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County Borough of Burton upon Trent

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE


FOR THE YEAR 1942

BY

W. ALCOCK

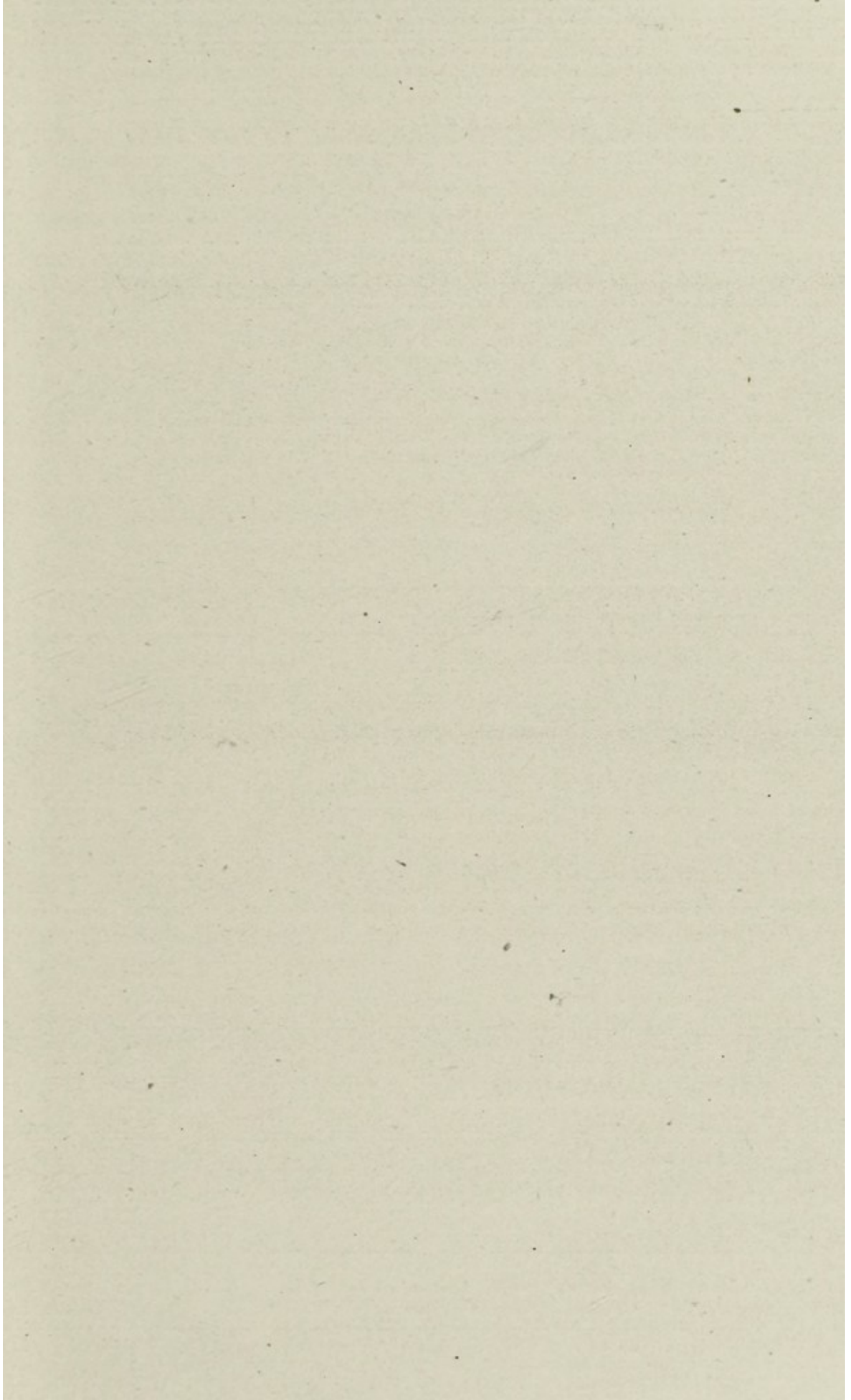
M.B., Ch.B., B.Hy., D.P.H.

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER



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SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Return of Defects treated during the year ended
the 31st December, 1942

Defective Vision and Squint

	Number of defects dealt with		
	Under Authority's Scheme	Otherwise	Total
ERRORS OF REFRACTION (including squint)	15 19	- 2	15 21
Number of children for whom spectacles were	14		14
(a) Prescribed	17	2	19
(b) Obtained	15 16	2	17 16

Dental Treatment, 1942

HIGH SCHOOL

Number of cases treated	11	11
Number of attendances	23	11

GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Number of cases treated	10	12
Number of attendances	22	12
Fillings—Permanent Teeth	33	6
Temporary Teeth	—	—
Extractions—Permanent Teeth	3	2
Temporary Teeth	13	7
Number of cases in which general anaesthetics were given for extractions	5	3
Other operations—Permanent Teeth	9	—
Temporary Teeth	—	5

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Medical Inspection Returns

Table 2

A.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the year ended 31st December, 1942

DEFECT OR DISEASE	Routine Inspections		Special Inspections	
	No. of Defects		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 DISEASE	—	7	—	—
EYE { Blepharitis	—	2	—	—
Other conditions excluding vision and squint ..	—	—	—	—
Defective vision excluding Squint	25	28	—	2
Squint	34	47	—	—
EAR { Otitis Media	1	6	—	—
Tonsils	1	18	—	—
Enlarged cervical glands (Non-Tuberculous)	1	10	—	—
Bronchitis	3	6	—	1
HEART { Organic	—	—	—	—
Functional	—	4	—	—
Rheumatism	—	2	—	—
Defective Speech	—	—	—	—
Defective Teeth	59	5	—	—
DEFORMITIES				
Spinal curvature	3	32	—	—
Other forms	5	7	—	—
Other defects, excluding defects of Nutrition, Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases	10	45	—	1
Totals	92	163	—	3

92 165 - 4

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

TABLE 1

Return of Medical Inspections for year ended
the 31st December, 1942

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Age	Under 9 years	..	52	64
	9	..	19	32
	10	..	27	29
	11	..	102	42
	12	..	125	22
	13	..	123	13
	14	..	104	19
	15	..	99	24
	16	..	61	14
	17	..	13	23
	18	..	6	3
			<u>731</u>	<u>451</u>

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS

Number of special inspections ..	..	..	3	4
Number of re-inspections ..	..	..	395	384
			<u>398</u>	<u>391</u>

C.—INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN

Found to require treatment ..	..	..	33	59
(excluding uncleanness and dental diseases)				

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

TABLE VI

Return of all Blind and Deaf Children in the Area
December 31st, 1942

BLIND AND DEAF CHILDREN

BLIND CHILDREN

A blind child is a child who is too blind to be able to read the ordinary school books used by children

At a Public Elementary School	At an Institution other than a Special School	At no School or Institution	Total not receiving suitable Education
—	—	2	2

DEAF CHILDREN

A deaf child is a child who is too deaf to be taught in a class of hearing children in an elementary school

At a Public Elementary School	At an Institution other than a Special School	At no School or Institution	Total not receiving suitable Education
—	—	—	—

MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN

Total number of children notified during the year ended 31st December, 1942, by the Local Education Authority to the Local Mental Deficiency Authority, under the Mental Deficiency (Notification of Children) Regulations, 1928

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Table IV.—Dental Inspection and Treatment

(1) Number of children inspected by the Dentist.							
(a) Routine age-groups.							
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,885
(b) Specials	..	..	..	..	..	..	250
(c) TOTAL (Routine and Specials)	..	..	..	..	..	..	<u>6,135</u>
(2) Number found to require treatment							
	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,209
(3) Number actually treated							
	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,827
(4) Attendances made by children for treatment							
	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,429
(5) Half-days devoted to :—							
Inspection	..	..	38				
Treatment	..	..	431				
Total	..	..	<u>469</u>				
(7) Extractions :—							
Permanent Teeth	..	..	339				
Temporary Teeth	..	..	2,206				
Total	..	..	<u>2,545</u>				
(8) Administrations of general anaesthetics for extractions							
	..	..	587				
(6) Fillings :—							
Permanent Teeth	..	..	1,427				
Temporary Teeth	..	..	220				
Total	..	..	<u>1,647</u>				
(9) Other Operations :—							
Permanent Teeth	..	..	863				
Temporary Teeth	..	..	160				
Total	..	..	<u>1,023</u>				

Table V.—Verminous Conditions.

(i) Average number of visits per School made during the year by the School Nurses		12
(ii) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses		17,596
(iii) Number of individual children found unclean		671
(iv) Number of individual children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921		Nil
(v) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—		
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	..	Nil
(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	..	5
(vi) Number of Children cleansed under a Voluntary Scheme		559

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

TABLE III
TREATMENT TABLESGroup I.—Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness,
for which see Table V)

Total Number of Defects treated or under treatment during
the year under the Authority's Scheme 1,040

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

	No. of Defects dealt with		
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Otherwise	Total
ERRORS OF REFRACTION (including squint)	265 274	2 3	267 277
Other defect or disease of the eyes (ex- cluding those recorded in Group I.) ..	—	—	—
Total	274 65	23	277 267
No. of Children for whom spectacles were	Under the Authority's Scheme	Otherwise	Total
(a) Prescribed	241 254	3 2	244 256
(b) Obtained	219 204	3 2	222 206

Group III.—Treatment of Defects 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 Author- ity's Scheme		
—	139	—	139

125

125

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

TABLE I

RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Year ended 31st December, 1942

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Number of Inspections in the prescribed groups :—

Entrants	..	..	..	..	..	778	719
Second age group	..	..	..	..	..	664	624
Third age group	..	..	..	..	..	645	651
Total						2,087	2024
Number of other Routine Inspections						..	46
							-2068

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections	7,765	701
--	-------	-----

TABLE II

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 subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	763 778	116	20.3	551	70.8	68	8.7	12	0.2
Second Age-group	624 664	115	17.3	463	69.7	81	12.2	5	0.8
Third Age-group	651 645	110	17.2	459	71.2	65	10.1	10	1.5
Other Routine Inspections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	2068 2087	384	18.4	1473	70.6	214	10.6	16	0.7

17. **Employment of School Children.** The following table indicates the number of children examined and passed fit for several kinds of employment within prescribed limits during 1942 :—

			Boys	Girls	Total
Newspaper delivery	..	..	86	2	88
Milk Delivery	..	..	1	—	1
Errands	..	..	26	1	27
Domestic Duties	..	..	—	1	1
Telegram Delivery	..	..	3	—	3
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			116	4	120
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

18. The Assistant School Medical Officer has been responsible for the preparation of this Report, and his assistance in this respect is hereby acknowledged.

W. ALCOCK,

School Medical Officer.

The Cases marked * were sent by the *Burton Observer* "Uncle Jack" Fund to Convalescent Homes, the Children's Care Committee visiting them after examination at the School Clinic by the School Medical Officer.

The Voluntary Aid Association investigated Cases and granted railway fares where required, and this help was of great assistance.

The Mayoress' Needlework Guild, in spite of war-time difficulty, provided some clothing for one or two children going to Convalescent Homes, and this help is gratefully acknowledged.

The Feoffees provided 14 tickets for Convalescent Homes. The Committee record their appreciation of their co-operation and help.

JUSTINA M. SLATOR.

Chairman.

PHYLLIS M. EVERSLED,

Hon. Secretary.

14. **Blind, Deaf and Epileptic Children.** Four children in the Borough are on the Blind Persons' Register, two of these are totally blind and two partially blind. Two are attending no school or institution, and two are in Birmingham Royal Institution for the Blind. Four partially-sighted children attended ordinary elementary schools, a special curriculum being provided for all of them.

There are two children attending certified schools for the Deaf and no partially-deaf children attending elementary schools.

15. **Nursery Schools.** Special nursery classes for children aged 3 to 5 were opened at Christ Church, Stafford Street and Short Street Schools on the 24th August, 1942.

16. **Secondary Schools.**

(a) Medical Inspections were carried out along the lines indicated in previous reports. At the end of this report is a table showing a detailed return of defects found at routine inspections.

(b) Medical Treatment. There was no change in the treatment available in previous years.

CHILDREN'S CARE COMMITTEE

Report for the year 1942

The Children's Care Committee was re-appointed by the Education Committee in November, 1940, and was constituted as follows :—

Mrs. Curzon, Miss Evershed, Mrs. Griffiths, Mrs. Macgilp, Mrs. Piddocke, Mrs. Rowland, Mrs. Slator, Mrs. Templeman, Mrs. F. G. Thompson, Mrs. Walley and Mrs. Williams.

The Officers were elected for 1942, viz. :—

Chairman—Mrs. Slator.

Vice-Chairman—Mrs. Rowland.

Hon. Secretary—Miss Evershed.

The Committee record their appreciation of working under the direction and with the help of Dr. J. M. Cowie, Medical Officer of Health for so many years.

In July, the Committee suffered a great loss by the death of Mrs. Williams, who had been a keen and efficient member since December, 1919.

The Committee met four times during the year.

15 Cases were reported to them and were dealt with as follows :—

1. Boy	aged 9 years.	Sent to Convalescent Home, Southport, for 2 months	
2. Boy	" 7 "	" " " "	2 "
3. Boy	" 5 "	" " " "	2 "
4. Boy	" 7½ "	" " " "	3 "
5. Girl*	" 8 "	" " " "	1 "
6. Boy	" 11 "	" " " "	1 "
7. Girl*	" 14 "	" " " "	1 "
8. Boy	" 13 "	" " " "	
9. Girl	" 13 "	" " " "	1 "
10. Girl*	" 12 "	" " " "	1 "
11. Girl*	" 11 "	" " " "	1 "
12. Girl	" 11 "	" " " "	1 "
13. Girl	" 10½ "	Sent to a special Home for a long period of treatment	
14. Girl	" 8 "	Provided with Surgical Boots	
15. Girl	" 7 "	Provided with Medical Extras	

Feeding Centre	Department	Children		Staff
		Payment	Free	
		Per	Week	
Christ Church ..	Christ Church	53	—	10
Stafford Street ..	Stafford Street	50	—	5
Short Street ..	Short Street	30	—	10
	TOTAL	153	—	25

The following particulars indicate the scope of the scheme for providing cheap milk in schools, and of free milk when the family income falls below a prescribed limit.

Number of individual children supplied with free milk	154
Average number of children supplied with milk at a special price	5,037
Number of one-third pint bottles supplied free	67,201
Number of one-third pint bottles supplied on payment	1,213,988

13. (a) **Co-operation of Parents.** The number of parents present at the Medical Routine Inspection of children in the age groups was approximately the same as in the previous years.

We should like to thank the teachers for their ready help with the medical inspections and the reference of cases.

The School Attendance Officers have again been very helpful and the Voluntary Aid Association, and the Children's Care Committee have again given generous help to necessitous children.

A report of the work of the Children's Care Committee is appended.

11. Provision of Meals.

SCHOOL MEALS SERVICE

The Schools Meals Service commenced on 6th October, 1941, and 121 children from 9 School Departments were served in 3 Centres daily during the first week.

The Service has since been extended to 20 School Departments, and 3,620 meals are now served each week in 13 Centres as follows :—

Feeding Centre	Department	Children		Staff
		Payment	Free	
Bond Street ..	Bond Street	50	25	10
Broadway ..	Broadway Infants	65	—	10
Christ Church ..	Christ Church M. & I. ..	149	54	13
" " ..	Uxbridge Street Infants ..	45	10	2
Grange Street ..	Grange Street Boys ..	115	45	10
" " ..	Grange Street Girls ..	105	20	10
" " ..	Grange Street Infants ..	135	15	10
Horninglow ..	Horninglow M. & Infants	180	55	20
Carlton Street ..	Horninglow Infants (Carlton Street) ..	100	5	19
Goodman Street	Goodman Street Girls ..	186	16	28
Stafford Street ..	Stafford Street	158	5	15
Short Street ..	Short Street J.M. & I. ..	265	23	40
Clarence Street ..	Clarence Street Boys ..	205	20	25
" " ..	Clarence Street Girls ..	110	50	10
" " ..	Uxbridge Street Junior ..	170	40	10
Victoria Road ..	Victoria Road Boys ..	165	10	15
Winshill ..	Winshill Boys	115	5	10
" ..	Winshill Girls	100	15	20
Broadway ..	Junior Technical	203	15	15
" ..	Intermediate	259	5	15
	TOTAL	2880	433	307

Gas-heated hot plates, hot cupboards and water heaters have been installed in all feeding centres, together with the necessary sink, draining board, etc., and provision has been made to increase the number of meals served to 7,500 weekly within the next six months.

In addition to the foregoing, meals are also served at Nursery Schools as follows :—

A number of Girls' Schools have been making P.T. knickers in their needlework classes, with the result that the majority of schools are now suitably clad for their physical activities. Where suitable floors permit it, bare foot work has been encouraged for dancing and indoor work during wet weather. This serves the dual purpose of training more accurate footwork and saving the plimsolls for work in the playgrounds.

In spite of the difficulties created by war conditions, on the whole, the standard of physical education has advanced during the year. Perhaps the children have suffered most from lack of playing fields, but they have had regular physical exercise every week, and outdoors whenever weather permitted.

10. **Speech Training.** The experimental speech training classes were continued during 1942, and the following tables indicate the beneficial results obtained :—

STAMMERING

Number	Degree			Result			
	Slight	Con- sider- able	Severe	Cured	Much Im- proved	Im- proved	Un- changed
8	1	2	3 2 attend- ing class	6	2	—	—

DEFECTIVE ARTICULATION

Number	Result			
	Cured	Improved	Slight Improvement	Unchanged
34	23	7	4	—

CLEFT PALATE

Number	Result			
	Cured	Improved	Slight Improvement	Unchanged
3	—	2	1 attends very irregularly	—

Schools in the afternoon. Each school entered a team, and no child was allowed to enter for more than two events. A large party of children was invited from each school as spectators, and the event proved most successful and enjoyable.

Swimming. An increased demand was made for the Swimming Baths this Summer and arrangements were made for 30 classes weekly during school hours. During the winter, 7 classes still attended regularly and had the opportunity of using the First-class Bath.

Recreative Physical Training. During the early part of the year the Technical Institute held three evening and two afternoon Keep-Fit Classes for adults, but due to war conditions and the call-up, some of these have had to be closed. In February, a most successful demonstration was held at the Jubilee Hall by members of the Evening Classes, and several new members were recruited.

Classes for young people from 14-18 were held at the two Youth Institutes, including physical training, boxing, ballroom dancing and badminton. Football and netball were played at week-ends in Winter time, and in Summer the young people were out of doors on most evenings of the week playing cricket and rounders. Tennis had to be abandoned owing to tennis balls being unprocurable.

Various Voluntary Organisations for Youth have encouraged physical activities, and the Swimming Baths were reserved on several evenings of the week for the A.T.C., G.T.C., Girl Guides and Boy Scouts. During the Winter months physical training classes were formed, though lack of men as leaders for the boys' classes has caused much difficulty. The representative of the Central Council of Recreative Physical Training for the Midland Area visited Burton on six successive Tuesdays in the Autumn to take a Course for Instructors in the boys' Pre-Service Organisations, and it is hoped that this will be followed up at a later date by a further Course for the Senior Cadets to learn how to take small groups for various games and activities.

Equipment and Clothing. The rationing of equipment and clothing has caused a serious problem, especially as regards footwear, but the Education Committee has obtained their full quota of goods, and a certain number of plimsolls have been distributed to each school. Children are encouraged to take special care of their own shoes as these are irreplaceable.

PHYSICAL TRAINING REPORT FOR 1942

Training Courses. In the Autumn, a Course for Teachers in the Infants' Schools was held by the Committee's Organiser of Physical Education. The Course dealt with indoor Physical Training and Dancing, and considerable discussion arose on the adaptation of the work to meet the conditions found in the schools of Burton. (Two demonstration classes were included, from Wetmore Road and Stafford Street Infants' Schools.)

An average of 48 teachers attended each week.

Visits to Schools. H.M. Inspectors of Physical Education have visited the schools and Youth Institutes during the year, and the Organiser has paid repeated visits to all departments to discuss the work and give advice and assistance to the teachers.

Demonstrations. On 1st July, a Demonstration of Physical Education was arranged at Clarence Street School. All the schools in the Borough were closed for the afternoon to enable the teachers to attend. The Chairman and members of the Education Committee were present, and guests included Captain Rodger, H.M.I. of Physical Education, the Medical Officer of Health and the School Medical Officer and his Assistant.

The programme opened with Physical Training Classes from three Infants' Schools, showing the progression of work from the Reception Class to the 7 year olds. Classes of girls, boys and mixed juniors followed, and, finally, senior girls.

The second part of the programme was a demonstration of outdoor games by senior boys and girls, using the entire playing field and playgrounds. Netball, stoolball, rounders, shinty and cricket were shown.

Following this, the visitors went indoors for a short dancing display by infant, junior and senior children, and the Medical Officer addressed the audience pointing out the relationship of Physical Education to health teaching. He stressed the point of suitable clothing for physical work, and was pleased to see the majority of children stripped to the waist for their classes.

Sports. This year, School Sports were held on 15th July, again on Clarence Street School Playing Field. The events were confined to running, high jump, throwing the cricket (or rounders) ball and relay races. The Junior Schools competed in the morning and the Senior

8. **Infectious Diseases.** A table of the common infectious diseases and their distribution throughout the schools is presented below :—

SCHOOLS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES

SCHOOL	Whoop ing Cough	Chicken Pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria	Mumps	German Measles
Clarence Street	1	0	0	7	1	14	0
Winshill	0	10	0	6	0	62	0
Horninglow	0	0	0	4	2	48	0
Broadway Infants	1	1	0	9	3	19	0
Short Street, Stapenhill ..	1	0	1	4	0	1	0
Victoria Road	12	0	0	8	2	16	0
Grange Street	1	10	0	10	7	5	0
Holy Trinity	0	2	0	7	1	2	0
Christ Church	0	7	0	9	1	33	0
Shobnall Road	1	0	0	0	0	4	0
Hill Street and St. Peter's Street	11	4	0	23	1	12	1
Junior Technical	0	0	0	3	0	6	0
Wetmore Road	0	0	0	7	3	13	0
Uxbridge Street	13	28	0	17	6	40	0
St. Modwen's	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Goodman St. and Stafford St. ..	11	0	0	5	0	4	0
High School (Girls)	0	0	0	10	0	0	0
Grammar School	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
No School	75	14	10	55	36	3	0
Private School	2	0	0	2	0	0	0
Bond Street	3	1	0	1	1	11	0
Nursery School	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Intermediate School	0	0	0	1	0	2	0
Totals	132	77	11	189	66	296	1

(g) **Dental Defects.** Of 3,209 children found to require treatment 1,827 actually received treatment during 3,429 visits.

(h) **Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.** This work was carried out as in previous years at the Orthopaedic Clinic, Cross Street, under the direction of Mr. Robert Bewick, assisted by Miss M. J. W. Abbotts. Cases are seen on the last Monday of each month by Mr. Bewick.

	Number of new cases	Total number of attendances
Health Committee	2 1	9 43
Maternity and Child Welfare Committee	9 9	565 321
Education Committee ..	53 67	2,612 2523

Hospital Treatment for these types of cases is carried out where necessary by the Warwickshire Orthopaedic Hospital for Children at Coleshill, and at Bretby Hall. No new cases, however, were sent during the year.

6 new cases referred Coleshill or Bretby.

(i) **Heart Disease and Rheumatism.** There is no special provision made for this type of case beyond the close supervision of activities in School and the advice given to parents about the care necessary to limit damage to poorly compensated hearts.

(j) **Tuberculosis.** There were three cases of tuberculosis of the hip sent to Bretby Hall Orthopaedic Hospital during the year.

TREATMENT OF DEFECTIVE VISION, 1942

Total number of children attending Refraction Clinics	..	*293	21
Total number of attendances	.. .. .	758	
Number prescribed glasses	.. .. .	†258	2
Number referred to Infirmary	.. .. .	—
Number found not to require glasses	.. .. .	29	
Present glasses suitable	.. .. .	4	
Refused treatment	.. .. .	1	

* Includes 19 secondary school children. 17

† Includes 17 secondary school children. 17

(e) **Nose and Throat Defects.** The Local Education Authority has no special scheme for the treatment of diseased tonsils and adenoids, but such treatment is readily available at the Local General Hospital, and through the courtesy of the Infirmary Staff, we are provided with the information that ~~139~~ 135 operations were performed during 1942 upon school children for diseased tonsils and adenoids.

(f) **Ear Disease and Defective Hearing.** The following tables indicate the treatment carried out for ear defects:—

Number of ear examinations	.. .. .	689	459
1. Minor conditions—			
Wax Impaction	.. .. .	17	14
Defective hearing	.. .. .	9	4
Furunculosis	.. .. .	—	—
Foreign bodies	.. .. .	2	—
Catarrh of Middle Ear	.. .. .	5	5
Otalgia	.. .. .	3	4
		36	27
2. Otorrhoea. Result of treatment—			
(a) Routine treatment.			
Ears dry	.. .. .	19	8
Improved but still attending	.. .. .	2	—
Ceased attending	.. .. .	5	2
Transferred to own Doctor	.. .. .	—	—
Transferred to Infirmary	.. .. .	—	—
		26	10

Ear Diseases—Otorrhoea	5	342
Furunculosis	—	8
Eye Diseases—Conjunctivitis	19	11
Blepharitis and Hordeola	5	17
Myopia	—	—
Throat—Tonsillitis and Sore Throat	13	12
Enlarged Glands	5	4
Other Diseases—Bronchitis	2	2
Rheumatism and Chorea	—	1
Epilepsy	—	1
Miscellaneous	55	61
Total	678	459

6. Following up.

This procedure was carried out as in previous years with the usual profitable results in most instances. 114 visits were made during the year, including 47 for speech defects, by the School Nurses to the homes of School Children.

7. Arrangements for Treatment:

(a) **Malnutrition.** Milk is provided free in necessitous cases and mid-day meals in the schools are provided where this is possible. Such provision is now made purely on a financial need and not necessarily on clinical grounds, as was previously the case.

(b) **Uncleanliness.** The cleansing station set up in 1939 at the School Clinic continued in successful operation.

Exclusions for uncleanliness fell from 786 in 1938 to 248 in 1942. 1943 (8)

(c) **Minor Ailments and Diseases of the Skin.** Treatment of the above conditions, together with head examinations, necessitated 10,709 attendances at the School Clinic.

(d) **Treatment of Defective Vision.** The following is a tabulated account of the work done by the School Ophthalmologist:—

(e) **Nose and Throat defects** found were as under :—

Chronic Tonsillitis	184
Adenoids enlarged	4
Tonsillitis and Enlarged Adenoids	4
Other conditions of nose and throat	32
	<hr/>
	224

34
17 cases with enlarged and inflamed tonsils and 1 case with enlarged tonsils and adenoids were recommended for surgical treatment out of the above total of 224.

183
(f) **Ear Disease and Defective Hearing.** The following defects of this type were found :—

Defective hearing	11
Otitis Media	21
Other ear diseases	35

(g) **Dental Defects.** 6,135 children were examined by the School Dentist in the course of routine and special inspections. 3,209 were found to require treatment.

(h) **Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.** Defects of this type found at medical inspections numbered 96 of which 35 required treatment, and the rest observation. 80 41

(i) Supervision continued as in previous years of cases of **Heart or Rheumatic Diseases** and 38 such children are on the Heart Register. 27

(j) **Tuberculosis.** All Tuberculosis contacts were examined each term in accordance with the practice of previous years.

(k) **No Crippling Defects** were found during 1942.

Exclusions from School

	No. of exclusions
Uncleanliness	248
Skin Diseases—Impetigo and Sores	54
Ringworm : Scalp	—
Body	—
Scabies	255
Herpes	4
Miscellaneous Dermatitis	13

342

These figures show a slightly greater spread in the classification. This may be due in part to a change in the medical staff and consequently in the method of assessment of nutritional state. There does not seem to be any ground for believing that the general health of the school population is deteriorating.

(b) **Incidence of Vermin.** ⁶²⁸ The number of children found unclean was ~~671~~ and there were ~~248~~ exclusions from school on this account. ⁵⁶³ 559 children were cleansed at the School Clinic under a voluntary scheme.

During the year special attention has been paid to the presence of vermin which accounts for the somewhat higher incidence of children found to be infested. A smaller number of exclusions is due to the use of a medicated hair oil which allows the child to attend school, usually after one cleansing treatment. The present practice is to inspect such children as are frequently found to be infested at regular intervals, and this also tends to increase the number of children found to be unclean. In general, the work refers to comparatively few well-known families, with sporadic and casual infestation in other children. The number of cases of scabies has increased but some of these may be due to the practice of submitting for treatment children who may have a suspicious rash or may be close family contacts of a well-defined case. The cleansing scheme is voluntary, and it has not been found necessary to apply the Scabies Order. A very few cases are referred for treatment at Belvedere House Hospital. The cleansing station which was set up in 1939 at the School Clinic continues to be used in an increasing degree by the school medical service and it is hoped to amplify this service by setting up an independent treatment centre for the use of adult members of the infested families.

(c) **Minor Ailments and Diseases of the Skin.** ⁹⁶⁹ 1,040 cases were referred to the Minor Ailments Clinic, to their own Doctor, or to Hospital as a result of inspection. ²⁸⁸ 258 were cases of scabies and ~~377~~ ¹⁷⁸ of other skin diseases, chiefly impetigo. An increase in other skin diseases, including impetigo, naturally follows an increase in the number of children infested with vermin.

(d) **Visual Defects and External Eye Diseases** found at medical inspections to require treatment or supervision were as follows :—

Defective Vision, including Squint ..	277
External Eye Disease	103

²⁶⁴
1501

2. **Co-ordination.** During 1942, close co-operation was maintained with the Health, Infant Welfare, Tuberculosis, Mental Deficiency and other services. I have again to thank the General Practitioners, the staffs of the Voluntary Institutions and Associations for their co-operation.

3. **School Hygiene.** No change took place in the number of departments or school buildings available in 1942.

Average number of children on roll .. 6,477

Average attendance 5,652

4. **Medical Inspection.** Medical Inspection was continued as before.

(1) Routine inspection of Entrants, Intermediates and Leavers.

(2) Supplementary inspections of defects found at routine inspections or specially referred by parents, school teachers, or school nurses.

The number of routine inspections in statutory groups was as follows :—

Entrants	..	..	..	..	778	719
Intermediates	..	..	..	..	664	624
Leavers	..	..	..	..	645	651
					<u>2,087</u>	<u>2024</u>
						468

Number of supplementary inspections was 7,765

In addition, the School Nurses made 17,596 examinations during 12 visits to each school.

5. Findings of Medical Inspections.

(a) **Nutrition** is assessed on clinical grounds as follows :—

		1942	1941	
A. Excellent	.. ..	384 424 18.4%	16.8%	194
B. Normal	.. ..	1,473 1357 70.6%	75.2%	2
C. Slightly Subnormal		214 241 10.3%	7.3%	6
D. Bad	.. ..	16 16 0.7%	0.7%	13
		<u>2,087</u> 2068 100%	<u>100%</u>	99

According to these figures there does not seem to be any significant change in the health of the school children during 1942.

Annual Report of the School Medical Officer

TO THE LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY
BURTON UPON TRENT

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report of the School Medical Officer for the year 1942.

The Report is presented in the form of a brief summary of the work done in view of the need for economy in the use of paper.

In general, the amount of infectious diseases show a marked decrease on the figures for the previous year. This was most noticeable in the case of Whooping Cough and Measles. The only item worthy of comment is the occurrence of a mild outbreak of mumps in the Winshill and Horninglow Schools.

During the year 2,251 children of school age completed a full course of immunisation against Diphtheria and at the end of 1942 76% of the children of school age were immunised.

On February 28th, Dr. Thomas Ross resigned the position of Assistant School Medical Officer and was succeeded by Dr. A. L. Smallwood.

On April 30th, Miss M. E. Coleman, S.R.N., resigned her position of School Nurse and was succeeded on 1st July, 1942, by Miss W. H. Bennett, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert. Miss Coleman has continued throughout the remainder of 1942 her experimental speech classes on two sessions per week.

On July 13th, Mrs. Stokes commenced part-time duty as cleansing attendant at the school clinic.

STAFF OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE

School Medical Officer :

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

(Retired February 16th, 1942)

WILLIAM ALCOCK, M.B., Ch.B., B.Hy., D.P.H.

(Commenced Duty February 17th, 1942)

Assistant School Medical Officers :

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

(Left February 28th, 1942)

ALEXANDER L. SMALLWOOD, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H., D.P.H.

(Commenced Duty March 2nd, 1942)

E. ANNE PERROTT, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Orthopaedic Surgeon :

ROBERT BEWICK, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.

(Part Time)

School Oculist :

EDWIN R. JAGGER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.O.M.S.

(Part Time)

School Dentist :

Miss J. H. W. HEPBURN, L.D.S.

School Nurses :

Miss M. E. COLEMAN, State Registered Nurse and State Certified Midwife. (Left April 30th, 1942)

Miss W. JAMES, State Registered Nurse and State Certified Midwife

Miss W. H. BENNETT, State Registered Nurse and State Certified Midwife and Health Visitors' Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute

School Dental Nurse :

Miss M. MOORE, State Registered Nurse and State Certified Midwife

Masseuse at Orthopaedic Clinic :

Miss M. J. W. ABBOTTS

Cert. Ch. Soc. of Massage and Medical Gymnastics and M.E. (Part Time)

Clerk :

Mrs. G. H. WATSON