out-patients	139
Consultations only	63
of these—	
Referred to mental hospitals as Voluntary patients	35
Referred to mental hospitals as Certified patients	1
Referred to Jordanburn Nerve Hospital, Edinburgh	2
Certification as mental defectives recommended ...	3
Recommended for admission to Hospitals, Nursing Homes, &c.	4
Returned to own Doctor	1
Transferred to Dunfermline Clinic	1
Social supervision advised	12
Refused treatment	4
	<hr/> 63
Discharged	63
As recovered	24
As relieved	20
No improvement (recommend in-patient treatment) ...	9
Refused further treatment	10
	<hr/> 63

Return Visits 742

The *Dunfermline Clinic* functioned up to October when I Eickhoff left to take up her new appointment. The accommodation in Dunfermline and West Fife Hospital was not suitable for psychotherapy and patients were seen chiefly for consultation.

New Patients 19

Of these—

Admitted to Mental Hospital	8
Referred to own doctor for treatment	2
Referred for further out-patient treatment	9

Of those referred for further out-patient treatment—

Recovered	7
Relieved	2

Cupar Clinic.—In view of the proximity to the mental hospital and on account of shortage of staff patients normally attending Cupar Hospital Clinic were seen at the Mental Hospital and the numbers attending Cupar were :—

New patients for consultation 3

St Andrews Clinic—

New patients	8
Consultation only	8

Of these—

Admitted to mental hospital as voluntary patients	2
Referred to family Doctor for treatment	6

Mental Hospital Clinic—

New patients	...	...	...	...	...	9
Consultation only	...	...	...	...	...	8
Transferred from other clinics	...	...	...	...	...	3
Of these—						
Admitted to mental hospital	...	...	...	...	...	3
Referred for further out-patient treatment	...	...	...	...	...	9
Of these referred for further treatment—						
Discharged—						
As recovered	...	...	...	...	...	3
As relieved	...	...	...	...	...	2
Return visits	...	...	...	...	...	36

Miscellaneous Consultations—

Number of patients seen	...	...	...	...	...	28
Recommended for admission to mental hospital	...	...	...	...	...	16
Recommended for treatment by family Doctor	...	...	...	...	...	8
Recommended for admission to Nursing Home	...	...	...	...	...	1
Refused treatment	...	...	...	...	...	1
Referred to out-patient clinic	...	...	...	...	...	1
No treatment required	...	...	...	...	...	1

In view of the changed legislation which has taken place during the year and the transfer of responsibility for adult psychiatry to the Regional Hospital Board a brief report only has been submitted.

The *Psychiatric Social Worker* attended the out-patient clinic at Kirkcaldy on Monday and Thursday afternoons. Owing to lack of accommodation at the Dunfermline Clinic, only home visiting was undertaken in connection with this clinic.

In all, 98 cases were referred to the Psychiatric Social Worker. The majority of these were patients attending the out-patient clinic, but 18 were referred for after care after leaving hospital. It is hoped that in future, it will be possible to increase this aspect of the work, particularly now that Miss McKenzie has joined the staff.

The Psychiatric Social Worker has also served as a member of the Ministry of Labour Disablement Advisory Committee for West Fife. The following is a summary of the work of the Psychiatric Social Worker in connection with the adult clinics :—

Clinic Interviews	...	...	...	...	...	56
Home Visits	...	...	...	...	...	112
Consultations with D. R. O.	...	...	...	...	...	13
Other help with work	...	...	...	...	...	19
General Help (Finance, Clothing, &c.)	...	...	...	...	...	3
Clubs, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	4
Investigations for and cases transferred from Jordanburn	...	...	...	...	...	4

(2) Child Psychiatry.

Number of new cases	...	...	...	...	...	85
Of these, 18 were for consultation only and of these 18, there were						
Defectives	...	...	...	...	...	6
Mismanaged	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dull and backward	...	...	...	...	...	1
Emotionally immature	...	...	...	...	...	2
Psychopathic	...	...	...	...	...	3
Anxiety state	...	...	...	...	...	1
Reactive Depression	...	...	...	...	...	2
Personality Defect	...	...	...	...	...	1

They were disposed thus—

Advised removal from environment ...	5
Advised Special School	1
School Supervision	3
Advice to parent	7
Reported to Child Welfare	2

57 Cases were treated, the following showing the types of disorder :—

<i>Depressions—</i>				<i>Anxiety—</i>			
Adolescent ...	...	...	1	Acute anxiety State			5
Reactive ...	...	...	2	Chronic Anxiety State			6
Migratory State ...	...	...	1	Anxiety Neurosis ...			4
Psychopathic ...	...	...	1				
<i>Personality Disorders—</i>							
Emotional Immaturity ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Psychopaths ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Mismanagement ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Emotional Instability ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
<i>Hysterical Reaction</i> ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
<i>No. of Patients Discharged</i> ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
As recovered ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
As relieved ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Unchanged ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
<i>Sources of referral were as follows :—</i>							
General Practitioners ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
School Medical Services ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Probation Officer ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
M. O. H., Fife ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Psychologist ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Parent ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Others ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
<i>Reasons for referral—</i>							
Physical disorders—Asthma, Enuresis, Epilepsy ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Emotional disorders—Anxieties, fears, depression ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Behaviour disorders—Lying, temper, theft ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Retardation in development ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

(3) Child Guidance.

The work undertaken at the Child Guidance Clinic has continued along similar lines to that of previous years and in general the problems have remained similar. As stated Dr Milne joined the staff and undertook investigation and treatment of the children since Dr Eickhoff left. Facilities for in-patient treatment are essential for the efficient treatment of certain types of disorder in children, and it is hoped that the Regional Hospital Board will provide these facilities as the hospital services expand.

I. SOURCES OF REFERRAL.

During the year 736 cases were referred to the Clinic, an increase on the previous year of 8 cases so that from its inception a steady and increasing demand has been made on the services of the Psychological department in the County.

For convenience of assessment cases have been graded as A type where they have been referred to the Psychologist from the Psychiatric and Medical Services, and B type where they have been referred in the first instance directly to the Psychologist. With the A type of case, psychiatric treatment was given in a limited number and many transferred for psychological treatment, while with the B type the major factor appeared to arise from educational difficulty associated with emotional disturbance and with a few of this type some were transferred for psychiatric opinion. The cases were thus segregated but in both types an intermingling of causes was evident and the case treated according to its needs.

The wide variety of sources of referral is indicated by the following list :—

		A.	B.	Total.
1. Headteachers	...	—	334	
2. Director of Education's Department		—	311	
(a) Director of Education	32	—	—	
(b) Backward sheet	...	—	—	
(c) Mental Survey—carry over	3	—	—	
(d) General assessment	...	—	—	
(e) Reassessment of Backward Sheet cases	...	—	—	
(f) Special Investigation on T. B. Cases	...	—	—	
3. M. O. H. Department	...	14	—	
4. Psychiatrist	...	43	—	
5. Probation Officers	...	—	19	
6. Parents	...	—	9	
7. S. M. C.	...	—	2	
8. Other Agencies	...	—	4	
		57	679	736

II. SUMMARY OF WORK DONE.

Of the 736 children referred, 37 are carried forward for examination in the New Year while 699 cases were examined. Of these 699 children, examinations yielding an IQ. were given in 663 cases while with the remaining 36, other forms of assessment were made. Among these 699 children examined were three special investigations :—

(a) Examination and diagnosis of children referred on the annual sheet for backward children, which is referred *via* the Director of Education from the Head Teachers in the County.

(b) Re-examination of a number of children referred on former backward sheets".

(c) Examination in Glenlomond Sanatorium to assess personality and "group fitness" of a number of children suffering from tuberculosis who were to undertake a journey to Switzerland at the invitation of the Swiss Authorities.

Of the total number of cases examined the following analysis is given on a percentage basis, firstly for the children referred on the Backward Sheet, and secondly for all the remaining children, 570 in number, referred to the Clinic and examined on a test which yielded an I.Q. grading.

(a) *Range of I. Qs. on Percentage Basis of Backward Sheet Cases.*

I. Q. Grading.	No.	%
Above Average—		
120+	—	—
110-119	—	—
Average—		
100-109	2	2
90- 99	12	13
Below Average—		
80- 89	22	24
70- 79	27	29
Borderline M. D.—		
60- 69	23	25
Below 60	7	7
	93	
	—	

(b) *Range of I. Qs. of remainder of Clinic Cases.*

I.Q. Grading.	No.	%	
Above Average—			
120+	39	89	15
110-119	50		
Average—			
100-109	72	171	30
90- 99	99		
Below Average—			
80- 89	145	251	44
70- 79	106		
Borderline M.D.—			
60- 69	38		7
Below 60	21		4
	570		

The findings from these I.Q. ranges are interesting. In (a) "The Backward Sheet results are what might be expected. The Head Teachers are referring for examination children who fall into the categories of dull and backward. The ever diminishing percentage of mentally defective children among this group is especially satisfactory as these children are being examined now at a very early age and their cases dealt with before they reach a very late stage when transfer to a Special Class is psychologically unsound.

In (b) the classification of the remaining Clinic referrals there is a satisfactory distribution. The bulk of the cases lie just below the average line in intelligence, though as a whole, the majority tend to be in the upper reaches of the scale. The distribution is satisfactory as many of these children are suffering from emotional disturbance

which tends to interfere with their rates of learning and assimilation. As a result many are retarded and their resultant total personality picture sinks below average level. It has been found after treatment that some of the I.Qs. jump several points higher on the grading scale. With these considerations in mind a valid over-all picture of typical "problem children referrals" can be safely deduced for Fife.

A more detailed analysis in numbers only of the causes for which children were referred is as follows:—

	Total.
1. <i>Education</i> —	
General Backwardness	36
Backward Sheet	93
Mental Survey	3
Assessment of Intelligence	123
Vocational Guidance	2
Disability in Arithmetic	8
Disability in Reading	11
Disability in Spelling	5
	606
2. <i>Emotional Disorders</i> —	
General Instability	12
Speech	13
Anxiety and Obsessional states	9
Night terrors, nightmares, sleepwalking	3
Enuresis and Soiling	16
Emotional Retardation and Regression	5
Psychopathic Personalities	6
Asthmatic	4
	68
3. <i>Behaviour Disturbances</i> —	
Unmanageable Behaviour	20
Aggression and Temper Tantrums	5
Sadistic Tendencies	1
Truancy and Wandering	10
	36
4. <i>Delinquency</i> —	
Theft	18
Lying	2
Malicious Mischief	2
Sex	4
	26
No. of children examined	736

It must be remembered that such a classification does not show such clear cut distinctions among children, as many of the traits are associated *e.g.*, lying with stealing, temper tantrums with unmanageable behaviour, &c., but the headings reflect the major causative factor in the referral.

During the year the long lists of referrals have been successfully reduced to a minimum by the effective and hard work of the staff, Miss Alexander, Miss Potter, Miss Ferguson and Miss Smith, and

much good curative as well as prophylactic treatment has been given by them. During the year, Miss Taylor, an assistant psychologist left to go abroad on her marriage and in her place Miss Smit was appointed.

A summary of the work done by the staff is given below :—

<i>Child Examinations</i>	...	...	...	...	...	699
In Schools	...	...	...	...	...	573
In Homes	...	...	...	...	...	4
Kirkcaldy Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	80
Dunfermline Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cupar Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	40
						<hr/> 699 <hr/>
<i>Treatment Sessions</i>	...	...	...	...	...	4570
Kirkcaldy Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	3211
Dunfermline Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	924
Cupar Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	435
						<hr/> 4570 <hr/>

In addition, of the 43 cases referred through the Psychiatry 21 were given Psychological treatment.

Cases Discharged—

As Adjusted	...	...	...	...	...	63
No co-operation	...	...	...	...	...	8
Discontinued Illness—						
Removed, e.g., Approved School	...	...	...	...	...	6
						<hr/> 77 <hr/>

<i>Adjustment by transfer with School co-operation</i>	...	approx. 300
<i>Continuing Treatment :</i>	approx. 64+	Play groups approx. 24 children
<i>Extra School Visits</i>	„	106
<i>Parent Interviews</i>	„	211
<i>Home Visits</i>	„	59
<i>Play Sessions</i>	„	157

The examination of children may entail diagnosis with adjustment only, or necessitate longer treatment of individual cases. In addition, cases are classed as adjusted where the necessary transfer and appropriate remedial education is given in school as e.g. Adjustment Class transfers. These teachers are in a sense Child Guidance field workers and much good work has been effected through their close co-operation and willingness to work with the staff of the Clinic, both in providing the necessary remedial type of work prescribed and in maintaining helpful observation of minor emotional cases in school. Play session treatments have been maintained both with individual cases and groups. Two fully equipped playrooms are in action and a third room is being assembled to allow more children to obtain a fuller measure of general therapeutic and socialising treatment.

In Cupar a room has been well utilised for examining children and conducting remedial school work where needed and it is hoped that this favourable arrangement will continue.

As well as administrating and organising the work of the Psychological Department throughout the County, guiding and training staff, the Principal Psychologist has also contributed to the examining and treatment of children as listed both in advisory and executive capacities. School visits and parent interviews have been conducted and visits to Remand Home, Approved Schools and Courts were paid.

In addition, during the year, the Psychologist gave approximately 15 different lectures to professional and lay organisations and was appointed in a voluntary capacity, to the panel of official lecturers of the Scottish Association for Mental Hygiene. Further lectures for Teachers and Headmasters are being arranged so that the entire Psychological Service in Fife can be thoroughly integrated and the active co-operation of all interested parties gained in the ever increasing and widening responsibilities of a County Mental Health Service.

Psychiatric Social Worker's Report.

The number of cases registered during the year was 111, 11 of these having been carried forward from the previous year. The majority of these were seen by the Psychiatrist, the Psychologist and the Psychiatric Social Worker, but in some cases which were referred to the Psychologist, the Psychiatric Social Worker was asked to investigate the home background or to help in other ways.

It has been noticeable that the referrals tend to come from the general practitioners and from the school medical officers. It is felt that the services of the clinic should be more widely known. Several parents have expressed regret that they did not know about the clinic sooner, and often a child is referred who would have benefited by clinic treatment some time before he is actually referred.

Miss McKenzie joined the staff in November. Her assistance will be very much appreciated as in a large area, such as Fife, it is possible for one Social Worker to deal adequately with every case.

The following is a summary of the work undertaken :—

No. of new cases—100.

of these, 28 required no further action by the Psychiatric Social Worker.

26 were treated by the Psychologist and Psychiatric Social Worker.

39 were treated by the Psychiatrist and Psychiatric Social Worker.

7 were treated by the Psychiatric Social Worker.

No. of clinic interviews ...	...	...	...	...	...	230
No. of Home Visits ...	...	...	...	...	...	121

Other Agencies dealt with—

Probation Officer	3
Edinburgh Child Guidance Clinic	2
General Help	2
Housing	4

Homeless Children.

All is not well as regards family life. On every hand there is evidence of a slackening of the ties which not so long ago bound families together and formed a secure matrix on which much of the stability of the nation was founded. Various factors are contributing to this disruption. The housing shortage has been the cause of much of the trouble since so many families have been compelled to live in objectionable conditions which have led to deterioration in moral and spiritual values. The cinema has played a part by stimulating the younger generation to place a false value on what the home should be. A further influence has been brought to bear through the development of the School Meals Service whereby many mothers are no longer responsible for the preparation of the chief meal of the day and are thereby tending to lose touch with much that is implied in the community of family life. Without doubt social progress has been made in recent times but it would appear that in the process some good things are being submerged or lost.

The following numerical account of what has been happening in regard to the care of groups of children in the County will provide an indication of the burden which is being placed on the community as a whole. The County Council are doing everything they possibly can to give these deprived children all the care, encouragement and attention they should have received from their own parents.

Children and Young Persons under Supervision of Sub-Committee during Year.

	Children and Young Persons (Scotland) Act, 1937.	Children Act, 1948.
Position at 1st January, 1948	147	100
(a) New Cases during year	40	23
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	187	123
(b) Names removed from Register	76	12
	<hr/>	<hr/>
(c) Position at 31st December, 1948	111	111
	<hr/>	<hr/>

New Cases during Year.

	Children and Young Persons committed to care of Fife County Council.
On petitions by Fife County Council	18
On Petitions by R. S. S. P. C. C.	19
At instance of Procurator Fiscal	1
At instance of County Probation Officer	2
	<hr/>
	40
	<hr/>

Names Removed from Register.

	Children and Young Persons (Scotland) Act, 1937.	Children Act, 1948.
Attained 18	5	—
Committed to Approved Schools ...	3	1
Order revoked (returned to parents) ...	2	—
To Certified Institutions	3	1
Legal Adoption	1	1
Self-supporting	—	2
Other Reasons	9	7
Transferred to Dunfermline Town Council	24	—
Transferred to Kirkcaldy Town Council	29	—
	<u>76</u>	<u>12</u>

Positions at beginning and end of Year.

	1st January, 1948.	31st Dec., 1948.
	Children and Young Persons Act, 1937.	Children and Young Persons Act, 1937.
Boarded-out with guardians for Payment—		
(a) Within County	66	31
(b) Outwith County	2	19
Under Supervision	22	—
In Orphanages and Institutions ...	20	26
In Children's Homes—		
(a) Leven	18	9
(b) St Andrews	14	2
(c) Ovenstone	4	—
In Dunfermline Combination Home	—	2
In Remand Home, Dysart	1	—
In Other Authority Homes, &c. ...	—	11
	<u>147</u>	<u>100</u>
		<u>111</u>

Petitions Presented under Children and Young Persons (Scotland) Act, 1937.

On the instructions of the Committee, 25 Petitions were presented by the County Social Welfare Officer to the Juvenile Courts in respect of children who were neglected by or beyond the control of their parents or guardians. The Petitions were disposed of as follows :—

Children committed to the care of Fife County Council ...	18
Children committed to Approved Schools	4
Children placed under Probation Officer's Supervision ...	15
Continued to future Juvenile Court	—
Cases not proved	1
Withdrawn	2
	<u>40</u>

Petitions in respect of 20 children presented by the R.S.S.P.C.C. were dealt with as follows :—

Children committed to the care of Fife County Council ...	19
Children committed to Approved Schools ...	—
Children placed under supervision of Probation Officer ...	1
Children in respect of whom Petitions were dismissed ...	—
	<hr/> 20 <hr/>

In addition, the Committee have had under consideration eleven other cases of alleged neglect by parents, affecting 27 children. Of these, five families are being kept under observation and warning given to the parents, and in the remaining six cases, involving 14 children, no action was taken.

Boarded-out Children.

	Children and Young Persons Act, 1937.	Children Act, 1948.
Boarded-out for first time ...	12	20
Children removed from one Guardian to another	5	2
Children removed to Hospital and Orphanages	10	2
Children returned by Guardian to Children's Home (unsuitable for boarding-out) ...	8	2
	<hr/> 35 <hr/>	<hr/> 26 <hr/>

All boarded-out children were visited quarterly, while special visits were made to guardians on a number of occasions.

Ten applications were received from parents to have their children returned to their custody and of these 6 were refused. Four families were returned to parents on trial.

There are fully 100 children boarded-out by other Authorities in this County and in terms of the Children (Boarding-Out, &c.) (Scotland) Rules and Regulations, 1947, supervision is maintained by the staff of the County Council.

The Care of Children apart from their Parents.

The County Remand Home is the old Schoolhouse at Dysart. It is under the care of a Warden who is assisted by his wife.

During the year 1948, there were 57 admissions (48 boys and 9 girls). In the preceding year, 46 children were admitted. The number of days spent in the Home by the various inmates is as follows :—

	14 children— 1 day
	7 children— 2 days
	3 children— 3 days
	16 children— 4–7 days
	14 children— 9–23 days
	1 child — 36 days
	1 child — 63 days
	1 child — 141 days
Total	<hr/> 57 children—590 days <hr/>

The ages of the children admitted were as follows :—

1 child	— 9 years
1 child	— 10 years
6 children	— 11 years
6 children	— 12 years
9 children	— 13 years
11 children	— 14 years
12 children	— 15 years
10 children	— 16 years
1 child	— 19 years

The Medical Officer, Dr A. M. Girvan, reports that during the year he made 51 visits for the purpose of examination on admission and discharge. "There was one case suspected of venereal disease which was referred to the clinic at Victoria Hospital for investigation. There was no case of skin disease amongst those admitted this year."

"The health of the inmates was good and did not necessitate any visits for illness."

The Warden of the Home, Wm. L. MacAskill, states in his report that "Work done by the inmates was bed-making, floor polishing, woodwork, upholstery, boot repairing, sewing, mending, knitting, &c. As a rule there is very little work done by inmates, compared with what should be done." He points out that "the staffing of the Home will not allow of the necessary supervision for long intervals." It was due to the limited staff that the Warden was struck on the head by one of three boys (aged 16) and who assaulted him thereafter. They had to be handed over to the Kirkcaldy Police. At one period towards the end of the year, when the Warden and his wife were ill, they were unable to admit a case arrested by the Police, and the child was sent to the Edinburgh Remand Home.

Regarding punishment administered in the Home, "three strokes on each hand with a strap was administered to three boys—one for impertinence, and the other two for fighting." Three boys absconded while working in the garden. Two of them, in concert, returned of their own free will on the same day.

The number of children accommodated at any one time in the Remand Home is very small. It is for consideration whether smaller premises might serve the purpose equally well thus liberating the old schoolhouse for use as a residence for older deprived children who have left school and are suitable for training in an occupation.

NUTRITION AND FOOD INFECTION.

There is nothing to report in regard to these two items. In the course of the year no cases of food poisoning came to notice. It is possible, of course, that here and there cases of illness attributable to consumption of contaminated food occurred, ailments of this type not being notifiable. It is not usual for general medical practitioners to report such cases unless they occur in epidemic proportions. Therein lies the danger, in that by the time the information reaches the Medical Officer of Health the process of infection and re-infection might have become well established. The County Council have under consideration a proposal that cases of food poisoning be made compulsorily notifiable.

ADULTERATION OF FOODS.

Two instances of new methods of possible adulteration of food were encountered, both due to the use of fat substitutes, which has increased owing to fat shortage. Notification was received from the Department of Health that a tin greasing emulsion had been supplied to certain firms in Fife and that this emulsion had been found to contain *B. Coli* in large numbers. Although not used as an actual food ingredient, the possibility of food being contaminated was obvious. The firms concerned were notified that the emulsion should not be used in connection with the preparation of food for human consumption. Further action by the Sanitary Inspectors was instituted to ensure compliance. The Department of Health also reported that several instances of the improper use of inedible fats, fat-substitutes, including greasing emulsions and hydro-carbon oils had been brought to their notice. The improper use had sometimes been the incorporation of such substances in cooked foods and in artificial cream. Enquiries were made by the Sanitary Inspectors regarding the type and source of supply of the various synthetic fats, which vendors of food stuffs were using. No evidence was found that inedible fat substitutes were being improperly used, but this is perhaps not surprising. Such adulterations would only be made manifest, if it were possible to detect the substitute fat in the food by chemical analysis, or perhaps by the compulsory addition of tracer substances to the fat by the manufacturers.

ICE CREAM.

It has long been known that the risk of contamination of ice-cream during manufacture was considerable, and that such contamination if of a bacterial nature, was capable of causing disease in consumers. Instances of the latter danger have frequently been encountered both in this and other countries. Methods and care during manufacture varied widely, and little control was possible unless an outbreak of disease was actually traced to ice-cream, in which case its supply could be stopped but not indefinitely. No adequate control was possible over subsequent methods of manufacture, unless a further outbreak could be traced to the same source. In consequence of these difficulties, the Ice-Cream (Scotland) Regulations, 1948, were made. They deal with four main issues, namely :—

- (1) The registration of premises and vehicles used in the manufacture, storage and sale of ice-cream.
- (2) The construction and condition of apparatus, equipment and utensils used for these purposes.
- (3) The cleanliness of staff engaged in the work.
- (4) The heat treatment of the ingredients of ice-cream.

In order to arrive at some uniformity in the interpretation and enforcement of the regulations, several meetings were held between officials of the Department of Health, Medical Officers and Sanitary Inspectors from Fife and neighbouring Counties and Burghs. These meetings served to emphasise two at least of the difficulties encountered by all framers of regulations, namely, the difficulty of applying regulations to individual cases, and the difficulty of overcoming the wide gap which exists between what is theoretically desirable and what is practically possible. As an example, difficulty was immediately encountered regarding the availability of labour and material to construct or adapt premises, to say nothing of the difficulty of obtaining a licence under the Control of Civil Building Scheme to commence work at all. The meetings, however, served a useful purpose in promoting some degree at least of uniformity of action by Local Authority staffs.

It was the original intention of the regulations to bring into force that part dealing with premises and vehicles on the 1st November, 1948, by which date it would be illegal to use premises and vehicles unless they were registered. The premises could not be registered unless the Local Authority was satisfied that they complied with the regulations. In many cases it was impossible to adapt or convert premises by that date, and presumably in consequence amended regulations were introduced, whereby any ice-cream trader who was carrying on business prior to 1st November,

1948, and who made application before that date for registration, could continue his ice-cream business until such time as his application had been disposed off.

As regards premises the regulations do not call for any elaborate provision, but do provide that they are so designed and constructed as to be well lighted, ventilated and capable of being easily kept clean. The regulations provide that the equipment should, in brief, be constructed of suitable material, designed so that the various parts can be efficiently cleaned and sterilised, and so that the process of pasteurisation can be carried out effectively. Provision is also made that the equipment is kept clean at all times. The regulations, in effect, secure that the ingredients of all ice-cream is subjected during manufacture, to heat treatment sufficient to destroy any organisms capable of giving rise to disease, and that contamination after heat treatment is reduced to a minimum. Provision is also made regarding the maximum time and temperature at which the ice-cream mix may be maintained before heat treatment, and for its effective cooling thereafter. A manufacturer or seller of ice-cream is required to report to the Medical Officer of Health any employee whom he believes to be suffering from any infectious disease, and such person may be prohibited from resuming work until any risk of spreading infection is at an end.

While no legal bacteriological standards for ice-cream are laid down in the regulations, sampling is recommended to determine its hygienic quality as delivered to the consumer, to indicate the conditions under which the ice-cream has been manufactured, to act as a guide towards sources of contamination. One difficulty will arise in the County owing to the fact that the laboratory which will examine the samples is situated in Dundee. The samples must arrive in the laboratory in a frozen condition, and to ensure this solid carbon dioxide or other refrigerant may have to be used during transport. This difficulty will be lessened should a bacteriological laboratory be established in the County. No provision is made in the regulations as to the materials to be used as ingredients of ice-cream. In present circumstances, this is unavoidable, and it is clear that none of the ingredients will be "cream".

The position at the end of the year was as indicated in the following table. The considerable number of applications still under consideration was due to the fact that applicants had not been able to adapt or erect premises to comply with requirements by the end of the year. The County Council is responsible for enforcing the regulations in small burghs as well as in the landward area of the County. The figures, therefore, include the small burghs situated in the respective County areas.

Area.	Applications Received		Applications Granted		Applications under Consideration	
	Premises	Vehicles	Premises	Vehicles	Premises	Vehicles
Beath and Lochgelly	15	2	8	—	7	2
Kirkcaldy ...	24	10	6	—	18	10
Wemyss ...	37	17	16	—	21	17
Dunfermline ...	16	15	1	—	15	15
Cupar ...	23	3	7	—	16	3
St Andrews ...	23	4	7	1	16	3
Anstruther ...	29	2	25	—	4	2
Total ...	167	53	70	1	97	52

It is unlikely that the regulations will secure any sudden or dramatic improvement in the bacteriological quality of ice-cream. As in the case of milk this will be a gradual process. There are many possible loop-holes available to a manufacturer, who does not realise or ignores his responsibility in the matter. If the regulations are to be made effective, close supervision by the Public Health Authority will be essential, and it is unlikely that full supervision will be possible without an increase in the existing staff especially during the summer months. Manufacturers have, on the whole, shown themselves willing to comply with the requests made for new or altered premises, often in spite of large expenditure which has been involved.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS.

The following number of samples were collected for examination during the year :—

Area.	Official Samples.		Test Samples.		Total
	Total.	Adul- terated.	Total	Adul- terated.	
Cupar Area	15	—	289	13	304
Parishes in Cupar Area ...	60	1	—	—	60
Anstruther Area	8	—	218	7	226
Parishes in Anstruther Area ...	36	2	—	—	36
St Andrews Area	1	—	132	4	133
Parishes in St Andrews Area ...	14	1	36	—	50
Kirkcaldy Area	—	—	248	5	248
Parishes in Kirkcaldy Area ...	—	—	—	—	—
Wemyss Area	—	—	68	—	68
Parishes in Wemyss Area ...	—	—	—	—	—
Lochgelly Area	12	—	117	2	129
Parishes in Lochgelly Area ...	5	—	—	—	5
Dunfermline Area	30	—	345	5	375
Parishes in Dunfermline Area ...	5	—	—	—	5
Beath Area	—	—	11	—	11
Parishes in Beath Area ...	4	—	—	—	4
Totals	190	4	1464	36	1654

Adulterated Official Samples—4 (Sweet Milk, 2 ; Whisky, 1 ; Wine, 1.). Two vendors were fined sums of £5 and £10 ; one was found not guilty and one was warned.

MILK SUPPLY.

The number of registered producers of milk during 1948, classified according to type, with the total number of cows in each class of dairy, are shown in the following table :—

Type of Dairy.	No. of Dairies.			No. of Cows.		
	East Fife.	West Fife.	Total.	East Fife.	West Fife.	Total.
Ordinary or Non-Designated	42	71	113	539	1526	2065
Certified	8	3	11	353	140	493
Tuberculin Tested	57	106	163	2105	3748	5853
Standard	15	20	35	370	551	921
Total	122	200	322	3367	5965	9332

It is pleasing to report that there was again considerable upgrading of dairy herds from "ordinary" and "standard" class to "tuberculin tested" grade. Progress in this direction during the past four years has been very satisfactory and is shown in the following table :—

Number of Registered Producers.

Year.	Certified.	T. T.	Standard.	Total.
1945	8	74	78	160
1946	8	93	65	166
1947	10	127	44	181
1948	11	163	35	209

It will be noted from the above table that there were actually 36 more dairies producing tuberculin tested milk in 1948 than in 1947, more than double the number for 1945. The ultimate aim is to have nothing but "certified" or "T. T." grades of milk produced within the County. The farming community are now much more alive to this important aspect of dairying and every opportunity is taken of advising and persuading those still producing ungraded milk of the advantages they can obtain by changing over to the better quality milk. In every case where an application is made for a licence to produce T. T. milk, the premises are surveyed and the applicant is advised regarding alterations, if necessary, to bring them up to standard in terms of the County Dairy Byelaws, thus ensuring not only good living conditions for the animals, but also the most modern facilities for the production of clean milk.

The estimated total quantity of milk in gallons produced within the County, basing this on an estimated average daily yield of 10 gallons per cow per year, was as follows :—

Type of Milk Produced.	Estimated Yield in Gallons.
Certified	359,885 gallons
Tuberculin Tested	4,272,690 gallons
Standard	672,330 gallons
Ordinary	1,687,450 gallons
Total	<u>6,992,355 gallons</u>

During the year, samples of milk were taken periodically and submitted to the County Bacteriologist for examination in terms of the Milk (Special Designations) Orders (Scotland), 1936-44, from all dairymen holding a licence for the production of designated milks. All 1178 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination under the Orders and of these 213 failed to comply. The number of producers concerned with the unsatisfactory samples was 106. Advisory visits were made to all dairies where adverse bacteriological reports on milk samples were received, either by the milk officers or other public health officials, in order to check up on methods of production and cleanliness. In one instance continued adverse reports resulted in the cancellation of a standard licence. The decision to revoke the licence was taken because of continued unsatisfactory methods and lack of cleanliness in production. Despite repeated warnings, the dairyman failed to carry out the instructions given by the public health officials and the milk officer.

Examination of Milk Samples for Tubercle Bacilli.

During the year a total of 22 milk samples were sent to the laboratory for examination for Tubercle Bacilli by the method of guinea-pig inoculation. By the end of the year the results of 21 of the samples were available. None showed evidence of infection guinea-pigs being found healthy when killed eight weeks after inoculation. The sources of the 21 samples reported on were as follows :—

Certified Dairy	1
T. T. Dairy	4
Standard Dairy	5
Ordinary Dairy	11

In collecting these samples, care was taken to ensure that each was from the bulk yield of the entire dairy herd concerned.

There was no outbreak of disease associated with the milk supply.

MEAT INSPECTION.

The following table shows the number of animals slaughtered and the weight in lbs. of meat condemned during the year from 16/12/47 to 16/12/48.

AREA.	SLAUGHTER-HOUSE.	No. of Animals Slaughtered.			lbs. of meat condemned or destroyed.		lbs. of meat condemned or destroyed per head of cattle slaughtered.
		Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Total.		
Anstruther	... Anstruther Public	705	4534	41	5280	22,907	31.1
Cupar	... Cupar Public	1044	5995	37	7076	74,733	71.6
	... Springfield Private	55	213	37	305	4,105	74.6
St Andrews	... St Andrews Public	649	3052	10	3711	22,654	34.9
Beath and Lochgelly	... Cowdenbeath Public	1663	11,993	22	13,678	36,180	21.1
	... Lochgelly Public	1849	8725	10	10,584	22,883	12.4
Wemyss	... Buckhaven Public	1580	8538	23	10,141	26,304	16.6
	... Leven Public	676	3785	11	4472	23,495	34.7
Kirkcaldy	... Markinch Public	664	4136	7	4807	26,304	39.6
TOTAL		8885	50,971	198	60,054	259,565	29.2

For comparison the statement below gives similar information for the year 1947.

No. of Animals Slaughtered.		Lbs. of meat condemned or destroyed.	Lbs. of meat condemned or head of cattle slaughtered.
Cattle.	Sheep.		
12016	59645	241	71902
		266165	21.1

In 1948 the total number of animals slaughtered was 11,886, less than in 1947, cattle, sheep and pigs having declined by 31,867, and 43 respectively.

During the year the Ministry of Food pointed out that in accordance with the Public Health (Meat) Regulations (Scotland) 1932, responsibility for the condemnation of meat rested with the Veterinary Inspector and not with the Detention Officer, and that Detention Officers were required to notify a Meat Inspector when detaining meat as unsound for human consumption. It was pointed out that the full adoption of this method would be a costly matter, and the Ministry of Food did not anticipate that the cost would exceed £150 a year. It was agreed that on this footing, the procedure should be tried out for one year.

The Department of Health for Scotland in a circular to Local Authorities, dated 12/11/48, drew attention to the increased incidence of cysticercus bovis infection of cattle, which seemed to point to the existence of human cases of tapeworm infection, either living in or visiting areas where the cattle are bred, and suggested that infestation may have been introduced by foreigners at that time who were resident in this country. Detention Officers in the County have been asked to examine carefully all beef carcasses and offals for signs of this infestation.

Apart from the above, there has been no change in the arrangements for Meat Inspection in the County.

HOUSING.

Building progress was accelerated during the year and since the commencement of the County Housing programme a total of 157 Council houses were completed by the end of 1948. Of these 15 were temporary houses and 1302 permanent structures. Of the latter, 100 were Swedish timber houses, 78 permanent brick structures, 1006 permanent prefabricated houses (Stuart 622, Auden 70, B. I. S. F. 170, Orlit 4, Aluminium 140). Miscellaneous houses 9, and 109 houses provided by the Scottish Special Housing Association (17 Weir and 128 brick).

Agricultural Houses.

Under the 1948-49 programme, 84 traditional houses for agricultural workers were approved and 42 of these were under construction at 31st December, 1948, and 42 not yet begun. An additional allocation of 64 houses for agricultural workers was made by the Department of Health for the 1949-50 programme in Fife County, but sites had not been decided on at the end of 1948.

Miners' Houses.

Under the programme 496 permanent prefabricated houses are to be built by Fife County for miners and an additional 54 houses by the Scottish Special Housing Association.

Houses Built by Private Enterprise.

During the year a total of 49 houses (25—3 apartments, 12—4 apartments, 11—5 apartments, and one over 5 apartments) were completed by Private Enterprise.

Housing (Agricultural Population) (Scotland) Act, 1938.

Eight applications were received and approved for grant under the above Act for the replacement of unfit cottar houses at farms.

Housing (Rural Workers) Acts, 1926-38.

The issue of Certificate " B " was recommended for payment of grant in respect of work of improvement and renovations completed on 41 houses during the year. The total grant due on the above houses was £3,620.

Building Byelaws.

During the year, plans were examined and reported upon in respect of 58 new houses proposed to be built by private enterprise and for alterations and improvements to 154 existing dwellings. Plans were also examined and reported upon in regard to 127 new buildings other than houses and for alterations to 75 buildings other than dwellings.

WATER SUPPLIES AND DRAINAGE.

Water.—Progress continued to be made in the construction of the Regional Water Supply Main. Between Shanks of Navity and Balfarg a further two miles of pipe were laid down. The distance would have been greater but for trouble with one of the contractors. In the section between Balfarg and Cupar approximately five miles of pipe were laid, the main now running along the southern boundary of the village of Kettle. It is anticipated that towards the end of 1949 the two sections will be linked up and that the new water supply will be available for Kettle.

A duplicate main approximately $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length was laid between Bogside and Cardenden and work commenced on the duplication of the main between Glendevon and Glenquey Gates.

In the course of the year the County Council approved of a report by Messrs Leslie & Reid, Consulting Engineers, on the construction of a reservoir at Upper Glendevon. This reservoir when completed will have a storage capacity of 1,000,000 gallons.

Several conferences took place with Town Councils of small burghs with a view to their participating in the County Regional Water Supply Scheme. A few of the Councils were prepared to take advantage of the terms offered but the majority preferred to continue consideration. Opportunity is again taken of stressing the fact that several of the small burghs in Fife lack adequate reserves in water supply. The statement is made in full knowledge that averments to the contrary have been made on behalf of the Town Councils, most of which depend upon holiday makers for the prosperity of their towns. It is well-known that of all communities holiday resorts are the most lavish in the use of water. It would be difficult for these Town Councils to find new sources of supply in view of the costs entailed in construction and maintenance. The most reasonable and economical solution of the shortage with which they are bound to be faced would be to arrange now with the County Council for a supply from the County Regional Water Main, which is to be laid throughout the County in such a way as to be within reasonable distance from all the principal centres of population.

Drainage.—The River Leven continued to discharge its natural function of acting as main sewer for nearly all the houses and industrial establishments in the Leven valley. It is estimated that approximately 400,000 gallons of sewage are being discharged into the river daily above the Meetings and that approximately 2,000,000 gallons are being discharged daily into its tributary, the River Ore. Fortunately, active steps are now being taken towards the construction of a regional sewer contemplated in the Fife Coun-

Council Order Confirmation Act, 1940. Messrs Blyth & Blyth, Consulting Engineers, have made a survey of the River with a view to planning the course of the new intercepting sewer.

The River Eden runs clear but periodically fish are killed in shoals through noxious effluent proceeding from industrial works. Chemical analyses is undertaken regularly and results show that yearly the river is becoming more heavily polluted. The County Council are aware of these circumstances and with a view to seeking parliamentary powers to control pollution and to construct an intercepting sewer, have engaged Messrs Leslie & Reid, Consulting Engineers, to undertake a survey of the river.

SCAVENGING.

The 43 Special Scavenging Districts all functioned satisfactorily but it has for long been obvious that the system which permits of public collection and disposal of refuse only in certain areas of the County which are able to afford the cost has served its day. In previous Annual Reports, reference has been made to the inadequacy of present arrangements. It is, therefore, of interest to record that the Public Health Committee decided that Parliamentary powers be sought to abolish Special Scavenging Districts and to incorporate the whole County as one scavenging area so that facilities can be provided in any locality when it is found to be necessary without any special local charge.

The new arrangement will entail the cancellation of existing scavenging contracts, the employment of direct labour and the purchase of a sufficient number of vehicles. As regards the latter, the Committee decided that orders be placed for eleven freighters, three for Cupar Area, one for St Andrews Area, one for Kelty Area, one for Wemyss Area, three for Lochgelly Area, and two for Dunfermline Area.

Water Supply Scheme. A few of the Councils were prepared to take advantage of the terms offered but the majority preferred to continue consideration. Opportunity is again taken to draw attention to the fact that several of the small towns in Fife lack adequate reserves in water supply. The statement is made in full Council that agreements to the contrary have been made on behalf of the Town Councils, most of which depend upon holiday makers for prosperity of their towns. It is well known that all commercial holiday resorts are the most lavish in the use of water. It will be difficult for these Town Councils to find new sources of water in view of the costs entailed in construction and maintenance. The most reasonable and economical solution of the shortage of water they are bound to be faced would be to arrange now with the County Council for a supply from the County Regional Water Main, which is to be laid throughout the County in such a way as to be at a reasonable distance from all the principal centres of population.

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PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION.

The volume of trade carried on at the Ports of Methil and Burntisland was relatively small in 1948. Neither of these are "approved ports" in terms of the International Sanitary Convention of Paris and inspections were confined to complaints received in regard to crews' quarters and the routine medical examination of passengers arriving from infected ports abroad. During 1948 there were no incidents of special importance to record.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Under the above Act the Local Authority is concerned in the enforcement of provisions regarding cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation and drainage of floors in factories where mechanical power is not used, and of provisions regarding sanitary conveniences in all factories, with some exceptions, such as railway, dock and canal premises. The provisions as to lighting, in factories, are enforceable by the factory inspectorate.

The following table shows the work carried out by Sanitary Inspectors in the supervision of factories, workshops and work places in the landward area of the County. In all 16 Written Notices were served. Many of the defects were of a minor nature and were dealt with at the instigation of the Sanitary Inspector without the formality of a written notice. It was not necessary to recommend prosecution in any case.

Area.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Want of Cleanliness.	Defective or insufficient Sanitary Conveniences.	Other Offences.	Number Remedied.
Kirkcaldy ...	151	—	6	4	—	10
Lochgelly ...	280	—	3	—	—	3
Wemyss ...	73	—	—	—	—	—
Dunfermline ...	73	11	2	11	—	13
Cupar ...	73	5	22	3	7	32
Anstruther ...	59	—	—	—	—	—
St Andrews ...	22	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	731	16	33	18	7	58

EXCERPTS FROM REPORTS BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

The Sanitary Inspectors submitted to the Local Authority and the Department of Health reports on Sanitary Conditions in their respective areas. The following are excerpts from their reports :—

Anstruther Area—Mr T. Robertson.

ICE-CREAM.

Twenty-eight applications for registration of premises and two applications for registration of vehicles were received during the year from the various ice-cream dealers in the area. Of that number, twenty-four registrations were granted in respect of premises, but no registration of vehicles has yet been granted, due to the vehicles not conforming to the regulations as regards construction, &c. Twenty-four registrations were granted in respect of premises which have been satisfactorily adapted to conform with the regulations. Four applicants have not yet received registration in respect of their premises due to the fact that the proposed alterations are not yet completed.

Of the twenty-four registered premises to date, four are registered for the " Manufacture, storage and sale of hot-mix ice-cream "—two are registered for the " Manufacture, storage and sale of cold-mix ice-cream "—while the remaining eighteen are registered for the " Storage and sale of pre-packed ice-cream " and " Storage and sale of bulk ice-cream."

All premises were inspected and advice given regarding adaptation of premises, such as number and size of apartments required, sufficiency of lighting, ventilation, water supply and composition of walls and floors, &c., as demanded by the various provisions of the regulations.

The installation of the necessary plant and equipment at premises where the manufacture, storage and sale of hot-mix ice-cream will be carried out, is not yet complete, but it is to be hoped that all premises will be fully equipped before the operative date which is 1st May, 1949.

The adoption of the recent regulations relating to the manufacture of ice-cream will undoubtedly lead to an improvement in the manufacturing conditions.

The regulations to a certain degree will tend to put the " small man " out of the manufacturing side of the trade as he will find it difficult to meet the considerable expenditure involved to " put his house in order " and it would, therefore, appear to be fairly certain that, in the near future, ice-cream will be manufactured in a limited number of well-equipped modern factories which will supply a ready

mix, to retailers in the trade, in bulk form or in cartons, &c. The people in the ice-cream trade, are, on the whole co-operating in the steps to be taken to provide a more palatable and bacteriologically pure ice-cream for public consumption.

It might not be long before dishes of pure ice-cream are issued to school children during the summer months instead of bottles of milk. The public, especially children, are becoming very "ice-cream minded" nowadays, probably because of the chocolate and sweet restrictions, and the Local Authority might with advantage inaugurate a campaign to raise the standard of hygiene among those engaged in any capacity, in the manufacture and distribution of ice-cream, in order to obviate the dangers to health traceable to infected foods and utensils.

Strict supervision will be necessary to ensure that where ice-cream is sold from vehicles, the vehicles are kept in a hygienic condition, also that the attendants are supplied with clean overalls, &c., as required by the regulations.

Cupar Area—Mr Geo. Mark.

RIVER POLLUTION.

During the year observations were again made and samples of water taken from the River Eden to ascertain the extent of pollution. The river is undoubtedly subject to pollution of varying degrees and from the analyst's reports certain effluents entering it cannot be regarded as satisfactory.

Sewage, invariably in a crude state, reaches the River or its tributaries from the villages of Burnside, Gateside, Dunshalt, Newton of Falkland, Kingskettle, Ceres, Dairsie and others. In addition purification plants for the villages of Strathmiglo and Freuchie and the Burghs of Falkland, Auchtermuchty, Ladybank and Cupar also contribute.

Other sources of pollution are from manufactories such as Gas Works, Sugar Beet Factory, Tannery, Maltings, Linen Factories, Knackery, &c.

It is assessed that the River Eden and its tributaries on its course through Cupar District is subject to pollution of varying degrees from at least forty-seven points. As developments progress in agriculture and housing the degree of pollution will increase and it is for this reason that the County Council in the promotion of their Provisional Order are seeking powers to preserve its amenities, fish life and quality of the water.

Dunfermline Area—Mr A. M. Thomson.

WATER.

Reservoirs at Glendevon and Glenquey provide the bulk of the Area's Water Supply. Twin 18-inch pipes convey, each week, approximately thirty million gallons of their water a distance of

about 18 miles to break-pressure tanks at Redcraigs from which it is distributed throughout the Area. The Area supply to Kincardine continues to be augmented by a supply from Tulliallan Estate where it is impounded and filtered. A few houses at Saline are supplied by water which originates at springs and similar conditions obtain at the now derelict village of Donibristle where spring water is delivered to a street pillar well which provides the sole supply to half-a-dozen houses which are all that remain of this little village.

The waters from Glendevon and Glenquey are chlorinated before distribution, and that from Tulliallan is filtered. The spring waters at Saline and Donibristle are untreated. Routine sampling of the waters from all sources was continued during the year and the samples submitted to bacteriological and chemical examination. These revealed that the chlorination and the filtration processes effected considerable improvement in the quality.

The following statement shows the samples taken during May and repeated in September :—

SUPPLY.	REMARKS.
Glendevon Reservoir	Before chlorination.
Glendevon supply	After chlorination
Glenquey Reservoir	Unchlorinated
Glendevon and Glenquey mixed	Glendevon, 75% ; Glenquey, 25%
Tulliallan supply	Before filtration
Tulliallan supply	After filtration
Saline springs	Untreated
Crossgates springs	Untreated

In quantity the supply is more than sufficient for most parts of the Area and deficiencies in supply to dwelling-houses reported to me were, in every instance, traceable to defects which had developed in the service pipes, the maintenance of which, of course, is the responsibility of the owners. Upon these defects being intimated to the owners remedial measures were taken and an adequate supply was restored in every case.

Here and there, in the remoter parts of the Area, wells are still in use for domestic supplies. These supplies require to be very carefully watched because many people fail to realise the necessity for protecting them, and in particular, those of the shallow type. Not infrequently, one finds them exposed to all kinds of surface pollution from middens, dungsteads, animal droppings, surface water, &c. Open-jointed walls facilitate the seepage of contaminated

water into the wells and there is often absence of adequate cover. Wells should have properly cement-jointed walls, extended upwards two feet or more above the surface of the ground and a tight-fitting cover to prevent the entry of rain, vermin, bird droppings, &c. Care should be taken to ensure that no midden, dungstead, drainage effluent or other possible source of contamination is allowed to remain within a considerable radius of the well.

In November, one sample, taken from a well having the above described unsatisfactory characteristics, was found to show evidence of recent and extensive pollution, coliform bacilli of animal origin being present even in 1 c.c., and the colony count was excessively high. This supply was potentially very dangerous indeed. The tenant of the house was warned of its character and the owner was called upon to carry out the necessary corrective measures. Meantime, a supply is being obtained from a distant source.

The supply provided to a group of five tree-fellers' huts was found to be suspect. The source was unknown. The water, used for domestic purposes, was obtained from the overflow from a cattle-trough and was exposed to gross surface pollution in addition to probable contamination from the animals drinking there. One of the huts was occupied by a family with two young children. The employer, who owned the huts, was called upon to provide a safe supply or abandon the site. The latter course was adopted.

The above two examples will serve to illustrate the need for sustained vigilance in the matter of water supplies, and especially those provided in the more remote parts.

Kirkcaldy Area—Mr I. L. Goodfellow.

DRAINAGE.

There are eight Special Drainage Districts in Kirkcaldy Area :—

1. Thornton.
2. Windygates.
3. Milton of Balgonie.
4. Coaltown of Balgonie.
5. Woodside.
6. Little Raith (*i.e.*, Gray Park Housing Scheme).
7. Auchtertool.
8. Chapel

Thornton.—The sewers in this district shed in two separate directions—one section to the River Ore and the other to the Lochty. The tanks on the latter section fell into disuse many years ago and were never replaced, while the sewage, which discharges into the tanks near the Ore, is pumped (after screening, &c.), from there into the river. The sewers operated satisfactorily during the year but the maintenance of the works at the Ore and the pumping engine at the Ore works is a costly item—the electricity account alone being in the region of £100 per year. During the year an additional pumping line was installed which allows the level of the effluent

waiting discharge to be kept down should the valve near the base of the discharge tank become inoperative. This new arrangement will prevent excessive flooding of the works and in addition an overflow (direct to the Ore) has also been installed, as in the event of a cloud burst, the water rises more quickly than the pump can deal with it. These works, with good attention and maintenance, could serve the district until the new County sewer (the construction of which has just started) will be available.

Windygates.—During the year under review the system of sewers in this special district operated satisfactorily and no major breakages occurred. These sewers discharge direct to the River Leven and will in due course be connected up to the Leven sewer.

Milton of Balgonie.—This is a special drainage district in name only—there being no complete system of sewers. The only section of the village which has proper drainage is the County Council Housing Scheme at Balfour Place and the public school. Elsewhere throughout the village, cesspools are the order of the day and thanks to the fact that there are numerous old conduits (which discharge to the Leven) these work reasonably satisfactorily.

A complete scheme of modern drainage has now been planned for this village which, when completed, will fulfil a long felt want of the householders and allow of the introduction of all modern sanitary conveniences to the properties.

Coaltown of Balgonie.—In this special district too the sewers discharge in two separate directions, one section discharging to the tanks below Westgate Farm and the other to the tanks near Lochty Farm. The sewers worked satisfactorily during the year and gave no cause for complaint. It must, however, be admitted that the effluent from these tanks is not satisfactory, but this too will be permanently remedied when the River Leven sewer is completed.

Woodside.—The sewers from this special district discharge into a tank situated on ground below Bighty Farm.

In view of the extensive building programme for Woodside (some 300 new houses) a new scheme of drainage has been planned and approved by the County Council.

The existing sewers functioned satisfactorily during 1948.

Little Raith.—This special district comprises the 64 County Council houses at Gray Park near Cowdenbeath. The tank here is inadequate for its purpose and the effluent being discharged is not satisfactory. The matter has been before the Local Committee and the County Engineer is designing new and adequate works.

Auchtertool.—This village is one in which we have a very satisfactory and modern system of sewers and sewerage works, which have been in operation for 10 years and continue to give satisfaction.

Chapel.—The drainage system here is of a similar type to that in operation at Auchtertool and during 1948 it operated satisfactorily. For a village of its size, Chapel has a very good system of drainage.

Lochgelly Area—Mr J. S. E. Riddle.

SCAVENGING.

As mentioned in my last report the question of mechanical haulage for the removal of refuse had been agreed on and two Lewin Compressing Refuse Collectors were ordered. The removal of refuse in Lumphinnans and Kinglassie Districts was by contract and it was decided that after the delivery of the motor collector Lumphinnans would be amalgamated with Lochore and Glenraig District and Kinglassie with Auchterderran District.

Large schemes of temporary houses had been erected and occupied in each District which made the provision of motor haulage or extra horses necessary. There was also in progress large Housing Schemes at Cardenden, Ballingry, Lochore, and Kinglassie, and the houses were being occupied as soon as they were ready.

The first motor vehicle was delivered on 5th January for the Auchterderran and Kinglassie Districts and it was tried out for the first month and a half in Auchterderran District only. On 15th February the Contractor in Kinglassie District finished his contract and since then the work in both Districts has been undertaken by the motor collector. I have had, however, to restrict the collection to twice weekly and in a mining district where more coal is available I would prefer a thrice weekly collection, but on the whole it has worked fairly well.

The motor collector for Lochore and Glenraig and Lumphinnan Districts was not delivered until 19th April, and on 16th May, when the Lumphinnans contract finished, a start was made to remove the refuse from both Districts. In the new Housing Schemes at Lochore and Ballingry and the temporary houses at Lumphinnan only a twice weekly collection is made, but the rest of the district has a collection three times a week. I have had, however, to keep one horse and cart still in this district as the houses at Ballingry were being occupied in June, and this entailed a much bigger area to cover. The cart is also useful for the collection of salvage and road sweepings.

As the Housing Schemes at Cardenden and Ballingry were rapidly being filled up I recommended that an additional motor vehicle be got to help with the work in both districts and an Austin vehicle has been ordered.

The following are some figures regarding the running of the Lewin Collectors. It should be noted that while the miles per gallon is small this is due to the fact that petrol is used in working the compressor all the time the vehicle is loading or unloading. A

At the request of the makers both vehicles were returned to West Bromwich to have new guide rings fitted as it was found they were not standing up to the work. Demonstration vehicles were loaned to the Districts while our vehicles were away.

Lewin Collector working in Lochore and Glenraig and Lumphinnans District :—

Running Hours.	Loads.	Mileage.	Petrol Galls.	M. P. G.
1,279	869	2,406	728	3·30

Lewin Collector working in Auchterderran and Kinglassie Districts :—

Running Hours.	Loads.	Mileage.	Petrol Galls.	M. P. G.
2,099	1,353	5,251	1,356	3·13

In Kelty District a large Housing Scheme was beginning to be occupied and a horse and cart were transferred to this District in February to deal with the extra work. There are now three carts employed full-time in this District.

At present there are coups in each district which should last for a number of years, especially the coup at Kelty which should last for the next 60 or 70 years.

St Andrews Area—Mr R. Just.

SCAVENGING.

The Scavenging Districts comprise the villages of Leuchars, Guardbridge, Kingsbarns and Balmullo. The work of refuse collection is carried out by contractors. During the year under review applications were received from not less than ten ratepayers at Balmullo and Newton Park, Wormit, respectively, for a scavenging service. After due consideration a Special District was formed at Balmullo and a system of refuse collection was commenced on 16th May, 1949. Arrangements were also made with the Burgh of Newport to provide a collection of refuse for the houses at Newton Park, Wormit, commencing on the same date.

From 1st December, 1948, the Guardbridge Scavenging Service was extended so as to provide a weekly collection for the hotel and ten houses situated on the west side of the Eden at Edenside.

SCHOOLS.

The public schools were visited from time to time. There are 10 in the District which are under the charge of the Education Authority's Officials, who see that the buildings are kept in order. No complaints have been received in the course of the year.

A water pipe has been laid from the Dundee Water Department's mains to Forgan School and Schoolhouse. It is to be hoped that the work of introducing the water into the school and schoolhouse

will be carried out at an early date ; and also that the school conveniences be converted from the dry privy to the water carriage system.

Wemyss Area—Mr W. Falconer.

MILK.

At the end of the year there were sixteen registered dairies with accommodation for 696 cows.

Of these dairies one produces Certified milk, nine T. T. milk three Standard milk and three are registered as producers of ordinary milk. One of the latter, although carrying a tuberculin tested herd does not wish to be registered as a producer of designated milk.

During the year one producer of ordinary milk surrendered his certificate of registration and gave up milk production and another producer's licence to produce Standard milk was cancelled as a series of samples of the milk from the herd did not comply with the requirements for Standard milk as laid down in the Milk (Special Designations) Orders (Scotland), 1936/44.

The number of samples taken in terms of the Milk (Special Designations) Orders was 69 of which 51 complied with requirements.

All premises and cows were generally found to be maintained satisfactorily. Minor defects, *e.g.*, defective floors, plasterwork of walls, &c., were remedied on intimation being made to the producer.

Regular visits were paid to the pasteurisation plant belonging to Buckhaven Co-operative Society, Ltd., for the purpose of inspection and sampling. During the year 41 samples were procured of which 34 were satisfactory. Investigation invariably showed that the bad samples had resulted from carelessness in the operation of cleaning of the plant.

It may be noted in passing that the bulk of the milk retailed in Wemyss Area comes from Tuberculin Tested herds or is pasteurised.

There are seventeen retail purveyors of milk in this area and thirteen producers and wholesale dealers who do not sell milk at retail. The approximate average number of cows kept in registered premises is 55.9.

There are no dairies in this area which are exempt from registration.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES IN BURGHS.

The following is a summary of public health activities in burghs for which the County Medical Officer also acts as Burgh Medical Officer, and a brief report on transferred services in those burghs which still retain the services of their own Medical Officer.

Burgh of Anstruther.

Housing.—It was noted in last year's report that 26 houses were under construction in the Burgh and that by the end of that year 6 were nearing completion. These 6 were occupied during 1948, but the remaining 20 were not completed by the end of the year. No action was taken in regard to unfit houses in the Burgh, mainly on account of their being no alternative accommodation for the occupiers who would be displaced. To enable overcrowding and unfitness of existing houses to be dealt with, the provision of more new houses will certainly be necessary.

Factories and Workshops.—There are 113 factories on the register. During the year 64 visits of inspection were paid by the Sanitary Inspector.

The defects found numbered 18, namely :—Want of cleanliness 3 ; inadequate ventilation 2 ; ineffective drainage of floors 6 ; and defective sanitary conveniences 6. Sixteen written notices under the provision of the Factories Act were served. All defects were remedied.

Infectious Diseases.—During the year 17 cases of infectious diseases were notified as follows :—

Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	1
Erysipelas	...	3
Pneumonia	...	1
Anterior Poliomyelitis	...	1
Scarlet Fever	...	6
Paratyphoid Fever	...	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis		4

The incidence is practically the same as in 1947 when there were 16 cases.

Vital Statistics.—The population as estimated by the Registrar-General is given as 3184. During the year 49 live births were registered (M. 26, F. 23) of which two were illegitimate. There was one still-birth. No deaths of infants under the age of one year were registered. Marriages numbered 17, and deaths 52 (M. 21, F. 31). The main causes of death were heart disease 16 ; cancer 10 ; cerebral haemorrhage and other circulatory diseases 9.

Burgh of Auchtermuchty.

Housing.—The site at Lochybank has accommodation for 5 houses and up to the end of the present year 22 houses were completed and occupied. Twelve of these were traditional houses and ten non-traditional. A further allocation of houses has been made and it is hoped that these will be started early in the ensuing year.

The County Council have been granted a portion of the site at Lochybank for the erection of 4 houses for agricultural workers.

Factories and Workshops.—There were 22 factories on the register. During the year 30 visits of inspection were made by the Sanitary Inspector. Eight written notices concerning defects were issued. In each case the matter was remedied without further action.

Infectious Disease.—During the year only two cases of infectious disease were notified, both being cases of pulmonary tuberculosis. This very low incidence of infectious disease is not exceptional for the Burgh, only three cases being notified in the years 1946 and 1947.

Vital Statistics.—The population estimated by the Registrar General is given as 1223. During the year 21 live births were registered (M. 13, F. 8), 2 being illegitimate. One still-birth was registered. There were no deaths of infants under one year of age. Marriages numbered 11 and deaths 24 (M. 15, F. 9.). The main causes of death were—heart disease 9; cancer 3; cerebral haemorrhage, &c., 3.

Burgh of Buckhaven.

Infectious Diseases.—There were 111 cases of infectious diseases recorded in 1948, viz., scarlet fever 32; cerebro-spinal fever 5; diphtheria 2; dysentery 1; erysipelas 7; ophthalmia neonatorum 4; influenzal pneumonia 1; primary pneumonia 1; poliomyelitis 5; puerperal pyrexia 1; paratyphoid A 1; pulmonary tuberculosis 30; non-pulmonary tuberculosis 3. The incidence of disease was fairly normal and no epidemic occurred.

Housing.—During the year, 100 temporary houses and 1 permanent houses were completed while 212 additional permanent houses were in course of erection. The estimated housing needs at the end of 1948 was 1,500 houses.

Burning Bing.—In the autumn, complaints were received regarding smoke and fumes coming from the redd bing at Welles Colliery. The attention of the National Coal Board was directed to this nuisance and they were requested to take steps to extinguish the fire on the bing as soon as possible. At that time—September 1948—while no large area was on fire, there were numerous small patches burning along the tipping surface for a distance of approximately 180 yards. The cumulative effect of the smoke and fumes

om the burning areas was considerable and caused annoyance to the inhabitants whenever the wind direction was towards the town from the bing. Efforts were made by the Colliery management to extinguish the burning points by means of pit water brought in 4 in. pipes to different sections of the bing, but as the application of water was only intermittent the fire spread and assumed serious proportions. To check this, large masses of the burning redd material was washed into the Firth of Forth by the force of water applied but still the fire area spread deeper into the mass of the bing. Attempts to check it were subsequently made by flooding areas on top so as to let the water soak down to the fire area deep in the mass, but at the time of writing, June, 1949, no improvement was apparent and the nuisance from smoke and sulphurous fumes persists. It appeared evident that the efforts so far taken had met with no real success largely because of the half-hearted attempts to control the fire by applying water at different parts for only a short time each day instead of a constant flow of all the available pit water to the bing so as to keep it thoroughly drenched over a long period and permit the water to reach the burning mass deep down.

Vital Events.—The population of the Burgh, as estimated by the Registrar-General to the middle of 1948, is given as 20,291. During the year there were 437 births (M. 249, F. 188) giving a birth rate of 21·5 per 1,000 estimated population. Illegitimate births numbered 21 (M. 9, F. 12) and there were 9 still-births. There were 2 marriages and the deaths recorded numbered 215 (M. 115, F. 100) giving a death rate of 10·6 per 1,000 estimated population. Infant deaths under the age of one year numbered 19 giving an infantile mortality rate of 43 per 1,000 live births.

The chief causes of death were:—Heart disease 64; cancer and malignant tumours 24; cerebral haemorrhage 20; pulmonary tuberculosis 10; bronchitis 13; old age 14; congenital debility, immaturity and malformation 13, other violence 7.

Burgh of Burntisland (Transferred Services).

Infectious Diseases.—During the year 51 cases of infectious diseases were recorded, viz., erysipelas 4; ophthalmia neonatorum 1; primary pneumonia 8; poliomyelitis 1; scarlet fever 26; pulmonary tuberculosis 8; non-pulmonary tuberculosis 2. Scarlet fever showed an increase of 11 cases over the previous year but otherwise the incidence of disease was fairly normal. No cases of diphtheria were recorded.

Vital Events.—The population of the Burgh as estimated by the Registrar-General to the middle of 1948 was 5874. Live births recorded numbered 93 (M. 51, F. 62) giving a birth rate of 15·8 per 1,000 estimated population. There were three illegitimate births and two still-births. Marriages registered were 31 and there were

71 deaths recorded (M. 38, F. 33) giving a death rate of 12·08 per 1,000 estimated population. Infant deaths under the age of one year numbered three and the infantile mortality rate was 32·2 per 1,000 live births. The chief causes of death were—Heart disease 20; cancer and malignant tumours 17; cerebral haemorrhage 8; old age 4; other violence 3; unknown causes 3; pneumonia 2; tuberculosis 2.

Burgh of Cowdenbeath.

Infectious Diseases.—During the year the number of cases of infectious diseases notified was 181, viz., scarlet fever 106; primary pneumonia 46; influenzal pneumonia 2; erysipelas 5; diphtheria 1; puerperal pyrexia 1; pulmonary tuberculosis 12; non-pulmonary tuberculosis 8. While the incidence of scarlet fever was higher than for some years at no time did it assume epidemic form. The cases notified varied in number from 17 in June to 5 in December with 11 cases in each of the months of January and November and 13 in February.

Only a single case of diphtheria occurred in 1948 and this satisfactory result is undoubtedly due to the high degree of immunity which has been established within the Burgh by the continued immunisation of school and pre-school children.

There was a drop of 12 in the number of cases of pneumonia notified as compared with 1947, but otherwise the incidence of disease was fairly normal and there is nothing outstanding to report.

Housing.—Under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations (Scotland), 1928, 124 houses were inspected, 30 of which were found to be not fit in all respects for habitation. Demolition Orders were passed on all of these 30 houses as they were considered to be in a dangerous state. National Coal Board property within the Burgh came under review and a survey was made of this to determine what action should be taken. An agreement was reached with the owners that, with a few exceptions, the houses would be maintained in a habitable state for a further period of five years after which the Coal Board agreed that closure should be applied.

During the year the last of the Burgh allocation of 269 temporary houses was completed and 91 temporary dwellings were built and occupied. There were also 92 permanent houses completed (30 brick, 46 B. I. S. F., 12 Orlit, and 2 S. S. H. A.). While progress has been made there is still an urgent need for further houses to meet the needs of the Burgh. In 1946 the estimate of houses required to abate overcrowding and sub-letting and replace unfit dwellings was 1,400, without making any allowance for general needs like growth of population, newly married couples and transferred workers, &c.

Water Supply.—The Burgh water supply derived from Loch Glow and Roscobie Reservoirs continues to be satisfactory and

ample for Burgh needs. Full details are given in the report by the Burgh Surveyor and need not be reiterated here.

Sewage Disposal.—The sewage disposal works continue to function satisfactorily. Owing to mineral substance affecting sewers in many parts of the Burgh, difficulty has been experienced in maintaining sewers and drains in a satisfactory state but so long as further subsidence is likely to take place large scale replacement is not justifiable meantime.

Vital Events.—The population of the Burgh, as estimated by the Registrar-General to the middle of 1948, is given as 13,638. During the year there were 259 births (M. 144, F. 115). Illegitimate births numbered 14, and there were 6 still-births. There were 130 marriages registered and the deaths recorded numbered 152 (M. 82, F. 70). Infant deaths under the age of 1 year numbered 6 and the infantile mortality rate was 23 per 1,000 live births. The birth rate was 19 and the death rate 11·1 per 1,000 estimated population.

The chief causes of death were—Heart disease 50 ; cancer 23 ; cerebral haemorrhage 15 ; other violence 10 ; pulmonary tuberculosis 7 ; pneumonia 6 ; other circulatory diseases 6 ; other diseases of genito-urinary system 6.

Burgh of Crail.

Housing.—Four of the sixteen houses under construction in the Burgh during the year have been completed and occupied. It was noted in last year's report that over fifty applications had been received for the tenancy of one house which had become vacant. The acute shortage of houses thereby indicated will not be solved by the present programme. There is little unfit housing property in the Burgh and new houses are mainly required to deal with overcrowding and for the accommodation of newly married couples. A few unfit houses will require to be dealt with under the Housing Acts when there is more prospect of alternative accommodation being available for the occupiers.

Factories and Workshops.—The number of factories on the register was 51. During the year 28 visits of inspection were made by the Sanitary Inspector. The number of defects found was 15, comprising :—Want of cleanliness 1 ; inadequate ventilation 2 ; ineffective drainage of floors 4 ; insufficient or unsuitable sanitary conveniences 4. Seven written notices were served under the provisions of the Factories Act. All the defects were remedied.

Infectious Diseases.—Four cases of infectious disease were notified during the year as follows :—

Erysipelas	...	...	1
Pneumonia	...	...	1
Anterior Poliomyelitis	...	...	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	1

being one less than were notified in 1947.

Vital Statistics.—The population estimated by the Registrar-General is given as 1,124. During the year 20 live births were registered (M. 9, F. 11) one being illegitimate. No still-births were registered. Three deaths of infants under one year were registered, giving a high infantile mortality rate of 150·0. Marriages numbered 11 and deaths 23 (M. 9, F. 14). The main causes of death were—Heart disease 6 ; circulatory diseases 4 ; cancer 3.

Burgh of Culross.

Infectious Diseases.—Only four cases of scarlet fever were recorded in 1948. No notifications in respect of any other infectious disease were received.

Housing.—Twelve of the thirty houses which were commenced in 1947 were completed and occupied in 1948 and eighteen were still in course of erection. All of these houses are of four apartments.

Factory Inspection.—Five visits of inspection were made to factories within the Burgh and all were found to be in a satisfactory state. No defects were found.

Vital Events.—The estimated population at the middle of 1948 is given by the Registrar-General as 546. There were 8 live births during the year (M. 3, F. 5) and the birth rate was 14·6 per 1,000 estimated population. Illegitimate births numbered 1, and there were no still-births. Marriages registered in 1948 numbered 20, and deaths recorded were 5 (M. 2, F. 3) giving a death rate of 9·1 per 1,000 estimated population. There were no infant deaths under the age of one year. The chief causes of death were—Heart disease 3 ; cancer 1 ; other violence 1.

Burgh of Cupar (Transferred Services).

Infectious Diseases.—During the year 38 cases of infectious disease were notified as follows :—

Diphtheria ...	1
Erysipelas ...	1
Acute Primary Pneumonia ...	11
Pneumonia (other forms) ...	5
Anterior Poliomyelitis ...	1
Scarlet Fever ...	7
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	10
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	2

The number is two less than that notified in 1947.

Vital Statistics.—The population as estimated by the Registrar-General is 5211. During the year 92 live births were registered (M. 42, F. 50) of which one was illegitimate. Four still-births were registered. Four infants under the age of one year died, equal to an infantile mortality rate of 43·5. Marriages numbered 88, and deaths 85 (M. 45, F. 40). The main causes of death were—Heart disease 29 ; cerebral haemorrhage, &c., 19 ; cancer 14.

Burgh of Elie and Earlsferry.

Housing.—Progress was made during the year with the erection of 12 new houses, and by the end of the year 8 houses had been occupied. No new building under private enterprise took place during the year, but two large houses were sub-divided one to form three and the other to form two houses. No action was taken during the year under the Housing Acts in respect of unfit houses in the Burgh. Such action will not be possible until adequate provision for the accommodation of the tenants of such houses has been provided.

Factories and Workshops.—There are 18 factories on the register and during the year these were inspected by the Sanitary Inspector under the provisions of the Factories Act. No defects falling to be dealt with by the Local Authority were found.

Infectious Disease.—During the year 5 cases of infectious disease were notified as follows :—

Pneumonia	...	...	...	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	1
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	2

This is three cases less than in 1947, a low incidence in relation to the population of the Burgh.

Vital Statistics.—The population as estimated by the Registrar-General was given as 1,124. During the year 14 live births were registered (M. 4, F. 10) of which none was illegitimate. No still-births and no deaths of infants under one year were registered. Marriages numbered 7 and deaths 27 (M. 10, F. 17). The main causes of death were—Heart disease 11; cancer 6; circulatory disease 4.

Burgh of Falkland (Transferred Services).

Infectious Disease.—During the year four cases of infectious disease were notified as follows :—

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	2
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	1

This number is three cases less than in 1947.

Vital Statistics.—The population as estimated by the Registrar-General is given as 854. During the year 16 live births were registered (M. 9, F. 7) of which one was illegitimate. No still-births were registered and there were no deaths of infants under one year. Marriages numbered 13 and deaths 20 (M. 10, F. 10). The main causes of death were—Heart disease 9; cerebral haemorrhage 3; cancer 2.

Burgh of Inverkeithing.

Infectious Disease.—During the year 24 cases of infectious disease came to notice, viz. :—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	13
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	8
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	2

No cases of diphtheria were recorded in 1948, the second year without a single case. This satisfactory result is due to the high degree of immunity established by the continued immunisation of school and pre-school children during the past eight years.

Housing.—The housing position has not greatly altered within the Burgh since the last report. Although 14 houses were completed during the year the need is as great as ever for more new houses to replace unfit, overcrowded and sub-let dwellings, and to cater for the general needs of the community.

Water Supply.—As indicated in previous reports Inverkeithing derives all its water from the County of Fife. This is of excellent quality and ample in quantity for all burgh needs.

Sewage Disposal.—All sewage in crude state is discharged direct to the Firth of Forth by two main outlets. No evidence of pollution of the foreshore was noted. With the additional houses at Hillfield Site now linked up with the existing sewers the system is working to capacity and steps will require to be taken to enlarge or improve the main sewers to deal with further housing additions urgently required.

Factories and Workshops.—During the year 80 inspections were made under the Factories Acts, 1937-1948. All were found to be in a satisfactory condition and no defects were found necessitating action or the service of written notices upon the occupiers.

Vital Events.—The population as estimated by the Registrar General to the middle of 1946 was 3,858. There were 93 live births registered in 1948 (M. 47, F. 46), two of these were illegitimate. The birth rate was 24.1 per 1,000 estimated population. Five still births were registered during the year. The marriages registered numbered 43 and the deaths recorded 46 (M. 21, F. 25) giving a death rate of 10.9 per 1,000 estimated population. Infant deaths under the age of 1 year numbered 6 and the infantile mortality rate was 64.5 per 1,000 live births. The chief causes of death were—Heart disease 15; cancer and malignant tumour 9; cerebral haemorrhage 7; pneumonia 4; congenital debility, premature birth and malformation 5.

Burgh of Kinghorn.

Infectious Diseases.—During the year 24 cases of infectious diseases were recorded as follows :—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	16
Erysipelas	...	...	...	3
Influenzal Pneumonia	...	...	...	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	3
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	1

Apart from a higher incidence of scarlet fever than for some years, the number of cases of other diseases recorded was relatively low and again for the second year in succession no cases of diphtheria occurred.

Housing.—Of the 52 permanent houses mentioned in the report for 1947 as under construction 18 are now occupied, viz., 6 of 3 apartments, 8 of 4 apartments, and 4 of 5 apartments. In addition 4 houses were completed by private enterprise, a bothy at Lochside Works was converted into a two apartment house with kitchenette and bathroom, and a closed house at Rossland Place was sanctioned for repair and re-occupied by a family in furnished rooms.

The housing position otherwise remains unaltered.

Water Supply.—A detailed report on the Burgh water supply given by the Burgh Surveyor in his annual report and need not be reiterated here. As indicated in previous reports the supply is not very satisfactory.

Factory Inspection.—During the year 56 visits of inspection were made to factories and workshops within the Burgh. These were found to be maintained in a satisfactory state and no defects calling for the service of written notices were found.

Vital Events.—The population as estimated by the Registrar-General to the middle of 1948 is given as 2,168. During the year 8 live births were registered (M. 18, F. 30), the birth rate was 22·1 per 1,000 estimated population. There were 2 illegitimate births but no still-births. Thirteen marriages were registered and 23 deaths (M. 10, F. 13), giving a death rate of 10·6 per 1,000 estimated population. There were no infant deaths under the age of 1 year. The chief causes of death were—Heart disease 13; cancer 4; bronchitis 3.

Burgh of Ladybank (Transferred Services).

Infectious Diseases.—During the year 3 cases of infectious disease were notified as follows:—

Erysipelas	...	...	...	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	2

This number is three less than in 1947.

Vital Statistics.—The population as estimated by the Registrar-General is given as 1,138. During the year 17 live births were registered (M. 10, F. 7), none of which was illegitimate. No still-births were registered. One infant under the age of one year died,

equal to an infantile mortality rate of 58·8. Marriages numbered 12 and deaths 11 (M. 3, F. 8). The main causes of death were—Heart disease 2; cancer 2; cerebral haemorrhage, &c., 2.

Burgh of Leslie.

Infectious Diseases.—During the year 21 cases of infectious diseases were notified within the Burgh, viz., scarlet fever 7, pneumonia 5, cerebro-spinal fever 1, diphtheria 1, erysipelas 1, ophthalmia neonatorum 2, pulmonary tuberculosis 3, and non-pulmonary tuberculosis 1.

Water Supply.—A start was made in the spring of 1948 to build a dam to impound the Balsillie Burn. This, when completed, will have a capacity of approximately 27,000,000 gallons and will be sufficient for the burgh needs for 108 days. The water meantime derived from the springs will not enter the new dam, but continue as at present direct to the reservoir at Balsillie. The two sources will provide sufficient water for the entire needs of the Burgh for approximately 139 days.

Housing.—Twelve houses each of 4 apartments were completed and occupied out of the total of 24 which were given as under construction in my last report. Twenty-two houses were in course of erection in 1948, but this number will not go very far in meeting the urgent needs which are estimated at approximately 400 houses.

Drainage.—No change has taken place in regard to sewage disposal and a decision has not yet been reached as to whether the Burgh is to combine with Fife County in the River Leven Scheme or to reconstruct the existing sewage disposal works. The existing works are already overtaxed and incapable of dealing adequately with the volume of sewage which passes through. During the year, the main sewers in the Burgh were duplicated and are functioning satisfactorily.

Factory Inspection.—During the year factories and workshops within the Burgh were inspected, and all were found to be in a satisfactory state.

Vital Events.—The population as estimated by the Registrar-General to the middle of 1948 was 2,632. Live births numbered 47 (M. 20, F. 27), and the birth rate was 17·8 per 1,000 estimated population. There were no illegitimate or still-births. Marriages registered numbered 21 and the deaths recorded were 43 (M. 20, F. 23), giving a death rate of 16·3 per 1,000 estimated population. There were no infant deaths under the age of one year. The chief causes of death were—Heart disease 12; cancer 9; meningitis and disease of spinal cord 4; nephritis 3.

Burgh of Leven.

Infectious Diseases.—In 1948 there were sixty cases of infectious diseases notified within the Burgh, viz., scarlet fever 14, erysipelas 3, ophthalmia neonatorum 2, influenzal pneumonia 2, primary pneumonia 18, malaria 1, poliomyelitis 1, puerperal pyrexia 1, pulmonary tuberculosis 13, non-pulmonary tuberculosis 5, total 60. The incidence of disease was fairly normal but the number of cases of scarlet fever was only half that recorded in 1947. Two diseases accounted for 38 of the total cases, viz., pneumonia 20, and tuberculosis 18.

Housing.—At 31st December, 1948, there were 760 applications for new houses on the waiting list, 259 of which were from tenants of houses not altogether unfit for habitation, but who desire the accommodation and facilities afforded by a municipal house.

During the post-war period, fair progress has been made with the housing development at Mountfleurie Site the advanced preparation of which was commenced in October, 1945. The building of traditional houses was begun in February, 1946, and of non-traditional houses in August, 1946. The number of houses to be accommodated on this site is 402, comprising 70 temporary and 332 permanent dwellings. All the temporary houses were completed and occupied in 1946. Numerous complaints were received from tenants of these houses about dampness of walls and ceilings in 1947 and also in 1948. An effort is to be made to cure the dampness complained of.

In 1947, 33 of the permanent houses were completed and occupied, while in 1948 a further 69 were completed and occupied, 34 of which were built by the Scottish Special Housing Association. The total of permanent houses completed in the past two years is 102 (88 of 4-apts. and 14 of 5-apts.). There were 128 houses (108 of 4-apts. and 20 of 5-apts.), under construction at 31st December, and 102 houses (76 of 4-apts. and 26 of 5-apts.) were not yet commenced at the Mountfleurie Site. Authority has been received to proceed with the erection of another 12 traditional type of houses, but an offer of 20 Blackburn non-traditional type of permanent house was refused by the Council.

Certain materials still in short supply are delaying completion of houses, viz., timber, plumbing fittings, ironmongery, hard wall plaster and boardings, also glass.

Factory Inspection.—Thirteen inspections of factories and workshops were made during the year and in three cases unsuitable or defective sanitary conveniences were detected. All were remedied.

Vital Events.—The population as estimated by the Registrar-General to the middle of 1948 is given as 8,578. Live births

registered numbered 160 (M. 92, F. 68), and the birth rate was 18·6 per 1,000 estimated population. There were 8 illegitimate births and 3 still-births. There were 84 marriages and 115 deaths (M. 63, F. 52) recorded during the year giving a death rate of 13·4 per 1,000 estimated population. Infant deaths under the age of one year numbered 2, and the infantile mortality rate was 12·5 per 1,000 live births. The chief causes of death were—Heart disease 42; cancer, malignant tumours 19; cerebral haemorrhage 18; tuberculosis 6; bronchitis 5; other respiratory diseases 3; other violence 4.

Burgh of Lochgelly.

Infectious Diseases.—During the year, 33 cases of infectious diseases were recorded as follows :—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	11
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	1
Primary Pneumonia	...	...	...	5
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	10
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	6

The incidence of disease was relatively low and not a single case of diphtheria occurred indicating that the immunisation campaign is having the desired effect.

Housing.—During the year, 44 permanent houses were completed and 130 permanent houses were in course of erection. The estimated needs at the end of the year were as follows :—

3 apts.	4 apts.	5 apts.	6 apts.	Total.
212	171	113	43	539

Water Supply.—As indicated in former reports the burgh supply is insufficient for the needs of the community and requires to be augmented by Fife County Council and Cowdenbeath Burgh. A detailed report will be given by Mr Miller, Burgh Surveyor, in his Annual Report and need not be reiterated here.

Factory Inspection.—During the year, 120 visits of inspection were made to factories and workshops within the Burgh. In only three instances were defects found, and all were rectified without the service of written notices.

Vital Events.—The population as estimated by the Registrar-General to the middle of 1948 was 9,687. There were 199 live births (M. 97, F. 102) and the birth rate was 20·5 per 1,000 estimated population. There were 7 illegitimate and 6 still-births. 111 Marriages were registered and 91 deaths recorded (M. 41, F. 50) during the year, giving a death rate of 9·3 per 1,000 estimated population. There were 7 infant deaths under the age of one year and the infant mortality rate was 35·1 per 1,000 live births. The chief causes of death were—Heart disease 26; cancer, malignant tumours 17; tuberculosis 6; cerebral haemorrhage 7; bronchitis 7; congenital debility, premature birth and malformation 6; old age 5.

Burgh of Markinch.

Infectious Diseases.—During the year 14 cases of infectious diseases were notified within the Burgh, viz., erysipelas 1; ophthalmia neonatorum 2; primary pneumonia 1; poliomyelitis 1; interperal pyrexia 2; scarlet fever 6, and pulmonary tuberculosis 1.

Housing.—A housing survey was carried out during the autumn of 1948 when it was ascertained that 117 houses were required to abate overcrowding and sub-letting, viz., 53 of 3-apts., 48 of 4-apts., 1 of 5-apts. and 2 of 6-apts.

Additional houses will ultimately be required to meet the general needs of the community and replace houses which can no longer be regarded as reasonably fit for habitation.

During the year 14 permanent houses of 4 apartments each were completed, and an additional 26 permanent houses were still in course of erection at 31st December, 1948.

Factory Inspection.—Thirty-eight visits of inspection were made to factories and workshops in the Burgh during the year. All were found to be in a satisfactory state and no defects were found.

Vital Events.—The population as estimated by the Registrar-General to the middle of 1948 was 2,245. There were 38 live births registered (M. 16, F. 22) and the birth rate was 12·4 per 1,000 estimated population. There were 2 illegitimate and 2 still-births. Thirty-four marriages were registered and 43 deaths (M. 14, F. 29) were recorded giving a death rate of 19·1 per 1,000 estimated population. There were 4 infant deaths under the age of one year and the infantile mortality rate was 105·2 per 1,000 live births. The chief causes of death were—Heart disease 14; cerebral haemorrhage 5; cancer 4; congenital debility, prematurity and malformation 4; old age 9.

Burgh of Newburgh (Transferred Services).

Infectious Diseases.—During the year 27 cases of infectious diseases were notified as follows:—

Dysentery	20
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia ...	1
Acute Primary Pneumonia ...	2
Scarlet Fever	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	1
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	1

This number is 25 greater than in 1947, the increase being mainly due to the cases of dysentery. While 20 cases were notified it is probable that in addition there were many cases with mild symptoms in which medical assistance was not sought. The outbreak was investigated with a view to discovering any source of food or milk supply common to the various cases, and which might have been the means of spread. No evidence was found incriminating any particular article of food or drink. Specimens from patients

were sent to the laboratory by the general practitioners, but disease producing organisms could be identified. This is a uncommon finding in such outbreaks, and makes the discovery the sources of trouble all the more difficult.

Vital Statistics.—The population as estimated by the Registrar General is given as 2,270. During the year 46 live births were registered (M. 22, F. 24) of which three were illegitimate. There were no still-births registered. There were no deaths of infants under one year. Marriages numbered 9 and deaths 21 (M. 21, F. 9). The main causes of death were—Cancer 8; cerebral haemorrhage, &c. heart disease 5.

Burgh of Newport.

Housing.—Of the eight houses in the Flass Road Scheme, remaining four were completed and occupied early in the year. Progress with the 30 houses at the Craighead site, some of which were commenced in August, 1947, was smooth during the first eight months of 1948, and it was hoped that some of the houses would be occupied by the end of the year. Progress was held up by a shortage of labour, and none was ready for occupation at that time. Representations were made to the Department of Health for Scotland for permission to commence work on the remaining 14 houses of this scheme, but by December permission had been given to proceed with only four houses.

Repair work required on existing schemes was all of a minor nature, and it is satisfactory that repairs to the 16 temporary houses were few, and that little complaints were made by the tenants of these houses as to their habitability. Private enterprise, though severely restricted by existing controls continued to relieve the housing shortage in a small way. During the year one block of 10 houses was completed and occupied. Three houses were subdivided into six flats and a further three houses were in course of reconstruction, and will provide six houses when completed.

Factories and Workshops.—The number of factories on the register was 17. During the year 22 visits of inspection were made by the Sanitary Inspector. No defects falling within the provisions of the Local Authority's duties under the Factories Acts were found.

Infectious Diseases.—Thirteen cases of infectious diseases were notified in the Burgh during the year as follows, being two more than in 1947 :—

Erysipelas	1
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia ...	1
Acute Primary Pneumonia ...	2
Scarlet Fever	3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	3
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	3

Vital Statistics.—The population as estimated by the Registrar General is given as 3,072. During the year 57 live births were

registered (M. 29, F. 28), three being illegitimate. One still-birth was registered. Marriages numbered 18 and deaths 46 (M. 17, F. 29). The death of one infant under one year of age was registered giving an infantile mortality rate of 17·5. The main causes of death were—Heart disease 22 ; cancer 7 ; cerebral haemorrhage, &c., 5.

Burgh of Pittenweem.

Housing.—In last year's report the slow progress in regard to the completion of the 38 houses was noted. During 1948 progress was better, but even so by the end of the year only 4 houses were occupied. The number of applications for houses in the Burgh far exceeds the number of new houses available and it has not been possible to deal with unfit houses under the provision of the Housing Acts. Judging by the present rate of the provision of houses, there is little likelihood of such action being possible in the near future. Unless accommodation is available for the tenants of unfit properties action under the Housing Acts has little to recommend it. It results in houses being scheduled for demolition, when there is no possibility of having the demolition carried out and the purpose of the Acts is frustrated.

Factories and Workshops.—There are 20 factories on the register, and during the year visits of inspection were made by the Sanitary Inspector. No defects falling to be dealt with by the Local Authority under the provisions of the Factories Act were found.

Infectious Diseases.—During the year only three cases of infectious diseases were notified as follows :—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	1
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	1

This is the same number of cases as were notified in 1947, a low incidence in relation to the population of the Burgh.

Vital Statistics.—The population as estimated by the Registrar-General is given as 1,605. During the year 27 live births were registered (M. 12, F. 15) one being illegitimate. No still-births were registered, and there were no deaths of children under one year of age. Marriages numbered 12 and deaths 19 (M. 10, F. 9). The main causes of death were—Heart disease 7 ; cerebral haemorrhage, &c., 4 ; cancer 3.

Burgh of St Andrews.

Housing.—The question of housing continued to be one of the major problems facing the Town Council, and conditions were such that it was not possible to take any action under the Housing Acts relative to unfit houses, either as regards their closure or demolition.

By the end of the year 19 houses of the 12th development of the Housing Schemes had been completed and occupied, but the general

progress in the provision of new houses can only be described as fair. Nine houses provided by private enterprise were passed as fit for occupation, and in addition 6 houses were divided into 13 houses by reconstruction and reconditioning. At the end of 1948 the position in regard to the provision of new houses by the Burgh was as follows :—

Reconstructed Houses	...	...	16
Scheme Houses	...	...	780
North Street	...	...	6
Temporary Houses	...	...	50
			<hr/> 852 <hr/>

The following table shows the progress made year by year since 1920.

Scheme.	Year.	1 apt.	2 apt.	3 apt.	4 apt.	5 apt.	Total.
<i>Reconstructed Houses</i>	1920	4	6	3	3	—	16
1st Development	1921	—	—	20	36	12	68
2nd Development	1924	—	—	32	18	—	50
3rd Development	1925	—	—	36	15	—	51
4th Development	1926	—	24	—	—	—	24
5th Development	1927	—	20	20	10	—	50
6th Development	1929	—	48	—	—	—	48
7th Development	1932	—	20	52	12	—	84
8th Development	1933	—	—	40	6	—	46
9th Development	1934	—	—	12	—	—	12
9th Development	1935	—	12	24	6	—	42
10th Development	1936	—	—	20	8	6	34
North Street ...	1936	—	—	3	3	—	6
10th Development	1937	—	—	64	16	6	86
11th Development (1)	1938	—	—	8	2	6	16
11th Development (1)	1939	—	—	48	14	4	66
11th Development (2)	1939	—	—	22	6	—	28
11th Development (2)	1940	—	—	50	6	—	56
Temporary Houses	1947	—	—	50	—	—	50
12th Development	1948	—	—	8	11	—	19
Total ...		4	130	512	172	34	852

Factories and Workshops.—There were 130 factories on the register, and 36 visits of inspection were made by the Sanitary Inspector. Two written notices were issued regarding defective or insufficient sanitary conveniences. These were complied with.

Infectious Diseases.—Sixty-two cases of infectious diseases were notified in the Burgh during the year, as follows :—

Erysipelas	...	...	1
Acute Primary Pneumonia	...	...	2
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	...	...	2
Pneumonia (other forms)	...	...	4
Scarlet Fever	...	...	41
Typhoid Fever	...	...	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	11
			<hr/> 62 <hr/>

The above figures do not include the following cases:—1 notified as diphtheria; 1 as pneumonia; 1 as scarlet fever. In these cases the final hospital diagnosis were, tonsillitis, pneumoconiosis, and tonsillitis respectively. No confirmed case of diphtheria occurred in the Burgh during the year. In addition to the above 11 confirmed cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, 6 were notified as possibly suffering from this disease. The diagnosis in these six cases was not, however, after investigation, substantiated. The incidence of infectious disease was practically the same as during 1947, when 65 cases were notified.

Vital Statistics.—The population as estimated by the Registrar-General is given as 8,794. During the year 124 live births were registered (M. 65, F. 55), nine being illegitimate. Six still-births were registered. Marriages numbered 99 and deaths 131 (M. 51, F. 80). Eight infants under the age of one year died, giving an infantile mortality rate of 64·5. The main causes of death were—Heart disease 45; cancer 25; cerebral haemorrhage, &c., 18; pneumonia, bronchitis, &c., 9.

Burgh of St Monance.

Housing.—It was noted in the report for 1947 that progress with the 28 houses commenced during 1946 had been very slow. Better progress was made during 1948 and a further 16 houses were occupied by the end of the year. An empty house was requisitioned and occupied. No provision of new houses by private enterprise was undertaken, and no action was taken as regards unfit houses, under the provisions of the Housing Acts, mainly owing to the difficulty of securing alternative accommodation for the tenants who would thereby be displaced.

Factories and Workshops.—There are 17 factories on the register, and visits of inspection were paid during the year by the Sanitary Inspector under the provisions of the Factories Act. Considering the type of work carried out and the number of workers employed, conditions were generally satisfactory. No defects falling to be dealt with by the Local Authority were noted.

Infectious Disease.—During the year only two cases of infectious disease were notified, one being erysipelas and the other pulmonary tuberculosis. During the previous year 10 cases were notified, of which seven were scarlet fever.

Vital Statistics.—The population as estimated by the Registrar-General is given as 1,598. During the year 28 live births were notified (M. 16, F. 12), one being illegitimate. There were no still-births and no deaths of infants under one year of age. Marriages numbered 9 and deaths 26 (M. 16, F. 10). The chief causes of death were—Heart disease 12; cerebral haemorrhage, &c., 6; and cancer 2.

Burgh of Tayport.

Housing.—62 houses have been completed since the end of the last war, but the waiting list for houses contains approximately 20 names, so that the needs of the Burgh are a long way from being satisfied. The position at the end of the year at the various housing sites was as follows :—

Bobbin Mill.—4 houses completed and occupied. Site for 2 houses completed.

Tay Street.—4 houses completed and occupied and 2 under construction.

Cupar Road.—12 houses under construction.

Owing to the need for a smaller type of house in the town, the Council have placed before the Department of Health for Scotland a scheme for the erection at the Cowgate of one tenement block which will largely consist of 3-apartment houses. No action was taken during the year under the provisions of the Housing Act dealing with unfit houses.

Factories and Workshops.—There were 29 factories on the register. During the year 22 visits of inspection were paid by the Sanitary Inspector. No defects falling to be dealt with by the Local Authority under the provisions of the Factories Act were found.

Infectious Diseases.—During the year 17 cases of infectious diseases were notified as follows :—

Erysipelas	1
Pneumonia	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	1
Scarlet Fever	4
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	5
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	4

The total incidence was less than in 1947, when 26 cases were notified, the reduction being mainly due to the fewer number of cases of scarlet fever.

Vital Statistics.—The population as estimated by the Registrar General is given as 3,323. During the year 63 live births were registered (M. 32, F. 31), 6 being illegitimate. Four still-births were registered. The death of one infant under one year of age gave an infantile mortality rate of 17·5 which is very low. Marriages numbered 26 and deaths 50 (M. 23, F. 27). The main causes of death were—Heart disease 20; cancer 8; and cerebral haemorrhage, &c., 4.

HEALTH EDUCATION—HEALTH WEEK.

Medical Officers and Health Visitors are continuously engaged in educating families in ways of healthy living. Much valuable work is also done by General Medical Practitioners. The outstanding event of the year, however, in regard to education in health was a Health Week which was promoted by the County Council in collaboration with Kirkcaldy Town Council and the Scottish Council for Health Education during the eight days—9th to 16th May, 1948.

Through word of mouth, cinema films, newspaper articles, displays and demonstrations, every aspect of health was touched upon but an attempt was made to maintain a certain degree of concordance. Children at school were instructed on how to avoid the mistakes which too often lead adults to stray from the path of healthy living, to form habits which would provide a source of strength and security in later years and to live up to the rules of health not as a task but as a joyous diversion. Adults were asked to strengthen the ties of family life, to recognise that health is not merely freedom from disease, but a harmony of spirit, mind and body, which results in freedom, to avail themselves of the services provided for their use but at the same time to recognise how much they can do for themselves without recourse to outside aid. Doctors, dentists, nurses, teachers and specialists in mental health participated in the campaign. The Churches too played an important part—in the majority, reference was made in address or sermon to the cult of healthy living.

Over 90 meetings were held. Attendances varied. Some meetings—notably the Sunday and prize-giving meetings—were very well attended. At most of the others, attendances were fair. Four meetings were abandoned on account of inadequate attendance. The following is a summary of the total number of persons with whom direct contact was made :—

Special meetings	...	...	...	358
V. D. meetings	...	...	...	1,605
School meetings	...	...	...	11,720
Women's meetings	...	...	...	373
Factory meetings	...	...	...	1,390
Evening meetings	...	...	...	4,036
Final Sunday meetings	...	...	...	1,416
Total	...	...	...	20,898

No accurate estimate can be made of the number of people who were reached through Church commentaries, newspaper articles, propaganda leaflets and posters, announcements from the loud-

speaker van and through the "School Quiz" in which 18,943 school children competed. It cannot, however, have been less than 50,000 and yet the number of people who professed ignorance of the campaign even towards the end of the week was surprising, although many of them stated that "something about health" was going on in the schools.

It is impossible to assess the extent to which the event had lasting effect, but there is little doubt but that the population as whole were offered a better chance than usual of learning something of the meaning and purpose of ways of healthy living. The Local Authority too benefited in that, as a result of the experience, valuable lessons were learned in methods of health propaganda. Further records were maintained, the contents of which will be of great use should similar activities be decided upon in future.

Over 50 meetings were held. Attendance varied. Some meetings, notably the Sunday and prize-giving meetings, were well attended. At times of the other meetings, however, few people were present. Some meetings were abandoned on account of inadequate attendance. The following is a summary of the total number of persons with whom direct contact was made:

Final Sunday meetings	1,416
Evening meetings	4,036
Factory meetings	12,350
Women's meetings	5,723
School meetings	18,943
15 meetings in homes and in shops	1,057
Special meetings	114
and direct contact was made	42,839
Following is a summary of the total number of persons with whom meetings were abandoned on account of inadequate attendance	
At times of the other meetings, however, few people were present	
well attended	
notably the Sunday and prize-giving meetings	
Some	
Over 50 meetings were held	

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