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Carmarthenshire County Council

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

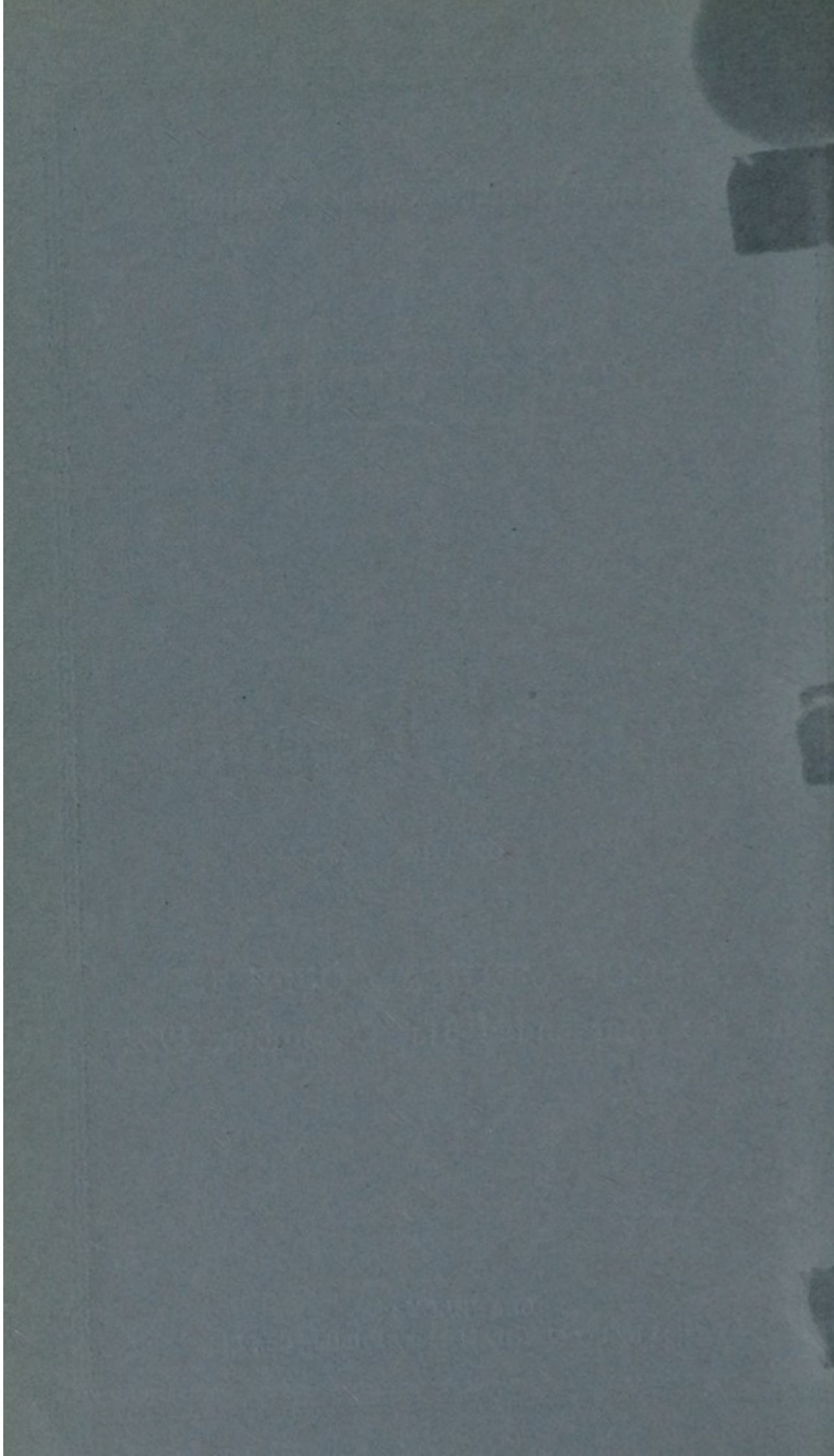
Annual Report

OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER
for the Year ended 31st December, 1952

LLANELLY :

Printed by the Llanelly Mercury Printing Co., Ltd.



Carmarthenshire County Council

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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Carroll County Board of Education

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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for the Year ended 31st December, 1932

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Printed by the Lanark Printing Co. Ltd.

CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1952

During 1952, the School Health Service received a good measure of co-operation from the services available under the National Health Service Act, 1946. The number of children awaiting treatment for ear, nose and throat defects following consultant opinion continues, however, to cause concern, despite the fact that 278 more children received operative treatment during the year, than in 1951.

The School Dental Service continues to suffer through the inability of the Committee to recruit adequate staff. One vacancy was filled during the year and, at the end of the year, consideration was being given to the possibility of using the services of general dental practitioners on a sessional basis. It is gratifying to report an increase in the amount of conservative dental work.

8,722 children were examined at periodic medical inspections, 2,230 were specially examined and 2,187 re-inspections undertaken. Special examinations are of much importance in the school service as attention is directed to where it is most needed and not expended on periodic examinations as such. Of those examined at periodic inspections, 21.45% were found to require treatment, the majority of whom suffered from defects of eyes, ear, nose and throat and minor orthopaedic conditions.

The results of medical inspection indicate that the school children of Carmarthenshire continue to shew improvement in their general condition: 42.59% were classified as good (38.57% in 1951), 57.09% as fair (60.85% in 1951), and only 0.32% as poor (0.58% in 1951).

During the year, poliomyelitis was again in evidence, there being eight cases in children of school age but only three developed paralysis.

Sonne dysentery, which has a big nuisance value, was responsible for a minor outbreak at St. Clears and a larger outbreak at Carway. A missed case or symptomless carrier is usually found to be the cause of the outbreak, the latter being the cause at St. Clears.

Clearance of the carrier state in Sonne Dysentery is at times difficult although, recently, success has been obtained more easily by means of Chloromycetin. This is of economic importance when food handlers, such as the canteen staffs, are affected. The production of three consecutive negative faeces at intervals of not less than two days is taken as a standard of freedom from infection.

The work of ascertainment of the educationally and physically handicapped continues. There still remains a considerable lag in the ascertaining of the educationally subnormal and slow progress only can be expected without the services of an Educational Psychologist.

During the year, the Committee decided to set up Clinics for the supervision of rheumatic and heart complaints in children. The need for such Clinics has for a long time been evident. The first clinic was held early in 1953.

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., D.P.H.

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.

Marjorie J. A. Davies, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch.

Edna E. Williams, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch. (commenced 1st September, 1952).

*D. J. Davies, M.B.E., M.D., B.Sc., D.P.H. (part-time).

*Gladys M. Herbert, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (part-time).

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

* Divisional Medical Officer of Health.

† District Medical Officer of Health.

Chief Dental Officer :

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

Assistant Dental Officers :

J. L. T. Davies, L.D.S., R.C.S. (recommenced 1st March, 1952).

F. G. Day (temporary).

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

Dental Attendants :

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

Miss E. B. Evans.

Mrs. E. G. Badger-Davies (resigned 31st August, 1952).

Miss A. M. Maliphant (commenced 1st September, 1952).

Miss M. A. Thomas (commenced 1st December, 1952).

Senior Orthopaedic Sister :

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

Assistant Orthopaedic Sister :

Mrs. O. Turner Evans (*nee* Jones), M.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. (Orthop.). Swansea.

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.

Hon. 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	M. G. Evans	S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate.
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	D. 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. 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. M. Davies	S.R.N. 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.
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, one school was, on the advice of the School Medical Officer, closed by the Education Committee on account of communicable disease :—

School.	Disease.	Closure.
Carway C.P.	Sonne Dysentery	16th-27th June.

Sonne Dysentery.—An outbreak of sonne dysentery occurred at two schools in the County. St. Clears County Primary School was affected in February and one teacher and seven pupils were found to be suffering from the disease. The source of the infection was a child carrier at the school.

The second outbreak occurred at Carway County Primary School where cases of dysentery were reported when the school re-opened after the Whitsun Holidays. Twenty-six pupils had had stomach trouble during the holidays, and ten of them were absent from school. Of the sixteen pupils who had returned to school, ten were found, on bacteriological examination, to be suffering from sonne dysentery, and four of the absentees had symptoms of the disease. All sufferers and home contacts were immediately excluded from school. The school attendance at the end of the week fell to 30% and as there was no prospect of early improvement, the school was closed for two weeks. When the school re-opened on the 30th June, a number of children were still excluded. There were a few new cases during July, but the outbreak gradually died out. The last case was authorised to return to school on the 8th September.

Acute Poliomyelitis.—Twenty-nine 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. Seventeen cases were under 15 years of age and paresis developed in seven 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	5*	3	3†	11
Non-Paralytic.....	4	5	9	18
Total	9	8	12	29

* One Bulbar Poliomyelitis. † One died.

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 63 Schools were visited for the re-examination of children previously referred for treatment or observation. 8,722 children were examined in the routine age groups and 4,417 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.—69 cases required treatment and 126 cases were referred for observation.

Eye Defects.—Treatment was advised for 777 children with defective vision and 95 children with squint, while 622 cases of defective vision and 66 cases of squint were referred for observation.

Ear Conditions.—34 cases of defective hearing were referred for treatment and 30 for observation. Treatment was required for 30 cases of Otitis Media (ear discharge) and a further 39 cases were referred for observation. 19 cases of other ear conditions were also referred for treatment and 31 for observation.

Nose and Throat Conditions.—There were 782 cases of nose and throat defects (including enlarged tonsils and adenoids, sinusitis, antral conditions, etc.) requiring treatment, and a further 1084 were referred for observation.

Speech.—Treatment was advised for 12 cases of defective speech and 48 cases were referred for observation.

Nutrition.—Of the 8,722 children seen at routine medical inspection, only 28 (0.32%) were of poor general condition. 4,979 (57.09%) were of fair and 3,715 (42.59%) 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. 1,643 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 4,161 home visits.

“ Following-up ” is also carried out by the School Medical Officers by periodic re-inspections, and many special visits were made to Schools to examine special cases. During the year 63 Schools were re-inspected by the Medical Officers and 2,187 children were re-inspected.

MEDICAL TREATMENT

Minor Ailments.—Ailments such as skin diseases, minor eye and ear diseases, 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. 1,133 children were known to have been treated during the year. The total attendances at the Clinics were 2,842, i.e., 1,776 at Llanelly, 557 at Carmarthen, and 509 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.

1,089 children were dealt with by the Eye Specialists during the year, viz :—

	Outpatients.	Inpatients.	Total.
West Wales Hospital	231	18	249
Brynmair Clinic, Llanelly	555	—	555
Llanelly Hospital	82	70	152
Amman Valley Hospital	123	—	123
Morrison Hospital	10	—	10
Totals	1001	88	1089

Glasses were prescribed for 817 children and records held by the School Medical Officer showed that 697 had been provided with glasses at the end of the year.

220 children were on the waiting lists for specialist ophthalmic examination on the 31st December, 1952, viz :—

Carmarthen	.....	.....	60
Llanelly	.....	.....	91
Amman Valley	.....	.....	69
			<hr/>
Total	.....	.....	220
			<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. Hospitals, of course, also dealt with children referred to them directly by general medical practitioners.

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 operative treatment during the year :—

	Ear Diseases.	Adenoids and chronic tonsillitis.	Other nose and throat conditions.	Total.
West Wales Hospital	7	418	56	481
Llandovery Hospital	—	45	—	45
Llanelly Hospital	86	457	40	583
Amman Valley Hospital	3*	83	6	92
Morrison Hospital	—	1	—	1
Totals	96	1004	102	1202

* Two of these were treated as outpatients.

278 more children received operative treatment at Hospitals than during 1951, and there was, at the end of 1952, a considerable reduction in the number of children on the waiting lists for admission. The number on the waiting list of the Amman Valley Hospital for specialist examination increased to 273.

Comparison of the waiting lists at the end of 1951 and at the end of 1952 is as follows :—

Hospital	Waiting for Specialist Examination		Waiting for admission to Hospital		Total	
	At 31 Dec. 1951	At 31 Dec. 1952	At 31 Dec. 1951	At 31 Dec. 1952	At 31 Dec. 1951	At 31 Dec. 1952
West Wales	55	48	271	203	326	251
Llanelly	—	—	453	326	453	326
Amman Valley	201	273	105	60	306	333
Llandovery	—	4	5	22	5	26
Total	256	325	834	611	1090	936

638 miscellaneous cases received non-operative treatment at Hospital Outpatient 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 Lip, and one for plastic treatment following burns.

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.—30 School children received artificial light treatment; 16 at the Llanelly Clinic and 14 at the Carmarthen Clinic.

Asthma.—The Asthma Clinics at Llanelly, Carmarthen and Ammanford, under the care of Dr. Jones, Deputy School Medical Officer, and Dr. Beynon Hopkins, continue to function successfully. 1,129 attendances were made at the Clinics during the year. There were 58 new cases. Further information is given in the following table :—

	Ammanford.	Llanelly.	Carmarthen.	Total.
No. of cases on 1st January, 1952.....	29	91	79	199
No. of new cases	16	20	22	58
No. withdrawn	1	6	9	16
No. of cases on 31st December	44	105	92	241
Total attendances	306	377	446	1129

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, 1952, 2,337 cases were being attended to for all Authorities, viz. :—

County Education Committee	1480
County Health Committee	827
West Wales Hospital Management Committee	11
Glantawe Hospital Management Committee	19

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

	County Education Committee.	Other Authorities.	Total.
Paralysis :			
Infantile	40	26	66
Spastic	51	15	66
Obstetrical	—	—	—
Other	2	2	4
Congenital Deformities	170	190	360
Infective Conditions of Bones and Joints	2	2	4
Non-Infective Conditions of Bones and Joints :			
Rickets	8	2	10
Other	24	5	29
Static and Postural Defects	1148	599	1747
Traumatic Deformities	21	6	27
Multiple Defects	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	14	10	24
Totals	1480	857	2337

Mr. Gordon Rowley, Swansea, the Orthopaedic Surgeon, treated eleven of the Authority's cases as inpatients: five at Morryston Hospital, five 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 and Swansea Hospitals.

On the 31st December, twenty-three children referred from the Orthopaedic Clinics were on the waiting list for hospital inpatient treatment, as compared with fourteen on the 31st December, 1951.

Child patients not under the County Orthopaedic Clinics were attended to by Hospitals under their own arrangements, and the following table summarises those cases so far as known to the School Medical Officer :—

Hospital.	Inpatients.		Outpatients.	
	Crippling Defects.	Fractures.	Crippling Defects.	Fractures.
West Wales General Hospital	5	—	71	112
Morrison Hospital	1	12	44	22
Total	6	12	115	134

During the year, there were 15,433 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	596	Tumble	114
Garnant	73	Llandilo	138
Pontyberem	42	Carmarthen	365
Llandovery	98	Burry Port	146
St. Clears	59	Pencader	46
Trimsaran	45	Brynamman	57
Ammanford	332	Llandebie	79
Whitland	45	Pontyates	49
Kidwelly	53		

A summary of the work undertaken under the orthopaedic arrangements during 1952 is given in the following table :—

	County Education Committee.	Other Authorities.	Total.
Number of individual children under Scheme on 1st January, 1952	1506	807	2313
Number of new cases during the year	277	334	611
Number of individual cases dealt with during the year	2032	1146	—
Number of cases withdrawn from Scheme	424	163	587
Number of children under the Scheme on the 31st December	1480	857	2337
Total number of attendances made at the Clinics	11979	3454	15433
Number of individual cases received remedial exercises by Sisters	1180	4	1184
Number of individual cases massaged by Sisters	5	6	11
Number of home visits by Sisters	405	554	959
Number of cases examined by visiting Orthopaedic Surgeon	295	176	471
Number of cases recommended in-patient hospital treatment by Surgeon	19	8	27

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 1952	756	60	10	826
Number of these children who were :				
(a) Contacts	201	9	7	217
(b) Under school age	199	14	8	221
(c) Found to be suffering from :				
(i) Respiratory Tuberculosis	18	1	—	19
(ii) Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	7	—	2	9
(d) Still under observation but not diagnosed at 31/12/52	122	3	—	125
(e) Found with no evidence of active tuberculosis	609	56	8	673
Analysis of Non-Respiratory cases :				
(a) Spine	—	—	—	—
(b) Hip	—	—	—	—
(c) Knee	1	—	—	1
(d) Abdomen	2	—	—	2
(e) Glands	1	—	2	3
(f) Shoulder	—	—	—	—
(g) Other sites	3	—	—	3
Treatment :				
(a) Number treated in Sanatoria.....	4	—	—	4
(b) Number treated in Hospital	11	1	1	13
(c) Number treated in Surgical Hospital	32	1	—	33
(d) Number treated in Open-Air School	19	2	—	21

REPORT OF CHIEF DENTAL OFFICER

The dental staff was increased during the year by the appointment of Mr. J. L. T. Davies who commenced duties on the 1st March. Further enquiries were received from dentists as to vacancies in the County in the following months but the brighter prospects of obtaining additional staff were not realised. There were still three vacancies on the establishment of full-time Dental Officers at the end of the year. The Committee considered the possibility of employing general dental practitioners on a sessional basis, and the matter was pursued further in 1953. A difficulty in connection with the employment of private dentists for the treatment of school children in the County, is that the Education Committee have only three permanent Clinics with properly equipped dental surgeries.

In order that the time of the depleted dental staff could be devoted so far as possible to the preservation of teeth, the School Dental Service was again 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, 169 Schools were visited for dental inspection and 13,080 children were examined, 10,642 of whom (81.36%) were found to require treatment. Consents to treatment were received in respect of 9,235, a percentage of 86.77.

423 treatment sessions were held at the three fixed Clinics in the County and 493 sessions at Schools. A summary of the work undertaken is as follows :—

Individual children treated	.....	.....	5216
Attendances for treatment	.....	.....	7315
Teeth extracted	.....	.....	7505
Teeth saved by filling	.....	.....	1276
Teeth received minor treatment	.....	.....	2607
Administrations of general anaesthetic	.....	.....	2402

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

Special efforts were made during the year to increase the amount of filling work undertaken, and it will be seen from the following figures that there was a considerable improvement in the proportion of fillings to extractions as compared with 1951 :—

- 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.
- 1952—5.88 teeth extracted for each tooth filled.

Unfortunately, the number of extractions has always exceeded the number of fillings in this County, but up to 1948, there had been a gradual improvement in this respect. The School Dental Service cannot be considered as efficient until the amount of filling work exceeds the number of extractions. More teeth can be saved by early detection and treatment of incipient caries.

No orthodontic work was undertaken during the year, and such work has of necessity been restricted in the last few years to cases of cleft palate for which orthodontic treatment had been specially recommended by the Hon. Plastic Surgeon. Very many children in the County require orthodontic treatment but successful results demand considerable time and attention, which the present dental staff cannot spare for the work. It is hoped to resume this type of treatment when adequate staff has been obtained.

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 21,884 on a particular day, milk and meals were being supplied as follows :—

Milk	.....	.....	.....	18,265 children (83.46%)
Meals	.....	.....	.....	17,219 children (78.68%)

As compared with twelve months before, the figure for meals represents an increase of over 11%, and that for milk represents an increase of over 2%.

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	.....	.....	.....	184
Tuberculin Tested	.....	.....	.....	19
Accredited	.....	.....	.....	10
Non-designated	.....	.....	.....	12
National Dried Milk	.....	.....	.....	1

There was an increase of 24 in the number of Departments receiving pasteurised milk as compared with 1951, and the number receiving other grades of liquid milk was correspondingly reduced. The supply of liquid milk to one small rural school was discontinued during the year and efforts to obtain another supplier were unsuccessful ; this school was then supplied with dried milk. Arrangements for pupils from another small rural school to bring fresh milk from their own homes were continued.

The arrangements for regular bacteriological investigations in respect of all school canteen staffs continued during the year. Two sonne dysentery carriers were discovered in this way and both employees were suspended from duty. One soon cleared up after treatment and she was allowed to return to duty. The other did not respond to initial treatment and she was admitted (1953) to the West Wales Isolation Hospital where the condition cleared up.

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. 3,578 parents were present at the medical inspections during the year, equivalent to a percentage of 32.6.

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 Committee have a duty to provide handicapped pupils with an education suited to their needs, and the ascertainment and classification of handicapped children is one of the main functions of the School Health Service. The work in the County has been undertaken satisfactorily over the years except that in connection with the educationally subnormal and the partially deaf.

Five pupils were reported to the Local Health Authority during the year as being incapable of receiving benefit from education at school.

198 handicapped children in the County have been ascertained to require special educational treatment. Fifty-one of these were on the 31st December, 1952, pupils at Residential Special Schools while fourteen 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	2	—	—	2
Partially Blind	7	—	1	8
Deaf	17	—	4	21
Partially Deaf	1	—	—	1
Delicate	17	—	17	34
Physically Handicapped :				
(a) Heart	3	3	24	30
(b) Spastics	—	6	28	34
(c) Others	—	4*	27	31
Educationally Subnormal	1	1	31**	33
Maladjusted	2†	—	1	3
Epileptics	1	—	—	1
Total	51	14	133	198

* 1 is also deaf.

** Includes 17 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 283 children who are probably educationally subnormal but who require further detailed examination.

Classes for backward children are held at seven schools in the County, and there were 135 children on the registers of these classes at the beginning of 1953.

During the year, the Ministry of Education approved in principle, a proposal to purchase a country mansion for use as a boarding special school for educationally subnormal children, by the Cardiganshire, Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire Education Authorities. It is intended that the Cardiganshire Authority should act as sponsoring Authority with primary responsibility for financial and other purposes, with appropriate arrangements for re-imbusement on a mutually agreed basis.

TABLE I.

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

A.—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups :—

Entrants .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2969
Second Age Group .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1787
Third Age Group .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1206
					<hr/>
	Total .....	.....	.....	.....	5962

Number of other Periodic Inspections

Grand Total

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS

Number of Special Inspections .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2230
Number of Re-Inspections .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2187
					<hr/>
	Total .....	.....	.....	.....	4417

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	37	658	691
Second Age Group	176	188	352
Third Age Group	122	113	226
Total (prescribed groups)	335	959	1269
Other Periodic Inspections	242	370	602
			<hr/>
Grand Total	577	1329	1871

TABLE II.
 (A.) RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1952

Defect or Disease.	PERIODIC INSPECTIONS.			SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.		
	No. of defects.			No. of defects.		
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(4)	(5)
Skin	62	111	7	15		
Eyes — (a) Vision	577	259	200	363		
(b) Squint	85	51	10	15		
(c) Other	45	26	22	2		
Ears — (a) Hearing	32	28	2	2		
(b) Otitis Media	29	39	1	—		
(c) Other	17	26	2	5		
Nose or Throat	693	1054	89	30		
Speech	11	43	1	5		
Cervical Glands	51	334	—	5		
Heart and Circulation	17	293	8	52		
Lungs	155	372	32	111		
Developmental—						
(a) Hernia	26	29	2	1		
(b) Other	8	34	5	16		
Orthopaedic—						
(a) Posture	36	34	3	6		
(b) Flat foot	278	132	46	10		
(c) Other	179	181	20	22		
Nervous system—						
(a) Epilepsy	2	15	1	3		
(b) Other	6	91	1	3		
Psychological—						
(a) Development	11	66	—	23		
(b) Stability	2	31	2	13		
Other	80	187	—	73		

(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. (3)	% of col. 2 (4)	No. (5)	% of col. 2 (6)	No. (7)	% of col. 2 (8)
(1)	(2)						
Entrants	2969	1290	43.44	1670	56.25	9	.30
Second Age Group	1787	694	38.84	1087	60.83	6	.34
Third Age Group	1206	504	41.79	698	57.88	4	.33
Other Periodic Inspections	2760	1227	44.46	1524	55.21	9	.33
Total	8722	3715	42.59	4979	57.09	28	.32

TABLE III.

INFESTATION WITH VERMIN

(i)	Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorized persons	.....	99638
(ii)	Total number of <i>individual</i> pupils found to be infested	.....	860
(iii)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944)	.....	23
(iv)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944)	.....	—

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	8	—
(ii) Body	7	2
Scabies	7	—
Impetigo	32	5
Other skin diseases	34	16
Total	88	23

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	—	173
Errors of Refraction (including squint)	—	916
Total	—	1089
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were		
(a) Prescribed	—	817
(b) Obtained	—	697

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	—	96
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	—	1004
(c) for other nose and throat conditions.....	—	102
Received other forms of treatment	—	638
Total	—	1840

GROUP 4.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

(a) Number treated as in-patients in hospitals	30	
	By the Authority.	Otherwise.
(b) Number treated otherwise, e.g., in clinics or outpatient departments	2032	249

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	980	42
(b)	Other (specify)		
	1. General Surgical	—	485
	2. General Medical	—	182
	3. Paediatrics	—	442
	Total	980	1151

TABLE V.

**DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT BY
THE AUTHORITY**

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers :—				
(a) Periodic	.....	.....	.....	12498
(b) Specials	.....	.....	.....	582
			Total (1)	13080
(2) Number found to require treatment				10642
(3) Number referred for treatment				7746
(4) Number actually treated				5216
(5) Attendances made by pupils for treatment				7315
(6) Half-days devoted to : Inspection				230
Treatment				916
			Total (6)	1146
(7) Fillings : Permanent Teeth				1238
Temporary Teeth				195
			Total (7)	1433
(8) Number of Teeth filled : Permanent Teeth				1091
Temporary Teeth				185
			Total (8)	1276
(9) Extractions : Permanent Teeth				593
Temporary Teeth				6912
			Total (9)	7505
(10) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction				2402
(11) Other operations : Permanent Teeth				1436
Temporary Teeth				1171
			Total (11)	2607