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BOROUGH OF BILSTON.



REPORT

ON THE

Public Health Services

FOR THE YEAR 1944.

B. C. HALLER, M.A. (Cantab.), L.R.C.P. (Edin.),
D.P.H. (Camb.),

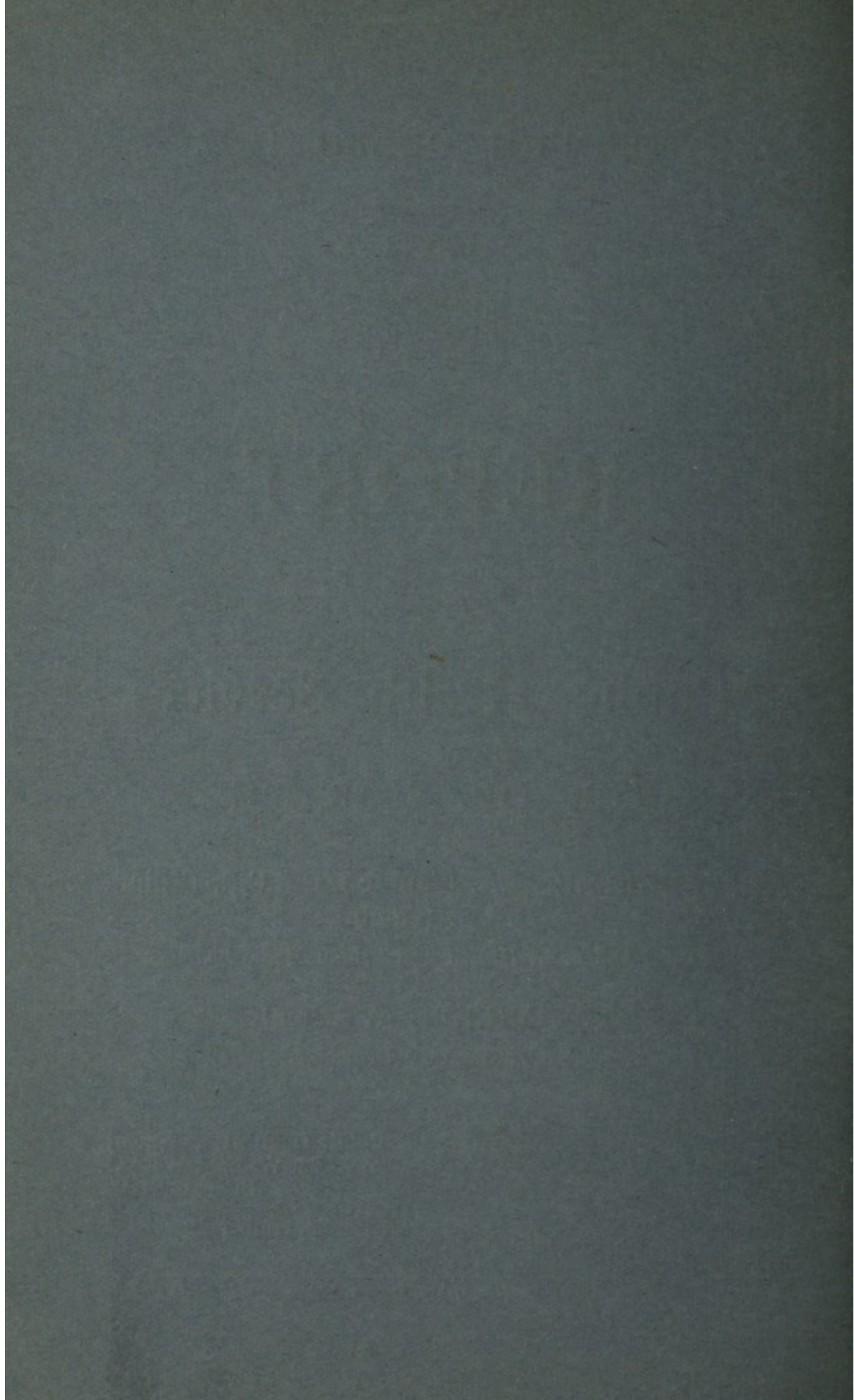
Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.

F. BARNETT, A.R.San.I.

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Public Health Department,
23, Wellington Road,
Bilston, Staffs.

September 1945.



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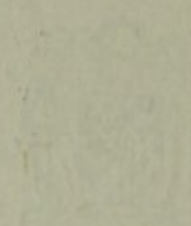
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Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Public Health Department,
23, Wellington Road,
Bilston, Staffs.

September 1945.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



REPORT

Public Health Services

FOR THE YEAR 1941

STAFF
of the
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.
Whole Time Officers.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
MEDICAL OFFICER FOR MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE,
AND SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER :

B. C. HALLER, M.A., (Cantab.), L.R.C.P.E., L.R.C.S.E.,
D.P.H. (Camb.).

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER :

HELENA M. SHANKS, M.B., Ch.B. (Glas.), D.P.H. (Glas.)

PART TIME OFFICER (MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE) :

JANE A. NAGLE, M.B., B.Ch.

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR,
INSPECTOR UNDER THE CANAL BOATS ACT,
INSPECTOR UNDER THE HOUSING CONSOLIDATED REGULATIONS, 1925,
AND LODGING HOUSE INSPECTOR :

F. BARNETT, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I., Certificated Meat Inspector.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTORS :

G. E. S. SHELDON, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I., Certificated Meat
Inspector.

W. L. KAY, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I., Certificated Meat Inspector.

HEALTH VISITORS :

Miss N. R. Hawkins, S.R.N., S.C.M., M.R.C.N.

Miss M. Parker, S.R.N., S.C.M., Cert. H.V. (R.S.I.)

Miss C. Read, S.R.N., S.C.M., Cert. H.V. (R.S.I.).

CLERICAL STAFF :

Chief Clerk : Miss A. Whittingham

M. & C. W. Clerk : Miss M. J. Corbett (W.R.N.S.)

Mrs. P. Fisher (Appointed 1.1.1944)
(resigned 31.3.1944)

Mrs. P. Bouckley (Appointed 1.4.1944)

San. Insp. Clerk : Miss J. A. Lewis

ANNUAL INTERIM REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1944

In view of the need for strict economy this Report has been reduced to a minimum but arrangements have been made for the provision of all records so that a full report can be given for each year at the termination of the war.

The following are brief statistics for the year :—

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA :

Area	1,871 acres
Population : 1931 Census	31,248
Estimated Population for Year	30,620
Estimated Number of Inhabited Houses for the year	8,771
Rateable Value	£133,403

Extracts from Vital Statics :

	Total	Males	Females		
Live Births	632	327	305	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	
(Legitimate)	598	310	288		20.64
(Illegitimate)	34	17	17		
Still Births	17	11	6	Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Stillbirths) 21.11	
	Total	Males	Females		
Deaths	329	182	147	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	
				10.74	

Comparability Factor: Not available for 1944.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :—

(Headings 29 and 30) of the Registrar General's short list.

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes	1*	1.54

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	58.54
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	55.18
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate live births	117.64

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	34
,, Measles (all ages)	—
,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	—
,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	7

The following table shows the causes of death and gives particulars of the number of males and females dying from various diseases :—

TABLE 1.

Causes of Death	Males	Fe- males	Total
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Diphtheria	1	1	2
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	9	7	16
Other Tuberculous Diseases	—	—	—
Syphilitic Diseases	—	—	—
Influenza	3	1	4
Measles	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
Cancer, Malignant Disease	16	18	34
Diabetes	1	2	3
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	11	18	29
Heart Disease	33	35	68
Other Circulatory Diseases	3	2	5
Bronchitis	15	16	31
Pneumonia. (all forms)	23	11	34
Other Respiratory Diseases	4	1	5
Ulcer of the Stomach or Duodenum	—	2	2
Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	5	2	7
Appendicitis	1	1	2
Other Digestive Diseases	3	4	7
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	1	3	4
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—
Other Maternal Causes	—	1	1
Premature Birth	10	3	13
Congenital Debility, Malformation, etc.	6	6	12
Suicide	1	—	1
Road Traffic Accidents	1	1	2
Other Violent Causes	6	2	8
All Other Causes	29	10	39
Totals	182	147	329

TABLE 2.

Birth-rates, Death-rates, and Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case rates for certain infectious diseases in the Year 1944. Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales	County Boro's and Great Towns including London	Smaller Towns Resident Population 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census	BILSTON
Rates per 1,000 Population				
Births :				
Live	17.6	20.3	20.9	20.64
Still	0.50	0.64	0.61	0.55
Deaths :				
All Causes	11.6	13.7	12.4	10.74
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.03	0.02	—
Diphtheria	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.06
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.01	0.01	0.01	—
Influenza	0.12	0.10	0.11	0.13
Rates per 1,000 live births				
Deaths under 1 year of age	46	52	44	58.54
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	4.8	7.3	4.4	11.08
Rates per 1,000 Population				
Notifications :				
Typhoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	—
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	0.00	0.01	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0.05	0.06	0.04	—
Scarlet Fever	2.40	2.41	2.67	2.12
Whooping Cough	2.49	2.49	2.29	3.13
Diphtheria	0.58	0.67	0.69	1.73
Erysipelas	0.29	0.32	0.28	0.26
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Measles	4.16	4.51	3.94	4.41
Pneumonia	0.97	1.13	0.82	1.99
Rates per 1,000 (live and still) Births				
Puerperal Fever } Puerperal Pyrexia }	10.34	13.13	9.25	3.1

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

The School Dental and Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics are held in the Clinic which is at the junction of Prouds Lane and Wellington Road, and is in session every day for treatment of Minor Ailments and Dental defects. The Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics are held on four afternoons a week.

Diphtheria Immunisation Clinics were also held during the year. The number of children immunised is as follows:—

Children under 5 years of age	367
Children over 5 and under 15 years	533
Total	900

Scabies.

Three Clinics are held weekly at the Cleansing Station rear of 23, Wellington Road. The total number of cases treated was 511.

Promotion of Cleanliness and Good Habits and the Elimination of Verminous Conditions :

The Health Visitors and School Nurses co-operate very closely with each other and in the general scheme of this work.

Lethane Hair Oil is used in the Clinic and also is given to mothers for use in the homes when found necessary. Instructions are given at the same time as to its use and for the care and toilet of the hair. Advice on Hygiene and good habits generally is tendered to mothers when routine and special visits are paid to homes, particular attention being paid to those homes most in need of it and all cases are followed up regularly.

Families have been sent to Institutions for cleansing when the need has arisen.

Legal action has been taken when necessary in cases of tenants who have persistently failed to keep themselves and their houses clean in spite of the advice and attention given by the Nurses and repeated visits and disinfestation of the homes by the Sanitary Inspectors.

War Time Day Nursery.

The War Time Day Nursery situated in Prouds Lane, Bilston, will accommodate 40 children, ages ranging from 0 to 5 years, is open daily from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and the average attendance was 31 daily.

The staff comprises :—
Matron
Deputy Matron
1 Certificated Nursery Nurse
1 Warden
1 Nursery Assistant
2 Probationers
1 Cook

The Care of Premature Infants : Ministry of Health Circular 20/44.

In order to comply with the provisions of this Circular, the three Health Visitors took a preliminary course (of a fortnight each) at the Sorrento Maternity Home, Birmingham, through the kindness and co-operation of the Medical Officers concerned in the Public Health Department, Birmingham.

The weight of the baby is now entered on the Birth Notification Cards.

Special Cots and equipment are provided for use in the home.

Supply of Sheets for Expectant Mothers.

Arrangements were made in November by the Ministry of Health, in conjunction with the Board of Trade, for Priority Dockets for utility sheets to be issued by Welfare Authorities to expectant mothers where the need for same is certified by the Midwife who has been engaged for the confinement in the patient's own home. Since the inauguration of the Scheme and up to the end of December, 1944, 14 dockets were issued to 7 applicants.

Care of Illegitimate Children : Ministry of Health Circular 2866.

The Council approved a scheme submitted by the Welfare Authority whereby the responsibility for the detailed administration of the scheme shall be in the hands of the Woman Probation Officer of the Staffordshire County Council, the Health Visitors of the Welfare Authority and the Ladies Voluntary Committee as constituted by the Welfare Authority, all acting under the general supervision of the Medical Officer of Health of the Welfare Authority.

The duties to be undertaken by the persons mentioned shall comprise all those suggested in the Circular.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Full details of the sanitary circumstances of the area have been given in previous reports.

Water.

The water supply in the area is satisfactory in quality and quantity.

During the year 9 bacteriological samples were taken: 1 from the Rising Main at the Bratch, 2 from the Covered Reservoirs at Cotton Road, 2 from Tomhill Waterworks and 4 from private supplies in the town. 2 chemical samples were taken from Tomhill Waterworks.

In each case the samples were satisfactory and it was not necessary to install treatment.

The water supply has 13.60 degrees of hardness before boiling, and the waters are not liable to have plumbo-solvent action.

All the dwelling houses except four have a pipe water supply. The only private water supplies in the area are a spring at Stowlawn Estate which supplies three cottages and a spring at the rear of Hallpark Street which supplies a single caravan. It is anticipated that these four dwellings will be demolished during the coming year.

Housing.

The applications for houses is continuous. There is a definite shortage of dwellings at low rentals but it is impossible to give reliable figures as to the actual number of houses required.

Overcrowding.

Owing to war conditions it has been impossible to build houses to abate overcrowding.

Slum Clearance.

Owing to war conditions no action has been taken.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

The work of food inspection is carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors, and details are given in the Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report.

Milk Supply and Food Aulteration.

The work under this heading is controlled by the County Council whose officers carry out the necessary work of sampling.

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious Diseases.

Table 3 shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year, cases admitted to Hospital and the known deaths.

TABLE 3.

Infectious Diseases : Cases admitted to Hospital and Total Deaths.

	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	65	46	—
Diphtheria	53	50	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	2	—
Pneumonia	61	—	34
Erysipelas	8	5	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—
Measles	135	2	—
Whooping Cough	96	3	—
Dysentery	13	13	—
Poliomyelitis	1	1	—

This department has no knowledge of cases of Pneumonia removed to Hospital. Such cases are usually treated at the Royal Hospital, or the New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton. Public Assistance cases are taken to Wordsley Institution.

Tuberculosis.

TABLE 4.

Age Period	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 and upward	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
5	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
15	5	13	1	—	2	3	—	—
25	5	4	1	1	2	2	—	—
35	4	3	—	—	3	2	—	—
45	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	23	21	4	3	9	7	—	—

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1944

Herewith is submitted a report of the Sanitary Inspector of the Borough for the year 1944, being his thirty-third annual report :—

Routine Inspections

Details of the inspections made during the year are as follows :—

1. Visits in connection with complaints, re-inspections and works in progress	2244
2. Houses inspected (for minor defects)	524
3. Houses inspected (detailed inspection under Housing Act)	602
4. Houses inspected (cleanliness of tenants)	732
5. Visits re overcrowding	91
6. Infectious cases visited	139
7. Drains tested	188
8. Visits to food shops and food preparing premises	466
9. Visits to market	167
10. Visits re caravans	145
11. Visits re slaughter of animals	307
12. Visits to common lodging houses	30
13. Visits to factories	22
14. Visits re rodent control	293
15. Visits to common yards and miscellaneous visits	1473
TOTAL	7423

Complaints

The number of complaints received during the year was 1180 ; 713 in connection with alleged nuisances or sanitary defects and 467 in respect of choked drains and water closets. All complaints were dealt with.

Notices.

The number of notices issued during the year was 1,099 (884 informal notices and 215 statutory notices). Notices served on owners—879, on occupiers—220.

Details of the statutory notices served are given below :—

	Issued	Complied	Justices Order	Not Complied
Sections 92-93, Public Health Act, 1936	170	140	16	30
Section 75, Public Health Act, 1936	17	17	—	—
Section 83, Public Health Act, 1936	28	28	2	—
Total	215	185	18	30

The total amount of fines imposed by the Court was £55. The thirty outstanding notices at the end of the year have now been complied with.

Sanitary Improvements.

Details of the improvements made in compliance with notices served are given below ; in connection with :—

1.	Water supply	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
2.	Sanitary conveniences	.....	.....	.....	.....	154
3.	Drainage	.....	.....	.....	.....	178
4.	Yards	.....	.....	.....	.....	15
5.	Washing accommodation	.....	.....	.....	.....	80
6.	Houses internal repairs	.....	.....	.....	.....	484
7.	Houses external repairs	.....	.....	.....	.....	547
8.	Tenants general cleanliness	.....	.....	.....	.....	206
9.	Caravans removed	.....	.....	.....	.....	72
10.	Ashbins	.....	.....	.....	.....	189
11.	Miscellaneous matters	.....	.....	.....	.....	74
						Total	2001
						Premises affected by these improvements	980

Meat and Food Inspection

The number of visits made to food preparing premises, food shops and in connection with the slaughter of animals was 773. The number of pigs examined after slaughter was 309.

The total amount of unsound food destroyed was 2 tons 14 cwts.

	Cwts.	lbs.
Portions of Pigs Carcases	2	10
Eggs		32
Tinned Foods	11	21
Rabbits	8	90
Bacon	1	28
Cheese	1	95
Meat	11	85
Chocolate		1
Biscuits		7
Butter		7
Vegetables	2	17
Fish	14	39
Miscellaneous		16

Disinfection and Disinfestation.

The number of houses disinfected after infectious disease was 133, and the number of houses disinfested owing to verminous conditions 155, (Corporation houses 88, privately owned houses 67)

Common Lodging Houses.

There are two common lodging houses in the district. These are now used mainly as permanent homes and not by travellers. The houses have been visited on thirty occasions. The dwellings are old and cannot be brought up to a proper standard. They will be closed as soon as alternative accommodation can be found.

Factory and Workshops Act

During the year six complaints have been received from H.M. Inspector of Factories. These have been dealt with. The number of visits made to factories is 22.

Canal Boats Act

The canal has been visited on thirty occasions during the year for the purpose of canal boat inspection but on no occasion have registered boats been seen.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

There are three cowsheds and 153 registered milk shops in the area. Bottled milk only is sold from the shops. One of the cowsheds is old and dilapidated and will be demolished as soon as circumstances permit.

Cleanliness of Tenants in Corporation Houses

During the year 752 houses have been inspected. Details of conditions found are given below :—

Dirty and verminous	.....	.....	38	5.3%
Dirty but not verminous	.....	.....	70	9.3%
Untidy and unsatisfactory	.....	.....	11	1.4%
Moderately clean	.....	.....	48	6.3%
Satisfactory	.....	.....	585	77.7%

Rodent Control

The number of complaints received during the year was 89 and the number of premises treated by the employee of this authority 94. The sewers were treated on two occasions between June and September.

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BILSTON EDUCATION AUTHORITY.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

School Medical Officer

FOR THE YEAR 1944.

STAFF
of the
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Whole Time Officers.

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

*SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER :

B. C. HALLER, M.A. (Cantab.), L.R.C.P.E., L.R.C.S.E.,
D.P.H. (Camb.).

*DEPUTY SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER :

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

*SCHOOL DENTAL SURGEON :

G. GRIFFITH, L.D.S. (Belfast).

*SCHOOL NURSES :

MRS. D. MANSFORD, S.R.N.
MISS B. M. JACKSON, S.R.N., S.C.M.

*DENTAL ATTENDANT :

MISS D. B. JOHNSON.

*CLERK :

MISS E. J. BEDDOWS (Resigned January, 1944)
MISS I. LIDDIATT (Appointed January, 1944)

Part Time Officer.

OPHTHALMIC SURGEON :

H. CAMPBELL ORR, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.F.P.S. (Glasgow).

* Officer whose salary is contributed to under the Public Health Act or Exchequer Grant.

STAFF.

The particulars are given on page 16. The change in personnel during the year is also shown.

CO-ORDINATION.

There is a well-maintained close co-operation between the various departments of the Public Health Services.

SCHOOL HYGIENE.

A detailed report under this heading will have to be postponed until the re-organisation scheme and new buildings have been completed.

MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Routine Medical Inspections were carried out in the three code groups :—

- (a) Entrants during the first year of their school life.
- (b) Children during their eighth year.
- (c) Children during their twelfth year.

Re-examinations are carried out as found necessary. Special examinations are made of children of any age at the request of parents or teachers.

Findings at Medical Inspections.

The following were the defects found during inspection. Under each heading is given the percentage of children examined and found to be suffering from the conditions mentioned :—

	Total	Percentage
Dirty Heads	136	8.34
Dirty Bodies	11	.67
Tonsils slightly enlarged	230	14.11
Tonsils much enlarged	362	22.22
Adenoids much enlarged	—	—
Tuberculosis suspected	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	—
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	—
Skin Disease	32	1.96
External Eye Disease	23	1.41
Defective Vision	89	5.46
Ear Disease and Hearing	23	1.41
Dental Defects :—		
Less than four teeth decayed	268	16.45
Four or more teeth decayed	259	15.89
Crippling Defects	9	.55

Nutrition.

The particulars are given in Table IIB on Page 28.

The Care of Debilitated Children under School Age.

The procedure in operation is the same as reported in previous years.

Uncleanliness.

There is a slight reduction in the number of children found unclean as compared with the previous year. Details are given in Group VI on Page 34.

Infectious Diseases.

There were epidemics of Measles, Chicken Pox, Scarlet Fever and German Measles. A comparison of figures in known cases of notifiable and of non-notifiable diseases is given below :—

NON-NOTIFIABLE.				NOTIFIFABLE.				
	1943	1944		1943	1944		1943	1944
Mumps	25	10	Measles	227	113			
Scabies	2	—	Chicken Pox	87	79			
Impetigo	2	—	Whooping Cough	55	43			
			Scarlet Fever	60	51			
			Diphtheria	39	49			
			Pneumonia	9	4			
			Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	—			
			Erysipelas	—	2			
			Poliomyelitis	—	1			
			German Measles	—	140			
			Dysentery	—	5			
			Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	2			

Following-up.

The procedure reported in previous years is still in force.

MEDICAL TREATMENT.

Minor Ailments.

This work is now carried out at the Centre Health Clinic, Wellington Road, Bilston, which was opened on February 28th, 1940.

The Clinic is open five mornings each week.

Details of work done during the year are given in the following table :—

Cause of attendance		Cases	No. of attendances	Rel'v'd or Cured	Still on the books
Boys.	Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—
Girls.	„	—	—	—	—
Boys.	Abscess Eyelids	—	—	—	—
Girls.	„ „	—	—	—	—
Boys.	Otorrhoea	29	66	29	—
Girls.	„	22	60	22	—
Boys.	Ringworm Head	11	24	11	—
Girls.	„ „	1	1	1	—
Boys.	„ Body	2	6	2	—
Girls.	„ „	3	15	3	—
Boys.	Eczema & Scabies	279	885	276	3
Girls.	„ „	279	791	279	—
Boys.	Impetigo	98	362	98	—
Girls.	„	69	212	69	—
Boys.	Miscellaneous	1032	2134	1032	—
Girls.	„	1362	2657	1361	1
Boys.	Photophobia	—	—	—	—
Girls.	„	—	—	—	—
Boys.	Minor Ear Diseases	54	173	54	—
Girls.	„ „	23	32	23	—
Boys.	Minor Skin Diseases	113	280	113	—
Girls.	„ „	97	257	97	—
Boys.	Minor Eye Diseases	165	377	165	—
Girls.	„ „	144	262	144	—
Total		3783	8594	3779	4

Tonsils and Adenoids.

All Ear, Nose and Throat Cases requiring special advice are sent to the Honorary Surgeon in attendance at the appropriate Department of the Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton, for further examination and operation when required.

216 Children were referred to the Specialists.

183 Cases were operated on during 1944.

Tuberculosis.

These cases were seen by the Tuberculosis Officer, Bell Street, Wolverhampton.

Defective Vision.

Mr. H. Campbell Orr, the Ophthalmic Surgeon, deals with all Eye Cases. His report is as follows :—

I wish to thank the Medical Officer of Health and his Staff for their kind co-operation during the year. Everything possible has been done to facilitate the work. The attendance of Mothers and Children has been remarkably good, and I should also like to extend my thanks to the Teaching Staffs of the various Schools for their help. The number of cases treated for Ophthalmic Diseases is increasing steadily and does not affect the amount of refraction work which is carried out. It is hoped that as time goes on, this will increase still more and so save the children the journey to the Hospital. One hopes that in due course Mothers of the poorer children will also be able to receive treatment at the Centre Health Clinic.

The following table shows the results :—

	Defects	
	Boys	Girls
Hypermetropic astigmatism	125	137
Hypermetropia	26	20
Myopia	12	16
Myopic astigmatism	30	24
Mixed Astigmatism	5	14
No glasses ordered	12	12
Concomitant Strabismus	60	54
Conjunctivitis	5	5
Amblyopia	21	10
Albino	3	1
Ptosis	1	1
Operation	3	4
Frolichs Sundrome	1	—
Blepharitis	1	3
Coloboma	1	1
Lamellar Cataract	—	2
Nebulae	3	3
	Totals	309
	GRAND TOTAL	616 Defects
Cases Examined	Boys	243
	Girls	254
	TOTAL	497
Additional Cases		124
Secondary Cases		443
Squints		15
	GRAND TOTAL	1,079 Cases

Ear Diseases and Hearing.

The minor ear defects treated at the School Clinic were 77. Major ear defects are referred to the Aural Surgeons at the Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton.

Dental Defects.

The School Dental Service complies with the conditions of a satisfactory scheme, and no restrictions have been found necessary in its work. The report of the School Dental Surgeon, Mr. Gerald Griffith, is given below :—

During the year 4,601 children were examined, of whom 1,493 did not require treatment. 1,506 were actually treated, including 11 orthodontic cases. The number of children not requiring treatment has increased from 21.69% to 32.45%. This is probably the result of many causes ; school meals and milk; less unemployment, less of the stickier sweetmeats and the extra drive made in the following up of children who have continually refused treatment.

I would like to thank the Medical Officer of Health, the Staff and all the Teachers for the valuable help which they have given me.

OPEN-AIR EDUCATION.

Annual School Outings are arranged for many Schools. The School Camp at Wombourn is still supported by voluntary contributions.

Sports. All Schools take a keen interest in football, cricket, netball and field sports. Still more open space is being provided for the playing of games.

PROVISION OF MEALS.

Free Milk and, since May 1942, Free Meals also, are supplied by the Education Authorities. These are given only on the recommendation of the School Medical Officer to the children of poor parents.

Bottles containing one-third pint of Grade 'A' Pasteurised Milk at $\frac{1}{2}$ d. a bottle are provided, except at one School where a malted milk is still the provision made.

Co-operation of Parents and Teachers.

1,629 children were examined at Routine Inspections. 968 parents attended these inspections.

The Head Teachers and their Staffs take every interest in medical and cleanliness inspections, and give every assistance to the School Medical Officer and the Nurses.

Co-operation of School Attendance Officer.

There is a very close touch kept between the Education Officer and this Department.

Co-operation of Voluntary Bodies.

The Inspector of the N.S.P.C.C. (Mr. Freeman) has again given invaluable assistance during the year.

Blind, Deaf, Defective and Epileptic Children.

The particulars with regard to these children are given in Table III.

The Staffordshire Association for Mental Welfare has again undertaken the home visiting of, and preparation of reports on, children brought to their notice.

Miss Tosh, Organising Secretary, has furnished the following report :—

I have pleasure in reporting on a further year's work on behalf of the feeble-minded children in the Borough of Bilston.

During 1944 thirty children have been under supervision ; of this number two became 16 years old during the year, three are under 7 years and two have died ; one evacuated child has returned to her own area. Three of the children are classified as educable in special schools. One hundred home visits have been paid and many interviews held on the children's behalf during the year.

Since 1925 the Association has co-operated with the Bilston Education Committee in the home supervision of their defective children, and we have greatly valued the privilege of doing so, as this has enabled us to get to know all the children thought to be mentally defective in the area, and to befriend them during their school years and afterwards, whether in the ordinary schools and subsequently in employment, or in institutions, or, after notification to the Local Authority, under statutory supervision. It is impossible to underrate the importance of such continued friendly contacts, on which much of the usefulness of the Mental Deficiency Acts depends. Our Visitors have in many cases become the trusted friends of the children, and their parents, to whom they can turn in doubt and difficulty. We have been able to secure for them in some cases special training, for others employment where the children are sympathetically treated, and others we have seen after school years successfully adjusting themselves to life in the community and able to make satisfactory progress without further help. It has been encouraging that so many feeble-minded children have obtained work on leaving school during the war period.

The chief problem that faces us in carrying out our supervision of these children is the lack of facilities for their special training; if they are notified as ineducable to the Local Authority, the chance of training at the Bilston Occupation Centre—opened in 1929—can be offered to them, but if they are only feeble-minded they generally remain in the ordinary schools, where effort to compete with normal children adds to their sense of frustration and inferiority. At the Centre we have seen children regarded as most backward and difficult develop to a marked degree under the training given them. Eighteen children from the Borough are on the roll of the Centre, which continues to do excellent work under the care of Miss Chettle and her Staff.

It is greatly hoped that under the new Education Act, one of whose aims is the special educational treatment of all children who need it, provision will be made for the establishment of day special schools and classes and a residential special school in the County.

Provision in the Act for the notification of defective children from the age of two years, and also those feeble-minded children who need further care on leaving school, will extend to many more defectives the benefits of the MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS.

The Association would like to take this opportunity of extending to the Bilston Education Committee their thanks for the ready co-operation and help in the work which has been accorded to the Association for twenty years. It will be our earnest endeavour to continue our services for the welfare of these handicapped children under the new educational administration.

(Signed) F. H. TOSH,

26th. January, 1945.

Secretary.

TABLE C.

Summary of Children not in School.

	Town Hall	New Town	High Town	Etting-shall	Brad-ley	Total
Consumptives	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mentally Defectives	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cripples	1	—	—	—	1	2
Delicate	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paralysis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fits	—	—	—	—	—	—
Heart Trouble	—	—	—	—	—	—
Attending Hospital	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blind	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaf and Dumb	1	—	—	—	—	1
Total	2	—	—	—	1	3

SECONDARY AND CONTINUATION SCHOOLS.

There is no change under this heading.

EMPLOYMENT OF YOUNG PERSONS AND CHILDREN.

Bye-laws affecting the employment of children are in force.

The School Medical Officer is a co-opted member of the Juvenile Employment Committee in an advisory capacity.

12 Boys were examined during the year.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Diphtheria Immunisation Clinics were held during the year. The number of children immunised is as follows :—

Boys' Central School	.....	.....	.....	20
Etheridge Infants'	.....	.....	.....	55
Etheridge Junior Girls'	.....	.....	.....	37
Etheridge Junior Boys'	.....	.....	.....	30
Etheridge Senior Girls'	.....	.....	.....	35
Etheridge Senior Boys'	.....	.....	.....	43
Loxdale	.....	.....	.....	28
St. Martin's C.E.	.....	.....	.....	62
Holy Trinity Infants'	.....	.....	.....	—
Holy Trinity Mixed	.....	.....	.....	16
Ettingshall Infants'	.....	.....	.....	21
Ettingshall Junior	.....	.....	.....	15
Stonefield Infants'	.....	.....	.....	35
Stonefield Senior Girls'	.....	.....	.....	18
Stonefield Senior Boys'	.....	.....	.....	25
St. Leonard's C.E.	.....	.....	.....	28
St. Edward's Infants'	.....	.....	.....	24
St. Luke's C.E.	.....	.....	.....	11
St. Saviour's C.E.	.....	.....	.....	7
Villiers	.....	.....	.....	14
Immunised by Medical Practitioners	.....	.....	.....	9

School Children Immunised during the Year 533

Children under School Age Immunised during the Year 367

At Welfare Centres	.....	356
At Wartime Day Nursery	.....	11

Diphtheria Notifications during the Year.

Seven children notified as suffering from Diphtheria had been immunised (3 in 1941, 3 in 1942 and 1 in 1943).

TABLE I.
RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS
in the Year ended 31st. December, 1944.

A.—Routine Inspections.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups :—	
Entrants	606
Second Age Group	495
Third Age Group	528
Total	1,629
Number of Other Routine Inspections	Nil

B.—Other Inspections.

Number of Special Inspections	88
Number of Re-Inspections	92
Total	180

C.—Children found to Require Treatment.

Number of individual children found at Routine Medical Inspections to require treatment (excluding defects of nutrition, uncleanliness and dental diseases) :—

GROUP (1)	For defective vision (excluding squint). (2)	For all other conditions recorded in Table II.A. (3)	TOTAL (4)
Entrants	9	197	206
Second Age Group	36	136	172
Third Age Group	52	114	166
TOTAL (Prescribed Groups)	97	447	544
Other Routine Inspections	—	—	—
GRAND TOTAL	97	447	544

TABLE II.A.—RETURN OF DEFECTS
found by Medical Inspection in the Year ended 31st. December, 1944.

DEFECTS or DISEASES.		Routine Inspections		Special Inspections	
		No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.	
		Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but <i>not</i> requiring Treatment.	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but <i>not</i> requiring Treatment.
	(1)				
Skin	(1) Ringworm—Scalp	—	—	—	—
	(2) " Body	2	—	—	—
	(3) Scabies	5	—	—	—
	(4) Impetigo	14	—	—	—
	(5) Other Diseases (Non-Tuberculous)	10	—	—	—
TOTAL (Headings 1 to 5)		31	—	—	—
Eye	(6) Blepharitis	18	—	1	—
	(7) Conjunctivitis	—	—	—	—
	(8) Keratitis	—	—	—	—
	(9) Corneal Opacities	—	—	—	—
	(10) Other Conditions (excluding defective Vision and Squint)	2	1	1	—
TOTAL (Headings 6 to 10)		20	1	2	—
Ear	(11) Defective Vision (excluding Squint)	89	—	—	—
	(12) Squint	—	15	—	—
	(13) Defective Hearing	—	12	—	—
	(14) Otitis Media	4	—	—	—
	(15) Other Ear Diseases	1	1	—	—
Nose and Throat	(16) Chronic Tonsilitis only	—	—	1	—
	(17) Adenoids only	2	—	2	—
	(18) Chronic Tonsils and Adenoids	371	229	5	—
	(19) Other Conditions	—	76	—	—
(20) Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous)		—	97	—	—
(21) Defective Speech		—	2	—	—
TOTAL (Headings 11 to 21)		467	432	8	—
Heart and Circulation	(22) Organic	—	42	—	1
	(23) Functional	—	31	—	1
	(24) Anaemia	—	78	1	2
TOTAL (Headings 22 to 24)		—	151	1	4
Totals Carried Forward		518	584	11	4

TABLE II.A.—continued.

DEFECTS or DISEASES.		Routine Inspections		Special Inspections	
		No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.	
		Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but <i>not</i> requiring Treatment.	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but <i>not</i> requiring Treatment.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	
Totals Brought Forward		518	584	11	4
Lungs	(25) Bronchitis	1	41	—	—
	(26) Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases	1	120	—	—
	Pulmonary :—				
	(27) Definite	—	—	—	—
	(28) Suspected	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	Non-Pulmonary :—				
	(29) Glands	—	—	—	—
	(30) Bones and Joints	—	—	—	—
	(31) Skin	—	—	—	—
	(32) Other Forms	—	—	—	—
TOTAL (Headings 25 to 32)		2	161	—	—
Nervous System	(33) Epilepsy	—	—	—	—
	(34) Chorea	—	—	1	1
	(35) Other Conditions	—	—	—	—
Deformities	(36) Rickets	1	1	—	—
	(37) Spinal Curvature	—	—	—	—
	(38) Other Forms	8	9	6	—
(39) Other defects and diseases (excluding uncleanliness and Dental Diseases)		4	108	5	7
TOTAL (Headings 33 to 39)		13	118	12	8
GRAND TOTALS		533	863	23	12

TABLE II.B.

B.—Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the Year in the Routine Age Groups.

AGE GROUPS	Number of Children Inspected	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly sub-normal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	606	107	17.65	485	80.03	14	2.31	—	—
Second age-group	495	46	9.29	440	88.88	9	1.81	—	—
Third age-group	528	48	9.09	472	89.39	8	1.51	—	—
Other Routine Inspections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	1629	201	12.33	1397	85.75	31	1.90	—	—

TABLE III.—The Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area.

BLIND CHILDREN.					
At Certified Schools for the Blind	At Public Elementary Schools	At Other Institutions	At no Schools or Institutions	Total	
1	—	—	—	1	
PARTIALLY BLIND CHILDREN.					
At Certified Schools for the Blind	At Certified Schools for the Partially Blind	At Public Elementary Schools	At Other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total
—	—	—	—	—	—
DEAF CHILDREN.					
At Certified Schools for the Deaf	At Public Elementary Schools	At other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total	
2	—	—	—	2	
PARTIALLY DEAF CHILDREN.					
At Certified Schools for the Deaf	At Certified Schools for the Partially Deaf	At Public Elementary Schools	At Other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total
—	—	—	—	1	1
MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.					
Feeble-Minded Children.					
At Certified Schools for the Mentally Defective	At Public Elementary Schools	At other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total	
18	15	—	—	33	
EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.					
Children suffering from Severe Epilepsy.					
At Certified Special Schools	At Public Elementary Schools	At other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total	
—	—	—	—	—	

TABLE III.—continued.

PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.					
A.—Tubercular Children.					
(1) Children suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, (including pleura and intra-thoracic gland).					
At Certified Special Schools	At Public Elementary Schools	At other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total	
2	9	—	—	11	
(2) Children suffering from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.					
At Certified Special Schools	At Public Elementary Schools	At other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total	
3	4	—	—	7	
B.—Delicate Children.					
At Certified Special Schools	At Public Elementary Schools	At other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total	
—	—	—	—	—	
C.—Crippled Children.					
At Certified Special Schools	At Public Elementary Schools	At other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total	
—	9	—	—	9	
D.—Children with Heart Diseases.					
At Certified Special Schools	At Public Elementary Schools	At other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total	
—	4	—	—	4	
CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM MULTIPLE DEFECTS.					
Blindness (excluding partially blind children), Deafness (excluding partially deaf children), Mental Defect (Feeble-minded), Severe Epilepsy, Active Tuberculosis, Crippling Defect, Heart Disease.					
Combination of Defect	At Certified Special Schools	At Public Elementary Schools	at Other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total
—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE IV.

Return of Defects treated during the Year ended 31st. December, 1944.
TREATMENT TABLE.

Group I.—MINOR AILMENTS (excluding uncleanliness, for which see Group VI.)

DISEASE or DEFECT.	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Otherwise	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Skin :—			
Ringworm, Scalp	12	—	12
" Body	5	—	5
Scabies	558	—	558
Impetigo	167	—	167
Other Skin Diseases	210	—	210
Minor Eye Defects :— (External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II).	309	—	309
Minor Ear Defects	77	—	77
Miscellaneous :— (e.g. minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.).	2,394	—	2,394
TOTAL	3,732	—	3,732

Group II.—Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments Group I.)

DEFECT or DISEASE	No. of Defects dealt with :			Total
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Submitted to refraction by Private Practitioner or at Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme	Otherwise	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Errors of Refraction (including squint). (Operations for Squint should be recorded separately in the body of the Report).	497	—	—	497
Other Defects or Diseases of the Eye (excluding those recorded in Group I.)				
TOTAL	497	—	—	497

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed :—

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme	.....	401
(b) Otherwise	.....	—

Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles :—

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme	.....	401
(b) Otherwise	.....	—
Total		401

Group III.—Treatment of Nose and Throat.

Number of Defects.													
Received Operative Treatment.												Received other forms of Treatment	Total number treated.
Under the Authority's Scheme in Clinic or Hospital				By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme				Total					
(1)				(2)				(3)				(4)	(5)
i	ii	iii	iv	i	ii	iii	iv	i	ii	iii	iv		
—	1	179	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	179	3	—	183

(i—Tonsils only. ii—Adenoids only. iii—Tonsils and Adenoids. iv—Other Defects of the Nose and Throat).

Group IV.—Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.

	Under the Authority's Scheme.			Otherwise.			Total number treated
	(1)			(2)			
	Residential treatment with education	Residential treatment without education	Non-residential treatment at an Orthopaedic Clinic	Residential treatment with education	Residential treatment without education	Non-residential treatment at an Orthopaedic Clinic	
	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	
Number of children treated	—	—	18	—	—	—	18

GROUP V.—Dental Defects.

Number of children who were :—

(a) Inspected by the Dentist :—

Aged		
5	.....	468
6	.....	552
7	.....	442
8	.....	465
9	.....	470
10	.....	517
11	.....	352
12	.....	504
13	.....	588
14	.....	109

TOTAL	.....	4,467
Specials	.....	134

GRAND TOTAL 4,601

(b) Found to require treatment	.....	.....	3,108
(c) Actually treated	.....	.....	1,506
(d) Half-days devoted to :—	Inspection	38	
	Treatment	275	
	.....	.....	313
(e) Attendances made by children for treatment			1,721
(f) Fillings :—	Permanent Teeth	1,751	
	Temporary teeth	73	
	.....	.....	1,824
(g) Extractions :—	Permanent Teeth	464	
	Temporary tteeh	2,242	
	.....	.....	2,706
(h) Administrations of General Anaesthetics for Extractions	.....	.....	2
(i) Other operations :	Permanent Teeth	130	
	Temporary teeth	308	
	.....	.....	438
(j) Orthodontic Cases	.....	.....	11

GROUP VI.—Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.

(1)	Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses	.....	.....	.....	9
(2)	Total number of examinations of children in the schools by the School Nurses	.....	.....	.....	31,089
(3)	Number of individual children found unclean	.....			272
(4)	Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority	.....	.....		Nil
(5)	Number of Cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—				
	(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	.....			3
	(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	.....			17

