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BOROUGH



OF BACUP

EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

ANNUAL REPORT

BY

J. Percival Brown, M.B. Ch.B., Vict.,

School Medical Officer,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1918.

Bacup:

W. GEO. PARR, PRINTER, ST. JAMES' STREET,

1919.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
BACUP EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour of presenting my Eleventh Annual Report, in the School Medical Service, for the year ended, December 31st, 1918.

All the scholars have been visited by me for Schedule Inspection, also for special cases and re-examination. The sanitary condition of all schools is satisfactory. The School Nurse has made visits *re* cleanliness, without notices being sent, which has had good effect. Total number of children examined, and their defects are shown in tables I. to V. so that I shall only briefly refer to certain groups and defects in this report.

751 children were examined at Schedule Inspection and 108 or 14·3% required treatment, the least on record which I attributed, to the very active following up of cases and interest taken by parents during past few years, so that one can find a fair number of children who have had ailments, etc., attended to, or are wearing satisfactory glasses.

The number of Skin Cases, (except Scabies) and uncleanliness cases having fallen off, and the cases I find are much less severe. I am pleased to say that the teachers report these cases at once when only slight, so that many of them are soon cured. These cover 27 Ringworm cases dealt with at the Clinic,

against 61 in 1917. The increase is in Scabies, 25 cases which we have effectually dealt with through the Clinic and the Cleansing and Disinfecting Station, also home disinfection as required—in fact carrying out what the L.G.B. suggests in a recent memorandum on the subject. As mentioned in my M.O.H. Report, 124 baths have been given to school children at the cleansing station in the co-operation between School Medical Service and Sanitary Service. This disease has spread owing to the war.

The general cleanliness of children is much improved.

There were a few cases of poor nutrition which were attended to. I consider the children well clothed and fed.

The tables give a fair idea of defects and how they are followed up. Every child who has a defect or a defect remedied is specially marked on its card so that I am able to see if it is attended to, or if it has relapse, such as occur chiefly in nose and throat cases and skin diseases. When I visit schools, besides seeing schedule ages, I specially go through such cards and re-examine necessary children.

Defective teeth when crowded or dangerous sepsis exist are reported.

Dr. Harry examined 127 children, some of whom were new cases in 1918, others from 1917, or cases requiring fresh examination at certain dates marked on their cards. 88 obtained glasses, 31 yet to obtain glasses, 1 operation, 7 did not require glasses. The worst cases to get glasses are those with slightly

defective sight, but when child is about 8 years old it is easier to make the parents seeing the importance of wearing glasses when one points out the number of school years to follow that are bound to make the case worse.

Adenoids, Enlarged Tonsils, Throat and Nose Diseases are receiving active treatment and with good results, though require watching for relapses. From school records, doctors reports, and hospital reports, I find that between 40 and 50 cases a year are being treated, not all of school age, and that now I often come across a child entering school who breathes normally, and am informed that Adenoid and Tonsils operation has been performed.

At the Clinic, Nurse Dixon gives daily attention when necessary, and I attend from 9-15 to 10-15 a.m. on Wednesday and 3-15 to 4-15 p.m. on Friday.

| | |
|---|------|
| Number of attendanaces by Nurse at the Clinic ... | 254 |
| „ „ Home Visits by the Nurse ... | 1228 |
| „ „ Visits at Schools by the Nurse ... | 140 |
| „ „ Attendances by children at the Clinic | 1978 |

Cases dealt with through the Clinic were:—Skin Disease, 79 (Scabies 25, Ringworm 27); Uncleanliness of Head, 29; Uncleanliness of body, 5; Malnutrition, 3; Nose and Throat, 7; Ear Disease, 4; Teeth, 5; Defective Vision and Squint, 25; Non Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 4; Deafness, 2; Nervcus Disease, 2; External Eye Disease, 26; Heart Disease, 1; Deformity, 1; Speech, 1; Various, 18; Defective Footgear, 20; (17 cases of Defective Footgear were helped through the School Attendance Officer's Clog Fund). A total of 232 cases, result being—Cured, 222; Improved, 10.

The Clinic Circle besides being the centre for teachers and school officials to send cases to, is made use of by doctors to send cases to for treatment, and in some cases to arrange for Hospital In-patient treatment.

Under Article 45B and 57 of Code of 1918, the following schools were closed : All Schools were closed from June 21st to July 8th owing to Influenza ; Western Council Infant and Tunstead C.E. Infant Schools were closed from September 24th to October 7th owing to Influenza and Measles ; Wesley Council Infant and Western Council Infant Schools were closed from December 16th, for two weeks owing to Influenza.

Whooping Cough, Measles and Influenza have specially affected school attendance during the year.

Children attending special schools are—1 Cripple Girl, 1 Blind Boy, 1 Deaf and Dumb Boy.

No teachers were examined under the Elementary School Teachers (Superannuation) Act, 1898.

In what has been a most trying year for everyone, owing to war conditions and Epidemics, I would specially mention the interest taken in the work by head-teachers and their staffs which has helped the School Nurse and myself in the improving of the school child, work in which I know I have an interested Education Committee to work with.

I am, yours respectfully,

J. PERCIVAL BROWN,

M.B., Ch. B., Vict., S.M.C.

Burwood House,
Bacup, April 28th, 1919.

AVERAGE HEIGHTS AND WEIGHTS.

| Group | Aged 3 years | Aged 4 years | Aged 5 years | Aged 8 years | Aged 12 years |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Aver. Age | 3 $\frac{4}{12}$ years | 4 $\frac{6}{12}$ years | 5 $\frac{3}{12}$ years | 8 $\frac{4}{12}$ years | 12 $\frac{4}{12}$ years |
| Boys | Height 37 $\frac{3}{4}$ in. Weight 36 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. | Height 38 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. Weight 36 lbs. | Height 40 in. Weight 38 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. | Height 47 $\frac{3}{4}$ in. Weight 51 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. | Height 52 $\frac{1}{4}$ in. Weight 69 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. |
| Aver. Age | 3 $\frac{6}{12}$ years | 4 $\frac{4}{12}$ years | 5 $\frac{4}{12}$ years | 8 $\frac{4}{12}$ years | 12 $\frac{1}{12}$ years |
| Girls | Height 36 in. Weight 33 $\frac{1}{8}$ lbs. | Height 39 $\frac{3}{8}$ in. Weight 36 lbs. | Height 38 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. Weight 36 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. | Height 45 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. Weight 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. | Height 50 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. Weight 70 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. |

TABLE 1.
NUMBER OF CHILDREN INSPECTED 1ST JANUARY, 1918,
TO 31ST JANUARY, 1918.

A. "Code" Groups.

| Age..... | Entrants | | | | | Total |
|--------------|----------|-----|----|----|------------|-------|
| | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | Other Ages | |
| Boys | 10 | 82 | 40 | 8 | 5 | 145 |
| Girls | 10 | 71 | 55 | 11 | 1 | 148 |
| Totals | 20 | 153 | 95 | 19 | 6 | 293 |

| Age..... | Intermediate Group | Leavers | | | | | Grand Total |
|--------------|--------------------|---------|----|----|----|------------|-------------|
| | | 8 | 12 | 13 | 14 | Other Ages | |
| Boys | 114 | 104 | 1 | — | — | 219 | 364 |
| Girls | 117 | 115 | — | — | — | 232 | 380 |
| Totals | 231 | 219 | 1 | — | — | 451 | 744 |

B. Groups other than "Code"

| (1) | Special Cases (3) | Re-examination, <i>i.e.</i> , No. of Children re-examined (4) |
|--------------|----------------------|---|
| Boys | 138 | 332 |
| Girls | 135 | 273 |
| Totals | 273 | 605 |

TABLE II.—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND IN THE COURSE OF MEDICAL INSPECTION IN 1918.

| Defect or Disease | | Code Groups | | Special | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|---|
| | | Number referred for Treatment | Number requiring to be kept under observation, but not referred for Treatment | Number referred for Treatment | Number requiring to be kept under observation, but not referred for Treatment |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | |
| Skin | Malnutrition | 3 | — | 4 | |
| | Uncleanliness: | | | | |
| | Head | 6 | — | 23 | |
| | Body | 5 | — | 10 | |
| | Ringworm: | | | | |
| | Head | 2 | — | 23 | |
| | Body | 1 | — | 6 | |
| Skin | Scabies | 2 | — | 23 | |
| | Impetigo | 2 | — | 27 | |
| | Other Diseases | 2 | 1 | 16 | |
| Eye | Defective Vision and Squint | 71 | 20 | 28 | |
| | External Eye Disease | 5 | 2 | 23 | |
| Ear | Defective Hearing | 5 | 1 | 1 | |
| | Ear Disease | 2 | — | 5 | |
| Teeth | Dental Disease | 16 | — | 2 | |
| Nose and Throat | Enlarged Tonsils | 6 | 1 | 6 | 2 |
| | Adenoids | 6 | 4 | 6 | 1 |
| | Enlarged Tonsils & Adenoids | 5 | — | 7 | 2 |
| | Defective Speech | 2 | — | 3 | |
| Heart and Circulation | Heart Disease: | | | | |
| | Organic | 1 | — | 1 | |
| | Functional | 1 | — | 1 | |
| | Anæmia | — | — | — | |
| Lungs | Pulmonary Tuberculosis: | | | | |
| | Definite | — | — | — | |
| | Suspected | 2 | — | 2 | |
| | Chronic Bronchitis | 2 | — | 2 | |
| | Other Diseases | 1 | 1 | — | |
| Nervous System | Epilepsy | — | — | 2 | |
| | Chorea | 1 | 1 | — | |
| | Other Diseases | 1 | — | 1 | |
| | Non-Pulm'ary Tuberculosis: | | | | |
| | Glands | 1 | — | 3 | |
| | Bones and Joints | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| | Other Forms | — | 1 | — | |
| | Rickets | 2 | 2 | — | |
| | Deformities | 2 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| | Other Defects or Diseases | 8 | 6 | 31 | 5 |

TABLE III.—NUMERICAL RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN IN THE AREA.

| | | Boys | Girls | Total | |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|-------|-------|----|
| Blind (Including partially blind) | | Attending Certified School for the Blind | 1 | ... | 1 |
| Deaf and Dumb (Including partially deaf) | | Attending Public Elementary Schools | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| | | Attending Certified School for Deaf ... | 1 | ... | 1 |
| Mentally Deficient | Feeble-minded | Attending Public Elementary Schools | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | | Notified to the Local (Control) Authority during the year ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Epileptics | | Attending Public Elementary Schools | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| | | Not at School ... | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Physically Defective | Pulmonary Tuberculosis | Attending Public Elementary Schools | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| | Other forms of Tuberculosis. | Attending Public Elementary Schools | 12 | 8 | 20 |
| | Cripples other than Tuberculosis. | Attending Public Elementary Schools | 11 | 7 | 18 |
| | | Attending Certified School for Physically Defective Children | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Dull or Backward* | | Retarded 2 years ... | 8 | 8 | 16 |
| | | Retarded 3 years ... | 4 | 3 | 7 |

* Judged according to age and standard.

TABLE IV.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF CHILDREN DURING 1918.

| Condition | No. of defects for which treatment was necessary | | | No. of defects for which no report is available | No. of defects treated | Results of treatment | | | No. of defects not treated | Per-centage of defects treated |
|----------------------------|--|-----|-------|---|------------------------|----------------------|-----------|------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | From previous year | New | Total | | | Re-medied | Im-proved | Un-changed | | |
| Clothing | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Footgear | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Cleanliness of head | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Cleanliness of body | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Nutrition | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Nose and throat | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| External eye disease | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Ear disease | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Teeth | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Heart and circulation | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Lungs | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Nervous system | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Skin | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Rickets | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Deformities | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Tuberculosis—non-pulmonary | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Speech | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Mental condition | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Vision and squint | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Hearing | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Miscellaneous | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Total | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |

TABLE V.

INSPECTION, TREATMENT, &C., OF CHILDREN DURING 1918.

| | |
|---|------|
| 1. The total number of children medically inspected (whether Code Group, special or ailing child). | 1622 |
| 2. The number of children in (1) suffering from defects (other than uncleanliness or defective clothing or footgear) who require to be kept under observation (but not referred for treatment). | 50 |
| 3. The number of children in (1) who were referred for treatment (including uncleanliness, defective clothing, etc. | 336 |
| 4. The number of children in (3) who received treatment for one or more defects (excluding uncleanliness, defective clothing, etc.). | 290 |

