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EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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# Annual Report

OF THE  
PRINCIPAL  
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER  
for the Year ended 31st December, 1953

LLANELLY :  
Printed by the Llanelly Mercury Printing Co., Ltd.





Carmarthenshire County Council

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Annual Report

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Annual Report

SCHOOL OFFICERS

SCHOOL OFFICERS

for the year ended 31st December 1923

**CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

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**EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

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**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL SCHOOL MEDICAL  
OFFICER FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1953**

It is gratifying to note that for 1953 the number of school children in good general condition rose to 53.4% of the total seen at routine medical inspection as against 42.6% in 1952. The number in poor general condition remained the same at the very low figure of 0.3%.

Although it was found impossible to recruit any help from general dental practitioners for the school dental service, the preventive work of the service improved but the position will only become satisfactory when sufficient dental staff are available for this work.

The number of children suffering from defects amounted to 21.08% of those examined, i.e. 1,991 out of 9,443. The majority were due to defects in eyes, ear, nose and throat and minor orthopaedic conditions.

Although the number of children receiving specialist ophthalmic examination increased considerably this year those waiting for examination at the end of the year had also increased considerably. It appears that unless increased time can be given by ophthalmologists to this work some alternative method of dealing with the situation must be found.

In Ear, Nose, and Throat work, though the number of children awaiting examination by a specialist dropped considerably during the year (from 325 to 60), it is very unfortunate that those awaiting treatment as a result of specialist examination increased from 611 to 768. It is a disquieting fact that with the same facilities, as far as I am aware, 574 fewer children received Ear, Nose, and Throat inpatient treatment during this year than during 1952, i.e., during 1953 the number of ear, nose, and throat operations performed dropped by nearly 50%.

Communicable disease calls for no comment this year, although poliomyelitis was still in evidence: there were nine cases in children under 15 years of age, four of whom developed paralysis.

Rheumatic and speech therapy clinics were opened during the year and are reported on in the body of the report.



The success achieved by a service such as the School Health Service depends a good deal on co-operation with other sections of the medical services and, to an important degree, with the Education Department, from whose Director and staff we receive the closest support in this work.

I must also report that close liaison with general practitioners is maintained.

A great deal of help, especially on difficult paediatric problems, is received from the Paediatric Department at Morriston Hospital. The success of this co-operation is sufficient indication of the need for a similar department within the area of the West Wales Hospital Management Committee.

I am grateful to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Members of the Education Committee, 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,

Principal School Medical Officer.

## STAFF

Principal School Medical Officer :

R. Evans, M.D., B.Sc., D.P.H.

Deputy Principal School Medical Officer and Divisional School Medical Officer :

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

School Medical Officers :

E. H. Beynon-Hopkins, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (resigned 30th June, 1953).

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.

J. G. E. Collins, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (commenced 2nd November, 1953).

\*D. J. Davies, M.B.E., M.D., B.Sc., D.P.H. (part-time—resigned 30th June, 1953).

\*E. H. Beynon-Hopkins, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (part-time—commenced 1st July, 1953).

\*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.

Principal School Dental Officer :

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

School Dental Officers :

J. L. T. Davies, L.D.S., R.C.S.

D. G. Brett Williams, L.D.S. (commenced 1st June, 1953—resigned 31st December, 1953).

W. E. T. Llewelyn, L.D.S., R.C.S. (commenced 7th September, 1953).

F. G. Day (temporary).

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

Dental Attendants :

Mrs. V. M. Arundel.

Miss E. B. Evans.

Miss A. M. Maliphant.

Miss M. A. Thomas.

Miss J. Jenkins (commenced 24th July, 1953).

Senior Orthopaedic Sister :

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

Assistant Orthopaedic Sister :

Mrs. O. Turner Evans, M.C.S.P.

Speech Therapist :

Mrs. A. St. John Bayley, L.C.S.T. (part-time—commenced 11th May, 1953).



## 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.

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.

One Vacancy.

## Assistant Chest Physicians :

J. Williams, M.B., B.Ch.

One Vacancy.

## 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.
<b>Whole-time Nurses.</b>		
Amman Valley .....	M. G. Evans .....	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Ammanford .....	A. Howells .....	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Burry Port .....	Vacancy .....	
Trimsaran .....	G. M. Williams .....	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Llangennech .....	E. Edwards .....	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Carmarthen Borough .....	D. Murray .....	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
St. Clears .....	M. E. E. Davies .....	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Llanelly Borough .....	C. Jones .....	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
	M. C. Jones .....	S.R.N., S.C.M.
	G. Greene .....	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
	G. M. Roberts .....	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
	D. C. Insley .....	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Felinfoel .....	E. M. Jenkins .....	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Tumble .....	E. J. M. Jones .....	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Llandebie .....	A. E. Jones .....	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Pencader .....	Vacancy .....	
Bancyfelin .....	E. N. E. Thomas .....	S.R.N., H. V. Cert.
Llandilo .....	C. M. Bailey .....	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Nantgaredig .....	H. Sefton Jones .....	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.,
Llangendeirne .....	M. E. Thomas .....	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Llandovery .....	M. M. Davies .....	S.R.N., H. V. Cert.
Conwil .....	N. G. E. Baker .....	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Whitland .....	B. S. Dyer .....	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
<b>Part-time Nurses.</b>		
Llansawel .....	M. L. Angel .....	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Cilycwm .....	E. G. Cox .....	S.C.M.
Caio .....	S. Jenkins .....	S.C.M., S.E.A.N.



## COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

It was not necessary, during the year, to recommend the closure of any schools on account of communicable diseases. This, however, does not mean freedom from communicable diseases as it is only in very exceptional circumstances that school closure is now recommended on such grounds.

**Winter Vomiting Disease.**—Two outbreaks of sickness and vomiting at schools were brought to my notice during October and November. Investigations indicated that there was no evidence to associate the outbreaks with food poisoning and the probable cause of the sickness was an infection known as winter vomiting disease.

**Acute Poliomyelitis.**—Fourteen cases of acute poliomyelitis were confirmed in the County during the year. Nine cases were under 15 years of age and paresis developed in four of them. The following summarises the position generally :—

		Under 5 years of age.		Over 5 and under 15 years of age.		Over 15 years of age.		Total.
Paralytic	.....	2	.....	2	.....	4	.....	8
Non-Paralytic	.....	1	.....	4	.....	1	.....	6
Total	.....	3	.....	6	.....	5	.....	14

## 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 35 Schools were visited for the re-examination of children previously referred for treatment or observation. 9,443 children were examined in the routine age groups and 3,855 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.**—83 cases required treatment and 170 cases were referred for observation.

**Eye Defects.**—Treatment was advised for 888 children with defective vision and 98 children with squint, while 685 cases of defective vision and 168 cases of squint were referred for observation.



**Ear Conditions.**—25 cases of defective hearing were referred for treatment and 35 for observation. Treatment was required for 35 cases of Otitis Media (ear discharge) and a further 107 cases were referred for observation. 17 cases of other ear conditions were also referred for treatment and 65 for observation.

**Nose and Throat Conditions.**—There were 647 cases of nose and throat defects (including enlarged tonsils and adenoids, sinusitis, antral conditions, etc.) requiring treatment, and a further 1267 were referred for observation.

**Speech.**—Treatment was advised for 69 cases of defective speech and 58 cases were referred for observation.

**Nutrition.**—Of the 9,443 children seen at routine medical inspection, only 32 (0.34%) were of poor general condition. 4,364 (46.22%) were of fair and 5,047 (53.44%) of good general condition. The figures indicate that the general physical condition of the children in the County has shewn an overall improvement

### 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. 1,389 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 3,694 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 35 Schools were re-inspected by the Medical Officers and 1,469 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. 916 children were known to have been treated during the year. The total attendances at the Clinics were 2,096, i.e., 1,267 at Llanelly, 469 at Carmarthen, and 360 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.

1,626 children were dealt with by the Eye Specialists during the year, viz :—

	Outpatients.	Inpatients.	Total.
West Wales Hospital .....	720	23	743
Llanelly Hospital .....	544	42	586
Amman Valley Hospital .....	288	—	288
Morriston Hospital .....	9	—	9
Totals .....	1561	65	1626

Glasses were prescribed for 770 children and records held by the School Medical Officer showed that 616 had been provided with glasses at the end of the year.

448 children were on the waiting lists for specialist ophthalmic examination on the 31st December, 1953, viz :—

Carmarthen .....	200
Llanelly .....	175
Amman Valley .....	73
Total .....	448

**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 ex-



amination 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 .....	68	170	35	273
Llandovery Hospital .....	—	3	—	3
Llanelly Hospital .....	175	118	—	293
Amman Valley Hospital	1*	46	8	55
Morryston Hospital .....	3	1	—	4
Totals .....	247	338	43	628

\* treated as outpatient.

574 fewer children received operative treatment at Hospitals than during 1952. There were at the end of 1953, 768 children on the waiting list for admission ; an increase of 157 on the figure at the 31st December, 1952. There was, however, a considerable decrease in the waiting list for specialist examination.

Comparison of the waiting lists at the end of 1952 and at the end of 1953 is as follows :—



Hospital	Waiting for Specialist Examination		Waiting for admission to Hospital		Total	
	At 31 Dec. 1952	At 31 Dec. 1953	At 31 Dec. 1952	At 31 Dec. 1953	At 31 Dec. 1952	At 31 Dec. 1953
West Wales .....	48	40	203	182	251	222
Llanelly .....	—	—	326	371	326	371
Amman Valley .....	273	2	60	158	333	160
Llandovery .....	4	18	22	57	26	75
Total .....	325	60	611	768	936	828

741 miscellaneous cases received non-operative treatment at Hospital Outpatient Departments.

**Plastic Treatment.**—Professor T. Pomfret Kilner, who has been Hon. Plastic Surgeon to the Committee since the inception of the arrangements for the plastic treatment of children, terminated his association with the Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital, Alton, during the year. It is gratifying to report that Professor Pomfret Kilner agreed to continue his services to the Committee and he made arrangements for children from the County to be treated at The Churchill Hospital, Oxford, where he is Director of the Nuffield Department of Plastic Surgery.

Three cases were treated by him ; two for cleft lip and one for cartilage graft of ear.

**Artificial Light Therapy.**—10 School children received artificial light treatment at the Carmarthen Clinic.

**Asthma.**—The Asthma Clinics at Llanelly, Carmarthen and Ammanford, under the care of Dr. Jones, Deputy Principal School Medical Officer, Dr. E. T. Davies-Humphreys, and Dr. M. J. A. Davies respectively, continue to function successfully. 1,155 attendances were made at the Clinics during the year. There were 61 new cases. Further information is given in the following table :—

	Ammanford.	Llanelly.	Carmarthen.	Total.
No. of cases on 1st January, 1953.....	44	105	92	241
No. of new cases .....	18	23	20	61
No. withdrawn .....	—	10	3	13
No. of cases on 31st December .....	62	118	109	289
Total attendances .....	453	302	400	1155



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, 1953, 2,180 cases were being attended to for all Authorities, viz. :—

County Education Committee .....	1,445
County Health Committee .....	708
West Wales Hospital Management Committee .....	12
Glantawe Hospital Management Committee .....	15

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

	County Education Committee.	Other Authorities.	Total.
Paralysis :			
Infantile .....	39	24	63
Spastic .....	48	13	61
Obstetrical .....	—	—	—
Other .....	1	2	3
Congenital Deformities .....	172	152	324
Infective Conditions of Bones and Joints .....	3	2	5
Non-Infective Conditions of Bones and Joints :			
Rickets .....	6	3	9
Other .....	21	3	24
Static and Postural Defects .....	1,128	521	1,649
Traumatic Deformities .....	17	5	22
Multiple Defects .....	—	—	—
Miscellaneous .....	10	10	20
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>1,445</b>	<b>735</b>	<b>2,180</b>

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

On the 31st December, nineteen children referred from the Orthopaedic Clinics were on the waiting list for hospital inpatient treatment, as compared with twenty-three on the 31st December, 1952.

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	17	28	26	81
Morrison Hospital .....	8	4	124	—
Other Hospitals .....	5	—	—	—
Total .....	30	32	150	81

During the year, there were 14,573 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 .....	579	Tumble .....	116
Garnant .....	73	Llandilo .....	107
Pontyberem .....	51	Carmarthen .....	344
Llandovery .....	86	Burry Port .....	114
St. Clears .....	64	Pencader .....	45
Trimsaran .....	41	Brynamman .....	53
Ammanford .....	275	Llandebie .....	84
Whitland .....	46	Pontyates .....	55
Kidwelly .....	47		

A summary of the work undertaken under the orthopaedic arrangements during 1953 is given in the following table :—

	County Education Committee.	Other Authorities.	Total.
Number of individual cases under Scheme on 1st January, 1953 .....	1480	857	2337
Number of new cases during the year .....	208	278	486
Number of individual cases dealt with during the year .....	1873	1138	—
Number of cases withdrawn from Scheme .....	435	208	643
Number of cases under the Scheme on the 31st December .....	1445	735	2180
Total number of attendances made at the Clinics .....	11254	3319	14573
Number of individual cases received remedial exercises by Sisters .....	363	2	365
Number of individual cases massaged by Sisters .....	—	1	1
Number of home visits by Sisters .....	526	394	920
Number of cases examined by visiting Orthopaedic Surgeon .....	294	181	475
Number of cases recommended in-patient hospital treatment by Surgeon .....	13	1	14



**Speech Therapy.**—During the year, the Authority were able to obtain the services of a Speech Therapist (Mrs. A. St. John Bayley) for eight sessions weekly, and she commenced duties on the 11th May. 164 cases were referred to the speech therapy clinics at Carmarthen, Llanelly, and Ammanford and treatment was recommended for 106. Treatment was not considered necessary in the remaining 58 cases. The speech defects found were :—

	Carmarthen.	Llanelly.	Ammanford.	Total.
Defects of articulation	7	9	18	34
Stammer	11	17	7	35
Retarded Speech	3	6	4	13
Defects of Voice	—	—	2	2
Stammer and poor articulation	1	2	3	6
Excess or inadequate nasal resonance	—	1	1	2
Cleft Palate	2	7	—	9
Retarded speech and poor articulation	—	1	—	1
Slow speech	—	—	1	1
Confusion of sound	—	1	2	3
Total	24	44	38	106

Only three parents refused treatment, but five others were unable to arrange for their children to attend clinics owing to the distances involved.

58 children received treatment at the clinics and they made 652 attendances. Further information is given in the following table :—

Clinics.	Sessions.	Treated.	Attendances.
Carmarthen	47	13	156
Llanelly	125	31	363
Ammanford	28	14	133
Totals	200	58	652

Seven cases were discharged from the clinics with their speech defects cured. One case left the County before the completion of treatment, and 10 were withdrawn from the clinic owing to unsatisfactory attendances ; speech had improved in seven of these cases.

Considerable improvement was noticed in the case of children who attended the clinics regularly and whose parents showed intelligent co-operation.

A summary of the waiting lists on the 31st December is as follows :—



	Carmarthen.	Llanelly.	Ammanford.	Total.
Waiting Treatment .....	8	12	20	40
Not Yet Seen .....	18	11	56	85
Totals .....	26	23	76	125

The parents of 48 of the children not yet seen, had failed to keep an appointment made for them.

**Rheumatic Supervisory Clinics.**—Clinics for the supervision of rheumatic and heart complaints in children were established during the year at Llanelly, Carmarthen and Ammanford. Dr. M. G. Danaher, Assistant Medical Officer, was in charge of the Clinics, and regular monthly sessions were held at each centre.

Children showing abnormal cardiac physical signs, or giving a history of rheumatism or chorea, were referred to the Clinics by School Medical Officers.

Cases of congenital heart disease seen at the Clinics are provisionally classified. In general, such cases require hospital investigation, many of them demanding the application of an exacting technique for diagnosis and treatment.

Rheumatic children, however, require protection against recurring infection and the observation of children who have had acute rheumatism is an important aspect of the work. Relapse is a frequent feature of rheumatic disease in childhood and its early recognition is of prime importance.

The main work of the Clinics is, therefore, concerned with the observation of children who have had "juvenile rheumatism," with an effort to prevent recrudescence of a disease which can exert such a progressively incapacitating influence.

The intelligent co-operation of parent and child in regard to precautions to be observed is most desirable. It is important, wherever possible, that the child leads a normal life in relation to games and exercise, endeavouring to maintain a proper balance between excessive fatigue and undue restriction.

The following is a summary of the cases seen at the Clinics :—

Defect.	No. of cases.
Observation following acute rheumatism .....	39
Active carditis .....	13
Congenital lesions .....	5
Chorea .....	11
Anaemia .....	3
Total Number of cases .....	71



251 attendances (157 at Llanelly, 42 at Carmarthen and 52 at Ammanford), were made at the Clinics.

At the end of the year there were 60 cases (38 at Llanelly, 11 at Carmarthen and 11 at Ammanford) on the registers of the Clinics.

**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. Williams.	Others.	Total.
Total number of children examined during 1953 .....	632	71	15	718
Number of these children who were :				
(a) Contacts .....	253	22	6	281
(b) Under school age .....	228	14	7	249
(c) Found to be suffering from :				
(i) Respiratory Tuberculosis	12	—	1	13
(ii) Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis .....	8	—	—	8
(d) Still under observation but not diagnosed at 31/12/53 .....	141	—	10	151
(e) Found with no evidence of active tuberculosis .....	471	71	4	546
Analysis of Non-Respiratory cases :				
(a) Spine .....	—	—	—	—
(b) Hip .....	—	—	—	—
(c) Knee .....	1	—	—	1
(d) Abdomen .....	1	—	—	1
(e) Glands .....	2	—	—	2
(f) Shoulder .....	—	—	—	—
(g) Other sites .....	4	—	—	4
Treatment :				
(a) Number treated in Sanatoria .....	8	—	—	8
(b) Number treated in Hospital .....	11	3	1	15
(c) Number treated in Surgical Hospital .....	32	—	—	32
(d) Number treated in Open-Air School .....	17	2	—	19

### MASS RADIOGRAPHY

Early in the year, a Mass Radiography Unit of the Regional Hospital Board visited the County to undertake a survey of the general population including school children 14 years of age and over. One primary school was also surveyed.



3,367 pupils were X-rayed ; 106 (3.15%) of whom were recalled for further examination. One case (0.03%) was diagnosed as suffering from respiratory tuberculosis and 7 (0.21%) were referred to the Chest Physicians for further observation. The remaining 98 (2.91%) were a miscellaneous group of non-tuberculous conditions and abnormalities.

Teaching and canteen staffs were invited to attend for X-ray examination and 312 teachers and canteen staffs were X-rayed. Of this number 28 (8.97%) were recalled for further examination. There were no cases of respiratory tuberculosis but two (0.64%) were referred to the Chest Physicians for further observation. The other 26 cases were a miscellaneous group of non-tuberculous conditions and abnormalities.

### **REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL SCHOOL DENTAL OFFICER**

The prospects of the School Dental Service improved during the year with the appointment of two full-time Dental Officers—Mr. D. G. Brett Williams, who commenced duties on the 1st June, and Mr. W. E. T. Llewelyn who commenced duties on the 7th September.

Unfortunately the staffing position was not maintained as Mr. Brett Williams terminated his appointment on the 31st December, and at the beginning of 1953 the staff were still two short of establishment as compared with three at the end of 1952.

Efforts made early in the year to implement the decision of the Committee to employ general dental practitioners on a sessional basis met with no success.

The shortage of staff again made it necessary to restrict dental treatment to children attending Primary Schools in the County. By this means only could an attempt be made to achieve the prime purpose of the School Dental Service—the preservation of teeth.

During the year, all the Primary Schools were visited for dental inspection and 16,164 children were examined ; 13,403 of whom (82.92%) were found to require treatment. Consents to treatment were received in respect of 10,549, a percentage of 78.71.

608 treatment sessions were held at the three fixed Clinics in the County and 704 sessions at Schools. A summary of the work undertaken is as follows :—

Individual children treated	.....	.....	6884
Attendances for treatment	.....	.....	9859
Teeth extracted	.....	.....	8921
Teeth saved by filling	.....	.....	2935
Teeth received minor treatment	.....	.....	3078
Administrations of general anaesthetic	.....	.....	3867

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



There now appears to be a steady increase in the proportion of filling work undertaken as will be seen from the following figures :—

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.
1953—	3.40 teeth extracted for each tooth filled.

As compared with 1952, the number of teeth extracted per tooth filled was reduced by nearly a half. The position cannot, however, be considered to be satisfactory but efforts to secure a further improvement are largely dependent on the recruitment of a full complement of staff.

The increase in staff made the resumption of orthodontic work possible on a small scale towards the end of the year and six cases received treatment. Orthodontic work is an important branch of dental treatment but it cannot be developed to anything like its proper extent without adequate staff.

In conclusion, I have once again to thank the Principal School Medical Officer, Medical and Dental Staff, Health Visitors and Nurses for their valued co-operation and assistance.

G. UNGOED GRIFFITHS,  
Principal School Dental Officer.

### SCHOOL MILK AND MEALS

The latest information available at the end of the year showed that out of a total attendance of 24,167 on a particular day, milk and meals were being supplied as follows :—

Milk	.....	.....	19,248 children (79.65%)
Meals	.....	.....	16,327 children (67.56%)

As compared with twelve months before, the figure for meals represents a decrease of over 5%, and that for milk represents an increase of over 5%.

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	.....	.....	185
Tuberculin Tested	.....	.....	19
Accredited	.....	.....	10
Non-designated	.....	.....	10
National Dried Milk	.....	.....	2

There was an increase of 1 in the number of Departments receiving pasteurised milk as compared with 1952. Arrangements for pupils from one 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. Both cleared up after treatment and were allowed to return to duty.

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. 3,581 parents were present at the medical inspections during the year, equivalent to a percentage of 30.1.

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.

A good deal of assistance is also rendered by the Inspectors of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, but their work relating to problem families and neglected children is now-undertaken through the Children's Officer.

### **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.



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

197 handicapped children in the County have been ascertained to require special educational treatment. Forty-one of these were on the 31st December, 1953, pupils at Residential Special Schools while fifteen 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	—	3	5
Partially Blind .....	8	—	1	9
Deaf .....	14	—	7	21
Partially Deaf .....	1	—	—	1
Delicate .....	8	—	8	16
Physically Handicapped :				
(a) Heart .....	3	3	24	30
(b) Spastics .....	1	7	23	31
(c) Others .....	—	3	40	43
Educationally Subnormal .....	1	2	33**	36
Maladjusted .....	2*	—	1	3
Epileptics .....	1	—	1	2
Total .....	41	15	141	197

\* 1 at Independent School.

\*\* Includes 19 children recommended for admission to special classes at ordinary schools.

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 288 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 116 children on the registers of these classes at the beginning of 1954.

There is no progress to report in connection with the establishment of the proposed residential special school for educationally subnormal children.

During the year, a proposal to establish a residential special school for delicate children at Pendine, was submitted to the Ministry of Education for approval.



TABLE I.

## MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING

## MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

## A.—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups :—

Entrants .....	2700
Second Age Group .....	2246
Third Age Group .....	1505
Total .....	6451

Number of other Periodic Inspections .....

Grand Total ..... 9443

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS

Number of Special Inspections .....	2386
Number of Re-Inspections .....	1469
Total .....	3855

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 .....	22	637	658
Second Age Group .....	214	235	425
Third Age Group .....	173	98	254
Total (prescribed groups) .....	409	970	1337
Other Periodic Inspections.....	250	420	654
Grand Total .....	659	1390	1991



TABLE II.

## (A.) RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1953

Defect or Disease.	PERIODIC INSPECTIONS.			SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.	
	No. of defects.			No. of defects.	
	Requiring treatment. (2)	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment. (3)	Requiring treatment. (4)	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment. (5)	
(1)					
Skin					
Eyes — (a) Vision	75	159	8	11	
(b) Squint	659	301	229	384	
(c) Other	71	149	27	19	
Ears — (a) Hearing	76	71	13	6	
(b) Otitis Media	19	30	6	5	
(c) Other	31	103	4	4	
Nose or Throat	17	60	—	5	
Speech	527	1171	120	96	
Cervical Glands	61	52	8	6	
Heart and Circulation	10	354	3	38	
Lungs	50	311	29	39	
Developmental—	138	345	24	115	
(a) Hernia	28	47	1	2	
(b) Other	12	65	6	11	
Orthopaedic—					
(a) Posture	84	72	11	15	
(b) Flat foot	348	184	108	10	
(c) Other	232	226	38	23	
Nervous system—					
(a) Epilepsy	7	17	2	10	
(b) Other	9	74	5	4	
Psychological—					
(a) Development	21	68	4	23	
(b) Stability	1	20	—	3	
Other	53	178	18	59	



## (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 .....	2700	1634	60.51	1061	39.30	5	.19
Second Age Group .....	2246	1165	51.88	1069	47.59	12	.53
Third Age Group .....	1505	712	47.30	789	52.43	4	.27
Other Periodic Inspections .....	2992	1536	51.34	1445	48.29	11	.37
Total .....	9443	5047	53.44	4364	46.22	32	.34



TABLE III.

## INFESTATION WITH VERMIN

(i)	Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorized persons	.....	92121
(ii)	Total number of <i>individual</i> pupils found to be infested	.....	595
(iii)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944)	.....	33
(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 uncleanness, for which see Table III.)

				Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year.	
				By the Authority.	Otherwise.
Ringworm :	(i) Scalp	.....	.....	13	—
	(ii) Body	.....	.....	9	—
Scabies	.....	.....	.....	3	1
Impetigo	.....	.....	.....	21	—
Other skin diseases	.....	.....	.....	31	3
Total				77	4



## 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 .....	—	164
Errors of Refraction (including squint)	—	1462
Total .....	—	1626
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were		
(a) Prescribed .....	—	770
(b) Obtained .....	—	616

## 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 .....	—	247
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis .....	—	338
(c) for other nose and throat conditions.....	—	43
Received other forms of treatment .....	—	741
Total .....	—	1369



## GROUP 4.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

(a) Number treated as in-patients in hospitals .....	79	
	By the Authority.	Otherwise.
(b) Number treated otherwise, e.g., in clinics or outpatient departments .....	1873	231

## 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 .....	58	—



## GROUP 7.—OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN.

				Number of cases treated.	
				By the Authority.	Otherwise.
(a)	Miscellaneous minor ailments	.....		835	—
(b)	Other (specify)				
	1. General Surgical	.....	.....	—	621
	2. General Medical	.....	.....	—	570
	Total	.....		835	1191



TABLE V.

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

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers :—					
(a) Periodic	.....	.....	.....	.....	15656
(b) Specials	.....	.....	.....	.....	508
Total (1)					16164
(2) Number found to require treatment					13403
(3) Number referred for treatment					9437
(4) Number actually treated					6884
(5) Attendances made by pupils for treatment					9859
(6) Half-days devoted to : Inspection					241
Treatment					1312
Total (6)					1553
(7) Fillings : Permanent Teeth					2248
Temporary Teeth					895
Total (7)					3143
(8) Number of Teeth filled : Permanent Teeth					2070
Temporary Teeth					865
Total (8)					2935
(9) Extractions : Permanent Teeth					911
Temporary Teeth					8010
Total (9)					8921
(10) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction					3867
(11) Other operations : Permanent Teeth					1618
Temporary Teeth					1460
Total (11)					3078



DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT BY  
THE AUTHORITY

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officer		(a) Periods	(b) Specials
1532	...	...	...
1532	...	...	...
Total (1)		1532	1532
(2) Number found to require treatment		1532	1532
(3) Number referred for treatment		1532	1532
(4) Number actually treated		1532	1532
(5) Attendance made by pupils for treatment		1532	1532
(6) Half-days devoted to inspection		1532	1532
Treatment		1532	1532
Total (6)		1532	1532
(7) Fillings: Permanent Teeth		1532	1532
Temporary Teeth		1532	1532
Total (7)		1532	1532
(8) Number of Teeth filled: Permanent Teeth		1532	1532
Temporary Teeth		1532	1532
Total (8)		1532	1532
(9) Extractions: Permanent Teeth		1532	1532
Temporary Teeth		1532	1532
Total (9)		1532	1532
(10) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction		1532	1532
(11) Other operations: Permanent Teeth		1532	1532
Temporary Teeth		1532	1532
Total (11)		1532	1532