

[Report 1956] / Schools Dept., Carmarthenshire County Council.

Contributors

Carmarthenshire (Wales). County Council. Schools Department.

Publication/Creation

1956

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Carmarthenshire County Council

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Annual Report

OF THE

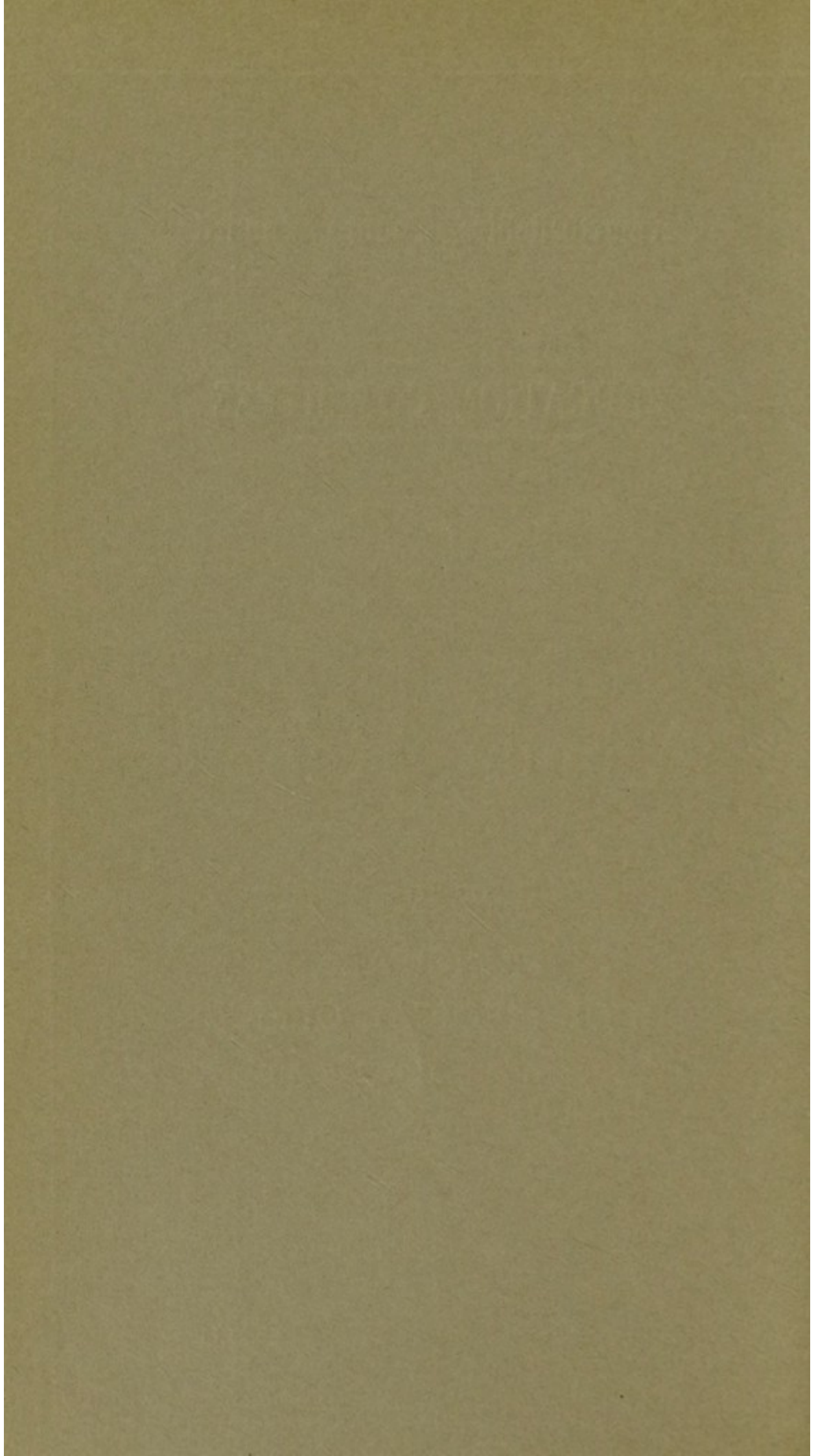
PRINCIPAL

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

for the Year ended 31st December, 1956

LLANELLY:

Printed by the Llanelly Mercury Printing Co., Ltd.



Carmarthenshire County Council

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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EDUCATION COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1956

I have pleasure in submitting my report on the School Health Service for 1956. The condition of the children has remained at a high level as shown by the fact that of 8,670 children examined at routine medical inspections only 43 (0.50%) were considered to be in an unsatisfactory physical condition.

Routine medical inspections have been satisfactorily carried out and the School Clinics have continued to do good work.

The year was one of comparative freedom from communicable diseases but there was one small outbreak of sonne dysentery at a rural school. The outbreak was part of an epidemic in the local community.

A noteworthy feature of the year was the commencement of the BCG Vaccination of children against tuberculosis and the introduction of vaccination against poliomyelitis. Although these services were the responsibility of the Local Health Authority, the School Health Service was closely associated with them and much of the work was carried out by School Medical Officers.

It is regrettable to have to report that there was a further increase in the waiting list for ophthalmic examination. This is the fourth successive year in which an increase has had to be recorded.

There has been an appreciable decrease in the waiting lists for ear, nose and throat treatment.

The appointment of an Educational Psychologist is a welcome addition to the staff of the Education Committee and will enable greater attention to be paid to the problems of the educationally subnormal and maladjusted child.

The School Dental Service maintained its position but no great improvement can be expected unless additional staff is recruited. The seriousness of the position can be appreciated when it is realised that there are only two whole-time dental officers on the staff under retiring age.

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 Service and to an important degree, with the Education Department from whose Director and Staff we received the closest support in this work.

The close liaison developed with general practitioners is fully maintained.

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

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

Principal School Dental Officer :

G. Ungood Griffiths, L.D.S., R.C.S. (ceased 31st December).

School Dental Officers :

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

W. E. T. Llewelyn, L.D.S., R.C.S.

D. L. Walters, L.D.S., R.C.S.

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.

Miss Daphne M. Thomas (part-time) (ceased 2nd October).

Mrs. Florence Evans (part-time) (commenced 13th November).

Senior Orthopaedic Sister :

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

Assistant Orthopaedic Sister :

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

Speech Therapist :

Miss M. Philippa Francis, L.C.S.T. (ceased 23rd June).

Mrs. R. M. Morgan, L.C.S.T. (commenced 1st September).

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.

Educational Psychologist :

C. B. E. James, B.A., B.Ed., A.B.Ps.S. (commenced 1st October).

Consultants available for School Health Service :

Orthopaedic Surgeons :

G. D. Rowley, M.Ch. (Orthop.). Swansea.

E. Mervyn Evans, F.R.C.S., 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., Oxford.

Paediatrician :

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

Dermatologist :

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

D. B. Ll. Morgan, M.D.

Assistant Chest Physicians :

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

Bronwen N. Davies, B.Sc., 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.

E. J. Eurfyl Jones, M.A., B.M., B.Ch., D.P.M.

Child Psychiatrist :

G. Crosse, M.B., B.S., D.P.M.

Pathologist :

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

Bacteriologist under Medical Research Council :

M. H. Hughes, M.A., D.M., D.T.M. and H., Dip. Bact.

NURSING

District.	Nurse.	Qualifications.
Whole-time Nurses.		
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	R. M. Walters	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
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. Jones	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Tumble	E. J. M. Jones	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Llandybie	A. E. Jones	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Pencader	O. M. Hobson	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Bancyfelin	E. N. E. Davies	S.R.N., H. V. Cert.
Llandeilo	C. M. Bailey	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Nantgaredig	E. Evans	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	M. E. Fisk	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Part-time Nurses.		
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

No schools were closed during the year on the advice of the Principal School Medical Officer on account of outbreaks of communicable diseases.

The practice of closing schools has long been discounted as an effective means of preventing the spread of infection and it is only in very exceptional circumstances that it is resorted to.

The communicable diseases mainly affecting school children are measles and whooping cough.

The Measles epidemic referred to in my last report gradually died down early in 1956, although 520 cases were notified to District Medical Officers of Health during the first quarter of the year. The total notifications for the year were 577 cases.

227 cases of whooping cough were notified to District Medical Officers of Health during the year.

The following comparison of the notifications received during the last four years is of interest :—

	1953	1954	1955	1956
Measles	809	11	3094	577
Whooping Cough	272	222	130	227

Dysentery.—An outbreak of diarrhoea and vomiting was reported at Tremolet V.P. School on the 12th October, when twenty children were stated to be affected. The illness commenced before lunch on the previous day. An investigation was undertaken and two teachers, two members of the kitchen staff, and twenty-nine children from nineteen families proved to be infected with Sonne Dysentery. It was not until early December that the last case in the school cleared up. There were also three cases amongst Pendine children attending Laugharne Senior Centre. This School epidemic was an integral part of a more generalised epidemic in the local community.

Acute Poliomyelitis.—There were no cases of acute poliomyelitis in children in the County during the year as compared with eleven cases in 1955.

An important advance in the efforts to combat the ravages of acute poliomyelitis was made during the year when the Ministry of Health approved arrangements for the vaccination of children against the disease. Children born in the years 1947 to 1954 were eligible for registration with a view to vaccination and it is praise-

worthy to record that the parents of 10,367 children in the age-group gave their consent to have their children vaccinated. This represented 55% of the eligible child population and it is understood that Carmarthenshire had the highest registration rate of all Local Health Authorities in England and Wales.

The amount of vaccine available was very limited and on instructions from the Ministry vaccination was restricted to children born in certain months. The following is a summary of the work carried out :—

Months of Birth.	Registered.	Received the full course of two injections.	Received only one injection.
November 1947-1954	798	651	12
March 1951-1954	360	281	9
August 1947-1954	827	217	13
October 1947-1950	493	—	23
Total	2478	1149	57

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 45 Schools were visited for the re-examination of children previously referred for treatment or observation. 8,670 children were examined in the routine age groups and 3,817 special inspections and re-inspections were made. A summary of the findings of medical inspection is given in Table III. at the end of this report. The following are notes on some of the defects found :—

Skin Diseases.—30 cases required treatment and 139 cases were referred for observation.

Eye Defects.—Treatment was advised for 682 children with defective vision and 97 children with squint, while 825 cases of defective vision and 123 cases of squint were referred for observation.

Ear Conditions.—26 cases of defective hearing were referred for treatment and 22 for observation. Treatment was required for 17 cases of Otitis Media (ear discharge) and a further 70 cases were referred for observation. 5 cases of other ear conditions were also referred for treatment and 41 for observation.

Nose and Throat Conditions.—There were 303 cases of nose and throat defects (including enlarged tonsils and adenoids, sinusitis, antral conditions, etc.) requiring treatment, and a further 875 were referred for observation.

Speech.—Treatment was advised for 98 cases of defective speech and 120 cases were referred for observation.

Nutrition.—In previous years, children were classified into one of three categories, viz. "poor general condition," "fair general condition," and "good general condition." As from the beginning of this year, the Ministry have reduced the number of categories to two—"Satisfactory" and "Unsatisfactory" physical condition. In amplification, the Ministry stated that the reason for having two categories only is a practical one. Every child whose physical condition is considered unsatisfactory should be thoroughly investigated, including his home circumstances so that he can be made as fit as possible.

Of the 8,670 children examined at routine medical examination only 43 (0.50%) were considered to be in an unsatisfactory physical condition and follow-up investigations were carried out.

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. 1,590 surprise visits to Schools were made by the School Nurses during the year to make cleanliness surveys. Table II at the end of this report summarises this work. In addition, the Nurses made 3,884 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 45 Schools were re-inspected by the Medical Officers and 953 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. 615 children were known to have been treated during the year. The total attendances at the Clinics were 1,687, i.e., 933 at Llanelly, 322 at Carmarthen, and 432 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.

1,144 children were dealt with by the Eye Specialists during the year, viz :—

	Outpatients.	Inpatients.	Total.
West Wales Hospital	345	14	359
Llanelly Hospital	524	58	582
Amman Valley Hospital	203	—	203
Totals	1072	72	1144

Glasses were prescribed for 545 children and records held by the School Medical Officer showed that 510 had been provided with glasses at the end of the year.

551 children were on the waiting lists for specialist ophthalmic examination on the 31st December, 1956, viz :—

Carmarthen	395
Llanelly	73
Amman Valley	83
Total	551

Ear, Nose and Throat Defects.—Children with ear, nose and throat defects are referred for specialist examination at the West Wales, Llanelly, Llandovery and Amman Valley Hospitals. With the exception of the Amman Valley Hospital, where the arrangements are made by the Hospital Secretary, children are directed by the School Medical Officer to attend for these examinations. 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. Cases recommended

surgical treatment at Llandovery Hospital are treated at the West Wales General Hospital. 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	2	117	47	166
Llanelly Hospital	67	387	120	574
Amman Valley Hospital	—	118	6	124
Totals	69	622	173	864

155 more children received operative treatment at Hospitals than during 1955. There were at the end of 1956, 343 children on the waiting list for admission to Llanelly, Amman Valley and the West Wales Hospitals.

Comparison of the waiting lists at the end of 1955 and at the end of 1956 is as follows :—

Hospital	Waiting for Specialist Examination		Waiting for admission to Hospital		Total	
	At 31 Dec. 1955	At 31 Dec. 1956	At 31 Dec. 1955	At 31 Dec. 1956	At 31 Dec. 1955	At 31 Dec. 1956
West Wales and Llandovery	151	80	?	169	?	249
Llanelly	30	17	333	107	363	124
Amman Valley	16	12	157	67	173	79
Total	197	109	?	343	?	452

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

Partially Deaf Children.—Seven schools were visited for audiometric surveys and 155 children of about 7 years of age tested. Eight children suffered from defective hearing and were fully investigated but none was sufficiently deaf to need a hearing aid.

Plastic Treatment.—The arrangements for the plastic treatment of children at The Churchill Hospital, Oxford, continued during the year.

Two cases were treated there ; one cleft palate and one deformity of the ear.

Artificial Light Therapy.—Twelve 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. Lewis respectively, continued to function successfully. 1,124 attendances were made at the Clinics during the year. There were 82 new cases. Further information is given in the following table :—

	Ammanford. Llanelly. Carmarthen. Total.			
No. of cases on 1st January, 1956....	93	111	120	324
No. of new cases	16	37	29	82
No. withdrawn	—	4	—	4
No. of cases on 31st December	109	144	149	402
Total attendances	187	516	421	1124

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. As from 1st October, 1956, the charge for the supervision of the cases of other Authorities was increased from 25/- to 31/6d. per case per annum, but the Health Committee paid a fixed lump sum in respect of children under school age.

On the 31st December, 1956, 2,156 cases were being attended to for all Authorities, viz. :—

County Education Committee	1265
County Health Committee	865
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	35	18	53
Spastic	37	14	51
Obstetrical	—	—	—
Other	1	1	2
Congenital Deformities	133	115	248
Infective Conditions of Bones and Joints	1	3	4
Non-Infective Conditions of Bones and Joints :			
Rickets	4	1	5
Other	15	3	18
Static and Postural Defects	1025	725	1750
Traumatic Deformities	7	4	11
Multiple Defects	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	7	7	14
Totals	1265	891	2156

Mr. Gordon Rowley, the Orthopaedic Surgeon, treated 33 of the Authority's cases as inpatients: 3 at Morriston Hospital and 30 at Gorseinon Hospital. Cases for special or X-ray examination were referred to the Outpatient Department of Morriston and Llanelly Hospitals.

On the 31st December, 10 children referred from the Orthopaedic Clinics were on the waiting list for hospital inpatient treatment, as compared with 20 on the 31st December, 1955.

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	20	24	52	132
Other Hospitals	—	—	—	6
Total	20	24	52	138

During the year, there were 15,318 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	.....	614	Tumble	.....	108
Garnant	.....	67	Llandeilo	.....	90
Pontyberem	.....	62	Carmarthen	.....	320
Llandovery	.....	70	Burry Port	.....	131
St. Clears	.....	82	Pencader	.....	34
Trimsaran	.....	45	Brynamman	.....	60
Ammanford	.....	264	Llandybie	.....	53
Whitland	.....	50	Pontyates	.....	62
Kidwelly	.....	44			

A summary of the work undertaken under the orthopaedic arrangements during 1956 is given in the following table :—

	County Education Committee.	Other Authorities.	Total.
Number of individual cases under Scheme on 1st January, 1956	1303	832	2135
Number of new cases during the year	392	375	767
Number of individual cases dealt with during the year	1695	1207 1027	—
Number of cases withdrawn from Scheme	430	316	746
Number of cases under the Scheme on the 31st December	1265	891	2156
Total number of attendances made at the Clinics	11245	4073 1207	15318
Number of individual cases received remedial exercises by Sisters	499	2	501
Number of individual cases massaged by Sisters	—	—	—
Number of home visits by Sisters	644	446	1090
Number of cases examined by visiting Orthopaedic Surgeons	284	159	443
Number of cases recommended in-patient hospital treatment by Surgeons	22	6	28

Speech Therapy.—Miss M. P. Francis terminated her appointment as Speech Therapist on the 23rd June and her successor, Mrs. R. M. Morgan, commenced duties on the 1st September.

The four Speech Therapy Clinics established by the Committee continued to function successfully during the year. The number of sessions held at Ammanford was reduced to two during the year and an additional session allotted to Llanelly, making a total of five sessions there. One session per week is devoted by the Speech Therapist to the follow-up of cases at schools.

At the end of the year, sessions as follows were held weekly at each clinic :—

Clinic.	Number of sessions.
Carmarthen	2
Llanelly	5
Ammanford	2
Llandeilo	1

93 new cases were referred to the clinics and treatment was recommended and commenced for 69 of them. 18 did not require treatment and treatment was deferred until later in six instances.

160 cases received treatment at the Clinics, 69, of which were treated for the first time during the year. The following is a summary of the defects found to require treatment during the year :—

	Carmarthen	Llanelly	Ammanford	Llandeilo	Total
Defects of Articulation	5	25	3	2	35
Stammer	6	6	1	3	16
Excessive or inadequate nasal resonance	—	3	2	—	5
Rhotacism	—	6	4	3	13
Total	11	40	10	8	69

2,116 attendances were made at the Clinics as follows :—

Clinics.	Sessions.	Treated.	Attendances.
Carmarthen	72	31	402
Llanelly	164	74	1129
Ammanford	78	34	384
Llandeilo	34	21	201
Totals	348	160	2116

59 cases were discharged from the clinics :—

28 with their defects cured, 8 sufficiently improved as not to warrant further attendances, 15 for lack of co-operation and unsatisfactory attendances, four of school leaving age, two left the County, and two for other reasons.

Generally, the speech of the children who attended the Clinics regularly, and whose parents showed intelligent co-operation, improved considerably.

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

Carmarthen	10
Llanelly	56
Ammanford	21
Llandeilo	5
	—
Total	92
	—

Rheumatic Supervisory Clinics.—The Clinics for the supervision of rheumatic and heart complaints in children were continued 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	55
Observation following chorea	13
Congenital lesions	26
Delicate	2
Anaemia	2
Asthma	1
	—
Total Number of Cases	99
	—

162 attendances (105 at Llanelly, 23 at Carmarthen and 34 at Ammanford), were made at the Clinics.

At the end of the year there were 63 cases (39 at Llanelly, 15 at Carmarthen and 9 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. D. B. Ll. Morgan	Dr. J. T. Jones.	Others.	Total.
Total number of children examined during 1956	834	418	22	1274
Number of these children who were :				
(a) Contacts	242	112	—	354
(b) Under school age	108	120	2	230
(c) Found to be suffering from :				
(i) Respiratory Tuberculosis	8	5	—	13
(ii) Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	4	3	—	7
(d) Still under observation but not diagnosed at 31/12/56	10	33	2	45
(e) Found with no evidence of active tuberculosis	812	377	20	1209
Analysis of Non-Respiratory cases :				
(a) Spine	—	1	—	1
(b) Hip	1	—	—	1
(c) Knee	—	—	—	—
(d) Abdomen	—	—	—	—
(e) Glands	2	—	—	2
(f) Shoulder	—	—	—	—
(g) Other sites	1	2	—	3
Treatment :				
(a) Number treated in Sanatoria.....	—	5	—	5
(b) Number treated in Hospital	3	11	2	16
(c) Number treated in Surgical Hospital	1	3	—	4
(d) Number treated in Open-Air School	—	8	—	8

BCG Vaccination.—BCG Vaccination of children of 13 years of age was commenced in the County during the year and this is a further important step to safeguard the health of young children. 778 children were skin tested, 633 of whom were found to be negative. Of the latter 623 were vaccinated.

Child Guidance.—The Child Guidance Clinic established by the Cefncoed Hospital Management Committee continued to be held at the Brynmair Clinic, Llanelly. 17 new cases were referred to the Clinic by School Medical Officers, and records are held of a further 9 cases referred by consultants and general medical practitioners.

REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL DENTAL OFFICER

Although this report is in my name, my predecessor, Mr. G. Ungood Griffiths, was responsible for the School Dental Service during the whole of 1956. Acknowledgment has already been made to Mr. Griffiths for the service he has rendered to the Committee during the long years he was in your service but before proceeding with a resume of the work for 1956 I would like to pay tribute to him for his ready advice and unfailing consideration, since I came to the service in 1953. It is a pleasure, too, to know that his services have been retained by the authority in a part-time temporary capacity.

The resignation of Mr. Griffiths is a blow to the School Dental Service as it has to be recorded that no response has been received to advertisements for additional staff.

Nearly all primary schools were visited for dental inspection during the year, and 18,057 children were examined; 15,779 (87.38%) were found to require treatment. Consents to treatment were received in respect of 11,962 a percentage of 75.81.

875 treatment sessions were held at the three fixed Clinics in the County and 951 sessions at schools. A summary of the work undertaken is as follows :—

Individual children treated	.....	.....	.....	6822
Attendances for treatment	.....	.....	.....	9747
Teeth extracted	.....	.....	.....	7258
Teeth saved by filling	.....	.....	.....	3708
Teeth received minor treatment	.....	.....	.....	2865
Administrations of general anaesthetic	.....	.....	.....	3838

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

Conservative treatment which is the aim of the service is still not accepted as fully as it should be. The following figures summarise the position :—

- 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.

1954—2.27 teeth extracted for each tooth filled.

1955—1.94 teeth extracted for each tooth filled.

1956—1.96 teeth extracted for each tooth filled.

Twenty-five new cases were referred to the Dental Officers for Orthodontic Treatment, and twenty-five cases whose treatment had been commenced before 1956 attended for review and continuation of treatment.

The following is a summary of the treatment undertaken :—

(a) Cases commenced during the year	.....	25
(b) Cases carried forward from previous year	.....	25
(c) Cases completed during the year	.....	15
(d) Cases discontinued during the year	.....	13
(e) Pupils treated with appliances	.....	22
(f) Removable appliances fitted	.....	26
(g) Fixed appliances fitted	.....	—
(h) Number of pupils supplied with artificial dentures	.....	14
(i) Miscellaneous treatment	.....	9

In conclusion, may I express my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Education Committee for the confidence they have placed in me. I hope that the coming years will prove that the pioneer work done by Mr. Ungood Griffiths has really been effective in producing a dental health conscious community.

Finally I have to thank the Principal School Medical Officer, Medical and Dental Staff, Health Visitors and Nurses whose ever ready co-operation and assistance makes my task much less onerous.

WILLIAM LLEWELYN,

Principal Dental Officer.

SCHOOL MILK AND MEALS

The latest information available at the end of the year showed that out of a total attendance of 23,892 on a particular day, milk and meals were being supplied as follows :—

Milk	.....	19,362 children (81.39%).
Meals	.....	17,205 children (72.12%).

This compares with percentages of 78.92 and 71.42 respectively for milk and meals a year ago.

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 these grades of milk are not available, satisfactory samples are obtained before the

proposed 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	.....	.....	.....	.....	156
Tuberculin Tested	.....	.....	.....	.....	24
Raw	.....	.....	.....	.....	39
Reconstituted Dried Milk	.....	.....	.....	.....	1

Five rural schools were without a supply of milk at the end of the year.

Under the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949-1953, pasteurised milk, as from the 1st October, 1954, could only be sold as such if it was delivered to the consumer in the bottles or containers in which it was pasteurised. Some retailers purchase pasteurised milk in bulk and bottle it themselves or transfer it to other containers for retail.

With regard to tuberculin tested milk it is only in exceptional circumstances that the Minister of Education is prepared to approve for grant purposes expenditure on milk, the purchase price of which is more than the maximum price for pasteurised milk.

The arrangements for regular bacteriological investigations in respect of all school canteen staffs continued during the year with satisfactory results in all cases.

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. 2,291 parents were present at the medical inspections during the year, equivalent to a percentage of 19.86. Greater efforts should be made by parents to attend the first medical examination of children at school.

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.

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

188 handicapped children in the County have been ascertained to require special educational treatment. Seventy-nine of these were on the 31st January, 1957, pupils at Residential Special Schools while ~~six~~ sixteen 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.
Blind	5	—	—
Partially Blind	8	—	1
Deaf	17	—	1
Partially Deaf	1	—	—
Delicate	6	3	11
Physically Handicapped :			
(a) Heart	2	2	2
(b) Spastics	7*	4	10
(c) Others	3	7	8
Educationally Subnormal	23	1	75†
Maladjusted	4	—	—
Epileptics	3	—	1
Total	79	17	109

* 2 at Independent School.

† Includes 24 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 135 children who are probably educationally subnormal but who require further detailed examination.

Classes for backward children are held at fourteen schools in the County, and there were 209 children on the registers of these classes at the beginning of 1957.

Highmead Joint Residential Special School, for educationally subnormal children over 11 years of age, was opened early in 1956 and eight children from the County were immediately admitted. On the 31st January, 1957, there were 22 Carmarthenshire children at the school, and there was a waiting list of 51 children. 20 of the latter were, however, under 10 years of age and the parents of another 18 had refused permission for their children's admission.

In addition to the foregoing, 24 educationally subnormal children had been recommended admission to special classes in ordinary schools.

The Educational Psychologist appointed by the Education Committee commenced duties on the 1st October and his services will be valuable in dealing with the problems presented by educationally subnormal and maladjusted children.

SCHOOL CLINICS

Location of Clinic.	Type of Clinic.	No. of Sessions
Permanent Clinics :		
Brynmair Clinic, Goring Road, Llanelly	Orthopaedic	Six fortnightly
	Asthma	One weekly
	Minor Ailments	Six weekly
	Rheumatic Supervisory	Three monthly
	Speech Therapy	Five weekly
	Dental	As required
The Clinic, High Street, Amman- ford	Orthopaedic	Two weekly
	Asthma	One weekly
	Minor Ailments	Five weekly
	Rheumatic Supervisory	One monthly
	Speech Therapy	Two weekly
	Dental	As required
Pond Street Clinic, Pentrefelin, Carmarthen	Asthma	One weekly
	Minor Ailments	Five weekly
	Rheumatic Supervisory	One monthly
	Speech Therapy	Two weekly
	Dental	Three weekly and as required
Penuel Old Vestry, St. Clears	Orthopaedic	Two fortnightly
	Dental	As required
Temporary Clinics :		
Dynevor Church Hall, Llandeilo.....	Speech Therapy	One weekly
Penuel Chapel Vestry, Penuel Street, Carmarthen	Orthopaedic	Two weekly
Salem Chapel Vestry, New Road, Llandeilo	do.	Two fortnightly
The Reading Room and Institute, Llandovery	do.	do.
The Institute, Memorial Square, Burry Port	do.	do.
The Church Hall, Brynamman	do.	do.
Assembly Rooms, Memorial Hall, Llandybie	do.	do.
Memorial Hall, Pontyberem	do.	do.
Welfare Hall, Pontyates	do.	do.
Memorial Hall, Whitland	do.	do.
County Primary School, Garnant.....	do.	do.
Church Hall, Pencader	do.	do.
Bethania Chapel Vestry, Tumble.....	do.	do.
The Institute, Trimsaran	do.	One fortnightly
Trinity Methodist Schoolroom, Kidwelly	do.	do.

TABLE I.

**MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING
MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS
(INCLUDING SPECIAL SCHOOLS)**

A.—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Age Groups Inspected and Number of Pupils Examined in each :

Entrants	.....	.....	.....	2227
Leavers Primary School	.....	.....	.....	2364
School Leavers	.....	.....	.....	1402
Total	.....	.....	.....	5993
Additional Periodic Inspections	.....	.....	.....	2677
Grand Total	.....	.....	.....	8670

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS

Number of Special Inspections	.....	.....	.....	2864
Number of Re-Inspections	.....	.....	.....	953
Total	.....	.....	.....	3817

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).

Age Groups Inspected. (1)	For defective vision (excluding squint). (2)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIIA. (3)	Total individual pupils. (4)
Entrants	27	422	443
Leavers, Primary School	167	189	345
School Leavers	145	83	215
Total	339	694	1003
Additional Periodic Inspections	184	236	402
Grand Total	523	930	1405

D.—CLASSIFICATION OF THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED IN THE AGE GROUPS

Age Groups Inspected	Number of Pupils Inspected.	Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
		No.	% of Col. (2).	No.	% of Col. (2).
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Entrants	2227	2218	99.60	9	0.40
Leavers—Primary School	2364	2344	99.15	20	0.85
School Leavers	1402	1399	99.79	3	0.21
Additional Periodic Inspections	2677	2666	99.59	11	0.41
Total	8670	8627	99.50	43	0.50

TABLE II.

INFESTATION WITH VERMIN

(i) Total number of individual examinations of pupils in schools by the school nurses or other authorised persons	98924
(ii) Total number of <i>individual</i> pupils found to be infested	522
(iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944)	30
(iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944)	—

TABLE III.
RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1956
A.—PERIODIC INSPECTIONS

Defect Code No. (1)	Defect or Disease. (2)	Periodic Inspections.				TOTAL (including all other age groups inspected)	
		Entrants.		Leavers.		Requiring Treatment. (7)	Requiring Observation. (8)
		Requiring Treatment. (3)	Requiring Observation. (4)	Requiring Treatment. (5)	Requiring Observation. (6)		
4	Skin	9	50	4	7	22	123
5	Eyes—						
	(a) Vision	27	21	145	116	523	469
	(b) Squint	43	23	4	5	78	77
	(c) Other	5	19	3	—	31	45
6	Ears—						
	(a) Hearing	2	1	1	1	5	16
	(b) Otitis Media	5	16	—	4	11	52
	(c) Other	1	9	—	2	3	31
7	Nose and Throat	127	347	11	14	219	652
8	Speech	26	30	6	1	63	70
9	Lymphatic Glands	—	72	—	2	2	129
10	Heart	8	39	3	20	24	159
11	Lungs	56	111	7	31	102	294
12	Developmental						
	(a) Hernia	3	7	—	1	8	24
	(b) Other	2	25	4	4	22	106

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease. (2)	Periodic Inspections.				TOTAL (including all other age groups inspected)	
		Entrants.		Leavers.		Requiring Treatment. (7)	Requiring Observation. (8)
		Requiring Treatment. (3)	Requiring Observation. (4)	Requiring Treatment. (5)	Requiring Observation. (6)		
(1)							
13	Orthopaedic— (a) Posture (b) Feet (c) Other Nervous system— (a) Epilepsy (b) Other Psychological— (a) Development (b) Stability Abdomen Other	3 109 75 — 2 1 1 — 5	8 51 46 3 5 12 1 — 41	9 31 9 — — — — — 3	6 6 10 — 2 — — — 9	26 230 105 — 6 6 4 1 25	45 127 136 10 18 39 9 3 130
14							
15							
16							
17							

TABLE III. (Continued)

B.—SPECIAL INSPECTIONS

Defect Code No. (1)	Defect or Disease. (2)	Special Inspections.	
		Requiring Treatment. (3)	Requiring Observation. (4)
4	Skin	8	16
5	Eyes—		
	(a) Vision	159	356
	(b) Squint	19	46
	(c) Other	7	12
6	Ears—		
	(a) Hearing	21	6
	(b) Otitis Media	6	18
	(c) Other	2	10
7	Nose and Throat	84	223
8	Speech	35	50
9	Lymphatic Glands	—	32
10	Heart	7	99
11	Lungs	41	164
12	Developmental		
	(a) Hernia	2	10
	(b) Other	6	35
13	Orthopaedic—		
	(a) Posture	7	6
	(b) Feet	132	35
	(c) Other	57	26
14	Nervous system—		
	(a) Epilepsy	8	13
	(b) Other	2	26
15	Psychological—		
	(a) Development	6	18
	(b) Stability	4	12
16	Abdomen	—	3
17	Other	47	56

TABLE IV.

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

**GROUP 1.—EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND
SQUINT**

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with	
	By the Authority.	Otherwise.
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	—	179
Errors of Refraction (including squint)	—	965
Total	—	1144
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were prescribed	—	545

**GROUP 2.—DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND
THROAT**

	Number of cases known to have been treated	
	By the Authority.	Otherwise.
Received operative treatment		
(a) for diseases of the ear	—	69
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	—	622
(c) for other nose and throat conditions.....	—	173
Received other forms of treatment	—	213
Total	—	1077
Total number of pupils in schools who are known to have been provided with hearing aids :		
(a) in 1956	—	2
(b) in previous years	—	1

GROUP 3.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

	By the Authority.	Otherwise.
Number of pupils known to have been treated at clinics or out-patient departments	1695	190

GROUP 4.—DISEASES OF THE SKIN (excluding uncleanness, for which see Table II.)

	Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year by the Authority
Ringworm : (i) Scalp	2
(ii) Body	3
Scabies	1
Impetigo	63
Other skin diseases	27
Total	96

GROUP 5.—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT

Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics under arrangements made by the Authority	—
---	---

GROUP 6.—SPEECH THERAPY

Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapists under arrangements made by the Authority	160
--	-----

GROUP 7.—OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN

	Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year by the Authority
(a) Number of cases of miscellaneous minor ailments treated by the Authority	615
(b) Pupils who received convalescent treatment under School Health Service arrangements	—
(c) Pupils who received BCG Vaccination	623
(d) Other than (a), (b) and (c) above (specify):	
1.	—
2.	—
3.	—
4.	—
5.	—

TABLE V.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT BY THE AUTHORITY

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers :—	
(a) At Periodic Inspection	17245
(b) As Specials..... ..	812
Total (1)	18057
(2) Number found to require treatment	15779
(3) Number offered treatment	15779
(4) Number actually treated	6822
(5) Number of attendances made by pupils for treatment, including those recorded at heading 11(h)	9747
(6) Half-days devoted to : Periodic (School) Inspection	231
Treatment	1826
Total (6)	2057

(7) Fillings :	Permanent Teeth	.....	.....	.....	3879
	Temporary Teeth	.....	.....	.....	425
Total (7)					4304
(8) Number of Teeth filled :	Permanent Teeth	.....	.....	.....	3313
	Temporary Teeth	.....	.....	.....	395
Total (8)					3708
(9) Extractions :	Permanent Teeth	.....	.....	.....	997
	Temporary Teeth	.....	.....	.....	6261
Total (9)					7258
(10) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction					3838
(11) Orthodontics :					
(a)	Cases commenced during the year	.....	.....	.....	25
(b)	Cases carried forward from previous year	.....	.....	.....	25
(c)	Cases completed during the year	.....	.....	.....	15
(d)	Cases discontinued during the year	.....	.....	.....	13
(e)	Pupils treated with appliances	.....	.....	.....	22
(f)	Removable appliances fitted	.....	.....	.....	26
(g)	Fixed appliances fitted	.....	.....	.....	—
(h)	Total attendances	.....	.....	.....	315
(12) Number of pupils supplied with artificial dentures					14
(13) Other operations :					
	Permanent teeth	.....	.....	.....	1834
	Temporary teeth	.....	.....	.....	1031
Total (13)					2865