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Contributors

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EDUCATION COMMITTEE

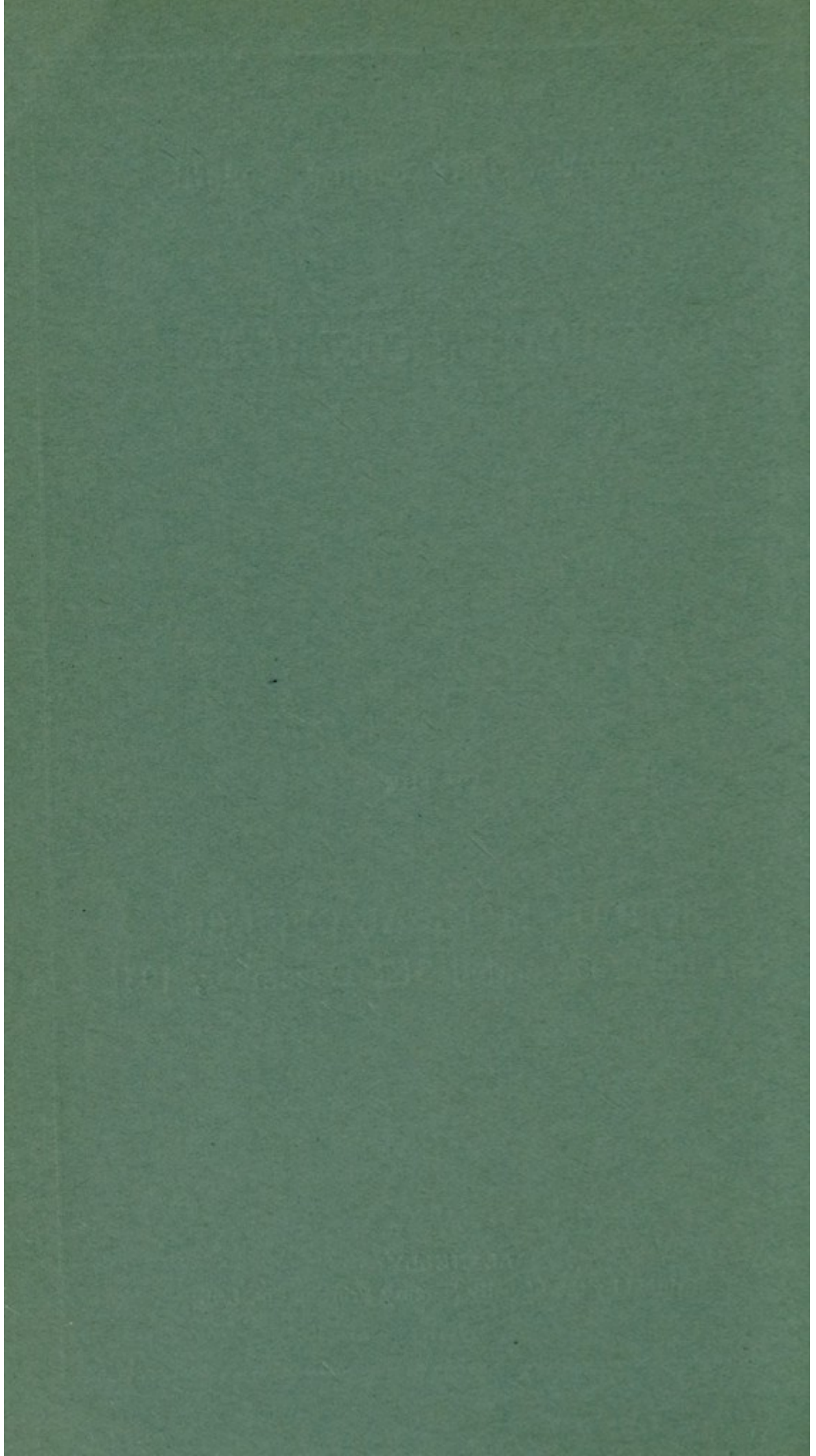
Annual Report

OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER
for the Year ended 31st December, 1951

LLANELLY :

Printed by the Llanelly Mercury Printing Co., Ltd.



Carmarthenshire County Council

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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

EDUCATION REPORT

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1991

CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1951

The priority specialist treatment services lost by school children when the National Health Service was established, is most acutely felt in respect of ear, nose and throat defects. Waiting lists are getting longer each year and even urgent cases are not guaranteed early inpatient attention.

In school dentistry, the deterioration in service continued apace but in 1952, one of the vacancies for Assistant Dental Officers was filled, and the prospects now appear brighter.

A reflection on a milk producing County like Carmarthenshire was removed during the year, by the termination of the arrangements for the provision of dried milk at a number of Schools. At the end of the year, children at all Schools in the County were able to have a supply of liquid milk.

An aspect of school life causing much concern is brought out in reports received from Medical Officers; there are too many complaints of dusty classrooms and insufficient attention to the cleanliness of urinals and closets. The administrative difficulties are realised but the matter is extremely important and no effort should be spared to avoid insanitary conditions. For health reasons and because of its influence on the child, cleanliness should be the first consideration at all schools.

A serious gap in the School Health Service of the County is the absence of arrangements for the proper ascertainment of partially deaf children. Partially deaf children can be properly ascertained only by audiometric surveys with a group speech audiometer, a gramophone type instrument. With a view to such surveys being undertaken in the County, the Education Committee arranged for Nurse D. Evans Murray, a School Nurse, to undergo at a London Hospital a six weeks course of training as audiometric test operator. Unfortunately, difficulty in obtaining the necessary audiometric equipment has prevented surveys being started.

In the early part of the year, the Health Committee drew the attention of the Education Committee to recommendations made by the Joint Tuberculosis Council as to the protection of organised groups of children against the risk of infection by adults suffering

from tuberculosis. The School Medical Officer, in 1946, drew the attention of the Education Committee to the necessity for ensuring that school teachers are not tuberculous risks to the children, and the Education Committee agreed upon the desirability of entrants to teaching appointments in the County undergoing chest X-ray examination, and for the annual X-ray of all teachers. Strong opposition to the proposals was offered, but the Committee made it a condition that all teachers on appointment should undergo medical examination by the School Medical Officer, who had full power to arrange any examination considered necessary by him to decide medical fitness. Since 1946, therefore, all newly appointed teachers in the County have had an X-ray of the chest as part of their medical examination.

Although the routine annual X-ray examination of all school teachers was resisted by teachers organisations, I am glad to say that no difficulty has been experienced in obtaining the attendance of teachers at Mass Radiography Units, or in receiving their full co-operation. This record of the co-operation of individual teachers in the County is necessary in view of the issue, at the time of the preparation of this report, of a memorandum by the Ministry of Education making it compulsory as from the 1st April, 1953, for all entrants to the teaching profession to have a chest X-ray, and also so far as possible, at annual intervals.

School canteen workers are also required to undergo chest X-ray examination on appointment, and a similar condition of appointment applies to the staff of the Children's Homes in the County.

Arrangements were made with effect from the 24th July, 1951, for the services of Assistant Medical Officers of the Education Committee to be utilised for the medical supervision of the Homes administered by the Children's Committee. A Medical Officer was allotted to each Home to keep in touch with the Superintendent or Matron ; to undertake medical supervision generally ; and to give advice on matters affecting the health and dietary of the children, or the hygienic condition of the premises.

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 :

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.

M. J. A. Davies, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch. (commenced 9th January,
1951).

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

Chief Dental Officer :

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

Assistant Dental Officers :

F. G. Day (temporary).

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

Dental Attendants :

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

Miss E. B. Evans.

Mrs. E. G. Badger-Davies.

Miss C. Lloyd-Morgan (resigned 31st August, 1951).

Senior Orthopaedic Sister :

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

Assistant Orthopaedic Sister :

Miss L. M. Davies, C.S.P. (resigned 30th June, 1951).

Miss O. Jones, C.S.P. (commenced 25th June, 1951).

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

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 :

R. T. Jenkins, M.R.C.P., D.C.H., Swansea.

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 :

A. B. Cowie, M.B., B.Ch.
 J. Williams, M.B., B.Ch.

Psychiatrists :

Sidney Davies, M.B., B.S., D.P.M.
 J. Farr, M.B., B.S., B.Ch., 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.
Burry Port	H. E. James	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Trimsaran	G. 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 Borough	G. I. Evans	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. C. 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	J. Kerswell	S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate.
Bancyfelin	E. N. E. Thomas	S.R.N. 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	M. E. 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.
Conwil	N. G. E. Baker	S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate.
Whitland	B. S. Owen	S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate.
Carmarthen	D. Murray	S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate.
Part-time Nurses.		
Llansawel	M. L. Angel	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Cilycwm	E. G. Cox	S.C.M.
Caio	S. Jenkins	S.C.M., S.E.A.N.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

During the year, the following schools were, on the advice of the School Medical Officer, closed by the Education Committee on account of communicable diseases :—

School.	Disease.	Closure.
Llanddeusant C.P.	Influenza	17th-19th January.
Parkylan C.P.	Influenza	1st-2nd February.
Llangendeirne C.P.	Measles	23rd May-1st June.
Penybont C.P.	Measles and Chickenpox	18th-29th June.

Influenza Epidemic.—Although only two Schools were closed on account of Influenza during the year, an epidemic of influenza seriously affected school attendance in January and February. The outbreak first became evident in two widely separated areas in the second week of January (the week the schools re-opened after the Christmas holidays) i.e., in the Kidwelly area where seven schools were affected, and in the north-east corner of the County where three schools were affected. In addition the attendance at three other widely separated schools began to fall.

The full force of the outbreak was felt in the following week, when 118 schools returned attendances under 70%.

A further 26 schools reported attendances under 70% in the last week of January, 9 being under 50%. In another 14 schools, the epidemic was not experienced until the week ended 3rd February, but the disease was not then as widespread. A further 8 schools were not seriously affected until the week ended 10th February.

The following Table summarises the effect of the epidemic on school attendance in the County :—

Attendance under 70% for	No. of Schools.	Low Attendance Commenced Week Ended				
		13 Jan.	20 Jan.	27 Jan.	3 Feb.	10 Feb.
One week	40	3	10	12	10	5
Two weeks	73	4	54	9	3	3
Three weeks	53	3	44	5	1	.....
Over three weeks	13	3	10	.....	.....	.....

During this period, seventeen children under 15 years of age (9 of whom were under 5 years of age) contracted Influenzal Pneumonia and there was one death. Twelve children under 15 years of age (10 of whom were under 5 years of age) contracted other forms of Pneumonia and there were two deaths.

Dysentery.—There was a slight outbreak of dysentery at Priory Street Voluntary Primary School, Carmarthen, in February, and one teacher and pupils from six homes were found to be affected. The source of the infection was a child carrier at the school.

Acute Poliomyelitis.—Thirty-seven 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. Thirty-one of the cases were under 15 years of age and paresis developed in seven of them. The outbreak was on the whole very mild in comparison with previous outbreaks. 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	3	1	8
Non-Paralytic.....	7	13	4	24
Polio-encephalitis	4	—	1	5
Total	15	16	6	37

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 103 Schools were visited for the re-examination of children previously referred for treatment or observation. 8,151 children were examined in the routine age groups and 5,567 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.—70 cases required treatment and 82 cases were referred for observation.

Eye Defects.—Treatment was advised for 670 children with defective vision and 67 children with squint, while 438 cases of defective vision and 38 cases of squint were referred for observation.

Ear Conditions.—28 cases of defective hearing were referred for treatment and 23 for observation. Treatment was required for 16 cases of Otitis Media (ear discharge) and a further 37 cases were referred for observation. 21 cases of other ear conditions were also referred for treatment and 33 for observation.

Nose and Throat Conditions.—There were 689 cases of nose and throat defects (including enlarged tonsils and adenoids, sinusitis, antral conditions, etc.) requiring treatment, and a further 905 were referred for observation.

Speech.—Treatment was advised for 13 cases of defective speech and 20 cases were referred for observation.

Nutrition.—Of the 8,151 children seen at routine medical inspection, only 47 (0.58%) were of poor general condition. 4,960 (60.85%) were of fair and 3,144 (38.57%) 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. 1,413 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 4,590 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 103 Schools were re-inspected by the Medical Officers and 3,468 children were re-inspected.

MEDICAL TREATMENT

Minor Ailments.—Ailments such as skin diseases, minor eye and ear disease, injuries, cuts, etc., were treated at the Minor Ailments Clinics at Llanelly, Carmarthen and Ammanford. Many cases were also treated privately by medical practitioners, and at the homes of children under the supervision of School Nurses. 1,253 children were known to have been treated during the year. The total attendances at the Clinics were 3,515, i.e., 2,269 at Llanelly, 683 at Carmarthen, and 563 at Ammanford.

Vision.—The specialist ophthalmic examination of children was undertaken by the Regional Hospital Board through the Hospital Management Committees. Mr. A. Philipp, Llanelly, held sessions

at the Ophthalmic Centre at the West Wales General Hospital, Carmarthen, and Mr. G. S. Forrester, Llanelly, held sessions at Llanelly and at the Amman Valley Hospital. Sessions at Llanelly were held at the Brynmair School Clinic, but cases were also seen at the Outpatient Department of the Hospital.

1,012 children were examined by the Eye Specialists during the year, viz :—

West Wales General Hospital	.....	.....	278
Brynmair Clinic, Llanelly	.....	.....	482
Llanelly Hospital Out-patient Dept.	.....	.....	19
Amman Valley Hospital	.....	.....	233

Glasses were prescribed for 667 children (65.9%) and records held by the School Medical Officer showed that 573 had been provided with glasses at the end of the year.

273 children were on the waiting lists for specialist ophthalmic examination on the 31st December, 1951, viz :—

Carmarthen	.....	.....	.....	114
Llanelly	.....	.....	.....	140
Amman Valley	.....	.....	.....	19
				<hr/>
Total	.....	.....	.....	273
				<hr/>

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 Departments. 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 during the year :—

DEFECT.	West Wales Hospital.		Llandoverly Hospital.		Llanelly Hospital.		Amman Valley Hospital.		Total.	
	Operative.	Non-Operative.	Operative.	Non-Operative.	Operative.	Non-Operative.	Operative.	Non-Operative.	Operative.	Non-Operative.
Ear Diseases	16	—	1	—	45	—	11	—	73	—
Adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	264	—	46	—	368	—	66	—	744	—
Other nose and throat conditions	38	—	2	—	52	—	15	3	107	3
	318	—	49	—	465	—	92	3	924	3

Although 73 more children received operative treatment at the Hospitals than during 1950, no special efforts appear to have been made to reduce the considerable waiting lists of children who have been recommended hospital admission by the specialists for operative treatment.

Comparison of the waiting lists at the end of 1950 and at the end of 1951 is as follows:—

Hospital	Waiting for Specialist Examination		Waiting for admission to Hospital		Total	
	At 31 Dec. 1950	At 31 Dec. 1951	At 31 Dec. 1950	At 31 Dec. 1951	At 31 Dec. 1950	At 31 Dec. 1951
West Wales	170	55	195	271	365	326
Llanelly	14	—	457	453	471	453
Amman Valley	251	201	113	105	364	306
Llandovery	—	—	11	5	11	5
Total	435	256	776	834	1211	1090

It will be seen that the waiting lists for specialist examination have been brought within reasonable limits, except at the Amman Valley Hospital. The Llandovery Hospital is able to cope with the treatment of all cases referred to them, but the net increase of 64 cases on the lists of children waiting for admission for operative treatment at the other Hospitals reveals generally inadequate inpatient facilities.

21 miscellaneous cases received non-operative treatment under general medical practitioners, and 1,139 cases at Hospital Out-patient Departments.

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

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.—67 School children received artificial light treatment; 52 at the Llanelly Clinic and 15 at the Carmarthen Clinic.

Asthma.—The Asthma Clinics at Llanelly and Carmarthen under the care of Dr. Jones, Deputy School Medical Officer, and Dr. Beynon

Hopkins, respectively, continue to function successfully. A third Clinic was opened at Ammanford on the 24th May, 1951, to serve that area and fourteen cases who had been attending the Carmarthen Clinic were transferred to the new Clinic which is in the charge of Dr. Beynon Hopkins. 1,238 attendances were made at the Clinics during the year. There were 65 new cases. Further information is given in the following table:—

	Ammanford.	Llanelly.	Carmarthen.	Total.
No. of cases on 1st January, 1951	—	72	68	140
No. of new cases	15	20	30	65
No. withdrawn	—	1	5	6
No. of cases on 31st December	29	91	79	199
Total attendances	220	480	538	1238

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, 1951, 2,313 cases were being attended to for all Authorities, viz. :—

County Education Committee	1506
County Health Committee	781
West Wales Hospital Management Committee	12
Glantawe Hospital Management Committee	14

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

	County Education Committee.	Other Authorities.	Total.
Paralysis :			
Infantile	41	28	69
Spastic	51	14	65
Obstetrical	1	—	1
Other	2	2	4
Congenital Deformities	174	183	357
Infective Conditions of Bones and Joints	2	1	3
Non-Infective Conditions of Bones and Joints :			
Rickets	13	2	15
Other	31	7	38
Static and Postural Defects	1156	559	1715
Traumatic Deformities	21	2	23
Multiple Defects	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	14	9	23
Totals	1506	807	2313

Mr. Gordon Rowley, Swansea, the Orthopaedic Surgeon, treated seventeen of the Authority's cases as inpatients: 15 at Morryston Hospital, one at Gorseinon Hospital, and one at Swansea Hospital. Cases for special or X-ray examination were referred to Mr. Rowley at the Out-patient Department of Morryston Hospital.

On the 31st December, eighteen children referred from the Orthopaedic Clinics were on the waiting list for hospital inpatient treatment, as compared with fourteen on the 31st December, 1950.

The West Wales General Hospital admitted during the year under their own arrangements, eighteen children with miscellaneous fractures and eight cases of other crippling defects, and two fracture cases received inpatient treatment at Llandovery Hospital. In addition, 112 fracture cases and 38 cases of other defects were seen at the Out-patient Department of the West Wales General Hospital. These 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 or seen at their Out-patient Departments.

During the year, there were 15,568 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	.....	674	Tumble	.....	.....	115
Garnant	.....	72	Llandilo	.....	.....	137
Pontyberem	.....	48	Carmarthen	.....	.....	342
Llandovery	.....	86	Burry Port	.....	.....	146
St. Clears	.....	41	Pencader	.....	.....	32
Trimsaran	.....	45	Brynamman	.....	.....	47
Ammanford	.....	289	Llandebie	.....	.....	85
Whitland	.....	44	Pontyates	.....	.....	47
Kidwelly	.....	63				

A summary of the work undertaken under the orthopaedic arrangements during 1951 is given in the following table:—

	County Education Committee.	Other Authorities.	Total.
Number of individual children under Scheme on 1st January, 1951	1331	711	2042
Number of new cases during the year	402	399	801
Number of individual cases dealt with during the year	1879	1113	—
Number of cases withdrawn from Scheme	370	160	530
Number of children under the Scheme on the 31st December	1506	807	2313
Total number of attendances made at the Clinics	11531	4037	15568
Number of individual cases received remedial exercises by Sisters	546	—	546
Number of individual cases massaged by Sisters	2	2	4
Number of home visits by Sisters	412	465	877
Number of cases examined by visiting Orthopaedic Surgeon	329	226	555
Number of cases recommended in-patient hospital treatment by Surgeon	18	1	19

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.	Others.	Total.
Total number of children examined during 1951	813	59	14	886
Number of these children who were :				
(a) Contacts	155	9	5	169
(b) Under school age	67	8	2	77
(c) Found to be suffering from :				
(i) Respiratory Tuberculosis	11	—	—	11
(ii) Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	10	—	—	10
(d) Still under observation but not diagnosed at 31/12/51	156	6	7	169
(e) Found with no evidence of active tuberculosis	636	53	7	696
Analysis of Non-Respiratory cases :				
(a) Spine	—	—	—	—
(b) Hip	1	—	—	1
(c) Knee	1	—	—	1
(d) Abdomen	—	—	—	—
(e) Glands	1	—	—	1
(f) Shoulder	—	—	—	—
(g) Other sites	7	—	—	7
Treatment :				
(a) Number treated in Sanatoria	2	1	—	3
(b) Number treated in Hospital	8	—	2	10
(c) Number treated in Surgical Hospital	35	1	—	36
(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 Unit visited Drefach, Carmarthen, and Ammanford, in October and November to examine Secondary and Grammar School pupils in the area over 14 years of age, and special sessions were allocated to pupils in the Llanelly area when the Unit undertook a survey of the general population of Llanelly in December, 1951. The following summary of the findings for all surveys of children during the year, includes for the Llanelly schools, only those children over 14 and under 15 years of age; information in connection with Llanelly children over 15 years of age cannot be given as their records were included in the general population age group 15-25 years :—

2,433 children were examined, 114 (4.68%) of whom were recalled for further X-ray. 2 (0.08%) were diagnosed as suffering from respiratory tuberculosis and 14 (0.57%) referred to the Chest

Physician for further observation. The remaining 98 were a miscellaneous group of non-tuberculous conditions and abnormalities.

REPORT OF CHIEF DENTAL OFFICER

During the year, the School Dental Staff comprised only two full-time Dentists and one part-time Dentist, and their services 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 was devoted to the Brynmair Clinic, Llanelly, and the remainder of the time to the schools in the area outside Llanelly Borough.

The dental staff was totally inadequate to meet the needs of the 25,000 children in the County, and in order that the time of the dentists could be devoted so far as possible to the preservation of teeth, the School Dental Service was restricted to the children attending the Primary Schools in the County. Secondary School and Grammar School pupils had to obtain treatment from dentists under the National Health Service.

During the year 1951, 137 Schools were visited for dental inspection and 10,542 children were examined, 8,064 of whom (76.5%) were found to require treatment. Consents to treatment were received in respect of 6,738, a percentage of 83.5.

444 treatment sessions were held at the three fixed clinics in the County, and 229 sessions at Schools. A summary of the work undertaken is as follows :—

Number of individual children treated	.....	4159
Number of attendances for treatment	.....	5024
Number of teeth extracted	.....	7231
Number of teeth saved by filling	.....	702
Number of teeth received minor treatment	.....	906
Number of administrations of general anaesthetic	.....	2203

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

The general condition of the children's teeth was considerably worse than in previous years. Owing to the shortage of staff, it was not possible to deal effectively with incipient caries and cope with the heavy demand for the extraction of unsalvageable teeth. The increasing deterioration in the condition of the teeth of the children in the County is readily seen from the following figures giving the number of teeth extracted for each tooth filled in the last four years :—

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.

1951—10.30 teeth extracted for each tooth filled.

Orthodontic (corrective) treatment was of necessity restricted to cases of cleft palate for which such treatment had been specially recommended by the Hon. Plastic Surgeon. Two cases were dealt with during the year, in both of which satisfactory results have been obtained.

Although the outlook for the School Dental Service in the early part of the year was unsatisfactory, the Education Committee did not lose sight of the future. A new dental block was erected at the Brynmair Clinic, Llanelly, and was opened on the 12th October, 1951. The block contains two dental surgeries (one with entirely new equipment), a recovery room, waiting room and a laboratory. The Pond Street Clinic, Carmarthen, was also fitted with new, up-to-date equipment during the year.

In conclusion, I have once 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

The latest information available at the end of the year showed that out of a total attendance of 22,291 on a particular day, milk and meals were being supplied as follows :—

Milk	.....	.....	.....	18,054 children (81.0%)
Meals	.....	.....	.....	15,061 children (67.057%)

As compared with twelve months before, the figure for meals represents a small reduction (1%), and that for milk represents an increase of over 7%.

Every effort is made to ensure that milk supplied to Schools is of a satisfactory standard, and whenever possible Pasteurised or Tuberculin Tested milk is provided. Where only other grades of milk are available, satisfactory samples are obtained before supplies 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 at the end of the year :—

Pasteurised	.....	.....	.....	160
Tuberculin Tested	.....	.....	.....	36
Accredited	.....	.....	.....	14
Non-designated	.....	.....	.....	16
National Dried Milk	.....	.....	.....	—

The number of Departments receiving pasteurised milk is eighteen less than for 1950 as one of the Creameries in the County discontinued pasteurisation during the year and terminated their contract with the Education Committee. It was not possible to secure an alternative pasteurised supply, but all the schools involved were supplied with tuberculin tested milk.

A special effort was made by the staff of the Organiser of School Meals during the year to obtain liquid milk for the 19 Departments receiving dried milk at the end of 1950. With the co-operation and assistance of the Area Milk Officer of the Ministry of Food, this effort was successful, except in the case of a small school in the heart of the country with only nine pupils on the register. These pupils disliked dried milk, and it was arranged that they should bring to School, fresh milk from their homes.

The arrangements for regular bacteriological investigations in respect of all school canteen staffs continued during the year. One case of Dysentery was discovered in this way and she was suspended from duty. The infection responded to treatment at the West Wales Isolation Hospital and she was subsequently allowed to resume duties.

All appointments to school kitchen and canteen staffs were subject to satisfactory Chest X-ray examinations, and to 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. 2,676 parents were present at the medical inspections during the year, equivalent to a percentage of 26.1.

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 in the County has been undertaken satisfactorily over the years except that in connection with the educationally subnormal and the partially deaf.

Eight pupils were reported to the Local Health Authority during the year; seven as being incapable of receiving benefit from education at school, and one as requiring supervision after leaving school on account of disability of mind.

193 handicapped children in the County have been ascertained to require special educational treatment. Forty of these were on the 31st December, 1951, pupils at Residential Special Schools while eleven were receiving home tuition. A classification of the handicapped pupils is as follows:—

Handicap.	At Special Schools.	Receiving Home Tuition.	Requiring places at Special Schools.	Total.
Blind	—	—	—	—
Partially Blind	8	—	4	12
Deaf	15	—	3	18
Partially Deaf	1	—	—	1
Delicate	8	—	19	27
Physically Handicapped :				
(a) Heart	3	2	27	32
(b) Spastics	1	5	22	28
(c) Others	—	3*	28	31
Educationally Subnormal	—	1	35**	36
Maladjusted	2†	—	4	6
Epileptics	2	—	—	2
Total	40	11	142	193

* 1 is also deaf.

** Includes 20 children recommended for admission to special classes at ordinary schools.

† 1 at Independent School.

The number of educationally subnormal children shown represents only a small proportion of the estimated number of such children in the County. Records are held of a further 261 children who are probably educationally subnormal but who require further detailed examination.

Classes for backward children are held at five schools in the County, and there were 71 children on the registers of these classes at the beginning of 1952.

During the course of the year, the Authority had under active consideration the problem of providing suitable residential accommodation for educationally subnormal pupils. It is proposed, in conjunction with the Education Authorities of Cardiganshire and Pembrokeshire, to acquire and adapt a country mansion as a Joint Residential Special School for such children. The establishment of the school would be a step forward in the arrangements of the Authority.

TABLE I.

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

A.—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups :—

Entrants	2363
Second Age Group	1857
Third Age Group	1366
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				Total	5586
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Number of other Periodic Inspections	2565
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				Grand Total	8151
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B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS

Number of Special Inspections	2099
Number of Re-Inspections	3468
						<hr/>
				Total	5567
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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 (excluding squint). (2)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIA. (3)	Total individual pupils. (4)
Entrants	23	566	585
Second Age Group	146	237	377
Third Age Group.....	118	159	268
Total (prescribed groups)	287	962	1230
Other Periodic Inspections.....	209	369	554
Grand Total	496	1331	1784

TABLE II.
 (A.) RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1951
 PERIODIC INSPECTIONS. SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.

Defect or Disease.	No. of defects.		No. of defects.	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment.	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment.
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Skin	52	75	18	7
Eyes — (a) Vision	496	208	174	230
(b) Squint	54	35	13	3
(c) Other	94	27	40	7
Ears — (a) Hearing	21	21	7	2
(b) Otitis Media	12	33	4	4
(c) Other	17	31	4	2
Nose or Throat	545	840	144	65
Speech	7	18	6	2
Cervical Glands	20	398	2	18
Heart and Circulation	25	208	11	51
Lungs	120	251	30	91
Developmental—				
(a) Hernia	14	14	3	—
(b) Other	19	31	19	5
Orthopaedic—				
(a) Posture	43	31	20	—
(b) Flat foot	333	108	137	4
(c) Other	172	181	76	22
Nervous system—				
(a) Epilepsy	5	15	1	8
(b) Other	5	53	4	13
Psychological—				
(a) Development	17	49	1	33
(b) Stability	4	18	2	3
Other	79	101	36	90

(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	2363	1009	42.7	1342	56.8	12	0.5
Second Age Group	1857	630	33.93	1214	65.37	13	0.7
Third Age Group	1366	533	39.02	826	60.47	7	0.51
Other Periodic Inspections	2565	972	37.9	1578	61.52	15	0.58
Total	8151	3144	38.57	4960	60.85	47	0.58

TABLE III.

INFESTATION WITH VERMIN

(i)	Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorized persons	.....	106006
(ii)	Total number of <i>individual</i> pupils found to be infested	.....	1093
(iii)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944)	.....	57
(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 uncleanliness, for which see Table III.)

	Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year.	
	By the Authority.	Otherwise.
Ringworm : (i) Scalp	17	—
(ii) Body	17	2
Scabies	3	2
Impetigo	22	2
Other skin diseases	40	18
Total	99	24

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	—	97
Errors of Refraction (including squint)	—	915
Total	—	1012
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were		
(a) Prescribed	—	667
(b) Obtained	—	573
Total	—	1240

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	—	73
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	—	744
(c) for other nose and throat conditions.....	—	107
Received other forms of treatment	—	1163
Total	—	2087

GROUP 4.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

(a) Number treated as in-patients in hospitals	47	
	By the Authority.	Otherwise.
(b) Number treated otherwise, e.g., in clinics or outpatient departments	1879	154

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.
Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapists	—	—

GROUP 7.—OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN.

		Number of cases treated.	
		By the Authority.	Otherwise.
(a)	Miscellaneous minor ailments	1085	45
(b)	Other (specify)		
	1. General Surgical	—	375
	2. Medical	—	95
	Total	1085	515

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	9893
(b) Specials	649
Total (1)			10542
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(2) Number found to require treatment	8064
(3) Number referred for treatment	6213
(4) Number actually treated	4159
(5) Attendances made by pupils for treatment	5024
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(6) Half-days devoted to :	Inspection	173
	Treatment	673
Total (6)			846
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(7) Fillings :	Permanent Teeth	710
	Temporary Teeth	89
Total (7)			799
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(8) Number of Teeth filled :	Permanent Teeth	618
	Temporary Teeth	84
Total (8)			702
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(9) Extractions :	Permanent Teeth	495
	Temporary Teeth	6736
Total (9)			7231
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(10) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction	2203
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(11) Other operations :	Permanent Teeth	586
	Temporary Teeth	320
Total (11)			906