

[Report 1949] / School Medical Officer of Health, Denbighshire County Council.

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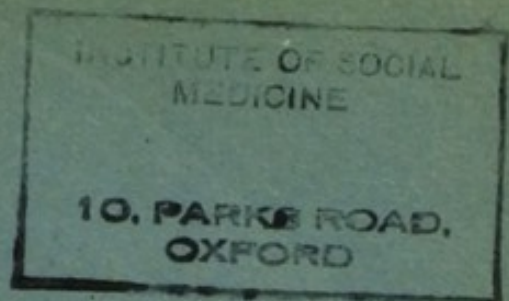
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DENBIGHSHIRE EDUCATION AUTHORITY.

Medical Inspection of School Children

REPORT

of the

School Medical Officer

for the

Year ended 31st December, 1949

This report, owing to the tragic death of
Dr. H. Arwel Thomas in February, 1950,
has been prepared by

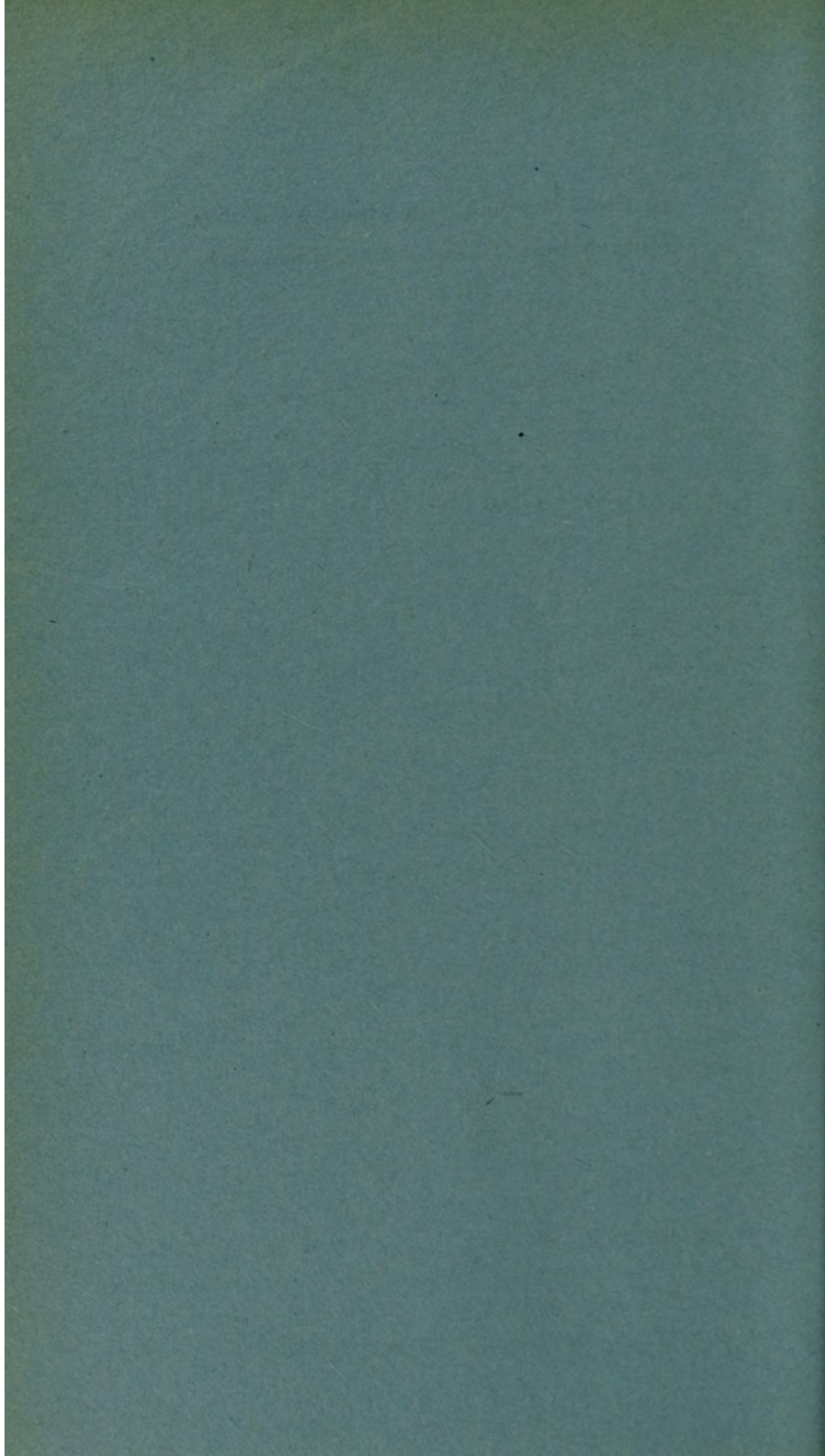
T. KENRICK HUGHES,

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

Deputy County Medical Officer.

Wrexham.

August, 1950.



**To the Chairman and Members of the
Denbighshire Education Committee**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Owing to the sudden death of Dr. H. Arwel Thomas, the County Medical Officer of Health, in February, 1950, I have undertaken to present the report on the work of the School Medical Service for the year ended 31st December, 1949.

The changes necessitated by the coming into operation of the National Health Service Act, 1946, on July 5th, 1948, are now reaching completion and are beginning to run more smoothly.

All specialist and hospital treatment is now the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Boards, who also provide Specialist Services at School Clinics and other premises not transferred to the Board. These include Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics, Ophthalmic Services, Orthopaedic Clinics and Child Guidance Clinics. The Local Authority is still required, under the Education Act, 1944, to make arrangements for the treatment of defects found at School Medical Inspections.

It will be noted from the report of the Senior Dental Officer that it has not been possible to extend the dental services owing to shortage of staff. The vacancies caused by the resignations of Mr. G. H. Craine and Mr. Ross Wallis in 1948 have not yet been filled as no applications were received although the posts were advertised several times. This state of affairs appears to be general over the country.

The present dental staff are doing their best to cope with the situation and doing excellent work. The acceptance rate for treatment is maintained at a high level and reached 100 per cent in 19 schools.

In conclusion I should like to thank all those members of the County Health Staff, Medical, Dental, Nursing and Clerical, for the efficient manner in which they have carried out their respective duties during the year. I would also like to express my thanks to the Committee and to the Director of Education and his Staff, including the teachers, on whose co-operation the efficient working of the Service depends.

Yours faithfully,

T. KENRICK HUGHES,

Deputy County Medical Officer.

Staff.**Medical.**

Dr. H. Arwel Thomas, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
County Medical Officer and School Medical
Officer.

Dr. T. Kenrick Hughes, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Deputy County Medical Officer.

Dr. W. McKendrick, M.D., D.P.H.,
Assistant County Medical Officer; also Medical
Officer of Health, Colwyn Bay.

Dr. M. Jones Roberts, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Assistant County Medical Officer.

Dr. Sybil O. Edwards, M.B., D.P.H.,
Assistant County Medical Officer.

Dr. T. P. Edwards, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Wrex-
ham and Wrexham R.D.C.

Dr. A. Barry Jones, Assistant Medical Officer (Part-
time), Borough of Wrexham.

Specialist Service:**Tonsils and Adenoids Clinics:**

Mr. R. D. Aiyar, F.R.C.S., (Visiting Surgeon).

Orthopaedic Treatment at Clinics:

Mr. D. L. Griffiths, F.R.C.S. (Visiting Surgeon).

Child Guidance Clinic:**Psychiatrists:**

Dr. E. Simmons, North Wales Hospital for Mental
Diseases, Denbigh.

Dr. J. D. Lucy, North Wales Hospital for Mental
Diseases, Denbigh.

Psychologist :

Miss Martha Vidor, Ph.D. (Leipzig).

Psychiatric Social Worker :

Mrs. Iolo Jones.

Dental.

Senior Dental Officer :

Mr. D. Glen Thomson, L.D.S., R.C.S.(Eng.).

Assistant Dental Officers :

Mr. H. E. Fussell, L.D.S.

Mr. J. G. Roberts, L.D.S.,

Half School Medical Service, Half Maternity
and Child Welfare.

Mr. R. A. Rider.

Superintendent Nursing Officer.

Miss W. M. Chune (appointed 1st July, 1949).

Deputy Superintendent Nursing Officer.

Miss Eirlys Jones (appointed 1st July, 1949).

School Clinic Nurse.

Miss M. Williams (resigned March 31st, 1949).

School Nurses.

(Apportionment of time—one half as School Nurse
and one half as Health Visitor).

Miss K. Jones—Rhos, Ponciau, Penycae, etc.

Miss C. J. Thomas—Brymbo, Broughton, etc.

Miss E. A. Bodsworth—Gresford, Rossett, Llay, etc.

Mrs. E. G. E. Rees—Coedpoeth, Bwlchgwyn, South-sea, etc.

Miss M. E. Jones—Cefn, Acrefair, Llangollen, etc.

Miss Eirlys Jones—Ruabon, Rhostyllen, Eyton, Holt, Erbistock, etc. (left district to become Deputy Superintendent Nursing Officer, July 1st, 1949).

Miss M. D. Evans—Llanrwst, Hiraethog, Glanconway, etc.

Miss E. M. Tyler—Chirk, Vroncysyllte, Ceiriog, etc.

Mrs. I. E. Garner—Abergele Urban, part of Aled, etc.

Miss E. A. Beech—Ruthin Borough and Rural, Cerrig, rig, etc.

Miss S. C. Evans—Denbigh, part of Aled, etc.

Mrs. M. Williams—Colwyn Bay Borough.

Mrs. L. Warne—Wrexham Borough.	} Full-time School Nurses.
Mrs. A. Martin—Wrexham Borough.	

Dental Attendants.

Mrs. M. Jarvis.

Miss I. E. Sanderson.

Miss E. Bellis.

Miss I. M. A. Lee.

Administration.

Assistant Administrative Officer:

Mr. J. T. Pritchard.

Senior Clerk:

Mr. T. J. Davies.

Assistant Clerks:

Mr. Emlyn Evans.

Mr. Gwilym Davies.

Miss Edna Hughes.

Miss D. Garner Jones.

Miss Kathleen Rooney.

Miss Margaret Whittaker.

Miss Barbara Bailey.

Miss Gwyneth Hughes.

Miss Anne Cudworth.

Miss M. Parry.

Mr. David Davies (in H.M. Forces).

Mrs. G. Storrs, Colwyn Bay Office.

Miss B. Richards, Wrexham Borough Office.

Miss R. Onions, Wrexham Borough Office.

Number of Schools in the County.

The area of the Denbighshire Education Authority consists of 427,977 acres and includes 193 Modern and Primary Schools. The number of children attending these schools is 21,179.

The number of Grammar Schools in the County is 10, and these are attended by a total number of 3,598 pupils.

Medical Inspections.

The arrangements for school medical inspections followed the schedule of the Ministry of Education.

The number of children examined at routine medical inspections in 1949 was 9,233, as compared with 9,566 in 1948, viz.:—

Entrants	3244
Second Age Group	1534
Third Age Group	4197
Other periodic inspections	258
Total	9233

In addition, 1,572 other inspections (re-examinations) were carried out by the Assistant Medical Officers.

Arrangements for Medical Treatment.

Treatment of School Children found to be defective is undertaken at the following School Clinics:—

16 Grosvenor Road, Wrexham;
 1 Grosvenor Road, Wrexham;
 Nant-y-Glyn Road Clinic, Colwyn Bay;
 Plas-yn-Rhos, Rhos;
 County Clinic, Well Stret, Cefn;
 County Clinic, Gwersyllt;
 Watling Street, Llanrwst;
 County Clinic, Middle Lane, Denbigh;
 Welfare House, Llangollen;
 The Nursery, Llay.

FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Uncleanliness.

Special visits are paid to the Schools by the School Nurses for the purpose of examining the bodies and scalps of children. No previous notice of the visits is given to the Head Teacher or parent, but visits are sometimes made at the request of the Head Teacher who suspects uncleanliness and this co-operation is of great help.

Uncleanliness is often found to be more prevalent after holiday periods and when a district is without a School Nurse, as occasionally happens following resignations, etc.

The number of examinations carried out in the Schools during the year was 46,135, of which 2,763 were found to be infested. This figure is double that for the previous year but is inclusive of Wrexham Borough. The homes of children found to be infested are visited by the School Nurses, who advise the parents as to what treatment to adopt. Children who are badly infested are excluded from School until cleaned.

Ear Diseases and Defective Hearing.

23 children were found to be suffering from Otitis Media, whilst 22 required to be kept under observation.

30 children were found to be so deaf as to require treatment and 40 were required to be kept under observation.

These figures this year include those of Wrexham Borough.

3 new cases were admitted into Special Schools for the Deaf.

The total number in Special Schools at the end of the year was 13.

Impetigo.

During the year, 126 children were found to be suffering from Impetigo, which is an increase on the previous year, but this total includes 106 from Wrexham Borough. Impetigo of the scalp is often associated with uncleanliness and verminous conditions causing irritation and scratching. The condition soon clears up with appropriate treatment but it is necessary to exclude the children from school until cured.

Tonsils and Adenoids.

1,688 children were found to have defects of the nose or throat. Of this number, 589, in the opinion of the Assistant School Medical Officers, required operation and were referred for special examination by the Specialist. The remaining 1,099 were kept under observation and required no operative treatment.

SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE.

Report
 [redacted] of Senior Dental Officer.

To the County Medical Officer.

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration my Report on the work of the Dental Service in the County for 1949.

Mr. Ross Wallis, L.D.S., R.C.S.(Eng.), who has been part-time Dental Surgeon to the Borough of Wrexham since September, 1914, terminated his services on the 1st April, 1949. He has done much valuable work during his many years service. Although advertisements have been inserted in the Professional Press, it has not been possible to replace him, and the County Dental Staff have undertaken responsibility for the dental services formerly performed by Mr. Ross Wallis. Mr. Gordon Craine, B.D.S., who joined the staff of the Lancashire County Council on the 1st September, 1948, has not been replaced and the shortage of staff has adversely affected the operation of the dental service in the County.

The National Health Service Act has not made any appreciable difference to the demand for treatment in the School Dental Service; in fact, in some of the more urban areas, the Service has been in greater demand.

The Education Committee granted a bonus in salary to the Dental Officers, pending a National Scale, which has checked the possible breakdown of the School Dental Service, but the task of rebuilding it will have to be undertaken and it will be some considerable time before the ground which has been lost is recovered. Until, however, the Service is brought up to its full strength it will be devoted to treatment (consisting chiefly of extractions), much of which could have been prevented with an adequate staff, because it must be generally accepted that the true function of the School Dental Service is the prevention of disease by educational and conservation dentistry. Until all serviceable teeth are conserved and the temporary teeth of the pre-school child are treated by conservation, the service cannot be termed adequate.

Clinics.

The clinics established at Cefn, Rhos, Denbigh and Gwersyllt have been decorated and now compare favourably with similar clinics in the country. It is hoped to decorate Colwyn Bay Clinic in the near future. It is ~~proposed~~ proposed that the Clinic at No. 16 Grosvenor Road, Wrexham, be removed to No. 1 Grosvenor Road. It is planned that two surgeries be fitted to communicate with the rinsing room, which will comply with the suggestion made by Dr. A. T. Wynn, from the Ministry of Education, when inspecting the dental services in the County during his official visit in 1949. The rinsing or recovery room communicating with the surgery enables many more cases of General Anaesthesia to be conducted during a working session.

Rural Country Schools.

The treatment of rural schools always presents difficulties and in many cases the conditions are very primitive. The provision of a mobile surgery has been considered but the experience of other Authorities using such units is that the disadvantages outweigh the advantages. The alternative to a mobile surgery is the provision of a truck or van. This is recommended by the Ministry and is used by a number of Authorities. The van conveys children requiring dental treatment from the school to the fixed or Central Clinics and then back to school. Such vans accommodate ten children.

Regarding the conditions under which the Dental Service is carried out in the more rural Schools, a questionnaire was sent to the Head Teachers of these schools and a summary of their returns is as follows:—

- (a) Schools where treatment is conducted on school premises which contain electric light, a rinsing room separate from the room used as surgery and containing running water. This type of premises is reasonably satisfactory and dental treatment can be conducted with the use of portable dental equipment. 24 schools come under this group.
- (b) 30 schools have a room for use as surgery, a rinsing room apart from the surgery, but contain no electricity.
- (c) 25 schools have no electricity, no rinsing room and are unsatisfactory for dental treatment.

Mobile surgeries are most useful when electricity is available and the unit can be wired to the school and thus electric lighting, heating, sterilisation and power for the dental engine is available. Unfortunately, in Denbighshire rural schools, electricity is only available in 25 per cent. of the schools.

Orthodontics.

There has been a steady demand for this type of treatment but it has been limited due to the shortage of staff. Much in the way of treatment can be done by judicious extractions. Orthodontic appliances were supplied in respect of 34 children and 118 visits were made by children for adjustment of the appliances.

Dentures.

37 children were supplied with partial upper dentures to replace front teeth which had been lost through caries or accident. One girl, born on 12th July, 1940, with congenital absence of teeth, was treated by the provision of full upper and lower dentures. Her appearance and general health immediately improved and she is wearing her dentures all the time, and there is altogether a general improvement in her mental outlook.

Emergency Dental Treatment.

Emergency clinics are held at Wrexham on Saturday mornings for the County children, and on Thursday afternoons for the Borough of Wrexham children. These clinics are well attended. Similar emergency clinics are held at Rhos and Cefn, alternate weeks, and at Colwyn Bay Clinic, when required, for urgent dental treatment of children in pain.

Acceptances for Treatment.

The percentage of children accepting dental treatment was 84 per cent, and in the following schools 100 per cent acceptances were obtained:—

1. Llay Infants' Council.
2. Llanbedr Junior N.P.
3. Llanfair D.C.
4. Ruthin Infants' Council.
5. Ruthin Infants' N.P.
6. Bryneglwys N.P.
7. Erbistock N.P.
8. Garth Junior Council.
9. Maengwynedd.
10. Moelfre Council.
11. Pentredwr Council.
12. Penylan Council.
13. Rhiwlas Council.
14. Capel Garmon Council.
15. Cefn Meiriadog N.P.
16. Cefnhirfach Junior Council.
17. Pandy Tudur Council.
18. Rhyd-y-Foel Junior Council.
19. Isycoed N.P.

1,578 parents were present during the treatment of their children and the opportunity was taken of explaining the reason for the treatment given and instruction in oral hygiene.

Dental Propaganda.

A considerable quantity of literature on the care of the teeth has been obtained from the Dental Board of the United Kingdom and posters displayed in schools and Clinics. It is hoped to increase this service during the year.

Dental Inspections are always conducted on school premises during school hours. 15,024 children were inspected during the year and 139.5 sessions devoted to the work, an average of 108 per session.

30 schools were not visited during the year. Owing to shortage of Dental Officers it has not been possible to provide routine treatment throughout the whole of the County

and the principles enunciated in the Board of Education Circular 1523 of August, 1940, have been applied during the year.

Mr. H. E. Fussell, L.D.S., who is responsible for dental treatment of schools in Colwyn Bay, Llanrwst and Denbigh areas, states "It is stated by some Authorities that 5 per cent of all children examined require Orthodontic treatment. I have not attempted to check these figures regarding my area but I can say definitely that at least 50 per cent of children examined require conservative treatment, and by saving these children's teeth many teeth which would require Orthodontic treatment later on, if neglected, are kept dentally fit and normal with much economy of time. The pupils of 47 schools received routine inspection and treatment, two others were inspected but were awaiting treatment at the end of the year, and six schools could not be included. Before concluding I would like to draw attention to the extremely poor lighting conditions, and poor state of decoration at Colwyn Bay Clinic, where work is more difficult to perform than in many schools."

Mr. J. G. Roberts, L.D.S., who is responsible for dental treatment of school children in the Wrexham Rural area, states "The most notable feature has been the number of children presenting themselves for emergency treatment. This, I feel, is due to the fact that we have been able to offer treatment within a few days, whereas Private Practitioners are either unable or unwilling to do so. I would like also to point out that in my opinion the incidence of dental caries is on the increase, especially in the younger groups. The number of extractions compared with the number of fillings is still far too high, but this of course cannot be remedied until we have an increase in staff. I much appreciate the fact that a number of permanently fitted Clinics have now been established. It has certainly made it easier and tends to better work."

Mr. R. A. Rider, who is responsible for the dental treatment of children in the Rhos, Llansilin and Glynceiriog areas, states "It will be noted that the figures for extraction are very high, due to the fact that, owing to the depletion of the dental staff, it was advisable to concentrate primarily on clean mouths. I am pleased to state that the system of dentists working together during anaesthetic sessions is extremely satisfactory."

In conclusion, I would like to thank the whole of the Dental Staff, whose loyal co-operation has been manifest during the year. I would also like to pay tribute to the really excellent co-operation afforded by the Teaching Staff throughout the County. I reiterate that much of the success of a dental service is due to their efforts. The Clerical Staff have been most helpful, and their excellent help during the year is acknowledged.

Statistics.

The appended Statistical Returns will, I feel sure, be perused with much interest.

D. GLEN THOMSON,

Senior Dental Officer.

Primary and Secondary Schools.

The operations performed during this year comprised:—

Amalgam Fillings	...	...	...	...	...	...	696
Amalgam and Cement Fillings	...	...	...	...	...	...	3126
Silicate Fillings	...	...	...	...	...	...	366
Permanent Teeth Extracted	...	...	...	...	...	...	2119
Temporary Teeth Extracted	...	...	...	...	...	...	13436
Scalings	...	...	...	...	...	...	114
Gum Treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Orthodontic Appliances Fitted	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Adjustments to Orthodontic Appliances	...	...	...	...	...	...	118
Fillings Polished	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Impressions	...	...	...	...	...	...	74
Bites	...	...	...	...	...	...	65
Try-ins	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
Dentures Fitted	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Sockets Syringed	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

Haemorrhage Arrested	...	...	...	...	...	15
Parents attended	...	...	...	...	...	1578
X-Ray	...	...	...	...	...	30
Impression for Inlay	...	...	...	...	...	1
Gold Inlay Inserted	...	...	...	...	...	1

**Table giving the Incidence of Dental Caries
in the Five Year Old Child.**

D—Decayed Teeth. M—Missing Teeth. F—Filled Teeth.

Area.	Type of Area.	No. of children examined.	Average No. of "D.M.F." Decid- uous Teeth per child examined.	Percentage of children exam- ined showing no "D.M.F." Decid- uous Teeth.
Western No. 1				
Abergele U.D. Colwyn Bay Boro'.	Residential	... 80	... 3.1	... 36.2
Western No. 2				
Aled, Denbigh, Hiraethog, Llanrwst, Ruthin Boro', Ruthin Rural.	Urban	... 285	... 4.1	... 42.4
Eastern No. 1				
Ceiriog R.D., Llangollen, Wrexham R.D.	Mixed	... 402	... 5.6	... 32.5
Eastern No. 2				
Wrexham Boro'.	Industrial	... 126	... 5.3	... 30.0

An investigation by the Ministry of Education in selected areas gave the figures of slightly more than 4 deciduous teeth per child of 5 years, and rather more than 20 per cent of the children having no "D.M.F."

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATIONS

Immunisation against Diphtheria is carried out by Assistant School Medical Officers and General Practitioners.

The majority of school children have already been immunised in infancy and simply require a single "boosting dose" to bring their immunity up to the necessary level.

Special sessions for immunising children are held regularly at the School Clinics and Schools in the County.

The figures in the accompanying table show that the percentage of school children immunised is on the average above 90 per cent.

It is interesting to note that there have been no cases of Diphtheria among the school children this year and that immunisation seems to be gradually eliminating the disease which was formerly so prevalent among and fatal to children.

The number of children immunised in the County during the year 1949 was as follows:—

Under 5 years of age	2207
Between 5-15 years	232
	2439
Repeat Doses	3032

Since 1937, the number of children immunised in the County is 53,266.

The following table shows the percentage of children immunised in the several sanitary districts in the County:—

	Children 1-5 years.	Children 5-15 years.
Urban Districts.		
Abergele	77.1	96.5
Colwyn Bay	85.6	93.5
Denbigh	82.5	90.8
Llangollen	90.5	97.6
Llanrwst	95.5	97.8
Ruthin	86.5	96.3
Wrexham	64.1	85.9
Rural Districts:		
Aled	79.8	95.2
Ceiriog	79.8	92.5
Hiraethog	92.5	96.3
Ruthin	86.2	98.7
Wrexham	74.5	87.3

TONSILS AND ADENOIDS.

Arrangements for the removal of Tonsils and Adenoids are now made by the Regional Hospital Board and the operations are carried out at the Hospitals and are performed by Mr. R. D. Aiyar, F.R.C.S.

This year it has only been possible to carry out treatment at the Wrexham Hospitals but it is hoped that the necessary facilities will be available at the Denbigh Hospital for treatment of children in the Western part of the County.

The children are now required to stay in hospital one day before and three days after the operation.

The following are particulars of the clinics held during the year and showing children who attended for examination and operation:—

No. children who attended for special examination	737
No. of children referred for operation	353
No. of children operated upon	228

SUPPLY OF MILK.

From a statement received from the Director of Education, the following children received milk in school during 1949:—

Primary and Secondary Schools ... 18,962

PROVISION OF MEALS.

The number of children receiving meals in school during 1949 was as follows:—

Primary and Secondary Schools ... -15,882

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.

The treatment of Orthopaedic defects is now the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board. The Surgeons and Nursing Staff of the Orthopaedic Hospital, Gobowen, carry out this work. Visiting surgeons also attend the County Clinics periodically.

Children found at School Medical Inspections to have Orthopaedic defects are referred by the Assistant Medical Officers for examination and treatment at the various Clinics spread over the County, which are very well attended, and, in fact, the Clinic at Wrexham tends to become overcrowded owing to lack of space.

The need is felt for a Clinic at Llanrwst and it is hoped that one will be provided in the near future.

Owing to the transfer of this service to the Regional Hospital Board it is not now possible to give the figures of attendances at each individual Clinic, but only totals.

The Clinics are held at the following centres: Wrexham, Rhos, Colwyn Bay, Denbigh and Cefn, and the total number attending was 569. 54 in-patients were treated at Gobowen Hospital.

HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

Under the Education Act, 1944, the Local Education Authority is responsible for ascertaining handicapped children. Under regulations made in 1945, the Minister of Education specified eleven categories of handicapped children for which special educational treatment, as distinct from medical treatment, should be provided.

The ascertainment of these children has been carried out by the Assistant Medical Officers of Health throughout the year and it has been found that the largest number in these categories is the educationally sub-normal. Many of these require special schooling but facilities for their education are at present totally inadequate.

A handicapped child may be educated at a Residential or Day Special School, or he may be taught in a Special Class attached to an ordinary school. There is considerable difficulty in placing these children in suitable schools and consideration should be given to establishing a Residential School in North Wales in conjunction with the other North Wales counties. If handicapped pupils require prolonged treatment at a hospital, then the Local Education Committee can arrange with a Regional Hospital Board for special educational facilities for the children at a Hospital School.

Handicapped Pupils requiring Education at Special Schools or Boarding in Boarding Homes during 1949.

	(1) Blind.	(2) Partially sighted.	(3) Deaf.	(4) Partially Deaf.	(5) Delicate.	(6) Physically handicapped.	(7) Educationally sub-normal.	(8) Maladjusted.	(9) Epileptic.	Total 1-9.
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
In the calendar year :										
A. Handicapped pupils newly placed in Special Schools or Homes	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	5
B. Handicapped pupils newly ascertained as requiring education at Special Schools or Boarding in Homes	—	1	5	2	12	10	11	2	4	47
C. Number of Handicapped pupils from the area :										
(1) Attending Special Schools as Day Pupils .	—	—	—	—	—	—	19	—	—	19
Boarding Pupils	3	—	11	2	—	—	—	—	—	16
(2) Boarded in Homes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	6
(3) Attended assisted schools (under approved arrangements) .	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	5
Total (C)	3	—	11	2	—	5	19	—	6	46

	(1) Blind.	(2) Partially sighted.	(3) Deaf.	(4) Partially Deaf.	(5) Delicate.	(6) Physically handicapped.	(7) Educationally sub-normal.	(8) Maladjusted.	(9) Epileptic.	Total 1-9.
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
D. Number of Handicapped Pupils from the area requiring places in special schools or homes but remaining unplaced	—	1	5	2	12	10	19	3	5	57
E. Number of Handicapped Pupils receiving home tuition (including those also returned in D)	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	—	—	6

Number of children reported during the calendar year under Section 57 (3) is 7 and under Section 57 (4) of the Education Act, 1944—Nil.

NORTH WALES CHILD GUIDANCE CLINICS WREXHAM AND RHYL

Annual Report, 1949.

During the year 1949, clinics were held every week at Wrexham and Rhyl, except during the school holidays. The Child Guidance team, unfortunately, had to work under considerable strain as the result of the sudden death of Dr. Wilson in May, 1949, and the illness of Miss Thomas, Psychiatric Social Worker, and her death in July.

Miss 'Thomas' place was taken in October, 1949, by Mrs. Iolo Jones, P.S.W., and towards the end of the year Dr. E. Simmons, Consultant Child Psychiatrist for the North Wales Area, took over the Medical Directorship of the Clinics. He is assisted by a Registrar at each Clinic. Dr. Vidor continues to act in her capacity as Educational Psychiatrist.

Children are referred by the County Medical Officer of Health, General Practitioners, Probation Officers, Headmasters, parents, directly, etc. Behavioural abnormalities rank prominently among the causes for referral. Children are also seen at the request of various Authorities for ascertainment of intellectual standards, because of scholastic difficulties, for advice on choice of careers, etc.

It is the practice of the Clinics to consider that every child referred presents a problem to someone who has to deal with him and that the team's opinion and advice can help either school, parents or others to tackle their problems more hopefully as a result of their better knowledge of the facts. These facts, as a result of a child's failure to conform to commonly accepted patterns, are often hidden from those genuinely anxious to help because of their close association with the child.

It can be said that the Clinics have continued to work at a satisfactory level. It is hoped, however, that with an increase in personnel their scope can be extended.

An increase in their capacity to function as therapeutic centres—as distinct from diagnostic units—is thought to be particularly desirable. This aim is of necessity difficult to

achieve because every child requires the psychiatrist's attention for half an hour to three quarters of an hour on the occasion of each visit and the Psychiatric Social Worker is similarly occupied in interviews with parents or guardians.

It is also thought that a still closer contact might be developed with School Medical Officers, District Nurses, teachers and others who have the welfare of children at heart, and that opportunities might be created for them to see the clinic team at work and for an exchange of views.

One would then hope that the clinics could most effectively do their share to secure the early recognition and, if not the prevention, the early treatment of those conditions which at a later stage so often result in distress to children and guardians alike.

Denbighshire children seen during 1949 at:—

	Wrexham	Rhyl	Total
Referred 1948	7	15	22
Referred 1949	51	9	60
	58	24	82
Tot. no. attend'ces, 1949	236	122	358

N.B.—It is to be understood that every child referred has been subjected to intelligence tests and, where necessary, to scholastic and projective tests.

P.S.W. DEPARTMENT, 1949.

Denbighshire children referred to P.S.W.

	Wrexham.	Rhyl.	Total.
Referred 1948	9	16	25
Referred 1949	51	9	60
	60	25	85
Total number P.S.W. clinical interviews 1949	52	29	81

Visits made by Psychiatric Social Worker, in connection with Denbighshire children to:—

Home	39
School	9
Other Agencies	28
	—
	53
	—

Wrexham Clinic held every Friday at 16 Grosvenor Road, Wrexham.

Rhyl Clinic held every Thursday at The Old Emmanuel School, Vale Road, Rhyl.

Team.

Consultant Child Psychiatrist—2 Sessions per week per clinic.
 Psychiatric Registrar—1 - 2 Sessions per week per clinic.
 Educational Psychologist—2 Sessions per week per clinic.
 Psychiatric Social Worker—2 Sessions per week per clinic.

SPEECH THERAPY.

There are no arrangements for Speech Therapy in Denbighshire at present and children with this affliction have to go to Speech Therapists in other Counties for treatment. There are 65 children with speech defects who need to be kept under observation. Many young children grow out of this defect as they get older and others who are mentally backward do not benefit to a great extent by Speech Therapy. The remainder would benefit by special training and the time has come when consideration should be given to the appointment of a Speech Therapist.

EXTRACT FROM THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ORGANISERS OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST, 1949.

General.

Work in Physical Education has shown marked progress during the period covered by this report. The more informal method of approach has been adopted by the majority of

schools, and is proving successful in attaining good results. Teachers have attended courses organised by the Authority.

The main handicaps faced by some of the schools are rough and inadequate playgrounds, lack of indoor accommodation and portable apparatus. This last is gradually being remedied, and it is hoped that by next year all primary and modern schools will have a sufficiency of apparatus for their needs. Heavy apparatus is issued only where, in the opinion of the Organisers, the teachers are qualified and competent in its use.

All gymnasia and equipment have been inspected by a qualified firm, who have carried out repairs and replacements. This work was carried out under the supervision of the County Architect's Department.

Courses.

Seven Courses have been run in various parts of the County. These Courses were of six weeks each, one evening session of 2½ hours per week plus half and hour sessions for infant teachers taken by the woman organiser—subjects taught included physical training, dancing, games and the improvisation and use of small apparatus. The teachers themselves provided the classes for practical work, each practical session being followed by a discussion. Demonstration classes were taken with children from local schools.

Additional Courses.

An Athletics Course run by the male organiser took place at Blynhyfryd School, Ruthin, on Friday and Saturday, 20th and 21st May, 1949. Mr. J. W. Alford, A.A.A. professional coach, assisted on this Course, which was attended by 45 male teachers, thirteen of whom have passed the A.A.A. coaching examination. More would have passed but the time allotted for the oral examinations proved inadequate.

Swimming.

A swimming syllabus will shortly be issued, and children encouraged to progress to the life-saving awards of the Amateur Swimming Association. The ideal would be, of course, that every child in the County should receive swimming instruction, but, unfortunately, we are confined to the Wrexham and Colwyn Bay areas at present.

Equipment.

Most schools now possess a stock of small apparatus and this is being maintained and implemented through annual requisitions.

Playing Fields.

The majority of our schools now either possess or have access to a playing field, but no provision is made for their maintenance, with the result that in many cases pitches are badly worn and unsafe.

One partial solution to this difficulty would be that all future appointments of caretakers to Modern and Grammar Schools should be made as caretaker-groundsmen. The expense of full-time groundsmen would not be justified, but we feel that the provision of a supervisory groundsman for the County would be a profitable investment.

E. DANIELS JONES,

HUGH WILLIAMS,

Organisers of Physical Education.

MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT RETURNS.

Year ended 31st December, 1949.

TABLE I.

Medical Inspection of Pupils Attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools (including Special Schools).

A.—Periodic Medical Inspections.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups:—

Entrants	3244
Second Age Group	1534
Third Age Group	4197
	—
Total	8975
	—
Number of other Periodic Inspections	258
	—
Grand Total	9233
	—

B.—Other Inspections.

Number of Special Inspections	138
Number of Re-Inspections	1434
	—
Total	1572
	—

C.—Pupils found to require Treatment.

No. of Individual Pupils found at Periodic Medical Inspection to require Treatment (excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin).

Group.	For defective vision (excl. squint).	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIA.	Total individual pupils.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Entrants	50	1379	1418
Second Age Group	101	446	529
Third Age Group	159	1423	1395
	—	—	—
Total (prescribed groups)	310	3248	3342
Other Periodic Inspections ...	16	52	65
	—	—	—
Grand Total	326	3300	3407
	—	—	—

TABLE II.

A.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the year ended 31st December, 1949.

Defect or Disease.	Periodic Inspections. No. of defects.		Special Inspections. No. of defects.	
	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Skin	72	97	14	2
Eyes:—				
(a) Vision	326	92	24	5
(b) Squint	27	110	3	4
(c) Other	50	110	2	—
Ears:—				
(a) Hearing ...	23	40	7	1
(b) Otitis Media	23	21	—	1
(c) Other	2	7	1	—
Nose or Throat ...	568	1081	21	18
Speech	1	63	1	—
Cervical Glands	37	825	—	9
Heart and				
Circulation	10	147	—	4
Lungs	10	276	—	6
Developmental:—				
(a) Hernia	1	8	—	—
(b) Other	3	20	—	—
Orthopaedic:—				
(a) Posture	21	390	—	2
(b) Flat Foot ...	7	344	1	2
(c) Other	13	326	4	2

Defect or Disease.	Periodic Inspections. No. of defects.		Special Inspections. No. of defects.	
	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under obser- vation but not re- quiring treatment.	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under obser- vation but not re- quiring treatment.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Nervous system:—				
(a) Epilepsy ...	—	4	—	—
(b) Other	1	17	—	1
Psychological:—				
(a) Develop- ment	3	60	—	1
(b) Stability	1	1	—	—
Other	15	104	8	9

B.—Classification of the General Condition of Pupils inspected during the year in the Age Groups.

Age Groups.		(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	3244	353	10.8	2784	85.8	107	3.3
Second Age Group	1534	275	17.9	1182	77.0	77	5.0
Third Age Group .	4197	332	7.9	3730	88.8	135	3.2
Other Periodic Inspections	258	70	27.1	165	63.9	23	8.9
Total	9233	1030	11.1	7861	85.1	342	3.1

TABLE III.

Infestation with Vermin.

(i) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorized persons	46135
(ii) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	2763
(iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944)	—
(iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944)	—

TABLE IV.

Treatment Tables.

Group I.—Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness,
for which see Table III).

	Number of Defects treated, or under treat- ment during the year.
(a) Skin:—	
Ringworm—Scalp—	
(i) X-Ray treatment	—
(ii) Other treatment	—
Ringworm—Body	4
Scabies	19
Impetigo	126
Other skin diseases	90
Eye Disease	156
(External and other, but excluding errors of refraction, squint and cases admitted to hospital).	
Ear Defects	91

Miscellaneous	833
(e.g. minor injuries, bruises, sores, chil- blains, etc.).	
Total	1319
(b) Total number of attendances at Authority's minor ailments clinics	6368

**Group II.—Defective Vision and Squint (excl. Eye Diseases
treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).**

	No. of defects dealt with.
Errors of Refraction (including squint)	378
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I)	—
Total	378

No. of Pupils for whom spectacles were:—

(a) Prescribed	227
(b) Obtained	Not available

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

	Total No. treated.
Received operative treatment:—	
(a) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	228
(b) for other nose and throat conditions	—
Received other forms of treatment	208
Total	436

Group IV.—Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.

(a) No. treated as in-patients in hospitals or hospital schools	54
(b) No. treated otherwise, e.g. in clinics or out-patient departments	569

Group V.—Child Guidance Treatment and Speech Therapy.

No. of pupils treated:—

(a) under Child Guidance arrangements	82
(b) under Speech Therapy arrangements	—

TABLE V.**Dental Inspection and Treatment.**

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers:—	
(a) Periodic age groups	15024
(b) Specials	1046
	—
(c) Total (Periodic and Specials)	16070
	—
(2) Number found to require treatment	8960
(3) Number actually treated	7573
(4) Attendances made by pupils for treatment	8945
(5) Half-days devoted to:—	
(a) Inspection	139.5
(b) Treatment	1299.0
Total (a) and (b)	1438.5

(6) Fillings:—

Permanent Teeth	4112
Temporary Teeth	73
Total	4185

(7) Extractions:—

Permanent Teeth	2119
Temporary Teeth	13436
Total	15555

(8) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction	6170
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(9) Other Operations:—

(a) Permanent Teeth	578
(b) Temporary Teeth	178
Total (a) and (b)	756

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE AND SCHOOL CLINICS.

Return for 31st December, 1949.

I.—Staff of the School Health Service (excluding Child Guidance).

School Medical Officer: Dr. H. Arwel Thomas.

Senior Dental Officer: Mr. D. Glen Thomson.

	Number.	Aggregate staff in terms of the equivalent number of whole - time officers.
(a) Medical Officers*	7	2.75
(b) Dental Officers*	4	3
(c) Physiotherapists, Speech Therapists, etc. (specify)	—	—
(d) School Nurses	15	7.75
(e) Nursing Assistants	—	—
(f) Dental Attendants	4	3

*All Officers of the School Health Service (including the School Medical Officer and the Senior Dental Officer) other than those employed part-time for specialist examination and treatment only.

II.—Number of School Clinics

(i.e. premises at which clinics are held for school children) provided by the Local Education Authority for the medical and/or dental examination and treatment of pupils attending maintained primary and secondary schools).

Number of School Clinics 10

Dental treatment for children in rural areas is conducted on school premises or hired rooms, and portable Dental Equipment used.

Minor Ailments are treated by the School Nurses on school premises, and in hired rooms (also used as Maternity and Child Welfare Centres).

III.—Type of Examination and/or Treatment Provided at the School Clinics returned in Section II, either directly by the Authority or under arrangements made with the Regional Hospital Board for examination and/or treatment to be carried out at the Clinic.

Examination and/or treatment.	Number of School Clinics (i.e. premises) where such treatment is provided:—	
	Directly by the Authority.	Under arrangements made with Regional Hospital Boards or Boards of Governors of Teaching Hospitals.
(1)	(2)	(3)
(a) Minor ailment and other non-specialist examination or treatment	30	—
(b) Dental	10	—
(c) Ophthalmic*	10	1
(d) Ear, Nose and Throat	—	2
(e) Orthopaedic	—	5
(f) Paediatric†	—	—
(g) Speech Therapy	—	—
(h) Others (specify)	—	—

*Arrangements made with the Supplementary Ophthalmic Service are shown in Column (2) and those made with the Hospital and Specialist Service in Column (3).

†Clinics for children referred to a specialist in children's diseases.

IV.—Child Guidance Centres.

(i) Number of Child Guidance Centres provided by the Authority 1.

Services of staff at Child Guidance Clinic are made available by arrangement with the Regional Hospital Board (North Wales Hospital for Mental and Nervous Diseases, Denbigh).