

[Report 1950] / School Medical Officer of Health, Breconshire County Council.

Contributors

Breconshire (Wales). County Council.

Publication/Creation

1950

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**FORTIETH
ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

TO THE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

OF THE
BRECONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

=====
1950
=====

W. F. W. BETENSON
M.B., D.P.H.
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER.

Sayce Brothers, Printers, "Express and County Times" Offices—2794

INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL
MEDICINE

10, PARKS ROAD,
OXFORD

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
BRECONSHIRE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour to present to you the 40th Annual Report of the School Medical Service and its work during the year ending 31st December, 1950.

During the year 2,543 children were inspected who were attending the Primary and Secondary Schools and 722 attending the County Grammar Schools compared with 3,612 and 669 respectively in 1949.

School Closures.—Five schools were closed on account of infectious diseases.

School Medical Service—

Your Authority's School Medical Service is, on the whole, in a satisfactory state. There have been no improvements in the service during the year, and apart from the figures of Medical Inspection being down owing to the lack of one Assistant Medical Officer caused through the death of Dr. R. Cairns Forrester early in the year, there is nothing of importance to report.

There is some slight change in the form of tables given in the appendix to this report and these changes are in accordance with the instructions laid down in the Ministry of Education circular, M.423/349.

I regret to report the death of your Assistant Medical Officer, Dr. R. Cairns Forrester, which occurred on 23rd April, 1950. He was a most popular and efficient member of your Medical staff and will be missed by all who came in contact with him. The vacancy caused by his death was not filled in the year.

I am again indebted to the Teachers throughout the County for their co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. F. W. BETENSON,

School Medical Officer.

County Health Offices,
The Watton, Brecon.
July, 1951.

TABLE OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY AND COUNTY GRAMMAR SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Number of Departments	...	100
Number of Scholars on the Roll	...	8424
Average Attendance	...	7442

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION—

Number of children immunised by the Council's Medical Officers during the year ended 31st December, 1950:—

District.	Primary. Immunisation.			Re-inforc- ing Doses.
	Under 5.	5—14.	Totals.	
Brecon Urban	39	11	50	85
Brynmawr Urban	44	61	105	14
Builth Urban	19	8	27	39
Hay Urban	13	3	16	15
Llanwrtyd Urban	4	—	4	—
Brecon Rural	49	19	68	114
Builth Rural	5	19	24	40
Crickhowell Rural	25	34	59	24
Hay Rural	29	12	41	74
Vaynor Rural	32	5	37	87
Ystradgynlais Rural	97	134	231	202
Totals	356	306	662	694

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS—

Number of children examined:—

	Males.	Females	Totals.
Routine Inspections	819	779	1598
Special Inspections	179	147	326
Re-Inspections	284	335	669
Totals	1282	1261	2543

COUNTY GRAMMAR SCHOOLS—

Number of children examined:—

	Males.	Females	Totals.
Routine Inspections	253	337	590
Special Inspections	11	19	30
Re-Inspections	36	66	102
Totals	300	422	722

TREATMENT OF VISION.

1. Number of children examined in the year... 329
2. Number for whom spectacles
 - (a) were prescribed ... 198
 - (b) were obtained ... not known*

*From 5/7/48 spectacles were obtained from opticians and not by L.E.A.

Table of Cases examined by the Assistant School Medical Officer (up to 19th April, 1950).

No. of cases seen.	No. referred to Eye Specialist.	No of cases for whom glasses were prescribed.
93	31	40

Table of Cases examined by the Eye Specialist.

No. of cases seen.		Total.	No. of cases for whom glasses were prescribed.
New cases.	Re-Inspections.		
99	168	267	158

EYE OPERATIONS—

Mr. G. W. Hoare, the Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon, held five operative sessions at Brecon War Memorial Hospital during the year and operated on 12 children for squint or other defects.

Date.	No. of Children operated upon	Type of Operation
14. 1.50	2	2 Squints
28. 9.50	3	2 Squints 1 Probing of ducts
16.11.50	2	2 Squints
30.11.50	3	2 Squints 1 Probing of ducts
14.12.50	2	2 Squints

ORTHOPÆDIC.

Orthopædic Clinics throughout the County were held at regular intervals by the Orthopædic Sister, Miss I. Leefe.

Urgent cases were sent to see Mr. A. O. Parker, the Orthopædic Surgeon at the Prince of Wales Hospital, Cardiff. Mr. Parker attended the County on three occasions — see Table below:—

Table of cases seen by the Orthopædic Surgeon.

CENTRE. DATE OF EXAMINATION.	Brecon 23/5/50	Bryn- mawr 31/10/50	Ystrad- gynlais 14/11/50	Total
1. Number of Children called up for examination ...	46	28	38	112
2. Number of Children present and examined ...	42	27	35	104
3. Number found not to require Treatment ...	1	4	1	6
4. Number found to require Domiciliary or Clinic Treatment ...	37	22	26	8
5. Number found to require Hospital Treatment ...	3	—	4	7
6. For X'Ray ...	—	1	1	2

The County Orthopædic Scheme has been carried on during the last year on the same lines as before—Clinics held at Brynmawr, Cefn, Ystradgynlais, Hirwaun, Talgarth, Crickhowell, Hay, Builth and Brecon.

Mr. Parker visits the County periodically and urgent cases are sent to see him at the Prince of Wales Hospital or at his visit to Brecon Hospital between Clinics. Mr. Parker now visits Brecon Hospital each month and some of our urgent cases are seen there by arrangement with their family Doctor. This often saves the parents the journey to Cardiff.

Since last year's report there has been an alteration in arrangements for shoe alterations. Major alterations such as cork raisings, slotting for irons, etc., still go to the Prince of Wales Hospital or Derwen Workshops. Minor alterations are done locally. Whereas, hitherto, we have had a local boot repairer doing the work in Brynmawr, Brecon and Ystradgynlais, we now only have one in Ystradgynlais and one in Brecon, due to the fact that the boot repairer in Brynmawr was unable to carry on with the work. Mr. Brookes, who does the Brecon work, has very kindly taken on the Brynmawr area as well, and thanks to his co-operation the shoes are returned with few exceptions within the week. Mr. Davies is carrying on in Ystradgynlais. This part of the scheme works very smoothly.

The attendances at the Clinics are good in the town areas. In the country areas the attendances are not as regular, probably due to the fact that the parents have further to travel and are more dependent on weather conditions.

DENTAL TREATMENT—

Apart from the treatment figures given in Table II, Group IV, the following treatment has been carried out:—

Dentures supplied	...	7
No. of Reg. Plates supplied	...	18
Reg. Plate Adjustments	...	15
No. of Impressions taken	...	31
No. of Vincents treatments	...	—
Number treated for Vincents	...	—
X-Ray Plates	...	—

REPORT OF SCHOOL DENTAL OFFICER.**SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICES.**

I have the honour to present to you a report on the School Dental Service for the year ending December, 1950.

The Staff has remained the same, but during the year one dental attendant left the service and was replaced on 1st August by Miss W. A. P. Mills.

The established clinics have remained the same and have been visited on regular days throughout the year. The number of emergency treatments given has risen slightly. This is, no doubt, accounted for by the parents refusing treatment at the inspection and later bringing the child to the clinic with tooth-ache. Attempts have been made by "talks" and other means to make the parents see the folly of refusing treatment, and it is to be hoped that during the coming year some improvement in the situation will be shown.

The year's statistical tables have remained about the same with perhaps a slight improvement in the number of permanent fillings inserted and a decrease in the number of permanent extractions.

It is regretted that some reductions had to be made in the orthodontic treatment. The results that were obtained last year quickly recommended itself, and a number of parents and children have made application to have, what they term, their "teeth straightened." With the present staff we could not possibly cope with large numbers and often complicated cases, involving long periods of treatment, which would bound to interfere with the normal routine treatment of fillings and extractions, so for the time being your staff have confined this orthodontic treatment to the fixed appliances which reduces the expended time to a minimum.

I would like to take this opportunity of conveying to the committee my appreciation for allowing me to attend the annual conference of the British Dental Association and also again pay tribute to the teaching staff of the county for their help during the year.

NUTRITION — 1950.

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY.

DR. W. F. BETENSON.

Group	Number Ex'min'd	A	%	B	%	C	%
Entrants ...	90	12	13'33	75	83'33	3	3'33
2nd Age Group ...	256	55	21'48	198	77'34	3	1'17
3rd Age Group ...	165	39	23'64	121	73'33	5	3'03
Totals ...	511	106	20'74	394	77'10	11	2'15

DR. R. CAIRNS FORRESTER.

Entrants ...	175	9	5'14	142	81'14	24	13'71
2nd Age Group ...	55	7	12'73	42	76'36	6	10'91
3rd Age Group ...	13	3	23'08	9	69'23	1	7'69
Totals ...	243	19	7'82	193	79'42	31	12'76

DR. C. M. S. EVANS.

Entrants ...	332	77	23'19	230	69'28	25	7'53
2nd Age Group ...	206	40	19'42	136	66'02	30	14'56
3rd Age Group ..	160	39	24'38	94	58'75	27	16'87
Totals ...	698	156	22'35	460	65'90	82	11'75

DR. M. R. NOVAK.

Entrants ...	96	79	82'29	17	17'71
2nd Age Groups ...	49	35	71'43	13	26'53	1	2'04
3rd Age Groups ...	1	1	100'00
Totals ...	146	114	78'08	31	21'23	1	0'68

TOTALS.

Entrants ...	693	177	25'54	464	66'96	52	7'50
2nd Age Group ...	566	137	24'20	389	68'73	40	7'07
3rd Age Group ...	339	81	23'89	225	66'37	33	9'73
Grand Totals ...	1598	395	24'72	1078	67'46	125	7'82

NUTRITION—1950.

COUNTY GRAMMAR SCHOOLS.

DR. W. F. W. BETENSON.

Group	Number Ex'min'd	A	%	B	%	C	%
Other Periodic Inspections ...	154	21	13'64	131	85'06	2	1'30
3rd Age Group ...	99	26	26'26	70	70'71	3	3'03
Totals ...	253	47	18'58	201	79'45	5	1'97

DR. C. M. S. EVANS.

Other Periodic Inspections ...	193	43	22'28	114	59'07	36	18'65
3rd Age Group ...	144	35	24'30	99	68'76	10	6'94
Totals ...	337	78	23'15	213	63'20	46	13'65

TOTALS.

Other Periodic Inspections ...	347	64	18'44	245	70'61	38	10'95
3rd Age Group ...	243	61	25'10	169	69'55	13	5'35
Grand Totals ...	590	125	21'19	414	70'17	51	8'64

**PRIMARY, SECONDARY, AND COUNTY GRAMMAR
SCHOOLS.**

TABLE I.

Return of Medical Inspections, 1950.

A.—Periodic Medical Inspections.

NUMBER OF CODE GROUP INSPECTIONS—

	P. & S.	C.G.
Entrants ...	693	—
Second Age Group ...	566	—
Third Age Group ...	339	243
Totals ...	1598	243
Number of other Periodic Inspections ...	—	347
Total Routine Inspections ...	1598	590

B.—Other Inspections.

Number of Special Inspections ...	326	30
Number of Re-Inspections ...	619	102
Totals ...	945	132
Grand Totals ...	2543	722
" " (1949) ...	3612	669

C.—Pupils found to require treatment.

No. of Individual Pupils found at Periodic Medical Inspection to Require Treatment (excluding dental diseases and Infestation with Vermin):—

Group.	For defective vision (excluding squint).	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIA.	Total individual pupils.
Entrants ...	12	95	100
Second Age Group ...	25	43	61
Third Age Group ...	37	30	64
Total (prescribed groups) ...	74	168	225
Other periodic inspections ...	15	20	34
Grand Total ...	89	188	259

**PRIMARY, SECONDARY, & COUNTY GRAMMAR
SCHOOLS.**

TABLE II.

Return of defects found by medical inspection during the
year ended 31st December, 1950.

Defect or Disease.	Periodic Inspections.		Special Inspections.	
	No. of defects.		No. of defects.	
	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under ob- servation.	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under ob- servation.
Skin ..	7	12	3	—
Eyes—				
a. Vision ..	89	39	71	19
b. Squint ..	11	9	8	—
c. Other ..	2	3	1	—
Ears—				
a. Hearing ..	7	12	3	2
b. Otitis media ..	2	7	1	—
c. Other ..	4	4	—	—
Nose or throat ..	105	136	110	31
Speech ..	1	7	1	—
Cervical glands ..	2	22	2	—
Heart & circulation..	1	15	—	1
Lungs ..	8	26	6	1
Developmental—				
a. Hernia ..	—	3	—	2
b. Other ..	—	11	—	—
Orthopædic—				
a. Posture ..	16	10	—	—
b. Flat Foot ..	15	12	—	1
c. Other ..	14	4	5	—
Nervous system—				
a. Epilepsy ..	—	2	—	—
b. Other ..	—	—	—	—
Psychological—				
a. Development ..	2	17	—	1
b. Stability ..	—	1	—	—
Other ..	—	23	1	1

PRIMARY, SECONDARY, & COUNTY GRAMMAR
SCHOOLS.

TABLE III.

INFESTATION WITH VERMIN.

(i) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorised persons	... 40557
(ii) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	... 460
(iii) No. of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54(3) Education Act, 1944)	... Nil
(iv) No. of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54(3) Education Act, 1944)	... Nil

TABLE IV.

**TREATMENT OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED
PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (Including
SPECIAL SCHOOLS).**

Group 1.—Diseases of the Skin (excluding uncleanliness).

	No. of cases treated or under treatment during the year.	
	By the Authority.	Otherwise.
Ringworm—(i) Scalp	...	—
(ii) Body	...	—
Scabies	...	6
Impetigo	...	24
Other skin diseases	...	27
	...	—
Total	61	—

**PRIMARY, SECONDARY, & COUNTY GRAMMAR
SCHOOLS.**

TABLE IV (Continued).

Group 2.—Eye Diseases. Defective Vision and Squint.

	No. of cases dealt with	
	By the Authority.	Otherwise.
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint ...	7	—
Errors of refraction (including squint) ...	62	267*
	—	—
Total ...	69	267*
No. of pupils for whom spectacles were		
(a) Prescribed ...	40	158*
(b) Obtained Not known as spectacles are are now supplied by opticians.	

* cases examined by Mr. Hoare, the Eye Specialist, at School Clinics under the Hospital Service.

Group 3.—Diseases and Defects of Ear, Nose and Throat.

	No. of cases treated.	
	By the Authority.	Otherwise.
Received operative treatment—		
(a) for diseases of the ear ...	—	—
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsilitis ...	—	55*
(c) for other nose and throat conditions ...	—	—
Received other forms of treatment...	45	—
	—	—
Total	45	55*

* these are the numbers of children known to have been operated on, but the true figures will be greater than these as hospitals do not generally notify this Office of cases treated.

TABLE IV (Continued).

Group 4.—Orthopædic and Postural Defects.

(a) No. treated as in-patients in hospitals	...	20	
			By the Authority. Otherwise.
(b) No. treated otherwise, e.g., in clinics or out-patient departments	...	1258	—

Group 5.—Child Guidance Treatment.

No. of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics	...	Nil
--	-----	-----

Group 6.—Speech Therapy.

		No. of cases treated.	
		By the Authority.	Otherwise.
No. of pupils treated by Speech Therapists	...	—	1

Group 7.—Other Treatment Given.

		No. of cases treated.	
		By the Authority.	Otherwise.
(a) Miscellaneous minor ail- ments	...	133	—
(b) Others	...	—	—
Total	...	133	—

Total No. of attendances at Authority's Minor Ailments Clinics	...	712
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**PRIMARY, SECONDARY, & COUNTY GRAMMAR
SCHOOLS.**

TABLE V.

**Dental Inspection and Treatment carried out by the Authority,
1950.**

1.	No. of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers:—		
	(a) Periodic age groups	...	5084
	(b) Specials	...	652
			—
	(c) Total (Periodic and Specials)	...	5736
2.	No. found to require treatment	...	2736
3.	No. referred for treatment	...	2696
4.	No. actually treated	...	2641
5.	Attendances made by pupils for treatment	...	3131
6.	Half-days devoted to:		
	(a) Inspection	...	134
	(b) Treatment	...	645
			—
	Total	...	779
7.	Fillings: Permanent Teeth	...	2597
	Temporary Teeth	...	474
			—
	Total	...	3071
8.	No. of Teeth Filled: Permanent Teeth	...	2084
	Temporary Teeth	...	368
			—
	Total	...	2452
9.	Extractions: Permanent Teeth	...	406
	Temporary Teeth	...	3605
			—
	Total	...	4011
10.	Administration of general anæsthetics for extraction		6
11.	Other Operations: Permanent Teeth	...	97
	Temporary Teeth	...	13
			—
	Total	...	110

PRIMARY, SECONDARY, AND COUNTY GRAMMAR SCHOOLS.

TABLE VI.

Summary of Weekly and Monthly Reports of School Nurses, 1950.

DISTRICT.	Number of Monthly Visits paid by Nurses to Schools	Total Number of Children Examined	Number of Visits paid for "Following-up" Defects.				Special Visits paid to Homes
			First Visits.		Re Visits		
			Home	School.	Home	School	
Brecon Urban and Rural (Part)	87	3694	6	—	12	7	35
Brynmawr Urban	17	1772	—	—	—	—	—
Builth Urban and Rural (Part)	37	2271	—	—	—	—	4
Hay Urban	42	2137	2	—	—	4	5
Llanwrtyd Urban and Builth Rural (Part)	22	1157	13	—	15	—	29
Brecon Rural and Crickhowell Rural (Part)	95	3892	33	—	3	2	—
Brecon Rural (Defynock, etc.)	57	1929	4	—	2	6	—
Brecon Rural (Talybont and Llanfrynach)	22	1021	4	—	32	9	—
Builth Rural and Hay Rural (Erwood and Llyswen)	44	752	—	—	—	—	—
Builth Rural (Llanwrthwl)	22	344	1	1	1	—	6
Builth Rural (Llwynmadoc)	35	882	2	—	4	—	24
Builth Rural (Llysdinam, etc.)	3	71	—	—	—	—	6
Crickhowell Rural (Clydach and Gilwern)	17	1403	2	—	7	—	3
Crickhowell Rural (Darenfelen)	23	660	—	—	—	—	—
Hay Rural and Brecon Rural (Talgarth, etc.)	60	2453	7	3	79	34	12
Hay Rural (Glasbury and Llanigon)	37	1640	6	—	16	6	4
Vaynor and Penderyn Rural	63	5582	24	26	22	52	26
Ystradgynlais Rural	101	8158	4	72	13	261	2
County Relief Nurses	19	739	—	—	3	—	1
TOTAL	803	40557	108	102	209	381	157

TABLE VII CHILDREN IN RESIDENTIAL SPECIAL SCHOOLS DURING 1950.

Child.	Age.	Condition	Institution.	Admitted
M.B., girl	10 ..	Epileptic	Maghull Home for Epileptics, Liverpool	.. 2.10.47
L.T.P., boy	18 ..	Epileptic	ditto	.. 19.9.44
B.M.T., girl	16 ..	Educationally sub-normal.	Pantglas	.. 22.6.45
W.J.D., boy	20 ..	Educationally sub-normal	Stoke Park Colony, Bristol	.. 26.7.46
M.T., girl	8 ..	Physically handicapped	St. Rose's Special School, Stroud, Glos.	.. 8.9.50
G.C., girl	18 ..	Blind	Blind Institution, Bridgend	.. 6.9.43
D.J.P., boy	19 ..	Blind	ditto	.. 5.1.39
A.M.S., girl	5 ..	Deaf	Llandrindod Residential School for the Deaf	.. 17.10.50
M.J.W., girl	18 ..	Deaf	Royal Residential School for the Deaf, Old Trafford, Manchester	.. 26.4.49
B.W., girl	9 ..	Educationally sub-normal	Hensol Castle Institution Glam.	.. 25.11.50
M.L., boy	11 ..	Perthe's hip	Prince of Wales Hospital, Cardiff	.. 27.2.50
D.J.E., boy	8 ..	Knee	ditto	.. 15.2.50
R.L., boy	7 ..	Perthe's hip	ditto	.. 20.5.48 Discharged 19.1.50
M.D., girl	7 ..	Perthe's hip	ditto	.. 20.5.43. Discharged 19.1.50
M.J., girl	5 ..	Congenital dislocation hip	ditto	.. 28.7.49

OCT.