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Carmarthenshire County Council

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Annual Report

OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

for the Year ended 31st December, 1950

LLANELLY :

Printed by the Llanelly Mercury Printing Co., Ltd., 42-44, Market Street

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CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1950**

The priority for specialist services lost by children since 1948 was regained in the County for Ophthalmology early in the year when the Regional Hospital Board implemented arrangements for the specialist ophthalmic examination of children. These arrangements are now working well and the waiting lists have been considerably reduced to proportions that are reasonable.

Hospital services for the County for plastic surgery and communicable diseases, are also working well, but in the specialities of ear, nose and throat, and orthopaedics there is much to be desired yet, even though Hospitals do what they can in the matter. At the end of the year, 14 children were waiting admission to Hospital for orthopaedic treatment, and 776 ear, nose and throat cases recommended inpatient treatment by the specialists. In the latter speciality, there were also 435 children on the waiting lists for examination by the specialists resulting in a disturbing delay in some cases. It may become necessary for the Education Committee to press for priority for Hospital and specialist services for children.

The Orthopaedic and Asthma Clinics, which it was expected would be taken over by the Regional Hospital Board, remained with the Local Authority and continued to function satisfactorily.

The School Dental Service is even worse off than last year having lost two Assistant Dental Officers, and is now considerably restricted though the remaining staff are to be commended for the excellent work they continue to carry out.

The opening at Llandrindod Wells of a Residential School for the Deaf will relieve greatly the problem of education for the deaf in the County. It is hoped soon to make arrangements to help the partially deaf in the County, but this, like arrangements for super-

visory rheumatic clinics, child guidance and speech therapy, depends on the recruitment of suitably experienced personnel which has not been made easier by difficulties in relation to remuneration.

I am grateful to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and members of the Education Committee and the Director of Education, for their help and the kind consideration they have shown to me, and to the Teachers for their continued interest and valuable assistance. I would also record my appreciation of the loyal co-operation of all members of the professional, nursing, administrative and clerical staff.

R. EVANS,

School Medical Officer.

STAFF

County Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer :
R. Evans, M.D., B.Sc., D.P.H.

Deputy County Medical Officer of Health, Deputy School Medical Officer and Divisional School Medical Officer :

D. G. G. Jones, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers :

Gladys M. Herbert, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (resigned 20th November, 1950).

E. H. Beynon-Hopkins, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

E. T. Davies-Humphreys, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

D. O. Davies, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

M. G. Danaher, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., L.M., D.P.H.

Elfyn T. Jones, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (part-time).

Chief Dental Officer :

G. Ungood Griffiths, L.D.S., R.C.S.

Assistant Dental Officers :

W. U. Auerbach, M.D. (Berlin) (resigned 28th February, 1950).

J. L. T. Davies, L.D.S. (resigned 31st August, 1950).

F. G. Day (temporary).

Gwilym Evans, L.D.S., R.C.S. (part-time).

Dental Attendants :

Miss E. V. Lloyd (resigned 1st April, 1950).

Mrs. V. M. Arundell (part-time).

Miss E. B. Evans.

Miss E. G. Badger.

Miss C. Lloyd-Morgan.

Senior Orthopaedic Sister :

Miss E. R. Buckley, C.S.P.

Assistant Orthopaedic Sister :

Miss L. M. Davies, C.S.P.

Chief Nursing Officer :

Miss M. Evans, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Deputy Superintendent Health Visitor :

Miss F. Hughes, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Consultants available for School Health Service :

Orthopaedic Surgeon :

G. D. Rowley, M.Ch.

Ophthalmic Surgeons :

J. J. Healy, M.B., Ch.B., Llanelly.

G. S. Forrester, M.B., Ch.B., D.O.M.S., Llanelly.

A. Philipp, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., D.O.M.S., Llanelly
(from 1st February, 1950).

Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeons :

T. I. Williams, F.R.C.S., Llanelly.

J. Crowther, F.R.C.S., Swansea.

S. Morgan, F.R.C.S., Carmarthen.

Plastic Surgeon :

T. Pomfret Kilner, F.R.C.S., London.

Paediatrician :

Arthur G. Watkins, M.D., F.R.C.P., Cardiff.

Dermatologist :

D. Rhys Lewis, M.D., F.R.C.P., Swansea.

Dental Radiologist :

Iwan Davies, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., D.M.R.E.,
Swansea.

Orthodontist :

R. E. Rix, M.R.C.S., L.D.S., R.C.S., London.

Chest Physicians :

J. T. Jones, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B.

J. Kenyon Davies, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Assistant Chest Physicians :

T. Walker, M.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., T.D.D.

M. Sanger Hicks, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Psychiatrists :

Sidney Davies, M.B., B.S., D.P.M.

Beryl Senneck, M.B., B.S., D.P.M., D.T.M.

Pathologist :

Gwenfron M. Griffiths, M.D., M.R.C.P.

Bacteriologist under Medical Research Council :

W. Kwantes, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., Dip. Bact.

NURSING

| District. | Nurse. | Qualifications. |
|--|------------------------------|--|
| Whole-time Nurses. | | |
| Amman Valley | R. A. Roberts | S.R.N. and S.C.M. |
| Ammanford | A. Howells | S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate. |
| Trimsaran | H. E. James | S.R.N. and S.C.M. |
| Burry Port | F. M. Williams | S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate |
| Llangennech | M. Jones | S.C.M., Health Visitors' Certificate and Diploma in School Nursing and Hygiene. |
| Carmarthen Rural and Carmarthen Borough | D. Evans-Murray | S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate. |
| St. Clears | M. E. E. Davies | S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate. |
| Llanelly Borough | C. Jones | S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate. |
| | M. C. Jones | S.R.N. and S.C.M. |
| | G. Greene | S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate. |
| | G. M. Roberts | S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate. |
| | D. G. Insley | S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate. |
| Felinfoel | E. M. Jenkins | S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate. |
| Tumble | E. J. M. Jones | S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate. |
| Llandebie | A. E. Jones | S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate. |
| Pencader | E. O. Bowen- Davies | S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate. |
| Bancyfelin | M. E. Thomas | S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate. |
| Llandilo | C. M. Bailey | S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate. |
| Nantgaredig | H. Sefton Jones | S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate. |
| Llangendeirne | A. Thomas | S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate. |
| Llandovery | M. G. Evans | S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate. |

| District. | Nurse. | Qualifications. |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| Part-time Nurses. | | |
| Llanfihangel-Aberbythich | M. M. Jones | S.R.N. and S.C.M. |
| Llandilo (South Ward) | E. A. Davies | S.R.N. and S.C.M. |
| Llandilo (North Ward) | E. J. Hughes | S.C.M. |
| Llansawel | M. L. Angel | S.R.N. and S.C.M. |
| Talley | J. Evans | S.C.M. |
| Llanfynydd | E. A. Jones | S.C.M. |
| Cilycwm | E. G. Cox | S.C.M. |
| Caio | S. Jenkins | S.C.M. |
| Newcastle Emlyn | V. J. Jones | S.R.N. and S.C.M. |
| Velindre | G. R. Luke | S.R.N. and S.C.M. |
| Whitland | A. R. M. Evans | S.R.N., S.C.M. and T.B. Certificate. |
| Clynderwen | E. M. Jones | S.R.N. and S.C.M. |
| Llanboidy | (Temporary). D. E. Davies | S.C.M. |

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

During the year, only one school was closed on account of communicable disease by the Education Committee on the advice of the School Medical Officer, viz :—

| School. | Disease. | Closure. |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Capel Isaac C.P. | Dysentery | 8th-24th December |

Attention was first drawn to the outbreak of dysentery at Capel Isaac School late in November when the cook and seven pupils were absent with diarrhoea. Exhaustive investigations were undertaken, and the source of the infection appeared to be a canteen employee who was immediately suspended from duty. As there could be no appreciable improvement in the school attendance before Christmas, the school was closed until after the holidays. The infection was still present in a number of families when the school was due to reopen but all cleared up soon afterwards, except one family of six who were admitted to the West Wales Isolation Hospital for a course of treatment. The treatment was not entirely successful and three members of the family must be considered temporary carriers of the disease. Special instructions were issued to ensure that the children from the home do not handle food intended for consumption by others.

Mild outbreaks of food poisoning were also reported at Myddfai V.P. and Trelech C.P. Schools during the year. The source of the infection in the former was a sweet filled with mock cream. The milk supply appeared to be the infecting agent at the latter school and an alternative supply was obtained.

Acute Poliomyelitis.—Forty-two cases of acute poliomyelitis were confirmed in the County during the year, the majority of the cases occurring in the second half of the year. The outbreak was generally mild and paresis slight. Thirty of the cases were under 15 years of age, and paresis developed in thirteen of them. The following table summarises the position generally :—

| | Under 5 years of age. | Over 5 and under 15 years of age. | Over 15 years of age. | Total. |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--------|
| Paralytic | 4 | 9 | 3 | 16 |
| Non-Paralytic..... | 6 | 9 | 9 | 24 |
| Polio-encephalitis | 2 | — | — | 2 |
| Total | 12 | 18 | 12 | 42 |

In 1947 there were a total of 52 cases, 14 of whom were under five years of age, 17 between the age of 5 and 15 years, and 21 over 15 years of age. Of these, eleven cases had residual paralysis.

MEDICAL INSPECTION AND FINDINGS

All the Primary, Secondary and Grammar Schools in the County were visited during the year for medical inspection in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Education. In addition, 78 Schools were visited for the re-examination of children previously referred for treatment or observation. 7,541 children were examined in the routine age groups and 4,770 special inspections and re-inspections were made. A summary of the findings of medical inspection is given in Table II at the end of this report. The following are notes on some of the defects found :—

Skin Diseases.—79 cases required treatment and 64 cases were referred for observation.

Eye Defects.—Treatment was advised for 631 children with defective vision and 52 children with squint, while 457 cases of defective vision and 32 cases of squint were referred for observation.

Ear Conditions.—19 cases of defective hearing were referred for treatment and 22 for observation. Treatment was required for 39 cases of Otitis Media (ear discharge) and a further 21 cases were referred for observation. 13 cases of other ear conditions were also referred for treatment and 10 for observation.

Nose and Throat Conditions.—There were 762 cases of nose and throat defects (including enlarged tonsils and adenoids, sinusitis, antral conditions, etc.) requiring treatment, and a further 861 were referred for observation.

Speech.—Treatment was advised for 12 cases of defective speech and 75 cases were referred for observation.

Nutrition.—Of the 7,541 children seen at routine medical inspection, only 55 (0.73%) were of poor general condition. 4,070 (53.97%) were of fair and 3,416 (45.30%) of good general condition. The figures indicate that the general physical condition of the children in the County has been well maintained.

FOLLOWING-UP

Much of the success of the School Health Service depends on the "field work" undertaken by the School Nurses. They follow up in the homes, those cases found to be defective at medical inspection, and also visit the homes of children suffering from communicable disease, uncleanliness, etc. 1,141 surprise visits to Schools were made by the School Nurses during the year to make cleanliness surveys. Table III at the end of this report summarises this work. In addition, the Nurses made 5,518 home visits.

"Following-up" is also carried out by the School Medical Officers by periodic re-inspections, and many special visits are made to Schools to examine special cases. During the year 80 Schools were re-inspected by the Medical Officers and 2,217 children were re-inspected.

Minor Ailments.—Ailments such as skin disease, minor eye and ear disease, injuries, cuts, etc., were treated at the Minor Ailments Clinics at Llanelly, Carmarthen and Ammanford, by medical practitioners, and at the homes under the supervision of School Nurses. 1,361 children were treated during the year. The total attendances at the Clinics were 4,245, i.e., 2,781 at Llanelly, 930 at Carmarthen, and 534 at Ammanford.

Vision.—In the early part of the year, the Regional Hospital Board were able to complete their arrangements for the specialist ophthalmic examination of children. Mr. A. Philipp, Llanelly, was appointed to hold sessions at the Ophthalmic Centre at the West Wales General Hospital, Carmarthen. Mr. G. S. Forrester, Llanelly, was appointed to hold sessions at Llanelly and the Amman Valley Hospital; at Llanelly, the sessions were held at the Brynmair School Clinic.

1,472 children were examined by the Eye Specialists during the year, glasses being prescribed for 752 (51%). Complete figures could not be obtained from the Regional Hospital Board as to the number of children who were provided with the glasses prescribed, but records held by the School Medical Officer showed that 323 had been provided at the end of the year.

The figures for 1950 are not comparable with those for previous years as they include cases referred by general medical practitioners to Hospital Out-patient Departments, the majority being eye diseases, inflammatory conditions, injuries, etc., for whom glasses would be required only by a minority. Cases sent to Hospital Out-patient Departments have not previously been recorded in the statistics of the School Health Service.

158 children were on the waiting lists for specialist ophthalmic examination on the 31st December, 1950 (as compared with 1,122 cases at the 31st December, 1949), viz :—

| | | | | |
|--------------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| Carmarthen | ..... | ..... | ..... | 5 |
| Llanelly | ..... | ..... | ..... | 106 |
| Amman Valley | ..... | ..... | ..... | 47 |
| Total | | | | 158 |

Ear, Nose and Throat Defects.—The arrangements for the treatment of ear, nose and throat defects at the Llandovery Hospital continued during the year under Mr. T. I. Williams in the same way as prior to the commencement of the National Health Service.

Under the arrangements with the West Wales and Llanelly Hospitals, the School Medical Officer directed parents to attend with their children for specialist examination, attendances being made at the Out-patient Department of the West Wales Hospital and at the Surgery of Mr. T. I. Williams at Llanelly. Arrangements for specialist examination at the Amman Valley Hospital were made by that Hospital.

Children found to require inpatient treatment were placed by the specialists on the Hospital waiting lists, and the arrangements for admission were made by the Hospitals. Children have no priority of admission and have to take their chance with adults on the waiting lists. The following Table gives information as to the number of children who received inpatient treatment at the West Wales and Llandovery Hospitals during the year :— •

| DEFECT. | West Wales Hospital. | | Llandovery Hospital. | | Total. | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------|------------|----------------|
| | Operative. | Non-Operative. | Operative. | Non-Operative. | Operative. | Non-Operative. |
| Ear Diseases | 21 | 27 | — | — | 21 | 27 |
| Adenoids & chronic tonsilitis | 235 | — | 28 | — | 263 | — |
| Other nose and throat conditions | 11 | 2 | 18 | — | 29 | 2 |
| | 267 | 29 | 46 | — | 313 | 29 |

538 children received operative treatment for ear, nose and throat defects at the Llanelly and Amman Valley Hospitals, but details of the cases are not available.

11 cases received non-operative treatment under general medical practitioners, and 842 cases details of which are not available, also received non-operative treatment at Llanelly and Amman Valley Hospitals.

48 children received non-operative treatment (31 cases of mouth-breathing, 10 cases of nasal catarrh, 6 cases of sore throat, and one of nasal discharge) under the arrangements of the Authority.

On the 31st December, 1950, 435 children (compared with 455 twelve months before) were on the waiting lists for specialist examination, and 776 were on the waiting lists for admission to Hospital for treatment, viz :—

| Hospital. | Waiting for Specialist examination | Waiting for admission to Hospital | Total. |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------|
| West Wales | 170 | 195 | 365 |
| Llanelly | 14 | 457 | 471 |
| Amman Valley | 251 | 113 | 364 |
| Llandovery | — | 11 | 11 |
| | 435 | 776 | 1211 |

Plastic Treatment.—Arrangements for the plastic treatment of children under Professor T. Pomfret Kilner continued as in the past. Five cases were treated by him at the Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital, Alton, viz., two for Cleft Palate, one for Cleft Lip and Palate, one for Cleft Lip, and one for cartilage graft to Ear.

These arrangements have been in operation since 1937, and the continued personal interest taken by Professor Pomfret Kilner in the cases from this County is greatly appreciated.

Artificial Light Therapy.—65 School children received artificial light treatment ; 43 at the Llanelly Clinic and 22 at the Carmarthen Clinic.

Asthma.—The Asthma Clinics at Carmarthen and Llanelly continued as for 1949, Dr. Jones, Deputy School Medical Officer, being in charge of the Llanelly Clinic and Dr. Beynon Hopkins of the Carmarthen Clinic. 1,276 attendances were made at the Clinics during the year. There were 50 new cases. Further information is given in the following table :—

| | Llanelly | Carmarthen | Total |
|-----------------------------------|----------|------------|-------|
| No. of cases on 1st January, 1950 | 85 | 92 | 177 |
| No. of new cases | 29 | 21 | 50 |
| No. withdrawn | 42 | 45 | 87 |
| No. of cases on 31st December | 72 | 68 | 140 |
| Total attendances | 597 | 679 | 1276 |

Treatment was on the same lines as for past years, and there are no special observations to make.

Orthopaedic Treatment.—The Education Committee continued to administer the Clinics for the orthopaedic supervision and after-care of children. The charge of 25/- per case per annum for the supervision of the cases of other Authorities remained unchanged, but the Health Committee paid a fixed lump sum in respect of children under school age.

On the 31st December, 1950, 2,042 cases were being attended to for all Authorities, viz. :—

| | |
|--|------|
| County Education Committee | 1331 |
| County Health Committee | 683 |
| West Wales Hospital Management Committee | 14 |
| Glantawe Hospital Management Committee | 14 |

An analysis of these cases according to diagnosis is as follows :—

| | County Education Committee. | Other Authorities. | Total. |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------|
| Paralysis : | | | |
| Infantile | 29 | 28 | 57 |
| Spastic | 45 | 16 | 61 |
| Obstetrical | 3 | — | 3 |
| Other | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Congenital Deformities | 172 | 196 | 368 |
| Infective Conditions of Bones and Joints | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Non-Infective Conditions of Bones and Joints : | | | |
| Rickets | 16 | 2 | 18 |
| Other | 28 | 9 | 37 |
| Static and Postural Defects | 1000 | 442 | 1442 |
| Traumatic Deformities | 21 | 3 | 24 |
| Multiple Defects | 1 | — | 1 |
| Miscellaneous | 12 | 11 | 23 |
| Totals | 1331 | 711 | 2042 |

Mr. Gordon Rowley, Swansea, the Orthopaedic Surgeon, treated fourteen of the Authority's cases as inpatients at Morriston Hospital, and four cases at Gorseinon Hospital. Cases for special or X-ray examination were referred to Mr. Rowley at the Out-patient Department of Morriston Hospital.

On the 31st December, fourteen children referred from the Orthopaedic Clinics were on the waiting list for hospital inpatient treatment. Difficulty is experienced in obtaining vacancies for orthopaedic cases requiring admission to Hospital.

The West Wales General Hospital admitted during the year under their own arrangements, sixteen children with miscellaneous fractures and two children with osteomyelitis. These eighteen patients were not under the Authority's Orthopaedic Clinics. The Glantawe Hospital Management Committee were not able to submit similar information in respect of children admitted to their hospitals.

During the year, there were 14,831 attendances at the Clinics in the County, and the following table shows the case-loads of the various Clinics at the end of the year :—

| | | | |
|------------------|-----|------------------|-----|
| Llanelly | 486 | Tumble | 96 |
| Garnant | 61 | Llandilo | 128 |
| Pontyberem | 36 | Carmarthen | 331 |
| Llandovery | 78 | Burry Port | 173 |
| St. Clears | 37 | Pencader..... | 29 |
| Trimsaran | 46 | Brynamman | 46 |
| Ammanford | 290 | Llandebie | 66 |
| Whitland | 50 | Pontyates | 36 |
| Kidwelly | 53 | | |

A summary of the work undertaken under the orthopaedic arrangements during 1950 is given in the following table :—

| | County Education Committee. | Other Authorities. | Total. |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------|
| Number of individual children under Scheme on 1st January, 1950 | 1455 | 681 | 2136 |
| Number of new cases during the year | 333 | 349 | 682 |
| Number of individual cases dealt with during the year | 1895 | 1031 | — |
| Number of cases withdrawn from Scheme | 563 | 213 | 776 |
| Number of children under the Scheme on the 31st December | 1331 | 711 | 2042 |
| Total number of attendances made at the Clinics | 10758 | 4073 | 14831 |
| Number of individual cases received remedial exercises by Sisters | 729 | 5 | 734 |
| Number of individual cases massaged by Sisters | 3 | 7 | 10 |
| Number of home visits by Sisters | 270 | 719 | 989 |
| Number of cases examined by visiting Orthopaedic Surgeon | 287 | 197 | 484 |
| Number of cases recommended in - patient hospital treatment by Surgeon | 16 | 6 | 22 |

Tuberculosis.—Treatment of tuberculous children is the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board, to whom all suspected cases are referred.

The following shows the number of children referred by School Medical Officers and private medical practitioners for examination by the Chest Physicians during the year :—

| | Dr. J. T. Jones. | Dr. J. Kenyon Davies. | Total. |
|--|---------------------|-----------------------------|--------|
| Total number of children examined during 1950..... | 696 | 52 | 748 |
| Number of these children who were : | | | |
| (a) Contacts | 100 | 7 | 107 |
| (b) Under school age | 178 | 7 | 185 |
| (c) Found to be suffering from : | | | |
| (i) Respiratory Tuberculosis | 13 | — | 13 |
| (ii) Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| (d) Still under observation but not diagnosed at 31/12/50 | 96 | 4 | 100 |
| (e) Found with no evidence of active tuberculosis | 582 | 47 | 629 |
| Analysis of Non-Respiratory cases : | | | |
| (a) Spine | — | 1 | 1 |
| (b) Hip | — | — | — |
| (c) Knee | — | — | — |
| (d) Abdomen | 3 | — | 3 |
| (e) Glands | — | — | — |
| (f) Shoulder | — | — | — |
| (g) Other sites | 2 | — | 2 |
| Treatment : | | | |
| (a) Number treated in Santoria | 1 | — | 1 |
| (b) Number treated in Hospital | 10 | — | 10 |
| (c) Number treated in Surgical Hospital | 20 | 1 | 21 |
| (d) Number treated in Open-Air School | 39 | — | 39 |

An important part in the detection of early respiratory tuberculosis and other chest diseases is played by the surveys undertaken by the Mass Radiography Unit of the Welsh Regional Hospital Board. The survey commenced at the end of 1949 was concluded during the early months of this year, and the following is a summary of the findings :—.

2,821 children were examined, a figure which represents 94 per cent. of the pupils eligible for examination. Of this number, 79 (2.80 per cent.) were recalled for further X-ray, three (0.11 per cent.) of whom were diagnosed as suffering from respiratory tuberculosis, 18 (0.64 per cent.) were referred to the Chest Physician for further observation, 10 (0.35 per cent.) were found to be suffering from organic heart disease, and 9 (0.32 per cent.) from other pathological diseases of the lungs. The remaining 39 were a miscellaneous group of non-tuberculous conditions and abnormalities.

REPORT OF CHIEF DENTAL OFFICER

The services of two whole-time Assistant Dental Officers were lost during 1950. Mr. W. U. Auerbach resigned on the 28th February, and Mr. J. L. T. Davies on the 31st August. As from the 1st September, 1950, there were thus only two full-time dentists and one part-time dentist on the staff to undertake the dental inspection and treatment of almost 25,000 children.

The services of the Dental Officers were allocated as follows :—

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|---------------------|
| Llanelly Divisional Area | ..... | ..... | 6 sessions weekly. |
| Carmarthen Borough | ..... | ..... | 3 sessions weekly. |
| Remainder of County | ..... | ..... | 16 sessions weekly. |

Approximately one half of the time allotted to the Llanelly Division is devoted to the Brynmair Clinic, Llanelly, and the remainder of the time to the Schools in the area outside Llanelly Borough.

During 1950, 106 Schools were visited for dental inspection and 9,481 children were examined, 7,217 of whom (76.1%) were found to require treatment. Consents to treatment were received in respect of 6,543, a percentage of 90.6.

561 treatment sessions were held at the three fixed clinics in the County, and 554 sessions at Schools. A summary of the work undertaken is as follows :—

| | | | |
|--|-------|-------|------|
| Number of individual children treated | ..... | ..... | 6027 |
| Number of attendances for treatment | ..... | ..... | 7038 |
| Number of teeth extracted | ..... | ..... | 8167 |
| Number of teeth saved by filling | ..... | ..... | 1617 |
| Number of teeth received minor treatment | ..... | ..... | 2712 |
| Number of administrations of general anaesthetic | ..... | ..... | 2471 |

More detailed figures will be found in Table V of the Statistical Tables.

Owing to the time lag between visits of dental inspection, very many of the children's teeth suffer irreparable damage. The result is that the amount of conservation that can be carried out is considerably reduced whereas the number of teeth that require extraction is increased. Another factor contributing to this deterioration is that while all possible steps are taken to ensure treatment as soon as possible following inspection, the gap is increased owing to the number of treatment sessions taken up with emergency and gas sessions. At the end of the year, 2,161 children were on the waiting lists for dental extraction under gas.

The high percentage of consents received from parents to the dental treatment of their children indicates the bad condition of the mouths. The true extent of the deterioration in the dental condition of the children of the County is shown by the increasing number of teeth extracted for each tooth filled; the figures for the last three years being as follows :—

1948—1.74 teeth extracted for each tooth filled.
 1949—3.19 teeth extracted for each tooth filled.
 1950—5.05 teeth extracted for each tooth filled.

Unfortunately, the position can only become worse.

Owing to the depleted dental staff, orthodontic (corrective) treatment was greatly restricted. Only three new cases were dealt with during the year, and treatment is now confined to cases of cleft palate for which orthodontic treatment has been specially recommended by the Hon. Plastic Surgeon.

In all, nineteen orthodontic cases were treated during the year, and a classification of their condition is as follows :—

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|---|
| Simple Irregularity ..... | ..... | ..... | 4 |
| Poor arch relationship ..... | ..... | ..... | 6 |
| Narrow dental arches ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 |
| Post normal occlusion ..... | ..... | ..... | 3 |
| Prenormal occlusion ..... | ..... | ..... | 4 |

Models of two mouths were submitted to the Consultant Orthodontist for diagnosis and advice as to treatment. Eighteen of the cases were completed during the year: results were satisfactory in two cases, ten were completed so far as possible, five were withdrawn owing to the failure of parents to co-operate, and one left the County before treatment could be completed. One case remained under treatment at the end of the year (a cleft palate case).

In conclusion, I have again to thank the School Medical Officer, medical and dental staff, Health Visitors, and Nurses for their valued co-operation and assistance.

G. UNGOED GRIFFITHS,

Chief Dental Officer.

SCHOOL MILK AND MEALS

At the end of the year, milk and meals were being supplied to the following out of an estimated school population of 23,792 :—

| | | | |
|-------------|-------|-------|---------------------------|
| Milk ..... | ..... | ..... | 17,404 children (73.15%). |
| Meals ..... | ..... | ..... | 16,313 children (68.57%). |

Every effort is made to see that milk supplied to Schools is of a satisfactory standard, and whenever possible Pasteurised or Tuberculin Tested milk is provided. In those cases where only other grades of milk are available, satisfactory samples are obtained before supplies to Schools are approved. Samples of all school milk are regularly taken for analysis by the staff of the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures. The following table gives the number of School Departments receiving the different grades of milk :—

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Pasteurised | 178 |
| Tuberculin Tested | 12 |
| Accredited | 9 |
| Non-designated | 8 |
| National dried milk | 19 |

There are still 19 Departments receiving dried milk because liquid milk is not available.

During the year, urinary and faecal specimens were taken in respect of all school kitchen staffs in order to combat food-borne infection. Two cases of Dysentery were discovered in this way—both of whom were suspended from duty. One of them cleared up after treatment, but the other failed to clear up in spite of treatment at the West Wales Isolation Hospital and her services were terminated.

Investigation of an outbreak of dysentery at a School during the year indicated that the cook was the probable source of infection and she was also suspended from duty. Following treatment at the West Wales Isolation Hospital the condition cleared up and she was allowed to return to duty. It is of interest to note that this case and the other case of dysentery already referred to, lived in the same area and were on the staff of the same school.

All appointments to school kitchens and canteen staffs were subject to satisfactory chest X-ray examinations, and satisfactory faecal and urine bacteriological examinations.

CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

Generally, parents display an active interest in the medical inspection and treatment of their children, and are eager to follow the advice given by Medical Officers. 2,331 parents were present at the medical inspections during the year, equivalent to a percentage of 23.09.

Appreciation of the keen interest and active co-operation of Headteachers and their staffs must again be recorded. The importance of their influence in matters relating to the children and also to the parents cannot be over-estimated, and the activities of the School Health Service would be seriously handicapped without that help and co-operation.

The School Health Service continues to receive the assistance of the N.S.P.C.C. which is the only voluntary organisation in the County with which active co-operation is maintained. The valuable experience of the local Inspectors and their tact in dealing with difficult cases, make them important agents in school health work, and thanks for their co-operation must once more be recorded.

HANDICAPPED PUPILS

The Education Act, 1944, requires that each child shall have an education designed to suit his age, ability, and aptitude. Unfortunately, some children are handicapped owing to mental or physical incapacity, but in their case also the Education Committee have a duty to provide an education suited to their needs. The ascertainment and classification of these handicapped children is one of the main functions of the School Health Service and the work has been generally undertaken satisfactorily over the years except that in connection with the educationally subnormal. The staff available has never been sufficient for the work involved in the ascertainment of educationally subnormal children, and no improvement in the position can be expected until the arrangements of the County Council for a Mental Health Service are properly implemented and a Psychologist has been appointed by the Education Committee.

Limited provision is made by the Authority for backward children at Llanelly by a class for boys and a class for girls. Five handicapped pupils as follows were receiving home tuition at the end of the year :

| | | |
|---------------|-------|--------------------------|
| A girl, age 9 | ..... | Spastic paralysis. |
| A boy, age 14 | ..... | Heart cripple. |
| A boy, age 8 | ..... | Educationally Subnormal. |
| A boy, age 13 | ..... | Fragilitas Ossium. |
| A boy, age 16 | ..... | Multiple Defects. |

On the 31st December, 1950, forty children were receiving education at Hospital or Residential Special Schools, viz. :—

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| Blind | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 |
| Partially Blind | ..... | ..... | ..... | 6 |
| Deaf | ..... | ..... | ..... | 18 |
| Physically handicapped : | | | | |
| (a) Heart cases | ..... | ..... | ..... | 6 |
| (b) Spastics | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 |
| Educationally Sub-normal | ..... | ..... | ..... | Nil |
| Maladjusted | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 |
| Epileptic | ..... | ..... | ..... | 3 |
| Delicate | ..... | ..... | ..... | 3 |

Information as to the handicapped pupils in the County at the end of the year requiring places at Special School is as follows :—

Five partially blind children for whom arrangements were in hand for admission to the Glamorgan School for the Blind, Bridgend.

Two deaf and two partially deaf. The difficulty formerly experienced in obtaining vacancies for deaf children at Special Schools has been greatly relieved by the opening of a new Special School for the Deaf at Llandrindod Wells.

Twenty delicate pupils. There is a most pressing need for a Residential School for delicate children in the County.

Eighty-three physically handicapped children.

Two epileptics.

Twenty-three educationally subnormal children and three mal-adjusted children have also been recommended for special Schools, and 22 educationally subnormal children recommended for education in special classes at ordinary Schools. In addition records are held of 252 children who are probably educationally subnormal, but who require further detailed examination.

TABLE I.

**MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING
MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

A.—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups :—

| | | | | | |
|------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| Entrants | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1946 |
| Second Age Group | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1679 |
| Third Age Group | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1156 |
| Total | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 4781 |

Number of other Periodic Inspections 2760

Grand Total 7541

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| Number of Special Inspections | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2553 |
| Number of Re-Inspections | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2217 |
| Total | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 4770 |

C.—PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT

Number of Individual Pupils found at Periodic Medical Inspection to Require Treatment (excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin).

| Group. (1) | For defective vision (exclud- ing squint). (2) | For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIA. (3) | Total individual pupils. (4) |
|----------------------------------|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| Entrants | 9 | 447 | 453 |
| Second Age Group | 121 | 217 | 325 |
| Third Age Group | 86 | 124 | 208 |
| Total (prescribed groups) | 216 | 788 | 986 |
| Other Periodic Inspections | 183 | 419 | 565 |
| Grand Total | 399 | 1207 | 1551 |

TABLE II.
(A.) RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1950

| Defect or Disease. | PERIODIC INSPECTIONS. | | SPECIAL INSPECTIONS. | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|
| | No. of defects. | | Requiring treatment. (4) | Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment. (5) |
| | Requiring treatment. (2) | Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment. (3) | | |
| (1) | | | | |
| Skin | | | | |
| Eyes — (a) Vision | 62 | 50 | 17 | 14 |
| (b) Squint | 399 | 198 | 232 | 259 |
| (c) Other | 36 | 23 | 16 | 9 |
| Ears — (a) Hearing | 93 | 20 | 73 | 3 |
| (b) Otitis Media | 10 | 20 | 9 | 2 |
| (c) Other | 26 | 17 | 13 | 4 |
| Nose or Throat | 9 | 9 | 4 | 1 |
| Speech | 537 | 776 | 225 | 85 |
| Cervical Glands | 8 | 69 | 4 | 6 |
| Heart and Circulation | 58 | 373 | 13 | 38 |
| Lungs | 17 | 126 | 21 | 62 |
| Developmental— | 101 | 287 | 66 | 131 |
| (a) Hernia | 15 | 15 | 7 | 3 |
| (b) Other | 12 | 40 | 22 | 10 |
| Orthopaedic— | | | | |
| (a) Posture | 40 | 38 | 27 | 7 |
| (b) Flat foot | 227 | 149 | 174 | 23 |
| (c) Other | 184 | 135 | 66 | 19 |
| Nervous system— | | | | |
| (a) Epilepsy | 2 | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| (b) Other | 1 | 54 | 2 | 13 |
| Psychological— | | | | |
| (a) Development | 10 | 56 | 11 | 29 |
| (b) Stability | 8 | 17 | 1 | 4 |
| Other | 157 | 189 | 64 | 100 |

(B.) CLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERAL CONDITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE
AGE GROUPS

| Age Groups. | Number of Pupils Inspected. | A. (Good) | | B. (Fair) | | C. (Poor) | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| | | No. | % of col. 2 | No. | % of col. 2 | No. | % of col. 2 |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) |
| Entrants | 1946 | 1142 | 58.68 | 797 | 40.96 | 7 | 0.36 |
| Second Age Group | 1679 | 709 | 42.23 | 955 | 56.88 | 15 | 0.89 |
| Third Age Group | 1156 | 546 | 47.23 | 608 | 52.59 | 2 | 0.17 |
| Other Periodic Inspections | 2760 | 1019 | 36.92 | 1710 | 61.96 | 31 | 1.12 |
| Total | 7541 | 3416 | 45.30 | 4070 | 53.97 | 55 | 0.73 |

TABLE III.

INFESTATION WITH VERMIN

| | | | |
|-------|--|-------|-------|
| (i) | Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorized persons | ..... | 86345 |
| (ii) | Total number of <i>individual</i> pupils found to be infested | ..... | 1454 |
| (iii) | Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944) | ..... | 112 |
| (iv) | Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944) | ..... | 1 |

TABLE IV.

TREATMENT OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

GROUP 1.—DISEASES OF THE SKIN (excluding uncleanness, for which see Table III.)

| | Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year. | |
|----------------------|---|------------|
| | By the Authority. | Otherwise. |
| Ringworm : (i) Scalp | 40 | — |
| (ii) Body | 27 | 3 |
| Scabies | 9 | — |
| Impetigo | 52 | 3 |
| Other skin diseases | 42 | 3 |
| Total | 170 | 9 |

GROUP 2.—EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

| | Number of cases dealt with. | |
|---|-----------------------------|------------|
| | By the Authority. | Otherwise. |
| External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint | — | 132 |
| Errors of Refraction (including squint) | — | 1340 |
| Total | — | 1472 |
| Number of pupils for whom spectacles were | | |
| (a) Prescribed | — | 752 |
| (b) Obtained | — | 323 |
| Total | — | 1075 |

GROUP 3.—DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT

| | Number of cases treated. | |
|--|--------------------------|------------|
| | By the Authority. | Otherwise. |
| Received operative treatment | | |
| (a) for diseases of the ear | — | 21 |
| (b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis | — | 263 |
| (c) for other nose and throat conditions..... | — | 29 |
| Received other forms of treatment | 48 | 882 |
| Total | 48 | 1195 |

GROUP 4.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

| | | |
|---|-------------------|------------|
| (a) Number treated as in-patients in hospitals | 37 | |
| | By the Authority. | Otherwise. |
| (b) Number treated otherwise, e.g. in clinics or outpatient departments | 1895 | — |

GROUP 5.—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT

| | | |
|--|--|------------|
| | Number of cases treated. | |
| | In the Authority's Child Guidance Clinics. | Elsewhere. |
| | — | — |
| Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics | — | — |

GROUP 6.—SPEECH THERAPY

| | | |
|---|--------------------------|------------|
| | Number of cases treated. | |
| | By the Authority. | Otherwise. |
| | — | 8 |
| Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapists | — | 8 |

GROUP 7.—OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN.

| | | | | Number of cases treated. | |
|-----|------------------------------|-------|-------|--------------------------|------------|
| | | | | By the Authority. | Otherwise. |
| (a) | Miscellaneous minor ailments | ..... |  | 1141 | 41 |
| (b) | Other (specify) | | | | |
| | 1. General Surgical | ..... | ..... | — | 745 |
| | 2. Medical | ..... | ..... | — | 83 |
| | Total | ..... |  | 1141 | 869 |

TABLE V.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT BY THE AUTHORITY

| | | | | |
|--|-------|-------|-------|------|
| (1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers :— | | | | |
| (a) Periodic age groups | ..... | ..... | ..... | 8813 |
| (b) Specials | ..... | ..... | ..... | 668 |
| Total (1) | | | | 9481 |
| (2) Number found to require treatment | ..... | ..... | ..... | 7217 |
| (3) Number referred for treatment | ..... | ..... | ..... | 6543 |
| (4) Number actually treated | ..... | ..... | ..... | 6027 |
| (5) Attendances made by pupils for treatment | ..... | ..... | ..... | 7038 |
| | | | | |
| (6) Half-days devoted to : Inspection | ..... | ..... | ..... | 159 |
| Treatment | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1115 |
| Total (6) | | | | 1274 |
| | | | | |
| (7) Fillings : Permanent Teeth | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1577 |
| Temporary Teeth | ..... | ..... | ..... | 147 |
| Total (7) | | | | 1724 |
| | | | | |
| (8) Number of Teeth filled : Permanent Teeth | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1475 |
| Temporary Teeth | ..... | ..... | ..... | 142 |
| Total (8) | | | | 1617 |
| | | | | |
| (9) Extractions : Permanent Teeth | ..... | ..... | ..... | 899 |
| Temporary Teeth | ..... | ..... | ..... | 7268 |
| Total (9) | | | | 8167 |
| | | | | |
| (10) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2471 |
| | | | | |
| (11) Other operations : Permanent Teeth | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1930 |
| Temporary Teeth | ..... | ..... | ..... | 782 |
| Total (11) | | | | 2712 |