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Contributors

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PEMBROKESHIRE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

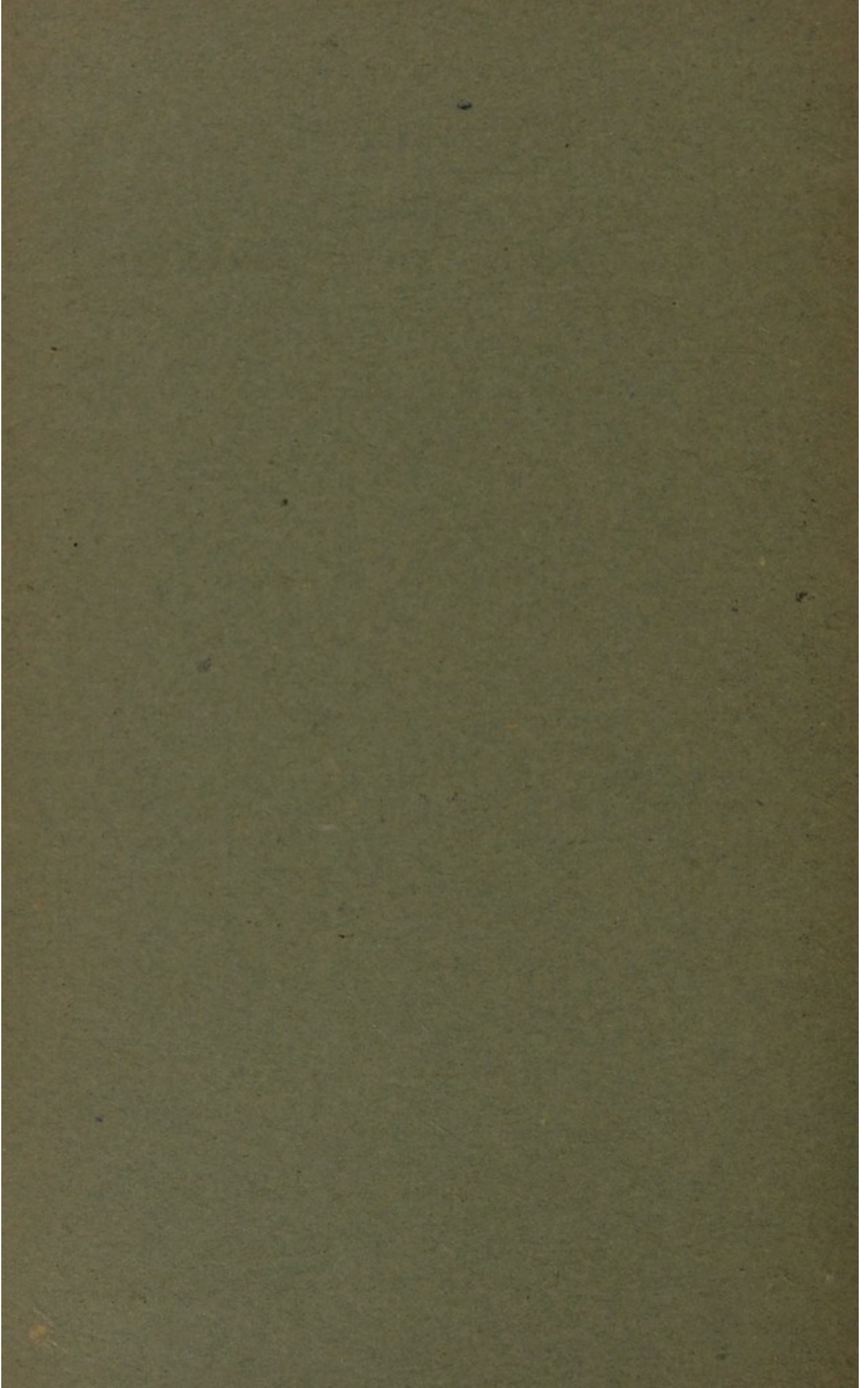
OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE

YEAR 1947

PICKFORD & SONS, PRINTERS, PENARTH.



COUNTY OF PEMBROKE.

PEMBROKESHIRE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report on the work of the School Medical Service in the County for the year ended 31st December, 1947.

The various medical and dental facilities have been greatly improved during the year by the appointment of additional Medical and Dental personnel.

The percentage of children immunised before and during school age continues to improve with most satisfactory results.

The beneficial effect of school meals is obvious at every school where meals are provided.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. MIDDLETON,

School Medical Officer.

May, 1948.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

STAFF OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL DEPARTMENT, 1947.

Chief School Medical Officer (who is also County Medical Officer);

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

Assistant School Medical Officers (who are also Assistant County Medical Officers for Maternity and Child Welfare):

DOROTHY M. REES, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

M. W. JENKINS, B.S., M.B., B.Ch.

District Medical Officers for Western and Eastern Districts acting as Part-time Assistant School Medical Officers:

A. D. WHITELOW, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

W. J. Y. SPEEDY, M.B., B.Ch., L.R.C.P. & S., D.P.H.

School Dental Officers:

O. C. JENKINS, L.D.S., R.C.S., D.D.S.

E. A. G. HILTON, L.D.S., R.C.S.

D. H. W. HARRDING (Part-time).

Orthopædic Surgeon:

NATHAN ROCYN JONES, M.D., F.R.C.S.

Plastic Surgeon:

EMLYN E. LEWIS, F.R.C.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Surgeons: THE STAFFS OF THE VARIOUS HOSPITALS.

Chief School Nurse (who is also County Superintendent of Nurses):

M. A. GIBBS, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Assistant School Nurses:

E. J. JAMES, S.R.N., S.C.M. (who is also County Health Visitor and Orthopædic Nurse).

E. MERRIMAN, S.R.N., S.C.M.

School Nurses: 52 PART-TIME DISTRICT NURSES.

Chief Clerk: W. J. AUSTIN.

HEADQUARTERS.

COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 23, HILL STREET,
HAVERFORDWEST.

GENERAL INFORMATION (Continued).

Minor Ailments Clinics:—

School Clinic, 23, Hill Street, Haverfordwest.

Eastgate House Clinic, Narberth.

David Pettit Nursing Home, Milford Haven.

Council School, Fishguard.

Kensington Road, Neyland.

Beaufort House, Victoria Street, Tenby.

School Clinic, Monkton, Pembroke.

School Clinic, Pembroke Street, Pembroke Dock.

Area of County (Statutory Acres)	393,003
Average Number of Elementary School Children on Roll ...	10,092
Average Number of Secondary School Pupils on Roll ...	2,793
Number of School Departments in County—Elementary ...	143
Number of Secondary Schools	9

PEMBROKESHIRE SOCIETY FOR THE CARE OF CRIPPLES.

Chairman: Mrs. SALMOND, O.B.E., "Craig-y-Mor," Saundersfoot.

Hon. Secretary: Miss NANCY THOMAS, J.P., "Craig-y-Mor,
Saundersfoot.

Orthopædic Clinic:

COUNTY HOSPITAL ANNEXE, HAVERFORDWEST.

TUBERCULOSIS CLINICS.

(Attended by the Tuberculosis Officer of the Welsh National Memorial Association).

MEMORIAL CLINIC, COUNTY HOSPITAL ANNEXE,
HAVERFORDWEST.

DAVID PETTIT NURSING HOME, MILFORD HAVEN.

EASTGATE HOUSE CLINIC, NARBERTH.

COTTAGE HOSPITAL, TENBY.

MEYRICK HOSPITAL, PEMBROKE DOCK.

CHURCH HALL, FISHGUARD.

DR. ELLIOTT'S SURGERY, ST. DAVID'S.

DR. GIBBIN'S SURGERY, WHITLAND.

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, CARDIGAN.

MEDICAL, DENTAL AND CLEANLINESS INSPECTIONS.

The Medical Inspection of children attending Primary Schools was carried out on the lines laid down by the Ministry of Education.

The Groups medically inspected were: 1st Group (Entrants); 2nd Group (Children aged 8-9); 3rd Group (Children aged 12 years and over).

Children referred for treatment or observations at previous inspections were also re-examined.

In addition to the above examinations, children were specially examined at the request of parents, teachers and school nurses, at Schools, Clinics and homes.

Facilities for the examination of children under school age are provided through the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, and in those rural areas where these Centres are not available, parents are encouraged to bring their younger children to the school in their area at the time of the Routine School Inspection.

In Dental Inspections, all children are examined every year. In addition, any child noted at medical inspections to be suffering from Oral Sepsis is specially referred to the Dentist.

Cleanliness Inspections by the School Nurses are carried out monthly, and all children found unclean at these inspections are specially re-examined at the schools or homes.

MEDICAL INSPECTION — PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

The numbers examined were:—

Entrants	...	...	...	1876
Intermediates	...	...	...	1523
Leavers	...	...	...	639
Specials	...	...	...	781
Re-inspections	...	...	...	694
				<hr/>
Total Inspections	...	...	...	5513
				<hr/>

Of the 5,513 children examined at Routine and Special Inspections, 866, or 15.7 per cent., were referred for treatment, and 598, or 10.8

per cent. had defects which necessitated their being kept under observation. The figures for last year were 10.5 per cent. and 8.9 per cent. respectively.

FINDINGS AT MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

MALNUTRITION.

As in previous years, all the children examined at Routine Medical Inspections were assessed regarding their nutrition, and of the 5,527 children examined in the Routine Age Groups, 3,644 were placed under the classification of (Good): 385 (Fair); and 9 (Poor).

PRIMARY.

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
Skin	8	7	4	1
Eyes: (a) Vision ...	136	111	87	48
(b) Squint ...	57	26	9	7
(c) Other ...	4	7	2	1
Ears: (a) Hearing ...	9	4	1	1
(b) Otitis Media	3	4	1	—
(c) Other ...	12	4	1	1
Nose or Throat ...	280	280	104	171
Speech	16	8	—	—
Cervical Glands ...	12	60	2	4
Heart and Circulation ...	12	52	7	1
Lungs	35	60	3	5
DEVELOPMENT—				
(a) Hernia ...	1	—	1	—
(b) Other ...	6	20	—	—
ORTHOPAEDIC—				
(a) Posture ...	7	2	—	1
(b) Flat Foot ...	9	13	3	1
(c) Other ...	34	27	2	—
NERVOUS SYSTEM—				
(a) Epilepsy ...	2	2	—	—
(b) Other ...	1	5	—	2
PSYCHOLOGICAL—				
(a) Development ...	2	1	—	—
(b) Stability ...	—	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—	—

ORTHOPÆDIC TREATMENT.

The Orthopædic Clinics are held at the County War Hospital, Haverfordwest, and are attended at regular intervals by the Orthopædic Surgeon. After-care treatment is carried out by the Orthopædic Nurse at the Clinics and in the homes of the children concerned.

At the end of the year there were 226 children of school age on the Register, and, in addition, 65 children under school age. 108 new cases were ascertained and added to the register during the year—78 of school age and 30 under school age.

Particulars of Work done at the Orthopædic Clinic:—

No. of Clinics held. (Whole days).	No. of New Cases examined.		Total Attendances.	
	Under 5.	Over 5.	Under 5.	Over 5.
12½ days.	28	40	72	172

The Orthopædic Specialist carried out 14 manipulations, and 11 operations at the County Hospital during the operational sessions. 12 children were put in special plasters.

47 Children were X-rayed at the County Hospital, Haverfordwest.

During the year 15 children of school age and two under five were admitted to the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Cardiff. In addition, one child of school age and one under five was treated at the Monmouth County Hospital at Panteg, owing to lack of beds at the Prince of Wales' Hospital. Eight children of school age and two under five were treated at the County Hospital, Haverfordwest.

The waiting list at the end of the year was considerably reduced, but there were still six children awaiting admission to the Prince of Wales' Hospital and four to the County Hospital, Haverfordwest.

ORTHOPÆDIC CASES IN TRAINING.

Two boys are being trained at Stanmore Cripples' Training College, Middlesex.

One girl is receiving education and training at Halliwick Cripples' Training College, London.

One boy in training at Leatherhead Cripples' Training College, Surrey, was transferred to the care of the Ministry of Labour and National Service on reaching the age of 16 years.

One girl is being trained in Shorthand, Typing and Commercial subjects at Milford Haven Modern Secondary School.

SPECIAL APPLIANCES.

Two boys have been provided with artificial legs.

Two boys have been provided with artificial arms.

Six children are wearing spinal jackets.

In addition to the above, a large number of simpler appliances have been supplied for correction of deformities.

WORK DONE BY ORTHOPÆDIC NURSE.

First Visits to Cases.		Revisits to Cases.		Plaster Renewed and Repaired.	No. of Cases under Remedial Exercises and Treatment.
Under 5.	Over 5.	Under 5.	Over 5.		
20	44	154	441	37	73

POLIOMYELITIS.

During the epidemic of Poliomyelitis which affected many parts of the country, six Pembrokeshire School children were notified as infected. Three cases occurred in one school area, and it was considered advisable to close this school.

Two of the infected children were admitted to the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Cardiff, for treatment, and the others were treated at home, under the supervision of the Orthopædic Specialist.

The results have been very satisfactory; two children have some residual paralysis of one leg and are wearing suitable irons; one child has a weak shoulder which will need operative treatment later; and the other two appear to have fully recovered.

HANDICAPPED CHILDREN.

There are no Special Schools in the County for educationally sub-normal children, but negotiations are in progress among the three South-Western Counties for the establishment of a residential school near Carmarthen for both educationally sub-normal and maladjusted children.

Special classes for the educationally sub-normal children are held in a few of the larger schools.

As stated in my previous Report, no facilities are available within reasonable distance for dealing with maladjusted children, but it is the Authority's intention either to co-operate with the two contiguous counties in appointing a Psychiatrist or, alternatively, to make arrange-

ments with the Regional Hospital Board for the use of the services of Specialists employed by them.

DELICATE AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN.

The question of establishing two residential schools for delicate and physically handicapped children, one in the North and the other in the North of the County, is under consideration.

SPEECH DEFECTS.

The Authority proposes to employ a speech therapist, either for its own service, or jointly with a neighbouring county. It is hoped that the opportunity will be available for selected teachers to undergo a course, or courses, in Lip-reading, etc.

HANDICAPPED CHILDREN.

Defect.	At Public Elementary School.	At Certified Special School.	At Home.	Total.
Blind ...	—	3	—	3
Partially Blind ...	2	—	—	2
Deaf ...	2	4	—	6
Partially Deaf ...	2	—	—	2
Delicate ...	3	—	3	6
Diabetic ...	3	—	—	3
Educationally Sub-Normal	237	—	7	244
Epileptic ...	6	—	6	12
Maladjusted ...	3	—	—	3
Speech Defects ...	24	—	—	24
Physically Handicapped ...	5	18	—	23
Multiple Disabilities ...	—	—	8	8

VISUAL DEFECTS.

343 cases were submitted for refraction and attended eye clinics held at convenient centres throughout the County.

Six children were referred to Dr. H. E. Quick, the Ophthalmic Specialist, for special examination on account of some disease of the eye which affected their vision.

Glasses were prescribed in 255 cases.

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT DEFECTS.

151 children received operative treatment for unhealthy Tonsils

and Adenoids under the Authority's Scheme and 19 were treated privately.

16 children were referred to Dr. Robinson, the Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist, for special examination. Five received operative treatment and the remainder were recommended other forms of treatment.

TUBERCULOSIS.

All cases of suspected tuberculosis are referred to the area Medical Officer of the King Edward VII. Welsh National Memorial Association for special examination.

The number of children of school age examined during the year was 159. Of these, two were found to be suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis and four from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis. 45 were referred for re-examination later.

Ten were admitted to Sanatoria or Hospitals during the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

It was considered necessary to close 39 schools on account of Meales, Whooping Cough and Influenza.

School closure is resorted to only when it is likely to check the spread of infection.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

The work of immunisation was carried out under the direction of the District Medical Officers acting in co-operation with the County Health Department.

Parents are encouraged to have their infants completely immunised between 9 and 12 months.

Reinforcing injections are given later.

11 cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year, compared with 20 in 1946.

PROVISION OF SCHOOL MEALS AND MILK.

The provision of meals includes both the provision of milk and mid-day meals.

Of the 152 Elementary and Secondary Schools in the County, 138 are served by canteens and are provided with meals up to their full requirements.

The daily average number of children having meals at School—
7787.

Average number of children having milk at School—8334.

FOLLOWING UP.

The system of following up defective children has been carried out on the same lines as in previous years.

Summary of Work undertaken by School Nurses.

Attendances at Inspections	230
Visits to Schools re Cleanliness	947
Following-up Visits to Homes re Cleanliness	447
Following-up Visits to Homes re Physical Defects	198
Attendances at Dental Clinics	190
Attendances at Minor Ailment Clinics	922

MINOR AILMENTS.

Defect.	Treated by Nurse.	Treated by Parents under supervision of Nurse	Total.	No. of cases cured.
Ringworm—Head	13	13	26	24
Ringworm—Body	7	38	45	41
Scabies	36	51	87	85
Impetigo	150	123	273	262
Minor Injuries	611	115	726	605
Other Skin Diseases	39	21	60	59
Ear Diseases	42	27	69	66
External Eye Disease	23	22	45	41
Miscellaneous	314	147	461	440
TOTAL	1235	557	1792	1714

UNCLEANLINESS.

II.—UNCLEANLINESS.

Number of visits to Schools.		Total number of Children examined at Schools.		Number of individual children found unclean		Number of children cleansed.		Number of Children found with the following defects.						
								Head.			Body.			Dirty and Unsatisfactory Clothing.
947		45585		744		651	57	47	60	602	28	1	17	26
						By Parents under supervision of Nurse	By Nurse.	Dirty	Pediculi.	Nits.	Dirty.	Pediculi.	Fleabitten.	

SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

1,489 pupils were examined at Routine Inspections. Of these, 249, or 16.7, were referred for treatment, and 149, or 10.0, for observation; 17 pupils were also specially examined, and of these, 6 were found to be defective.

DEFECTIVE VISION.

153 were referred for treatment and 54 for observation.
3 children were operated on for squint.

MALNUTRITION.

3 cases of malnutrition were found amongst Secondary School pupils examined.

NOSE AND THROAT DEFECTS.

57 cases were referred for treatment, and 38 for further observation.

HEART AND CIRCULATION.

29 pupils were found with functional heart defects.

TUBERCULOSIS.

It was not found necessary to refer any pupils to the Tuberculosis Officer as a result of School Medical Inspections.

DEFORMITIES.

24 new cases of deformities were found, and 17 pupils were referred to the Orthopaedic Specialist for further review and treatment.

SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE.

During the year 7,561 children were inspected; 4,656 were referred for treatment, and 2,731 were actually treated.

Summary of Treatment.

Number of fillings inserted in permanent teeth	...	441
Number of fillings inserted in temporary teeth	...	112
Number of permanent teeth extracted	...	463
Number of temporary teeth extracted	...	2501
Other operations—Permanent teeth	...	202
Temporary teeth	...	202

It is hoped that Dental Attendants will be appointed early in 1948; this will relieve the District Nurses, who find it difficult to assist the Dental Officers for the long periods involved.

During the year we have introduced the A., B. and C. system of Dental Consent Forms, as suggested by the Ministry of Education. This system covers the whole school life of the child. Parents are asked to sign either under "A" (consent to all treatment offered), under "B" (consent with certain reservations), or under "C" (non-acceptance of any form of dental treatment).

It is interesting to note that so far, the majority of parents: over 90 per cent. sign under Group A, and less than 5 per cent. under Group C. From this it can be seen that there is a keen demand for dental treatment.

Mr. E. Hilton commenced duties on release from the Services in October, 1947, up to which date all the work was carried out by one fulltime and one part-time Dental Officers.

ELEMENTARY.

TABLE I.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF CHILDREN ATTENDING PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

A.—Routine Inspections.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed groups:—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	1876
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	1523
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	639
					<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	4038
					<hr/>

B.—Other Inspections.

Number of Special Inspections	...	...	...	...	781
Number of Re-Inspections	...	...	...	...	694
					<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	1475
					<hr/>

TABLE II.

Classification of the Nutrition of Children inspected during the Year in the Routine Age Groups.

Age Groups.	No. of Children inspected			A. Good.		B. Fair.		C. Poor.	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants ...	1876	1615	86.09	254	13.54	7	0.37		
Second Age Group ...	1523	1418	93.10	103	6.76	2	0.13		
Third Age Group ...	639	611	95.62	28	4.38	—	—		
Totals ...	4038	3644	90.24	385	9.54	9	0.22		

TABLE III.

TREATMENT TABLES.

Group I.—MINOR AILMENTS (excluding Uncleanliness).

Total number of Defects treated or under treatment during
the year under the Authority's Scheme 1792

Group II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

Disease or Defect. (1)	No. of Defects dealt with. Under the Authority's Scheme. (2)
Errors of Refraction (including squint) ...	343
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.)	6
Total	349

No. of Children for whom Spectacles were:—

(a) Prescribed	255
(b) Obtained	255

Group III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

Number of Defects.

Operative Treatment.	Other Forms of Treatment.	Total.
176	13	189

TABLE IV.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

1. Number of Children inspected	7561
2. Number found to require treatment	4656
3. Number actually treated	2731
4. Attendances made by children for treatment ...	3017
5. Half-days devoted to:—	
Inspection	211
Treatment	379
6. Fillings:—	
Temporary Teeth	112
Permanent Teeth	441
Total	553

7. Extractions:—					
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	2501
	Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	463
	Total	...	...	...	<hr/>2964 <hr/>
8. Administration of General Anæsthetics		...	...	...	25
9. Other operations					
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	202
	Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	202
	Total	...	...	...	<hr/>404 <hr/>

TABLE V.

UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

1. Average number of visits per school made during the year by School Nurses	...	...	...	8
2. Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	...	...	...	45585
3. Number of individual children found unclean	...	...	...	744
4. Number of children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921	...	...	...	712
5. Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken:				
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	...	...	...	—
(b) Under the School Attendance Bye-laws	...	...	...	—

SECONDARY.

MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS.

Number of Code Inspections	...	...	...	...	1489
Entrants	...	...	...	...	751
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	471
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	267
Special Inspections	...	...	...	...	17
Total	...	...	...	...	<hr/>1506 <hr/>

Defect or Disease.	Periodic Inspections. No. of Defects.		Special Inspections. No. of Defects.	
	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not re- quiring treatment.	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not re- quiring treatment.
SKIN ...	4	—	—	—
EYES— ...				
(a) Vision ...	147	52	4	1
(b) Squint ...	6	3	—	—
(c) Other ...	—	1	—	—
EARS— ...				
(a) Hearing ...	3	—	—	1
(b) Otitis Media ...	—	1	—	—
(c) Other ...	—	2	—	—
NOSE OR THROAT ...	57	38	2	1
SPEECH ...	3	1	—	—
CERVICAL GLANDS ...	—	2	—	—
HEART & CIRCULATION ...	10	19	—	—
LUNGS ...	—	6	—	—
DEVELOPMENT— ...				
(a) Hernia ...	1	—	—	—
(b) Other ...	—	1	—	—
ORTHOPÆDIC— ...				
(a) Posture ...	—	—	—	—
(b) Flat Foot ...	12	6	—	—
(c) Other ...	12	16	—	—
NERVOUS SYSTEM— ...				
(a) Epilepsy ...	—	—	—	—
(b) Other ...	—	—	—	—
PSYCHOLOGICAL— ...				
(a) Development ...	—	—	—	—
(b) Stability ...	—	—	—	1
OTHER ...	—	—	—	—

TREATMENT RETURNS.

Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Disease treated as Minor Ailments).

Disease or Defect.	Number of Cases dealt with		
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	Total.
	63	11	74
Errors of Refraction	—	—	—
Other Defects or Disease of the Eyes ...	3	—	3
Total			
No. of Pupils for whom Spectacles were:			
(a) Prescribed	51	—	51
(b) Obtained	28	23	51

Classification of the Nutrition of Pupils inspected during the year in the Routine Age Groups.

Age Groups.	A.			B.			C.		
	No. of Pupils inspected	Good.		Fair.		Poor.		No.	%
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Entrants ...	751	719	95.74	32	4.26	—	—	—	—
Intermediates ...	471	457	97.03	14	2.97	—	—	—	—
Leavers ...	267	257	96.26	7	2.62	3	1.12	—	—
Total	1489	1433	96.23	53	3.56	3	0.21	—	—



