

[Report 1923] / Medical Officer of Health, Chelmsford Borough.

Contributors

Chelmsford (England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1923

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/ckkgkb44>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

Borough of Chelmsford.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

**School Medical Officer
for 1923.**

RICHARD H. VERCOE, B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.

Medical Officer Maternity and Child Welfare.

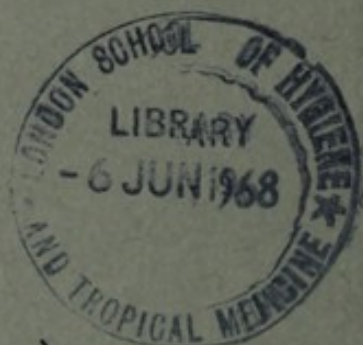
Medical Superintendent Joint Isolation Hospital.

Tuberculosis Officer and School Medical Inspector,
Essex County Council.

INCLUDING THE

**REPORTS of the SANITARY INSPECTOR and
VETERINARY INSPECTOR.**

67955



Borough of Chelmsford.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE Medical Officer of Health AND School Medical Officer for 1923.

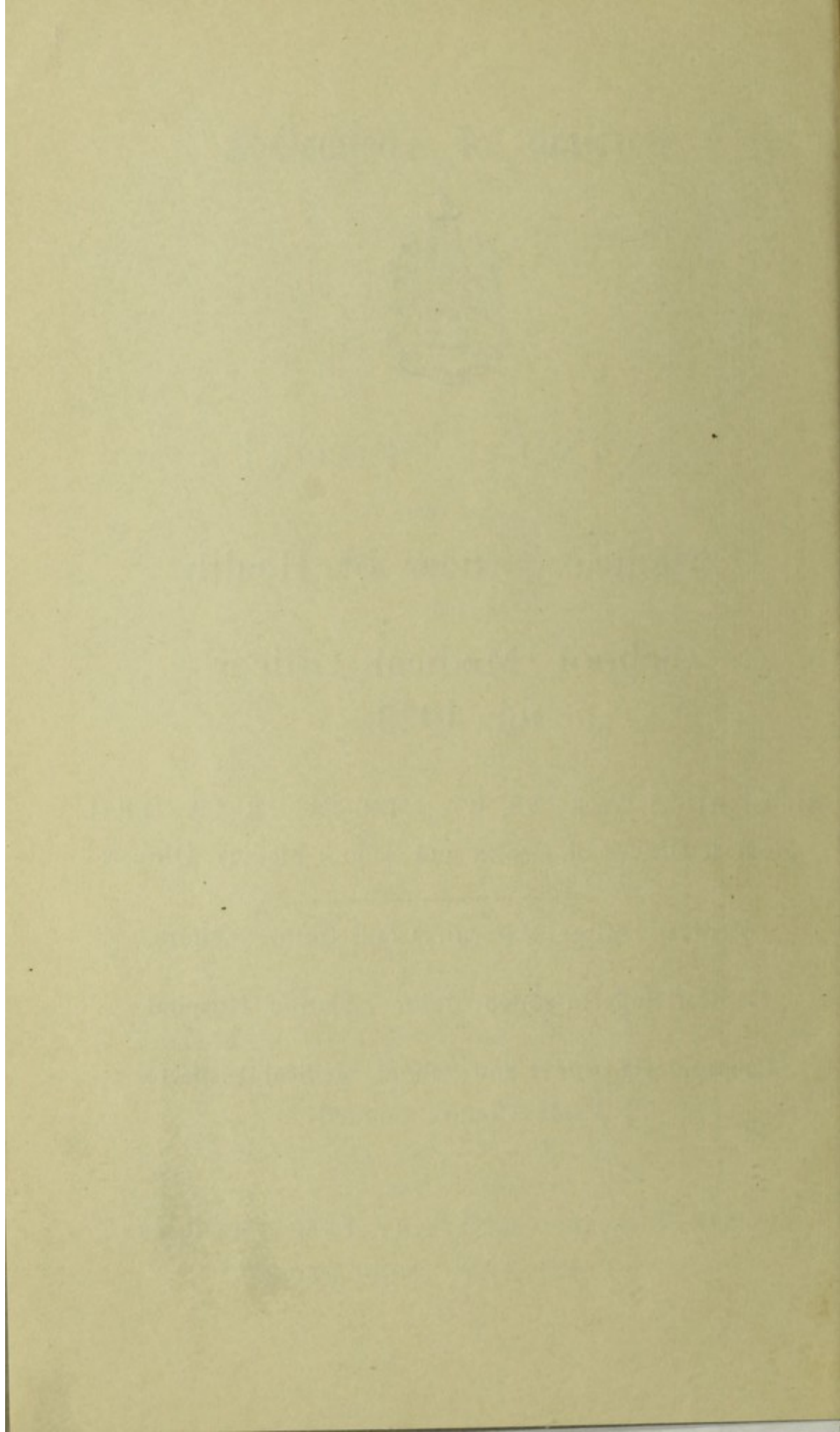
RICHARD H. VERCOE, B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.

Medical Officer Maternity and Child Welfare.

Medical Superintendent Joint Isolation Hospital.

Tuberculosis Officer and School Medical Inspector,
Essex County Council.

INCLUDING THE
REPORTS of the SANITARY INSPECTOR and
VETERINARY INSPECTOR.



STAFF.

RICHARD H. VERCOE, Medical Officer of Health.

WALTER BROWN, Sanitary Inspector.

WILLIAM J. FINCH, Clerk.

SARAH G. LANGFORD, Health Visitor.

(1) General Statistics.

AREA	...	...	3,112 acres, including Inland Water (Census 1921)
POPULATION (1923)	...	21,230	(Registrar General's Figure) 20,761 (Census 1921).
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES : —4,621 (Census 1921).			
RATEABLE VALUE	...	...	140,211
AMOUNT PRODUCED BY 1d. RATE	...	...	£510

(2) Extracts from vital Statistics of the Year.

			Total.	M.	F.		
BIRTHS	...	{ Legitimate	...	353	174	179	} Birth Rate 17·57
		{ Illegitimate	...	16	11	5	

DEATHS—

Total uncorrected, 236 : rate, 11·23 per 1,000 living.

Total corrected, 204 : rate, 9·71 per 1,000 living

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth :—

From Sepsis	...	...	2
Other causes	...	...	1

Deaths of infants under one year per 1,000 births :—

Legitimate, 20. Illegitimate, 2. Total, 22.

INFANT DEATH RATE ... 59·62 per 1,000 births.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	Nil.
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	1
„ Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	2

(3) Vital Statistics.

The following table gives the chief vital statistics of the Borough of Chelmsford and also of London, the groups of 96 Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns, and of the country as a whole.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF BIRTH AND DEATH-RATES, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, 1923.

	BIRTH-RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULATION.	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.									RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS.	
		All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under Two years).	Total Deaths under One year
England and Wales	19.7	11.6	0.01	0.00	0.14	0.03	0.10	0.07	0.22	0.44	7.7	69
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London.	20.4	11.6	0.01	0.00	0.15	0.03	0.12	0.09	0.23	0.40	9.9	72
157 Smaller Towns, (1921 Adjusted Populations 20,000-50,000).	19.8	10.6	0.01	—	0.19	0.02	0.10	0.06	0.21	0.38	6.4	69
London	20.2	11.2	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.02	0.09	0.13	0.17	0.45	10.2	60
Chelmsford M.B.	17.57	9.71	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.30	5.4	59.6

BIRTHS. Three hundred and sixty-three births were registered as occurring in the Borough. The Registrar-General's figure, after correction, for inward and outward transfers is 369 for the Borough. The number of notification of births received from medical practitioners and midwives during the year was 346. 6 still births were notified. These cases of still births were investigated by the Health Visitor to ascertain, as far as possible, the cause of death.

BIRTH RATE. The birth rate of Chelmsford for 1923 was 17·57 as compared with 17·95 in 1922, 19·3 in 1921, and 20·8 in 1920. This is a low rate compared with that of England and Wales, as a whole, which was 19·7 in 1923, 20·6 in 1922, and 22·4 in 1921. The birth rate of this town has fluctuated with that of the whole country during the last three years, always however, keeping at a lower level.

The following tabular statement gives details of the number of deaths classified according to cause and sex :—(R.G.)

Cause of Death.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Enteric Fever...	—	—	—
Small-pox ...	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	1	—	1
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—
Influenza ...	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—
Meningococcal Meningitis ...	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	6	8	14
Other Tuberculosis Diseases ...	2	—	2
Cancer, Malignant Disease ...	18	13	31
Rheumatic Fever ...	—	—	—
Diabetes ...	—	3	3
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c. ...	6	11	17
Heart Disease ...	7	14	21
Arterio Sclerosis ...	9	3	12
Bronchitis ...	2	10	12
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	5	2	7
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	2	4	6
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ...	3	—	3
Diarrhoea, &c. (under 2 years) ...	2	—	2
Appendicitis and Typhlitis ...	1	—	1
Cirrhosis of Liver ...	—	—	—
Acute and Chronic Nephritis ...	1	—	1
Puerperal Sepsis ...	—	2	2
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition ...	—	2	2
Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth ...	5	7	12
Suicide ...	2	—	2
Other Deaths from Violence ...	4	1	5
Other Defined Diseases ...	18	29	47
Causes ill-defined or unknown ...	1	—	1
Total ...	95	109	204

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1923.

AGES.	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and over	Total Deaths
	22	—	2	5	13	26	43	93	204

DEATH RATE. The number of deaths registered in the Borough was 236. Of this number 42 were deaths of persons who were not inhabitants of Chelmsford, but who died in Institutions within the Borough.

In addition, 10 deaths were accepted as deaths of Chelmsford residents occurring in other districts.

Subtracting 42 "outward transfers" from the figure of 236, and adding 10 "inward transfers," the net number of deaths is 204, which agrees with the figure supplied by the Registrar-General. This gives a corrected death-rate of 9.71 per 1,000 for the year 1920. This is a low death-rate as compared with that of the whole country, which is 11.6 per 1,000. It is also lower than that of 1922 for Chelmsford, which was 11.2 per 1,000.

INFANTILE MORTALITY. It is a satisfactory fact that out of 369 births there were only 22 deaths of infants under the age of 12 months. Another satisfactory feature is that of the 16 illegitimate births which occurred, only 2 of these children died during the first 12 months of life. This gives an Infantile Death Rate of 59.62 per 1,000 births.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Diseases.

The number of cases of infectious disease notified was as follows:—Diphtheria 4, Scarlet Fever 9, Pneumonia 3, Erysipelas 3, Paratyphoid 2, Ophthalmia Neonatorum 1, Puerperal Fever 3, Encephalitis Lethargica 2, Anterior Poliomyelitis 1. Of these cases the following number were admitted to Hospital:—Diphtheria 3, Scarlet Fever 8. (See also Appendix on Infectious Diseases on Page 11 of this Report).

The incidence of infectious disease has been very slight and the small number of cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria may be considered satisfactory.

The usual methods of disinfection and of dealing with contacts have been followed throughout the year. Diphtheria Antitoxin has been provided to practitioners free of charge.

TUBERCULOSIS. See figures in Appendix, on page 11 of this Report. The Chelmsford Tuberculosis Dispensary is under the control of the County Council, but the Borough Medical Officer of Health is the Tuberculosis Officer.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

WATER SUPPLY. The present sources of supply are the same as in past years, but the quantity is limited and it is only possible to supply water to the Town between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. throughout the year, although the pumps are working all night. The Corporation has now promoted the Chelmsford Water Bill to enable them to extract water from the River Chelmer at Sandford Mill as an additional source of supply. Every three months samples are taken from the various supplies and forwarded to Drs. Thresh and Beale for analysis, and the reports throughout the last year have been satisfactory.

RIVERS AND STREAMS. The condition of the Chelmer and its tributaries which flow through Chelmsford remains much the same as in past years.

SCAVENGING. The disposal of refuse is being economically carried out by tipping on the low-lying land in the Recreation Ground, men being constantly employed in covering the refuse as it is tipped daily and no nuisance has in any way occurred.

The number of tons of refuse tipped during the year was 4,784. The work is being done by four carts and a central tip is being used.

This number also includes the scavenging of Springfield Ward, which has been taken over by the Corporation during the last two months of the year, and an extra cart has been used; this Ward was previously worked by contract.

FOOD SUPPLY AND INSPECTION. For particulars under this head reference should be made to the reports of the Sanitary and Veterinary Inspectors.

Summary of Nursing Arrangements, Clinics, Hospitals, Etc.

DISTRICT NURSING ASSOCIATIONS. There is one District Nurse in each of the three wards of the town. In the Springfield Ward the District Nurse undertakes midwifery cases, but the other two do not.

MIDWIVES. There are three fully qualified midwives in the Borough, one residing in each of the three wards.

CLINICS, ETC. The School Clinics and two Infant Welfare Centres in the town are municipal, whilst the Tuberculosis and Venereal Clinics are provided by the County Council.

HOSPITALS are the Chelmsford and Essex General Hospital, the Poor Law Infirmary and the Isolation Hospital for Infectious Diseases. There is also a Small-pox Hospital at Galleywood.

Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme.

The work under this Scheme has been carried on much in the same way as in the previous year.

HOME VISITS BY HEALTH VISITOR. Mrs. Langford continues to do much good work in visiting mothers and their infants in their homes. The following is the record of her work during the year:—

	First visits.		Subsequent visits.		Total.
Visits to expectant mothers ...	46	...	51	...	97
„ „ infants under 1 year...	370	...	1,162	...	1,532
„ „ children 1-5 years ...	—	...	1,552	...	1,552
Special visits ...	—	...	—	...	97
	416		2,765		3,278

In all 3,278 visits were paid.

The first visit follows notification of birth, and is with the object of advising the mother on infant care, and also about her own health.

Later visits are paid, varying in number and frequency according to the requirements of each case.

In addition to her work in the homes, the Health Visitor attends with the Medical Officer of Health at the Centres. There are two Centres where mothers may obtain advice about the health of their infants, these being held at the Friends' Meeting House and at the Orchard Street Hall. Judging by the attendance at the Centres, the mothers appreciate them. The attendance has been well sustained at both the Centres throughout the year as follows:—

	No. of infants.		No of attendances made.
Friends' Meeting House ...	418	...	2,565
Orchard Street Hall ...	190	...	1,224
	608		3,789

Altogether 608 infants were brought to the Centres by their mothers throughout the year, making in all 3,789 attendances. This number of attendances is in excess of that of the previous year, which was 2,422.

The voluntary workers have continued to give their services as previously, and their assistance has contributed very materially to the success of the work. They have rendered the usual services of recording the attendances, weighing the infants and providing refreshment for the mothers.

THE MILK (MOTHERS AND CHILDREN) ORDER. During the year free milk has been supplied for the use of *necessitous* mothers and their infants. The amount has been restricted to one pint daily for each family supplied. Altogether 100 families have been relieved.

The expenditure sanctioned by the Ministry was £300 per annum.

The actual amount spent during the *financial* year ended March 31st, 1923, was £126 11s.

BOROUGH OF CHELMSFORD—INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1923.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

Cause of Death.		Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Cases {	Certified ...	11	3	...	...	14	2	1	2	3	22
	Uncertified ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculosis Meningitis ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Abdominal Tuberculous ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis not Tuberculous ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Convulsions ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Laryngitis ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis ...		...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2
Pneumonia (all forms) ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Diarrhoea ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastritis ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rickets ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Injury at Birth ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Malformation ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth ...		7	1	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	8
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ...		3	1	...	...	4	1	1	...	...	6
Other Causes... ..		1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	3
TOTALS ...		11	3	..	...	14	2	1	2	3	22

Nett Births in { Legitimate, 353.
the Year 1923. { Illegitimate, 16.

Nett Deaths in { Legitimate, 20.
the Year 1923. { Illegitimate, 2.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES APPENDIX.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

NOTIFICATIONS AT AGES.

Notifiable Disease.	Total cases.	Under 1										Over 45	Cases admitted to hospital	Total Deaths.	Total Cases notified in each Locality. (e.g.) Parish or Ward of the District		
		1	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45	45	45				North Ward.	South Ward.	Springfield Wd.
Diphtheria	4	1	1	1	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	2	1	1
Scarlet Fever	9	—	1	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	5	6	—	3
Pneumonia	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1
Erysipelas	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Paratyphoid Fever	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Puerperal Fever	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Anterior Poliomyelitis	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Totals	28	1	2	4	6	5	5	1	4	—	—	11	—	5	12	7	9
TUBERCULOSIS.																	
Pulmonary.																	
Males	20	—	—	—	—	4	8	3	5	—	—	17	—	5	7	9	4
Females	10	—	—	—	—	1	4	3	2	—	—	6	—	7	5	4	1
Totals	30	—	—	—	—	5	12	6	7	—	—	23	—	12	12	13	5
Non-Pulmonary.																	
Males	6	—	1	—	—	1	3	—	1	—	—	2	—	1	1	2	3
Females	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1
Totals	8	—	1	—	1	1	4	—	1	—	—	3	—	1	2	2	4
Grand Totals	66	1	3	4	7	11	21	7	12	—	—	37	—	18	26	22	18

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Cases.				Vision unimpaired.	Vision impaired.	Total Blindness	Deaths.
	Notified.	Treated.		In Hospital.				
		At Home.						
	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—

Annual Report of the Joint Hospital Board for the year 1923.

Cases admitted during each month were as follows :—

	Scarlet Fever.		Diphtheria		Typhoid.		Other Diseases.
January	1	...	1	...	0	...	1 Appendix
February	4	...	0	...	0	...	0
March	7	...	0	...	0	...	0
April	0	...	0	..	1	...	1 Pneumonia
May	3	...	1	..	1	...	0
June	3	...	2	...	1	..	0
July	10	...	0	...	1	...	0
August	5	...	1	...	0	...	0
September	2	...	0	...	0	...	2 {Septicaemia {Septic Rash
October	2	...	0	..	0	...	1 Tonsillitis
November	1	...	0	...	0	...	1 „
December	3	...	1	...	0	...	1 „
Total	—		—		—		—
Admitted	41	...	6	...	4	..	7=58 Patients.
	—		—		—		2,168 Days.

Including 4 Diphtheria patients remaining from 1922, the total number of patients in the Hospital for the year was 62.

Total number of days for the year was 2,258.

Total Deaths were 2. These were 1 Typhoid who was seriously ill throughout, and 1 Septicaemia, who died within 7½ hours after admission.

Total death rate for All diseases=3·4 per cent. of All diseases admitted.

„	Typhoid	= 25	„	„	Typhoid Fever cases	„
„	Scarlet Fever	= 0	„	„	Scarlet Fever	„
„	Diphtheria	= 0	„	„	Diphtheria	„

Of 7 cases admitted as Diphtheria 3 proved to be Tonsillitis.

„ 42	„	Scarlet Fever	1	„	a Septic Rash.
„ 5	„	Typhoid	1	„	Appendicitis.

Work done for the Essex County Council.

(1) As Tuberculosis Officer—

The Tuberculosis Dispensary is open every Friday afternoon from 2 o'clock onwards, where patients attend as either definite or suspected cases.

They are there seen by the Medical Officer by whom their condition is recorded and requisite action decided from time to time.

The number of attendances at the Dispensary for the year was 832.

In addition to seeing patients at the Dispensary, visits to their homes are also often made, either to enquire into environmental conditions or in a consultative capacity but not as a regular medical attendant.

The number of domiciliary visits made in the Chelmsford Borough and Rural District was	131
--	-----	-----	-----	-----

(2) As School Medical Inspector of the Schools in the Chelmsford Rural District—

The number of children medically examined at the Schools was	1,887
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-------

The number of cases of defective vision refracted at the eye clinic was	67
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Of these, the number for whom glasses were prescribed was	60
---	----

The number of children and teachers medically examined for various reasons at the Chelmsford Clinic was	...	31
---	-----	----

The number of visits made to midwives for inspection was	29
--	----

Housing.

GENERAL HOUSING CONDITIONS. The number of dwelling-houses in the Borough is 4,891. Of these, about 3,700 may be considered working-class houses.

The population of the Borough is 21,230. (R.G. Estimate).

„ „ (Census 1921) 20,761.

During the year considerable progress was made with the housing scheme on the Boarded Barns Estate. At the end of the year all the houses contracted for were completed and inhabited.

Number of houses contracted for	...	280
„ completed and inhabited	...	280

The number of houses erected in the Borough to December 31st, 1923, was 65, of which 59 were by private enterprise.

UNFIT HOUSES. In a town like Chelmsford there is a large number of houses which are constantly requiring repairs if they are to be kept in a condition fit for human habitation. Owners of property of this type naturally demur to expending large sums of money in repairs each year in cases where the property is so dilapidated that it is incapable of being put in a state of repair without some amount of re-construction. In many cases demolition is the only satisfactory remedy for this state of affairs.

At the present time there are 120 houses in the Borough which are only fit for demolition. These houses are unfit for human habitation for various reasons. In some cases, houses are permanently damp from the fact that they are built on damp sites adjoining the river. In other cases general dilapidation is the cause of unfitness. In a few cases the houses are in danger of falling down from this cause. In addition to the 120 houses which need demolition, there are 300 more houses which are not entirely satisfactory as dwellings, but which may be considered reasonably fit for habitation in time of shortage, if repairs are attended to regularly.

HOUSING APPENDIX.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total	...	65
(b) As part of a municipal housing scheme	...	32

1. *Unfit for dwelling houses.*

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 1,667

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910 ... 95

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	2
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation...	47
2. <i>Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices.</i>	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officer	46
3. <i>Action under Statutory Powers.</i>	
A.—Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919.	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	—
(2) Number of dwelling-house which were rendered fit :—	
(a) By owners	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close...	—
B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	924
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied :—	
(a) By owners	859
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—
C.—Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909.	
(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	—
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	—
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	—

Extracts from Census Return, 1921.

(preface page 15). See table next page.

The average size of family has thereby been reduced from 4.38 persons in 1911 to 4.16 persons in 1921, a drop of about 5 per cent.

The Tables show that while, as already stated, the average size of family has dropped by about 5 per cent., the average unit of occupation has decreased from 4.66 rooms per family in 1911 to 4.41 in 1921, also a decrease of about 5 per cent., with the consequence that the average number of occupied rooms per person in the County as a whole has remained stationary.

The ratio of more than two persons per room was selected in the Census Reports for 1911 and earlier years as an approximate comparative index figure for the purpose of measuring the prevalence and distribution of overcrowding conditions. Since, however, that ratio has been commented upon as though it had been propounded as an absolute standard or a definition of overcrowding, it may be well to observe that its use in the Census statistics implies no judgment whatever as to what in fact constitutes overcrowding.

PRIVATE FAMILIES, CLASSIFIED BY SIZE OF FAMILY, ROOMS OCCUPIED, AND DENSITY OF OCCUPATION.

NUMBER OF PRIVATE FAMILIES OCCUPYING THE FOLLOWING NUMBER OF ROOMS.										TOTAL PRIVATE FAMILIES.		Popula- tion in Private Families	Rooms occupied	Average Number of Rooms per Person.	DENSITY OF OCCUPATION.			
									No.	%	Population at following Densities of occupation (rooms per person).							
1	2	3	4	5	6-7	8-9	10 & over.				under .3				.3 and under .5	.5 and under .7	.7 and under 1.0	
CHELMSFORD M.B.																		
1 ..	24	42	21	51	35	23	4	—	200	4.1	725	3.63	—	—	—	2		
2 ..	10	105	63	169	235	186	26	2	796	16.5	3,658	2.30	—	—	20	—		
3 ..	12	41	53	210	359	285	44	17	1,021	21.3	5,226	1.71	—	36	123	—		
4 ..	—	22	50	219	371	277	60	14	1,013	21.1	5,307	1.31	—	—	92	196		
5 ..	—	9	20	168	292	213	47	20	769	16.0	4,143	1.08	—	45	100	840		
6 ..	—	3	21	74	216	111	25	13	463	9.6	2,499	0.90	—	18	570	1,296		
7 ..	—	2	8	55	103	59	11	8	246	5.1	1,722	0.76	14	56	385	1,057		
8 ..	—	—	2	29	73	47	13	6	170	3.5	963	0.71	—	16	816	376		
9 ..	—	—	2	10	37	16	4	4	73	1.5	419	0.64	—	108	414	90		
10 ..	—	1	—	7	17	12	2	1	40	0.8	219	0.55	10	70	250	60		
11 ..	—	—	—	2	6	8	—	4	20	0.4	154	0.70	—	88	88	—		
12 ..	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	4	0.1	21	0.44	—	36	12	—		
13 ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	0.0	5	0.38	—	13	—	—		
14 ..	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	0.0	12	0.43	—	28	—	—		
15 & over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0.0	23	0.70	—	—	18	15		
Total Private Families ..	46	225	240	994	1,748	1,240	236	91	4,820	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Population in Private Families	80	550	822	3,978	7,745	5,270	1,050	516	—	—	—	—	24	514	2,888	3,932		
Rooms occupied..	46	449	720	3,976	8,740	7,707	1,962	1,082	—	—	24,682	1.23	—	—	—	—		
										Percentage of families living in various units of occupation.								
										1921.	"							
										1911.	"							
1.0	1.0	4.7	5.0	20.6	36.2	25.7	4.9	1.9	100.0	1921.	Percentage of families living in various units of occupation.							
0.8	0.8	3.6	2.7	19.8	27.3	35.9	6.3	3.6	100.0	1911.	"							

Report of Sanitary Inspector.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
DUKE STREET, CHELMSFORD.

March, 1924.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
BOROUGH OF CHELMSFORD.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting the Annual Report on sanitary work done during the year 1923.

*Summary of Sanitary Work carried out as a result of Notice served or
recommendations made.*

Dilapidated water closets rebuilt	8
Additional water closets provided	8
Water closets provided with proper waste preventing cisterns in place of large tanks	3
Flushing apparatus and fittings of water closets repaired or new flushing cisterns provided	109
New pedestal basins provided in W.C.'s in place of defective or obsolete basins	91
Defective water closets repaired, cleansed, &c.	129
New branch drains laid	33
New drainage provided	4
Glazed gulley traps fixed	68
Drains properly intercepted or ventilated	14
Defective drains repaired	62
Inspection chambers provided to drains	9
Obstructed drains, water closets, &c., unstopped	51
Defective sink, bath and lavatory waste pipes properly disconnected, trapped or renewed	49
Smoke nuisances abated	5
Miscellaneous nuisances abated	38

Refuse Receptacles.

Foul ashpits abolished... ..	6
Galvanised iron sanitary dustbins provided in place of foul ashpits or where previous bins were dilapidated	324

Dwelling Houses.

Houses or parts thereof cleansed	...	...	...	...	35
Damp conditions prevented, damp courses inserted, walls rendered in impervious material, soil removed from walls, &c.	...	...	...	...	59
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	2
Floors relaid	...	...	...	...	104
Floors and stairs repaired	...	...	...	...	58
Coppers and stoves repaired or new ones provided	...	...	...	...	28
Windows and doors repaired	...	...	...	...	51
Roofs, ceilings and chimneys repaired	...	...	...	...	83
Walls and plastering repaired	...	...	...	...	106
Troughing and downpipes provided, disconnected, repaired or cleared from obstruction	...	...	...	...	233
Efficient ventilation provided, windows made to open, &c.	...	...	...	...	45
Sanitary sinks and water supplies provided in houses where no sink was previously provided and water supply was outside houses	...	...	...	...	8
Sanitary sinks provided in place of defective stone or other sinks	...	...	...	...	19
Yard paving laid, relaid or repaired	...	...	...	...	162
Houses closed as unfit for habitation	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	5

Factories and Workshops (including Bakehouses).

Factories, Workshops, or parts thereof, limewashed or cleansed	..	3
Insufficient or defective closet accommodation	...	6
Other nuisances abated	...	7

Water Supply.

Premises supplied with sufficient supply of water where previous supply was insufficient	...	...	...	...	2
Houses provided with supplies of water directly from the main instead of from storage tanks	...	...	...	...	57
Number of samples of well water submitted for analysis	...	...	...	...	2
Number of samples of well water condemned as unfit for use	...	...	...	...	0

Miscellaneous.

Dairies, cowsheds or milkshops cleansed or repaired after notice	...	5
Nuisances from keeping animals abated	...	16
Accumulations of manure and refuse removed, premises cleansed, &c.	...	47
Common lodging houses cleansed or repaired	...	2

Drains, Water Closets, &c.

Much attention has been given to these matters and much improvement effected, 8 additional water closets have been provided and 91 pedestal basins affixed in place of defective ones.

Refuse Receptacles.

No less than 324 sanitary bins have been provided, nearly all to replace dilapidated ones; 6 ashpits have been abolished and Sanitary bins substituted.

Dwelling Houses.

Particulars of this work will be found in the summary.

One dwelling house has been closed by arrangements made with the owner. Eight Sanitary sinks and supplies of water have been provided where no sink was previously fixed and where the water was only obtainable from a tap in the yard.

Very few premises now exist in the Borough where these necessary conveniences are not provided (some 860 sinks having been provided in recent years) and most of these are difficult to supply owing to the lack of a public water supply or to difficulties of drainage or construction. In addition 19 sanitary sinks have been fixed in substitution for defective stone or brick sinks.

Common Lodging Houses.

The two common lodging houses have been well kept and very little cause for complaint has arisen.

Bakehouses, &c.

These have been conducted very well on the whole and little intervention has been necessary. There is one underground bakehouse in the Borough.

The Market.

I visit the Cattle Market each Market Day with the Borough Veterinary Inspector, Major Mulvey, T.D., F.R.C.V.S., and we have during the year excluded from the Market the following animals :—

1923.

Jan. 19th.	Jersey cow, very emaciated and suspected to be tuberculous.			
Jan. 26th.	Black and white cow,	"	"	"
"	Red and white cow,	"	"	"
Feb. 9th.	"	"	"	"
"	Black cow,	"	"	"
Mar. 16th.	Black and white cow, very emaciated.			
"	Brown and white cow,	"		

1923.

April 6th.	Black and white cow, emaciated and suspected to be tuberculous.
April 20th.	Roan cow, " " "
April 27th.	Red cow, " " "
" "	" " "
May 4th.	Roan cow, " " "
May 18th.	Red cow, indurated udder, probably tuberculous.
June 1st.	" emaciated and suspected to be tuberculous.
" "	" " "
" "	1 Sheep, injury to head.
June 22nd.	Black and white cow, very emaciated and suspected to be tuberculous.
July 6th.	Red cow, very emaciated.
July 20th.	Red and white cow, suffering from Mammitis.
Sept. 21st.	5 store pigs, suspected to be suffering from Swine Fever.
" 5 "	" " "
"	Red and white cow " tuberculosis.
Sept. 28th.	Brown and white cow, very lame, sent to be slaughtered.
Nov. 2nd.	Red cow, suspected to be tuberculous.
"	9 store pigs " suffering from Swine Fever.
Nov. 9th.	2 sows and 32 pigs (1 having died in market), suspected Swine Fever, afterwards confirmed and dealt with by the Ministry of Agriculture.
"	6 store pigs, suspected Swine Fever.
"	Red cow, very emaciated.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops.

These are generally very well conducted and occupiers are usually very ready to carry out improvements suggested.

9 samples of "Certified" milk have been submitted to Drs. Thresh & Beale for analysis, and only one sample failed to comply with the necessary standard.

Food Surrenders.

The following articles of food were surrendered by the owners :—

130 lbs. of haddock, 141 lbs. of chilled beef and the carcasses of five pigs.

Offensive Trades.

The offensive trades carried out are :—

Fat Extractor	...	1
Tanner	...	1
Fish Friers	...	5

Little cause for complaint has arisen in the conduct of these businesses during the year.

Elementary Schools.

The sanitary conveniences have been inspected and monthly reports made as to their condition.

The sanitary and cloakroom accommodation, &c., at the Roman Catholic School have been re-modelled during the year and very marked improvement effected.

Disinfection, &c.

The number of cases removed to the Isolation Hospital was as follows :—

Scarlet Fever	...	8
Diphtheria	.	3

The number of houses, &c., disinfected, was as follows :—

Scarlet Fever	...	9
Diphtheria	...	4
Consumption	...	9
Cancer	...	6
Paratyphoid	...	1
Other	...	2

The bedding and clothing, where necessary, was removed to the Joint Hospital Board's disinfecting station for disinfection.

Rats & Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

Since my appointment (in September last) as Inspector under the above Act, I have given considerable attention to the duties and think I may very fairly say that much good work has been done, occupiers being generally willing to co-operate.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

WALTER BROWN, Cert. Roy. San. Inst., M.S.I.A.,

Sanitary Inspector.

Report of the Veterinary Inspector, 1923.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF
THE BOROUGH OF CHELMSFORD.

GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in reporting that nothing of unusual nature has arisen in connection with my duties as Veterinary Inspector to the Borough during the year.

COWS AND COWSHEDS. All cows and cowsheds are inspected and examined at least once in each two months, and samples of milk have been taken from cows and examined whenever considered advisable.

The number of cowsheds in the Borough is	...	11
The number of cows in the Borough is approximately	270	
The number of cows excluded from cowsheds in the		
Borough during the year was	...	10
The number of samples of milk tested during the		
year was	...	53
The number of cows tested with the tuberculin test		
during the year was	...	4
The number of visits paid to cowsheds during the		
year was	...	103

SLAUGHTERHOUSES. The number of animals slaughtered in the Borough for human food during the year, 1923, is approximately :—

Beast	...	2,236
Sheep	...	5,772
Calves	...	520
Pigs	...	6,515

About one-half of the Beast, Sheep and Calves, and one-sixth of the Pigs were slaughtered at Wright's slaughterhouse in Springfield Road.

Foods Condemned and Surrendered.

March 2nd, 1923	...	Carcase of a Pig
May 25th, „	...	141 lbs. Chilled Beef
July 14th, „	...	130 lbs. Haddock
August 15th, „	...	Carcases of 4 Pigs

Wright's slaughterhouse is visited every day, all the others at very frequent intervals. They are, on the whole, well kept, but of course require supervision.

Two new butcher's shops have been opened.

HORSE FLESH. A very large quantity is sent from this town to Rotterdam and Antwerp.

Twelve carcasses have been condemned.

A large number of Goats are killed and sent to Belgium.

Palmer's slaughterhouse is visited every Sunday and Tuesday night to inspect the carcasses before they are put on rail.

MARKET. The Corporation Market has been regularly attended on each Market and Fair Day, and all animals deposited or exposed for sale have been examined.

The Market has been closed by Order of the Ministry of Agriculture three times, once on account of the very bad outbreak of Swine Fever in the surrounding district, and twice owing to outbreaks of Foot and Mouth Disease at Boreham and Stanstead.

The following is a list of all the animals removed from the market during the last year :—

Animals sent out of the market during the year 1923.

Jan. 19th, 1923	...	Jersey cow very emaciated and suspected to be tuberculous		
" 26th,	" ...	Black and white cow,	"	"
" "	" ...	Red and white "	"	"
Feb. 9th,	" ...	Red and white "	"	"
" "	" ...	Black cow	"	"
Mar. 16th,	" ...	Black and white cow, very emaciated		
" "	" ...	Brown and white cow,	"	"
April 6th,	" ...	Black and white cow, emaciated and suspected to be tuberculous		
" 20th,	" ...	Roan cow,	"	"
" 27th,	" ...	Red cow,	"	"
" "	" ...	"	"	"
May 4th,	" ...	Roan cow,	"	"
" 18th,	" ...	Red cow, indurated udder, probably tuberculous		
June 1st,	" ...	Red cow, emaciated, and suspected to be tuberculous		
" "	" ...	"	"	"
" "	" ...	1 sheep, injury to head		
" 22nd	" ...	Black and white cow, very emaciated and suspected to be tuberculous		
July 6th,	" ...	Red cow, very emaciated		
" 20th,	" ...	Red and white cow, suffering from Mammitis		

Sept, 21st, 1923 ..	5 store pigs, suspected to be suffering from Swine Fever
" " " ...	5 " " " "
" " " ...	Red and white cow, suspected to be suffering from tuberculosis
" 28th, " ...	Brown and white cow, very lame, sent to be slaughtered
Nov. 2nd, " ...	Red cow, suspected to be tuberculous
" " " ...	9 store pigs, suspected to be suffering from Swine Fever
" 9th, " ...	2 sows and 32 pigs (1 having died in Market) suspected Swine Fever, afterwards confirmed and dealt with by the Ministry
" " " ...	6 store pigs, suspected Swine Fever
" " " ...	Red and white cow. Very emaciated

The class of animals sent to this market is very markedly superior to that of previous years.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES. Outbreaks of Contagious Disease are less than in previous years, one of Parasitic Mange, one of Anthrax, four of Swine Fever.

CORPORATION HORSES. With the exception of temporary disablement the condition of the horses has been satisfactory.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. S. MULVEY, T.D., F.R.C.V.S.

Borough of Chelmsford.



EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

REPORT

OF THE

School Medical Officer

For the Year ended 31st December, 1923.

Staff.

School Medical Officer—

RICHARD H. VERCOE, M.B.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., B.A.

Dentist —

NATHAN SMITH, R.D.S.

School Nurse —

MISS A. M. MITTELL.

Clerk—

W. J. FINCH.

School Clinic—

89, Duke Street.

*The Borough Public Health Offices,
Chelmsford.*

March 14th, 1924.

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

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

*I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report
for the year 1923, on the work of the School Medical Depart-
ment.*

*Although the above address is non-committal, it is fully
expected that before the next Report is written, the new
Medical Offices and Clinic will have been erected and in
occupation, at Rainsford House; and these promise to be a
great improvement in design on the present ones.*

*I thought it might be of some convenience to you to open
the Report with a brief preliminary summary of figures in
such a way that they might function as a Contents Table to a
slight extent.*

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

RICHARD VERCOE,

School Medical Officer.

Preliminary Summary.

The following is a brief summary of the principal figures of the work done for the year by the School Medical Department: -

By the School Medical Officer:

Visits to Schools for Routine Medical Examinations	...	45
Children examined at	... ..	1,027
" " and certificates given for employment		67
Children examined by special tests for Mental Deficiency		7
Children refracted at the Eye Clinic	... ..	72
" to whom gas was administered for Dentist	... ..	27
Children examined at the Minor Ailments Clinic	... ..	374
Children's attendances	.. ..	2,428

By the School Nurse:

In addition to the treatment, preparation and clerical work associated with that of the S.M.O. in the above figures:—

Visits paid to Homes were	... ..	547
" " Schools "	... ..	237
Heads inspected for Pediculosis	... ..	5,583

The School Nurse also carried out the preparation and clerical work associated with the following summary of the Dental work.

By the School Dentist:

Half-days occupied were	... ..	82
Children's mouths inspected at the Schools	... ..	2,221
" attendances made at the Dental Clinic		503
" treated at the Dental Clinic	... ..	497

Routine Examinations.

ROUTINE EXAMINATIONS in the schools numbered 1,027.

The principal findings are set out in Table 2 at the end of this Report, and some notes on these figures are as follows :—

MALNUTRITION cases numbered 38 ; it must not be assumed that this condition is necessarily caused by a deficiency in quantity of food, it is often due to the food being either badly cooked or badly chosen, or on the other hand not due to food at all, but to heredity or chronic disease or lack of air and sunshine. Cod Liver Oil was one of the principal forms of treatment for this condition for its high content of Vitamine A.

Much the same remarks apply to the cases of ANÆMIA (12), BRONCHITIS (16), NERVOUS DEBILITY (16) and RICKETS.

UNCLEANLINESS cases numbered 43 at Routine Inspection, full notes on this subject are found on pages 6 and 8.

DEFECTIVE VISION—The figure 62 indicates only those who were referred for treatment, those who had already had suitable glasses were not included. This subject is discussed under Eye Clinic.

TONSILS AND ADENOIDS, ETC. No case of "Enlarged Tonsils only" was advised operation, unless enlargement was accompanied by septic conditions indicated by frequent sore throats, etc.

Of the cases of Adenoids, 6 were advised nasal douching and breathing exercises, etc., instead of operation, and were kept under observation for results. These might have been considered as really referred for treatment, but I have entered them under the observation column to distinguish them from the remaining 21 who were advised operation.

Relatively few operations were performed at the Chelmsford Hospital under the Committee's Scheme owing to the closure of the Hospital for so many months for structural alterations.

HEART DISEASE—Those cases found at Routine Inspections were all mild well compensated cases, in contrast to the one which came to the Clinic which was much more marked.

TUBERCULOSIS—Non-Pulmonary and Suspected Pulmonary. Those cases were referred to the Tuberculosis Dispensary and there treated and kept under observation by the Tuberculosis Officer, who is myself. In the same manner I dealt with those cases of Malnutrition and Debility which shewed least improvment after preliminary treatment at the Minor Ailments Clinic. These selected cases were provisionally classed as Pre-tubercular Children and seen by me thereafter at the Tuberculosis Dispensary.

Percentage of Defects found at Routine Inspections.

The total percentage of defects found was 18 per cent. requiring treatment.

The Age group distribution was as follows :—

Entrants—22 per cent. Intermediate—16 per cent.
Leavers—15 per cent.

In defects of Malnutrition, Anæmia, Bronchitis, the Entrants were far and away the worst, while Intermediates and Leavers were about equal.

In Tonsils and Adenoids defects the Entrants and Intermediates were about equal, the Leavers being much the best.

In Vision defects the Intermediate and Leavers seemed about equal, while the Entrants are too young to read the letters, and defects are not so easily detected in routine examination.

Uncleanliness of the Head.

The total number of Examinations at the Schools by the Nurse was 5583.

The number of individual children found unclean was 302.

In all these 302 cases the homes were visited by the Nurse in order to verbally instruct the parents and explain the written instructions on the forms calling attention to the defect.

Those cases which were not properly cleansed at home, but had to be cleansed at the Clinic, were 11.

The number of Exclusions was 8. The average period of exclusion per child was 8 days.

The number of children with Nits at Routine Medical Inspection, where pre-notice had been given, and many heads temporarily cleaned up for the event, was 43 out of 1027 examined.

Even after allowing for the possibility of different standards in other towns, the comparison of these figures with those from other towns on either side, strongly suggests that Chelmsford compares very favourably with other towns, and therefore it was not considered desirable, so far at least, to put into operation the machinery of Prosecution.

Eye Clinic.

EYE CLINIC.—72 cases were Refracted by Retinoscopy in the Dark Room at the Clinic, and these numbers approximate to those of the two previous years (68) and (62) Refracted by Mr. Tyrrell, your previous London Oculist.

Of these, 4 were under School age, and were cases of Squint discovered at the M. C. W. Clinic. It is extremely important to treat cases of Squint as soon as possible after the onset, no matter how young the child may be. Thus a Squint may be permanently cured by glasses by discovery at the Baby Clinic, which if left till School age would be then incurable by glasses and the Squinting Eye then becomes slowly blind, even although operation is done.

A photo showing the Squint was obtained in most of the early Squint cases at the time when first examined, and this visual record was attached to the respective Eye card, and is now very interesting to compare with the cured appearance resulting from the wearing of the glasses.

Old cases of Squint of long standing are a different matter, being very seldom curable by glasses, and these are sent at once to London Hospitals with a view to operation as soon as the Surgeon decides to do so.

In 15 cases glasses were either not found to be necessary or no improvement was made over those already being worn.

In 57 cases glasses were prescribed, and of these 48 actually obtained them, while the remaining 9 defaulted through either carelessness or ignorance.

Minor Ailments Clinic.

The Minor Ailments Clinic is held every morning (except Monday) from 9.15 to 10.15.

The total number of children treated at the Clinic was ... 374.
(This does not include refraction cases).

The total number of attendances at the Clinic was ... 2,428.

The ailments were of the following kinds and numbers : -

Malnutrition	...	37	Enlarged Tonsils only	...	2
			Adenoids only	...	5
Uncleanliness	...	11	Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids	...	4
			Tonsolitis	...	12
Ringworm—Scalp	...	7	Other conditions	...	2
" —Body	...	3			
Scabies	...	5	Enlarged Cervical Glands	...	12
Impetigo	...	42			
Septic Skin conditions	...	100	Organic Heart Disease	...	1
Alopecia	...	5			
Warts	...	6	Bronchial Catarrh	...	11
Other Skin conditions	...	40			
			Tuberculosis—Glands	...	1
Blepharitis	...	8	" Spine	...	1
Conjunctivitis	...	9	" Hip	...	1
Corneale Opacities	...	3	" Skin	...	1
Defective Vision	...	6			
Other conditions	...	6	Epilepsy	...	1
			Chorea	...	1
Defective Hearing	...	10	Nervous Debility	...	4
Otitis Media	...	18	Other conditions	...	2
Other Ear diseases	...	5			
			Other diseases	...	57

The cases of MALNUTRITION include some of general debility and are not necessarily emaciated. For these and also for the cases of Bronchial Catarrh and Nervous Debility, Cod Liver Oil was prescribed in nearly every case by reason of its high content of vitamine A. This Cod Liver Oil is obtained at the Clinic at cost price since March 4th, 1923, and between that date and December the 31st, 115 lbs. were consumed by patients, including those referred at Routine Inspection who had the Cod Liver Oil without coming on to the Clinic Register.

UNCLEANLINESS cases were Pediculosis of the Head ; these were only 11 requiring treatment at the Clinic by the Nurse.

The worst case of all happened to be an only child with no particular reason for such parental neglect.

For cleansing at the Clinic the special Sacker Comb is being used, and the general methods described by me in "The Medical Officer."

RINGWORM of the Scalp numbered 7 cases. This condition is always considered extremely intractable to any treatment except X-rays, in fact all other treatments in the past have almost invariably proved to be absolutely futile. Before availing myself, however, of the Committee's Agreement with the London Hospital for X-ray treatment I thought I would give a trial to a new treatment recently described which consists in the application to the

Scalp of a freshly prepared lotion combination of Iodine and Mercury, with a special technique requiring direct medical supervision. It was with great scepticism that this treatment was initiated and the cases carefully examined clinically and microscopically in the first place to be sure that they were truly Ringworm and again later to see if there was recurrence. 5 cases were cured without recurrence and 2 recurred. These were the 2 worst cases, and had the whole Scalp involved. After treatment they were watched for a while and were re-admitted to School, but made to wear caps. Re-inspection at first revealed no recurrence, but lately a small scurfy patch was discovered in each case with some stumps, and these relatively small areas are being treated. No signs of spread of infection were found in the Schools during the Nurses periodic visits for head inspection.

This trial without X-rays has been interesting, and I propose to continue it. Meanwhile the arrangements with the London Hospital should be retained in reserve.

RINGWORM of the body number 3 cases which were easily cured at the Clinic in the usual way.

SCABIES numbered 5 cases which received baths and sulphur inunction at the Clinic with speedy cure, no recurrence and no dermatitis following.

IMPETIGO numbered 42 cases and were made to attend regularly at the Clinic and were quickly cured, instead of relying on home treatment as has to be done when the Clinic is not open every day, thus exclusion from School becomes less necessary than might otherwise be the case. Exclusions for Impetigo numbered 13 cases averaging 7 days exclusion each.

SEPTIC SKIN CONDITIONS number 100 cases - these were not Impetigo and none had to be excluded from School. The same remarks about Clinic *versus* Home Treatment applies as in the case of Impetigo.

"ADENOIDS only" number 5 cases, of which 2 were advised operation and were advised to carry out Nasal douching and drill, etc., in the home. The two cases of Enlarged Tonsils and 4 cases of Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids were of such a nature that all 6 were advised operations.

No bottles of medicine are given at the Clinic; if such are required for the particular ailment then the case is referred to its own private practitioner. At the same time there are certain lines of home treatment and hygiene which can be advised to the parent for such conditions as Chronic Indigestion and Chronic Bronchial Catarrh where great improvement has been reported to me through the application of these principles and where they may be considered more permanently efficacious than Drugs alone.

Parents Payment for Medical Treatment.

In addition to the charges for Tonsils and Adenoids, Teeth and Glasses already in operation in previous years a Collection Box has been placed in the Minor Ailments Clinic duly decorated with a suitable notice to Parents, and between its inauguration on October 7th, and December 31st, the sum of 7s. 0½d., has been collected. Lest this tale of pecuniary accumulation should unduly stimulate the cupidity of external parties it must be explained that this sum is not a perquisite of the Staff and results only through the directions of the Treasury.

Mayor's Fund.

During the year 130 pairs of boots were supplied free to necessitous school children from the Mayor's Fund. This means a very great saving in comfort and health to 130 children, who would otherwise have been rendered more liable to Bronchitis, Rheumatism, etc.

On 22nd December, 1923, the Mayor's Christmas Cheer Fund supplied Meat, Groceries and other foods to 800---900 families in the Borough.

Much thanks are due to the personal interest and activity of the Mayor himself in these branches of the Public Health affairs of the Borough.

Co-ordination.

The unification under one Officer of the work of School Medical Officer, Refractionist, Maternity and Child Welfare Officer and Tuberculosis Officer has already been mentioned. Perhaps even more important is the new assumption by the same Officer of the position of Superintendent of the Isolation Hospital, where school children as patients, their relationship to schools and other school children and their later re-examination at school or Clinic, after convalescence, all increases the interest and usefulness of each appointment through the fact of its combination.

The Sanitary Inspector's special knowledge of individual houses is also being utilised in an enquiry being made by me into the incidence of Rheumatism in the school children and its relationship to damp houses or Heredity and other factors respectively, which will be reported on after I have accumulated larger figures.

TABLE I.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN INSPECTED 1ST JANUARY 1923 TO 31ST DECEMBER 1923

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Code Group Inspections:—

Entrants	..	..	..	..	366
Intermediates	..	..	..	..	317
Leavers	..	..	..	..	344
			Total	..	<u>1,027</u>

Number of other Routine Inspections	Nil
-------------------------------------	----	----	----	-----

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections (see note d).	..	554	381	at Clinics and School
			72	at Eye Clinic
			67	for Employment Certificates
			27	for Gas Administration
			7	tested for Mental Deficiency
Number of Re-Inspections (see note e).	..	2,065	11	at School
			2054	at Clinic M. Ailments
Total	..	<u>2,619</u>		

(d) If a child who has been specially inspected for one defect is subsequently specially inspected for another defect, such subsequent inspection should be recorded as a Special Inspection and not as a Re-inspection.

(e) The first inspection in every case will be entered as a routine or special as the case may be. Every subsequent inspection of the same defect will be entered as a re-inspection.

Owing to the absence of the above official definitions last year the summaries last year for re-inspections and specials vary from those this year.

TABLE II.

A.—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION
IN THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1923.

Defect or Disease.					Routine Inspections.		Specials.	
					No. referred for Treatment.	No. requiring to be kept under observation, but not referred for Treatment.	No. referred for Treatment.	No. requiring to be kept under observation, but not referred for Treatment.
(1)					(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	Malnutrition ..	..	..	..	38	—	38	—
	Uncleanliness ..	..	..	..	43	2	9	1
	(See Table IV., Group V.)							
Skin	Ringworm :							
	Scalp ..	..	..	..	—	—	7	—
	Body ..	..	..	..	—	—	3	—
	Scabies ..	..	..	..	—	—	5	—
	Impetigo ..	..	..	..	6	—	42	—
	Other Diseases (non-Tuberculous) ..	..	..	..	9	—	151	—
Eye	Blepharitis ..	..	..	..	3	—	5	—
	Conjunctivitis ..	..	..	..	3	—	5	—
	Keratitis ..	..	..	..	—	—	—	—
	Corneal Opacities ..	..	..	..	—	—	—	—
	Defective Vision (excluding squint) ..	..	..	..	62	—	26	—
	Squint ..	..	..	..	5	3	1	—
	Other conditions ..	..	..	..	3	—	6	—
Ear	Defective Hearing ..	..	..	..	4	—	10	3
	Otitis Media ..	..	..	..	9	—	13	—
	Other Ear Diseases ..	..	..	..	1	—	5	—
Nose and Throat.	Enlarged Tonsils only ..	..	..	..	6	19	2	—
	Adenoids only ..	..	..	..	4	1	2	3
	Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids ..	..	..	..	17	5	4	—
	Other conditions ..	..	..	..	1	5	9	—
	Enlarged Cervical Glands (non-Tuberculous) ..	..	..	..	—	21	3	4
	Defective Speech ..	..	..	..	—	3	—	—
	Teeth—Dental Diseases ..	..	..	..	275	—	—	—
	(See Table IV., Group IV.)							
Heart and Circulation	Heart Disease :							
	Organic ..	..	..	..	—	6	—	—
	Functional ..	..	..	..	—	8	1	—
	Anæmia ..	..	..	..	12	—	1	—
Lungs	Bronchitis ..	..	..	..	16	—	9	—
	Other non-Tuberculous Diseases ..	..	..	..	—	—	3	—
Tuberculosis	Pulmonary :							
	Definite ..	..	..	..	—	—	—	—
	Suspected ..	..	..	..	—	—	2	—
	Non-Pulmonary :							
	Glands ..	..	..	..	1	—	—	—
	Spine ..	..	..	..	2	—	—	—
	Hip ..	..	..	..	1	—	—	—
	Other Bones and Joints ..	..	..	..	—	—	—	—
Nervous System	Skin ..	..	..	..	1	—	—	—
	Other Forms ..	..	..	..	—	—	—	—
	Epilepsy ..	..	..	..	—	3	—	—
	Chorea ..	..	..	..	—	—	2	—
	Other Conditions ..	..	..	..	16	—	—	—
Deformities	Rickets ..	..	..	..	1	12	—	—
	Spinal Curvature ..	..	..	..	5	—	—	—
	Other Forms ..	..	..	..	8	5	—	—
	Other Defects and Diseases ..	..	..	..	59	—	56	—

TABLE II.—*continued.*

B.—NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN FOUND AT ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION TO REQUIRE TREATMENT (EXCLUDING UNCLEANLINESS AND DENTAL DISEASES).

GROUP.	NUMBER OF CHILDREN.		Percentage of Children found to require Treatment.
	Inspected.	Found to require Treatment.	
	(2)	(3)	(4)
CODE GROUPS :—			
Entrants	366	81	22
Intermediates	317	53	16
Leavers	344	52	15
Total (Code Groups)	1027	186	18
Other Routine Inspections	—	—	—

TABLE III.

RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN IN THE AREA IN 1923.

			Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Blind (including partially blind)	(i) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally blind.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Blind.. .. .	—	—	—
		Attending Public Elementary Schools.. .. .	—	—	—
		At other Institutions	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution.. .. .	—	—	—
	(ii) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the partially blind.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Blind.. .. .	—	—	—
		Attending Public Elementary Schools.. .. .	—	1	1
		At other Institutions	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution.. .. .	—	—	—
Deaf (including deaf and dumb and partially deaf)	(i) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally deaf or deaf and dumb.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Deaf	—	—	—
		Attending Public Elementary Schools.. .. .	—	—	—
		At other Institutions	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution.. .. .	—	—	—
	(ii) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the partially deaf.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Deaf	—	—	—
		Attending Public Elementary Schools.. .. .	2	2	4
		At other Institutions	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution.. .. .	—	—	—

TABLE III—continued.

			Boys	Girls	Total
Mentally Defective.	Feeble-minded (cases not notifiable to the Local Control Authority).	Attending Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children Attending Public Elementary Schools.. At other Institutions At no School or Institution.. ..	— 3 — —	— 1 — —	— 4 — —
	Notified to the E.C.C. during the year.	Feeble-minded Imbeciles Idiots	— — —	— — —	— — —
Epileptics.	Suffering from severe epilepsy.	Attending Certified Special Schools for Epileptics In Institutions other than Certified Special Schools Attending Public Elementary Schools.. At no School or Institution.. ..	— — — —	— — — 1	— — — 1
	Suffering from epilepsy which is not severe.	Attending Public Elementary Schools.. At no School or Institution	2 —	2 —	4 —
Physically Defective.	Infectious pulmonary and glandular tuberculosis.	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board.. .. At other Institutions At no School or Institution.. ..	— — —	— — —	— — —
	Non-infectious but active pulmonary and glandular tuberculosis.	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board.. .. At Certified Residential Open Air Schools At Certified Day Open Air Schools At Public Elementary Schools At other Institutions At no School or Institution.. ..	— — — — — 1	— — — — — 1	— — — — — 2
	Delicate children (e.g., pre-or latent tuberculosis, malnutrition, debility, anæmia, &c.)	At Certified Residential Open Air Schools At Certified Day Open Air Schools At Public Elementary Schools At other Institutions At no School or Institution.. ..	— — 5 — —	— — 7 — —	— — 12 — —
	Active non-pulmonary tuberculosis.	At Sanatoria or Hospital Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board.. .. At Public Elementary Schools At other Institutions At no School or Institution	— — — —	— — — —	— — — —
	Crippled children (other than those with active tuberculous disease) e.g., children suffering from paralysis, etc., and including those with severe heart disease.	At Certified Hospital Schools At Certified Residential Cripple Schools At Certified Day Cripple Schools At Public Elementary Schools At other Institutions At no School or Institution	— — — 6 — —	— — — 7 — —	— — — 13 — —

TABLE IV.

RETURN OF DEFECTS TREATED DURING 1923.

GROUP I.—MINOR AILMENTS (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Group V.)

Disease or Defect. (1)	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Otherwise. (3)	Total. (4)
<i>Skin—</i>			
Ringworm-Scalp	7	—	7
Ringworm-Body	3	—	3
Scabies	5	—	5
Impetigo	45	—	45
Other skin disease	47	—	47
<i>Minor Eye Defects</i> (External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II.)	30	—	30
<i>Minor Ear Defects</i>	36	—	36
<i>Miscellaneous</i> (e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, &c.)	257	—	257
Total	430	—	430

GROUP II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I.)

Defect or Disease. (1)	No. of Defects dealt with.			
	Under the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Submitted to refraction by private practitioner or at hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme. (3)	Otherwise. (4)	Total. (5)
Errors of Refraction (including Squint) (Operations for squint should be recorded separately in the body of the Report).	72	10	—	82
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.)	23	—	—	23
Total	95	10	—	105

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme	57
(b) Otherwise	3

Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme	48
(b) Otherwise	

TABLE IV.—*continued.*

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 Authority's Scheme.	Total.		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
6	2	8	14	22

GROUP VI.—DENTAL DEFECTS.

1.—*Number of Children dealt with.*

—	Age Groups.										"Specials."	Total.
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
(a) Inspected by Dentist ..	234	222	283	218	264	258	230	217	214	81	45	2,221
(b) Referred for treatment	1066											
(c) Actually treated ..	497											
(d) Re-treated (result of periodical examination)	—											

2. *Particulars of time given and of operations undertaken.*

No. of Half Days devoted to Inspections.	No. of Half Days devoted to Treatment.	Total No. of Attendances made by the Children at the Clinic.	No. of Permanent Teeth.		No. of Temporary Teeth.		Total No. of Fillings.	No. of Administrations of General Anæsthetics included in (4) and (6).	No. of other operations.
			Ex-tracted.	Filled.	Ex-tracted.	Filled.			
(1.)	(2.)	(3.)	(4.)	(5.)	(6.)	(7.)	(8.)	(9.)	(10.)
23	59	503	54	80	391	214	294	27	37

TABLE IV.—*continued.*

GROUP V.—UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

(i.) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses						79
(ii.) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses						5,583
(iii.) Number of individual children found unclean						302
(iv.) Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority						11
(v.) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—						
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921						—
(b) Under School Attendance Bye-laws						—

TABLE IV

Summary of the results of the experiments

Experiment	No. of trials	No. of correct responses	No. of errors	Percentage correct
1	10	8	2	80%
2	10	7	3	70%
3	10	9	1	90%
4	10	8	2	80%
5	10	7	3	70%
6	10	9	1	90%
7	10	8	2	80%
8	10	7	3	70%
9	10	9	1	90%
10	10	8	2	80%