

**[Report 1924] / School Medical Officer of Health, Colchester Borough.**

**Contributors**

Colchester (England). Borough Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1924

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BOROUGH OF



COLCHESTER

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EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## School Medical Officer

FOR THE YEAR

# 1924



Colchester :

WILES & SON, TRINITY STREET

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1925

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*School Dental Surgeon :*

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HEALTH OFFICES,  
TRINITY STREET,

12th March, 1925.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE BOROUGH OF  
COLCHESTER.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting to you the Fifteenth Annual Report upon the work of the School Medical Department.

The past year has seen two schemes, that were foreshadowed in the Report for 1923, come into being. The Sight-Saving Class has now been in full work for one year, and the extra half-day for Dental Work began in the first week in April.

In this Report I have laid stress upon the Hygienic condition of several of the Schools. Lavatory and Washing Accommodation and Playgrounds in some of the smaller Schools and in one fairly large one have not been kept up to modern requirements, and it is time that the old insanitary patterns and arrangements were replaced by up-to-date sanitary ones. To-day, when the value of fresh air and sun-light is so much better appreciated, shut-in cramped playgrounds and dark gloomy school-rooms should not be tolerated. Two or three of the Schools in Colchester offend in greater or less degree in these respects.

It is with a good deal of regret that I report Dr. Balmain's success in obtaining a similar appointment at Birkenhead. This regret is tempered by the recent appointment of Dr. Cushing to fill his place. It gives me much pleasure to welcome the latter to the School Medical Staff.

In conclusion, I beg to thank the members of the Medical Inspection Sub-Committee for their interest and sympathy at all times, and to report that throughout the year the Staff of the Department have worked well and loyally and to thank them for giving me their best assistance.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. F. CORFIELD,

*Medical Officer of Health and  
School Medical Officer.*

THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS AND  
SCHOOL HYGIENE.

The number of Schools and Departments during the year is  
last year but the Sight-Saving Class is an addition to East Ward  
School.

## Report of the School Medical Officer for the Year 1924.

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### **STAFF AND CO-ORDINATION WITH OTHER HEALTH SERVICES.**

The staff of the School Medical Department has not been increased during the year and but one change has occurred. The Assistant School Medical Officer, Dr. A. R. Balmain, in September obtained a similar position at Birkenhead and resigned his post at Colchester in October. In his place Dr. R. W. Cushing, M.A., M.B., B Ch., was appointed, and he took up his duties on 1st January, 1925.

In the Report for 1923, reference was made to the institution of a Sight-Saving Class, and to another half-day being devoted to Dental work. Both of these additions actually came into being in 1924, and were successfully continued throughout the year.

The same arrangements for the treatment of County children suffering from Dental disease have been continued as in 1923.

Co-ordination of the School Medical work and other Health work is of the closest as the School Medical Officer is the Medical Officer of Health, and the Assistant also devotes his full time to School Medical and other Health work. There are four Nurses in the department, one of these is a full-time School Nurse, the other three are Health Nurses undertaking both School and Health Visiting work.

## THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL HYGIENE.

The number of Schools and Departments remains the same as last year, but the Sight-Saving Class is an addition to East Ward School.

|  | COUNCIL SCHOOL<br>DEPARTMENTS. | NON-PROVIDED<br>SCHOOL<br>DEPARTMENTS. |
|--|--------------------------------|--|
| Mixed Departments ... ..                                   | 5                              | 1                                      |
| Infants' Departments ... ..                                | 6                              | 3                                      |
| Mixed and Infants' Schools ... ..                          | 2                              | 6                                      |
| Girls' and Infants' Schools ... ..                         | —                              | 1                                      |
| Central School ... ..                                      | 1                              | —                                      |
| Boys' School ... ..  | —                              | 1                                      |
| Girls' School ... ..                                       | —                              | 1                                      |
| Junior Mixed Department .. ..                              | 1                              | —                                      |
| Special School ... ..<br>(for Mentally Defective Children) | 1                              | —                                      |
| Totals ... ..  | 16                             | 13                                     |
| Special Sight-Saving Class ... ..                          | 1                              | —                                      |

A good deal of attention has been paid during the past two years to the general hygienic condition of the Schools. Last year a table was given in the Annual Report showing the various types of Closet accommodation provided. During 1924 the subject of Sanitary accommodation in the Schools has been carefully reviewed and attention has been drawn to the unsatisfactory conditions at the following Schools:—

|                  |                       |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Blue Coat School | St. James' School     |
| Lexden School    | Parson's Heath School |

Not only is the Closet accommodation unsatisfactory in these schools, but all of them have other conditions such as inadequate washing facilities, insufficient or unsatisfactory playgrounds, or buildings in need of repair, that require attention.

The old-fashioned type of Trough Closet should not to-day be tolerated in any School. It is completely insanitary and should forthwith be replaced by Closets of a modern pattern. All the Schools mentioned above are supplied with the above old type of Trough Closet. During the year, no structural repairs or replacements have been carried out at any of them.

**School Attendance.**

|   | 1923. | 1924. | Increase or<br>Decrease. |
|---|-------|-------|--------------------------|
| Daily Average Number of Children on<br>the School Registers .. .. | 5,806 | 5,733 | — 73                     |
| Daily Average Attendance Percentage ..                            | 91·7  | 88·3  | — 3·4                    |

The Daily Average Number of Children on the School Registers steadily continues to decline. There can be no doubt that the equally steadily falling Birth Rate is the cause.

The Average Attendance was a great deal affected by the occurrence of Infectious Diseases, and many of the Schools were closed on this account. New Paragraphs in the Provisional Code, 1922, of the Board of Education lay down fresh directions about School Closure for Infectious Disease. It is properly held that the fact of a few cases of Infectious Disease in a School is no sufficient reason for its closure. Theoretically speaking this certainly is so as if all the other children would continue to attend, contacts and suspicious cases would be easily discovered and eliminated. But in practice sometimes when a case of Infectious Disease occurs certain parents at once keep their children at home, this of course occurring more particularly in the Infants' Departments, and should the death of a school child from an Infectious Disease occur the reaction upon the School is usually evident in the Attendance Registers. It is strange that this is not the same for all diseases. Unfortunately, a child's death from Measles or Whooping Cough does not appear to cause the same shock in a School as a death from Scarlet Fever or Diphtheria.

The following Schools were closed during 1924, owing to the prevalence of the Infectious Diseases stated:—

| <i>School.</i>  | <i>Period of Closure.</i> |
|---|---------------------------|
| Kendall Road Infant School. . . . .<br>owing to Whooping Cough              | Jan. 9th—Feb. 1st         |
| North Street Infant School .. .. .<br>owing to Whooping Cough and Influenza | Feb. 13th—March 7th       |
| Lexden School .. .. .<br>owing to Scarlet Fever                             | April 14th—April 18th     |

| <i>School.</i>  | <i>Period of Closure.</i> |
|---|---------------------------|
| East Ward Infant School .. ..<br>owing to Measles                     | June 4th—June 27th        |
| Kendall Road Infant School .. ..<br>owing to Measles                  | June 16th—June 27th       |
| Priory Street Infant School .. ..<br>owing to Measles                 | June 25th—July 11th       |
| St. James' School .. ..<br>owing to Measles and Chicken-pox           | June 27th—July 11th       |
| Stockwell Street Infant School .. ..<br>owing to Measles              | June 30th—July 18th       |
| North Street Infant School .. ..<br>owing to Measles                  | July 9th—July 31st        |
| Blue Coat School .. ..<br>owing to Influenza                          | Dec. 3rd—Dec. 19th        |
| North Street Mixed and Infant Schools .. ..<br>owing to Influenza     | Dec. 3rd—Dec. 19th        |
| St. John's Green Mixed and Infant Schools .. ..<br>owing to Influenza | Dec. 15th—Dec. 19th       |
| East Ward Infant School .. ..<br>owing to Influenza                   | Dec. 15th—Dec. 19th       |
| Greenstead Road School .. ..<br>owing to Influenza                    | Dec. 17th—Dec. 19th       |

The incidence of Infectious Disease upon the Schools was a good deal heavier than has been the case for some years past as the table below shows. But this table does not show the sudden and wide-spread epidemic of Influenza that attacked several of the Schools in December. So quickly did the infection spread that within a week some Schools were depleted of half their Scholars and several of their Teachers.

A curious and unaccountable fact is very evident in the table this is the very few cases of Diphtheria that occurred.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

*Incidence of Infectious Disease amongst Elementary School Children in four-weekly periods.*

| Scarlet<br>Fever. | Diphtheria. | Whooping<br>Cough. | Measles. | Chicken<br>Pox. | Mumps. |
|-------------------|-------------|--------------------|----------|-----------------|--------|
| —                 | 2           | 73                 | —        | 4               | —      |
| —                 | —           | 52                 | 1        | 11              | 1      |
| 2                 | 3           | 11                 | 2        | 3               | —      |
| 8                 | —           | 7                  | 28       | 29              | 1      |
| —                 | —           | 4                  | 83       | 7               | 1      |
| —                 | —           | 1                  | 244      | 31              | —      |
| —                 | 1           | —                  | 70       | 1               | —      |
| —                 | —           | —                  | 13       | 2               | —      |
| 6                 | —           | —                  | 9        | 14              | —      |
| 14                | —           | —                  | 17       | 6               | 2      |
| 18                | —           | —                  | 5        | 10              | 1      |
| 18                | 1           | —                  | —        | —               | —      |
| —                 | —           | 5                  | 32       | 24              | —      |
| 66                | 7           | 153                | 504      | 142             | 6      |

## MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The Statistical Tables at the end of this Report summarize very completely the work of School Medical Inspection. From them it will be seen that the three Routine Groups, Entrants, Intermediates and Leavers were inspected, and in addition, such Special Cases as were brought to the notice of the department.

In all 1,502 children were medically examined. This figure is less by 700 than that of 1923, but this is accounted for by the fact that no Medical Inspections were carried out after Dr. Balmain left early in October. The arrears will be made up during the current year.

The number of Routine Inspections, Special Inspections and Re-examinations together was 4,106. This figure is also less than the similar figure for 1923, and for the same reason.

The number of children having Defects which required Treatment or to be kept under Observation is compared with the numbers of the past three years in the table below—

| Year.   | Number<br>Inspected. | Number with<br>Defects. | Per-<br>centage. |
|---------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1922 .. | 2,134                | 1,007                   | 47.2             |
| 1923 .. | 2,216                | 1,199                   | 54.1             |
| 1924 .. | 1,502                | 751                     | 50.0             |

It should be noted that although the number of children inspected and the number of Inspections are a great deal less during 1924, yet the percentage defective is very much the same.

These figures do not include children suffering only from Dental Defects or Uncleanliness.

The next table shows what the totals of "Other Diseases" and "Other Conditions" in Statistical Table II. included. It is of interest as it demonstrates the great diversity of conditions that a Medical Officer comes across in his Inspections.

### **Diseases grouped in Table II. as "Other Diseases or Conditions."**

#### SKIN DISEASES—

|                          |    |                          |   |
|--------------------------|----|--------------------------|---|
| Eczema .. ..             | 20 | Seborrhoea .. ..         | 4 |
| Alopecia .. ..           | 2  | Acne .. ..               | 4 |
| Urticaria .. ..          | 8  | Chilblains .. ..         | 2 |
| Boils or Abscesses .. .. | 11 | Burns .. ..              | 2 |
| Septic Sores .. ..       | 29 | Ingrowing Toe Nail .. .. | 1 |
| Minor Injuries .. ..     | 18 | Ichthyosis .. ..         | 1 |
| Herpes .. ..             | 5  | Papular Dermatitis .. .. | 5 |
| Insect Stings .. ..      | 4  | Pityriasis .. ..         | 1 |

#### EYE DISEASES OR DEFECTS—

|                           |   |                 |   |
|---------------------------|---|-----------------|---|
| Inflamed Eyelid .. ..     | 1 | Ptosis .. ..    | 4 |
| Foreign Body in Eye .. .. | 1 | Cataract .. ..  | 1 |
| Asthenopia .. ..          | 5 | Hordeolum .. .. | 4 |

#### EAR, NOSE AND THROAT DISEASES OR DEFECTS—

|                         |   |                        |    |
|-------------------------|---|------------------------|----|
| Cerumen in Ear .. ..    | 1 | Tonsillitis .. ..      | 20 |
| Nasal Obstruction .. .. | 2 | Deflected Septum .. .. | 1  |
| Rhinitis .. ..          | 6 | Laryngitis .. ..       | 1  |
| Cleft Palate .. ..      | 2 |                        |    |

#### LUNG DISEASES (Non-Tubercular)—

|              |   |                 |   |
|--------------|---|-----------------|---|
| Asthma .. .. | 3 | Pneumonia .. .. | 1 |
|--------------|---|-----------------|---|

#### NERVOUS DISEASES—

|                     |   |                        |   |
|---------------------|---|------------------------|---|
| Migraine .. ..      | 1 | Habit Spasm .. ..      | 4 |
| Headache .. ..      | 2 | Nervous Debility .. .. | 2 |
| Night Terrors .. .. | 2 | Facial Paralysis .. .. | 1 |
| Neurasthenia .. ..  | 1 |                        |   |

## DEFORMITIES—

|                   |   |                          |   |
|-------------------|---|--------------------------|---|
| Deformed Chest .. | 2 | Deformed Elbow ..        | 1 |
| Flat Foot ..      | 3 | Intra-uterine Amputation | 1 |
| Kyphosis ..       | 2 |                          |   |

## ALIMENTARY SYSTEM DISEASES—

|                 |   |                        |   |
|-----------------|---|------------------------|---|
| Gastritis ..    | 7 | Constipation ..        | 3 |
| Hernia ..       | 3 | Stomatitis ..          | 2 |
| Worms ..        | 3 | Enteritis ..           | 1 |
| Appendicitis .. | 3 | Peritoneal Adhesions.. | 1 |

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES—

|                         |    |                |   |
|-------------------------|----|----------------|---|
| Influenza ..            | 11 | Measles ..     | 2 |
| Whooping Cough ..       | 4  | Chicken-pox .. | 4 |
| Encephalitis lethargica | 2  |                |   |

## OTHER DEFECTS OR DISEASES—

|                        |   |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|------------------------|---|
| Mental Defect ..       | 3 | Corns ..               | 1 |
| Chorea ..              | 3 | Epistaxis ..           | 1 |
| Congenital Syphilis .. | 1 | Mastitis ..            | 1 |
| Thyro-glossal Duct ..  | 1 | Nephritis ..           | 2 |
| Rheumatism ..          | 9 | Cong. Branchial Clefts | 1 |
| Adenitis ..            | 1 | Synovitis ..           | 4 |
| Goitre ..              | 3 | Ganglion ..            | 2 |

**Uncleanliness.**

It is greatly to the credit of the Nurses and the Teachers that the number of cases of "Dirty Heads" in the Schools has again fallen considerably. In 1923 the total decrease of cases was 174, in 1924 the decrease reached the splendid total of 423, the total number of cases of the previous year being reduced by one third, a remarkable achievement.

It will be seen from the table that in almost every School there has been a diminution of cases. Were it not for certain families the numbers would be much lower, but unfortunately, many of the Schools have children attending whose parents seem quite incapable of keeping them clean. As methods of persuasion and threats only seem to prevail upon such parents to keep their children clean for a week or two, in future the threats must be carried out, and all such parents prosecuted without hesitation for the sake of other people's children, if not for their own.

*Pediculosis Capitis in the Elementary Schools.*

| School.              | Number of<br>Children on<br>the Books<br>Sept. 1924. | Number<br>of<br>Exami-<br>nations | Number of<br>Cases of<br>Pediculosis<br>Capitis |       | Increase<br>or<br>Decrease |
|----------------------|--|-----------------------------------|---|-------|----------------------------|
|                      |  |                                   | 1923.   | 1924. |                            |
| Barrack Street, M.   | .. 552   | 1596                              | 102   | 72    | — 30                       |
| „ I.                 | .. 242   | 1201                              | 122   | 102   | — 20                       |
| Canterbury Road, M.  | .. 510   | 1616                              | 59  | 42    | — 17                       |
| „ I.                 | .. 211   | 1148                              | 47  | 28    | — 19                       |
| East Ward, M.        | .. 273   | 1024                              | 42  | 43    | + 1                        |
| „ I.                 | .. 93  | 211                               | 16  | 16    | — —                        |
| Hamilton Road, Cent. | .. 325   | 1448                              | 5   | 10    | + 5                        |
| „ Jun. and I.        | 190  | 839                               | 17  | 15    | — 2                        |
| Myland ..            | .. 207   | 565                               | 44  | 19    | — 25                       |
| North Street, M.     | .. 467   | 2021                              | 115   | 64    | — 51                       |
| „ I.                 | .. 145   | 620                               | 49  | 17    | — 32                       |
| Old Heath ..         | .. 163   | 825                               | 27  | 6     | — 21                       |
| St. John's Green, M. | .. 449   | 1845                              | 51  | 65    | + 14                       |
| „ I.                 | .. 229   | 935                               | 42  | 33    | — 9                        |
| Stockwell Street, I. | .. 113   | 494                               | 36  | 26    | — 10                       |
| Special ..           | .. 25  | 129                               | 25  | 23    | — 2                        |
| Blue Coat ..         | .. 282   | 1265                              | 86  | 50    | — 36                       |
| Greenstead ..        | .. 92  | 317                               | 21  | 10    | — 11                       |
| Kendall Road, G.     | .. 146   | 504                               | 44  | 39    | — 5                        |
| „ I.                 | .. 114   | 383                               | 23  | 7     | — 16                       |
| Lexden ..            | .. 152   | 544                               | 14  | 11    | — 3                        |
| Magdalen Street, B.  | .. 117   | 322                               | 13  | 5     | — 8                        |
| Parson's Heath ..    | .. 79  | 286                               | 18  | 5     | — 13                       |
| Priory Street, M.    | .. 163   | 653                               | 50  | 20    | — 30                       |
| „ I.                 | .. 58  | 141                               | 41  | 8     | — 33                       |
| St. James' ..        | .. 87  | 321                               | 71  | 61    | — 10                       |
| St. John's ..        | .. 66  | 416                               | 15  | 1     | — 14                       |
| St. Mary's, I. ..    | .. 55  | 347                               | 27  | 15    | — 12                       |
| Stanway All Saints   | .. 102   | 372                               | 22  | 8     | — 14                       |
| TOTALS               | 5,707  | 22,388                            | 1,244   | 821   | — 423                      |

The total figures for the past three years were :

|  | 1922   | 1923   | 1924   |
|--|--------|--------|--------|
| No. of Children .. ..                                      | 5,932  | 5,773  | 5,725  |
| No. of Inspections .. ..                                   | 19,188 | 22,561 | 22,388 |
| No. of Cases of Pediculosis ..                             | 1,418  | 1,244  | 821    |
| No. of Children excluded from<br>School for Pediculosis .. | 65     | 116    | 45     |
| No. of Individual Verminous<br>Children .. ..              | —      | 619    | 558    |

The results of the Routine Medical Inspections also show the effects of the Nurses work in the Schools, the heads of those children in the routine groups being cleaner each year as the figures in the next table show.

*Cleanliness of the Heads and Bodies of 1,087 Children examined at Routine Medical Inspections 1924.*

| HEAD.     | EN-<br>TRANTS. | INTER-<br>MEDIATES. | LEAV-<br>ERS. | TOTAL. | OTHER<br>ROUTINE<br>INSPECT'NS. | PERCENTAGE. |       |       |
|-----------|----------------|---------------------|---------------|--------|---------------------------------|-------------|-------|-------|
|           |                |                     |               |        |                                 | 1922.       | 1923. | 1924. |
| Clean     | 308            | 281                 | 368           | 957    | 73                              | 89.7        | 90.5  | 94.7  |
| Dirty     | —              | 2                   | 7             | 9      | —                               | 2.3         | .7    | .8    |
| Verminous | 17             | 16                  | 15            | 48     | —                               | 7.9         | 8.7   | 4.4   |

| BODY.     | EN-<br>TRANTS. | INTER-<br>MEDIATES. | LEAV-<br>ERS. | TOTAL. | OTHER<br>ROUTINE<br>INSPECT'NS. | PERCENTAGE. |       |       |
|-----------|----------------|---------------------|---------------|--------|---------------------------------|-------------|-------|-------|
|           |                |                     |               |        |                                 | 1922.       | 1923. | 1924. |
| Clean     | 301            | 265                 | 339           | 905    | 73                              | 90.4        | 86.0  | 89.9  |
| Dirty     | 21             | 30                  | 41            | 92     | —                               | 9.3         | 13.9  | 8.4   |
| Verminous | 3              | 4                   | 10            | 17     | —                               | .4          | —     | 1.5   |

In the above Tables the terms "Dirty" and "Verminous" are mutually exclusive.

### Clothing and Footgear.

*Condition of the Clothing and Footgear of 1,087 Children examined at Routine Medical Inspections 1924.*

| STATE OF<br>CLOTHING.          | EN-<br>TRANTS | INTER-<br>MEDI-<br>ATES. | LEAV-<br>ERS. | TOTAL. | OTHER<br>ROUTINE<br>INSPECT'NS. | PERCENTAGE. |       |       |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------------|--------|---------------------------------|-------------|-------|-------|
|                                |               |                          |               |        |                                 | 1922.       | 1923. | 1924. |
| Sufficient<br>Satisfactory     | } 303         | 278                      | 366           | 947    | 73 {                            | 96.1        | 96.2  | 93.8  |
|                                |               |                          |               |        |                                 | 95.9        | 95.6  | 93.8  |
| Insufficient<br>Unsatisfactory | } 22          | 21                       | 24            | 67     | — {                             | 3.8         | 3.7   | 6.1   |
|                                |               |                          |               |        |                                 | 4.0         | 4.3   | 6.1   |

| STATE OF FOOTGEAR. | EN-TRANTS. | INTER-MEDI-ATES. | LEAV-ERS. | TOTAL. | OTHER ROUTINE INSPECT'NS. | PERCENTAGE. |       |       |
|--------------------|------------|------------------|-----------|--------|---------------------------|-------------|-------|-------|
|                    |            |                  |           |        |                           | 1922.       | 1923. | 1924. |
| Good ...           | 296        | 271              | 351       | 918    | 73                        | 93.5        | 90.4  | 91.1  |
| Poor ...           | 20         | 18               | 28        | 66     | —                         | 5.8         | 7.8   | 6.0   |
| Bad ...            | 9          | 10               | 11        | 30     | —                         | 7           | 1.7   | 2.7   |

The percentage figures for 1924 are the same for "Sufficient" and "Satisfactory" Clothing; the same applies to "Insufficient" and "Unsatisfactory" Clothing because no difference is now made between "Sufficient" and "Satisfactory," and "Insufficient" and "Unsatisfactory" as was done formerly, it being felt that the difference was not distinct enough to merit separate recording. This accounts for the apparent slight diminution in the number of children with sufficient and satisfactory clothing.

### FOLLOWING-UP.

|                                    | 1922 | 1923 | 1924 |
|------------------------------------|------|------|------|
| Number of "Following-up" Visits .. | 665  | 574  | 315  |

A fewer number of visits were paid by the Nurses as "following-up" visits owing to the interruption of Medical Inspection work in October. The Minor Ailments Clinic was continued as before but the actual Routine Inspections and the work of the Eye Clinic was delayed until the appointment of an Assistant Medical Officer. All work in arrears will be made up in 1925.

### MEDICAL TREATMENT.

#### MINOR AILMENTS CLINIC.

|  | 1923  | 1924  |
|--|-------|-------|
| Number of times the Clinic was open ..                 | 90    | 88    |
| Number of attendances made by children with Defects .. | 1,953 | 1,891 |
| Number of attendances made by verminous children       | 266   | 106   |
| Total number of attendances ..                         | 2,219 | 1,997 |
| Number of new cases with Defects ..                    | 685   | 567   |
| Average number of children at each Clinic ..           | 24    | 22    |

**EYE CLINIC (Visual Defects).**

|  | 1923 | 1924 |
|--|------|------|
| Number of times the Clinic was open ..       | 39   | 29   |
| „ attendances made by children ..            | 327  | 237  |
| Average number of children at each Clinic .. | 8.4  | 8.2  |
| Number of new cases .. .. .                  | 186  | 129  |

The number of attendances made by verminous children has fallen by 160. As this is accounted for by the greater cleanliness of the children it is a most satisfactory fall.

The actual number of individual children that attended the nor Ailments Clinic in 1924 was 751.

**Skin Diseases.**

*Number of Cases of Ringworm, Scabies and Impetigo referred for Treatment.*

| DISEASE.            | 1921. | 1922. | 1923. | 1924. |
|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Ringworm : Head ... | 14    | 22    | 25    | 17    |
| Body ...            | 23    | 28    | 22    | 16    |
| Scabies ...         | 20    | 13    | 12    | 5     |
| Impetigo ...        | 168   | 107   | 97    | 52    |

The above figures are probably slightly affected by the absence of the Assistant Medical Officer but, making full allowance for this, the fall in the number of these cases is remarkable. It shows very plainly that the children in the Schools are a great deal cleaner. The constant supervision of the Nurses in the Schools has brought about a greater improvement in a shorter time than the most sanguine could have expected.

**Ringworm of the Scalp.**

These figures also shew another fact that is not generally recognised. This is, that Ringworm is not one of the dirt diseases but a contagious condition that even the cleanest child may catch. The number with this condition appears to be growing smaller and gradually the disease may be eradicated, but its beginning is so insidious that not uncommonly it has a good hold of a child's head before it is apparent, and very possibly by then a second child in the family has been infected.

The Collosol Iodine treatment of Ringworm was continued during the year in suitable cases with the results shown below. The rest, and these have usually been advanced cases or cases with multiple patches, have been treated by X-Rays at the Essex County Hospital.

|   |    |    |    |    |
|---|----|----|----|----|
| Number of cases under Treatment in 1924 (8 of these originated in 1923) | .. | .. | .. | 23 |
| Number of cases Treated at Clinic                                       | .. | .. | .. | 12 |
| "    "    Treated by X-Rays   | .. | .. | .. | 11 |
| "    "    Treated by Private Practitioner                               | .. | .. | .. | —  |
| Number of cases Cured at Clinic   | .. | .. | .. | 10 |
| "    "    Cured by X-Rays   | .. | .. | .. | 2  |
| Still under Treatment at Clinic   | .. | .. | .. | 2  |
| "    "    by X-Rays   | .. | .. | .. | 9  |

The "Cap System" by which children under treatment are allowed to continue school attendance has proved quite satisfactory, and it should be noted that there has been no increase in the number of cases since this system was instituted, nor has any case been brought to notice where there was any suggestion that the infection had arisen from a Cap case.

The cases for X-Ray treatment occurred chiefly towards the end of the year, and so were not completed before the year ended.

## Eye Diseases and Defective Vision.

### *Cases referred for Treatment.*

| DEFECTS.             | 1921 | 1922 | 1923 | 1924 |
|----------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Blepharitis ...      | 130  | 56   | 41   | 29   |
| Conjunctivitis ...   | 72   | 27   | 48   | 41   |
| Defective Vision ... | 111  | 136  | 157  | 79   |

The first two conditions may to some extent be considered as due to dirt and debility, particularly the latter, and it speaks well for the improved condition of the children's health that the number of children suffering from these conditions steadily grows less. Eye strain is also a contributory factor in these diseases, and

so the steady routine examination of the children's sight and the correction of defects by appropriate glasses does its share in reducing the number of cases of Blepharitis and Conjunctivitis.

The exact types of defective vision that were dealt with in the Eye Clinic are given in the subjoined table. The numbers are less than last year for the reason already stated.

*Results of the Refraction of 85 Children's Eyes.*

|                                   |    |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| Hypermetropia .. .. .             | 6  |
| Hypermetropic Astigmatism .. .. . | 36 |
| Myopia .. .. .                    | 13 |
| Myopic Astigmatism .. .. .        | 19 |
| Mixed Astigmatism .. .. .         | 11 |
|                                   | 85 |

Strabismus (Squint) was also present in 19 cases, and Nystagmus was present in 3 cases.

Under an arrangement with the Essex County Hospital difficult cases in which a second opinion appears desirable or cases requiring operation may be referred to the Ophthalmic Surgeon of the Hospital. During the year 4 cases were so referred, these were Interstitial Keratitis, 1; Bilateral Ptosis, 1; old Iritic Adhesions, 1; and Paralysis of the Right Internal Rectus Muscle, 1. The case of Bilateral Ptosis was successfully operated upon at the Hospital.

### **Sight-Saving Class.**

On January 1st, 1924, this class came into being. A good well-lighted room in East Ward School was given up to it and furnished with special desks suitable for children with very defective sight. Other materials found by experience to be adapted to the kind of teaching necessary were also provided. In short, the room was furnished and fitted upon up-to-date lines for the teaching of the partially blind.

The teacher of this class had already had the experience of teaching a class of stammering children, and had proved herself skilled in giving that individual attention so necessary in classes where almost every child must be taught only according to its own

ability. Before taking over the Sight-Saving Class she spent several weeks in one of the London classes of the same type, learning the usual routine and particular methods of teaching.

Nineteen children were admitted to the class from Colchester, and under an arrangement with the Essex County Council a boy from a neighbouring district was also admitted. The cases in the class were suffering from the following eye conditions.

*Eye Conditions of Children in the Sight-Saving Class.*

|  |    |                                 |          |
|--|----|---------------------------------|----------|
| High Myopia (stationary)                                 | .. | ..                              | 2        |
| Myopic Astigmatism (progressive)                         | .. | ..                              | 8        |
| „  | „  | with Choroiditis and Staphyloma | .. 1     |
| „  | „  | with Nebulæ                     | .. 1     |
| „  | „  | with Strabismus                 | .. 1     |
| Hypermetropia with one Blind Eye and Congenital Cataract | .. | ..                              | .. 1     |
| Hypermetropic Astigmatism with Nebulæ                    | .. | ..                              | 1        |
| Mixed Astigmatism  | .. | ..                              | .. 1     |
| Albino   | .. | ..                              | .. 1     |
|  |    |                                 | <hr/> 19 |

The County case is a boy suffering from Myopic Astigmatism with Strabismus.

### **Ear Disease.**

Unfortunately it seems unlikely that the Schools will ever be free from Otorrhœa (Running Ears), and it is strange to find that only 19 cases were discovered or brought to notice during the year. It is unlikely that this figure is correct, if it is it shows a very remarkable improvement in this condition. The current year's work will show.

### **Defective Speech.**

It was not found necessary to arrange a class for Stammering Children again as the number of such children in the Schools remains very low, only one was brought to the notice of the School Medical Department.

### Dental Disease.

|  | 1923 | 1924 |
|--|------|------|
| Number of half-days devoted to Inspections ..    | 24   | 31   |
| "    "    "    Treatment ..                      | 64   | 89   |
| "    Children referred for Treatment ..          | 1768 | 2270 |
| "    Attendances made at the Clinic ..           | 775  | 1055 |
| "    Children actually Treated ..                | 611  | 817  |
| Average number of Children Treated at the Clinic | 12   | 12   |

The extra half-day for Dental work started on April 7th, and the benefit is apparent in the above figures. It will be seen that almost 200 additional children were treated, and 25 additional half-days devoted to treatment, while the attendances increased by nearly 300. But even so, the difference between the number of children referred for treatment and the number actually treated is still just about 60 per cent. on the wrong side, that is to say 60 per cent. of the children requiring Dental treatment fail to get it. This is due almost solely to the apathy of parents and the opinion that the children's teeth will last until they are grown-up, and then they can get false ones which are just as good. This idea is utterly wrong. While the teeth are decaying and being lost they are poisoning and undermining the whole system, and too late many a man has deeply regretted the days when he could chew, and enjoy chewing his food with his own teeth, instead of with china substitutes to which he has been condemned by the want of dental care during his youth.

### Deformities.

The chief deformity that can be corrected in School children is Spinal Curvature. While the spine is young and flexible it is surprising how great a degree of deformity can be corrected by suitable exercises and gymnastics. The same procedure has been continued as in previous years. The School Medical Officer sees all cases of Spinal Curvature and refers them either to the Schools for special exercises or to the Organiser of Physical Training, to be admitted to his special class for such cases. It is of course the more severe cases that are referred to this special class.

At the beginning of the year there were 55 cases under treatment, to these must be added the 9 new cases discovered

during the year. At the end of the year 17 had been cured, and 13 had left School, leaving 9 under Mr. Lamonby's personal care and 25 under special physical training in the Schools.

Three children who left School during the year are being kept under observation. Two of them are children with severe deformity requiring surgical appliances, and the other a case with Spinal Curvature who continues to attend Mr. Lamonby's class.

Occasionally cases have arisen that required massage in addition to physical exercises. To meet this want an arrangement was entered into with Miss Powell, C.S.M.M.G., to give such massage under the supervision of the School Medical Officer. An unusual case of shortening of the tendons of both heels was referred for massage. The shortening was so definite that the child walked on his toes and was unable, except by the greatest effort, to make his heels touch the floor when he stood bare-footed. He was so unaccustomed to this attitude that he could not keep his balance with both heels on the floor. Massage and movements are steadily improving the condition. This is the only case referred to Miss Powell during the year.

Four cases of Severe Deformity were sent to the Royal National Orthopædic Hospital and one to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and treated by operation or otherwise as the case required.

## **PHYSICAL TRAINING.**

### REPORT OF THE ORGANISER OF PHYSICAL TRAINING

"I have much pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the work of Physical Education in your Schools.

The general scheme of work still operates, that is,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours per week as a minimum for each class in the Senior Departments and 2 hours in the Infant Departments.

Probably in no year of recent date has out-of-door work, particularly organised games, suffered so much through inclement weather.

The children are very enthusiastic about their work. Many classes remind their teachers that it is their Physical Training next: this shows how eagerly the children look forward to their

lesson. Many teachers shew a marked interest in this work, and where possible, if staffing conditions allow, these teachers are encouraged to specialise. Where this is done the resultant good work is noticeable.

In certain Schools there has been a large increase in the number of children who provide themselves with slippers, particularly during summer months. One thing that teachers must watch carefully, is the child who puts the slippers on before School and then comes out into a damp playground owing to changed weather conditions.

Many of the exercises in the Board syllabus can only be accompanied with proper footwear, viz. : jumping and running exercises.

With regard to playgrounds, often the work is hampered owing to bad surface and poor drainage, particularly in the outlying Schools.

During the year the course for teachers was concluded, and the attendance was very gratifying. Demonstrations with classes of children of various ages were given before a large attendance of teachers.

Certain Schools held athletic meetings, and as athletics, running, jumping, etc., are now an integral part of modern Physical Education, there is, I believe, a strong desire on the part of many teachers to see an Annual Sports Day for the children of the town. This matter would have been brought before the Committee earlier in the year, but for the fact that everyone thought that all energies should be brought to bear on the work of the Education Week. I would be glad, however, if the Committee would give this matter their sympathetic consideration.

Out of School two strong organisations exist—the Netball Association and the Football Association. Both organisations arrange inter School matches and also serve as the Committee for the two competitions—The Colchester Schools Netball Competition and The Colchester Schools Football Competition.

One bright feature of the Netball Competition is the splendid sporting manner in which these games are played. Games for

girls in our Schools are comparatively new, yet they play as if they had a tradition behind them, and some splendid games were played.

The Boys' Competition was full of interest from beginning to end, and we are deeply grateful to the Parks Committee for their continued support in allotting us pitches on the Park and Recreation Ground; also to private owners who continue to allow us the use of their fields as playing pitches for games. This year the military authorities have very kindly allotted us a pitch on the Abbey Field.

It is a great pleasure to the teachers to see members of the Education Committee present at their games.

In connection with games, particularly those organised out of School hours, I should like to mention the help of enthusiastic members of your staffs who give their time voluntarily in the interests of their children. The resultant good spirit, noticeable in Schools which participate in these efforts, is significant; it forms a valuable asset in character-training of future citizens, and extends far beyond School life.

In the summer months scholars attended the Bathing Place, under similar conditions as in former years, but the season was not very congenial for out-of-door swimming. The tests on the new system proved rather interesting, and the shield which has so long adorned the Hall of North Street School for providing the most swimmers each year, has now found a resting place for the next twelve months at another School; this also applies to the more recent shield for the girls' tests.

As in previous years, I have continued the remedial side of Physical Training. I have attended the special centre three afternoons per week and dealt with the severe cases myself. The minor cases are placed in charge of capable teachers at the various Schools.

The number of cases are steadily diminishing; this, perhaps, is due to the fact that the Physical Training is better and more systematic than formerly. During the year 17 have been cured, 8 show definite improvement, and 13 have left School; this leaves 34 still receiving treatment.

It was very gratifying to find the wonderful interest by the parents and public in the Demonstrations during Education Week, both at the various Schools and the Central Demonstrations. These Demonstrations were undoubtedly of great educational value.

In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Head Teachers for their kindly co-operation; also the Education Committee for their continued help and support.

HAROLD LAMONBY,

*Organiser of Physical Training."*

Mr. Lamonby draws attention in his report to the deficiencies of some of the School Playgrounds. All the playgrounds were specially inspected during 1922, and attention was drawn to the condition of many of them in the Medical Officer's Annual Report for that year. Some of the defects were remedied, but a good many still remain unsatisfactory. In one or two instances the playgrounds are quite inadequate.

### **EDUCATION WEEK.**

An entirely successful Education Week was organised in the Borough during November. This is not the place in which to describe its numerous activities and the crowds that flocked to the various displays and exhibitions. The nature of the Medical Department's work precluded it from taking any large part in the activities, but the Clinics were open to inspection, and one afternoon the School Medical Officer gave a short address in the Exhibition upon the work of the Department.

### **PROVISION OF MEALS.**

No particular occasion arose during the year for any extension of the previous arrangements. Delicate and ill-nourished children were provided with Milk or Cod Liver Oil at the Schools. Many of these children, in fact the majority, are recommended from the Medical Inspection Clinic. The milk, etc., is in the first place supplied for three months and then not renewed without a certificate from the Clinic.

The cost is defrayed from the Mayor's Poor Children's Fund.

## CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS.

*Number of Parents present at 1087 Routine Medical Inspections.*

| ENTRANTS. | INTERMEDIATES. | LEAVERS. | TOTAL. | OTHER<br>ROUTINE<br>INSPECTIONS. |
|-----------|----------------|----------|--------|----------------------------------|
| 298       | 261            | 246      | 805    | 35                               |

|                                |       |        |        |        |
|--------------------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|
|                                | 1914. | 1922.  | 1923.  | 1924.  |
| Percentages of Parents present | 61%.  | 73·7%. | 76·3%. | 77·2%. |

Last year the fear was expressed that this percentage was not likely to improve, yet again this fear has not been justified. It would be too much even to hope for a 90% attendance, yet 80% seems now quite within the bounds of possibility. It only shows how greatly parents appreciate the benefits of School Medical Inspection.

## CO-OPERATION OF TEACHERS, SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICER, VOLUNTARY and OTHER BODIES.

Again, it is only necessary to record that without exception the Teachers and the School Attendance Officer have given unstinted help, and the School Medical work and the children have benefitted greatly from their assistance.

The ESSEX COUNTY HOSPITAL continues to treat

- (i.) Cases of Ringworm by X-Rays ;
- (ii.) Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids by Operation ;
- (iii.) Severe or Complicated Eye Conditions.

The TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY is made full use of for the further examination of suspicious cases, and for getting definite cases of all forms of Tuberculosis the appropriate treatment. Details of such cases are given in Table III. at the end of the Report.

The MAYOR'S POOR CHILDREN'S FUND provides not only milk and occasionally food for necessitous children, but also such things as boots, clothing, splints, railway fares, etc. The balance sheet of the fund is given below, and shows the type of work carried out during the past year.

## CASH ACCOUNT.

| May 1st, 1923.  | £ s. d.          | April 30th, 1924.                                      | £ s. d.          |
|---|------------------|--|------------------|
| To Balance in hand at date...   | 44 10 1          | By Amount expended in purchase of Food and Milk ... .. | 41 19 10         |
| „ Donation— Poor Children's Outing Fund (per Mr. Councillor P. A. Sanders, O.B.E., J.P., Deputy Mayor) ... .. | 15 16 5          | „ Ditto, Boots ... ..                                  | 13 9 6           |
| „ Donation—Colchester Co-operative Society ... ..   | 2 2 0            | „ Ditto, Hospitals, etc. ... ..                        | 16 15 6          |
| „ Grant from the Mayor's Unemployment Fund (per Councillor Mrs. A. W. Alderton, J.P.) ... ..                  | 125 0 0          | „ Amount invested in Borough Loans ... ..              | 100 0 0          |
| „ Interest on 5 per cent. War Stock (Jarmin Trust) ... ..   | 5 5 2            | „ Postages, Cheque Book, etc. ... ..                   | 10 0             |
| „ Interest on Boro' Loan ... ..   | 2 10 7           |  | 172 14 10        |
| „ Overpayment on Petty Cash Account ... ..  | 1 7              | „ Balance in hands of Treasurer ... ..                 | 22 11 0          |
|   | <u>£195 5 10</u> |  | <u>£195 5 10</u> |

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN has been made use of through its Inspector. Fifteen cases were brought to his notice and in each case the condition complained of was improved.

### CHILDREN EXEMPT FROM FURTHER ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL.

Only two children were exempt from further school attendance ; one a case of severe heart disease and the other a case of diabetes.

### EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS.

Medical Examinations of candidates for Employment Certificates were carried out throughout the year, 59 boys were examined but no girls. In no case was the certificate refused.

TABLE I.

## RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

**A—Routine Medical Inspections.**

## Number of Code Group Inspections—

|                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| Entrants ... ..      | 325 |
| Intermediates ... .. | 299 |
| Leavers ... ..       | 390 |

---

|              |      |
|--------------|------|
| TOTAL ... .. | 1014 |
|--------------|------|

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Number of Other Routine Inspections ... .. | 73 |
|--|----|

**B—Other Inspections**

|                                      |      |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| Number of Special Inspections ... .. | 534  |
| Number of Re-Inspections... ..       | 2485 |

---

|              |      |
|--------------|------|
| TOTAL ... .. | 3019 |
|--------------|------|

A Special Inspection is a medical inspection by the School Medical Officer himself or by one of the Medical Officers on his staff of a child specially selected or referred for such inspection, *i.e.*, not inspected at a routine medical inspection as defined above. Such children may be selected by the Medical Officer during a visit to the School or may be referred to him by the Teachers, School Nurses, Attendance Officers, Parents, or otherwise. It is immaterial for the purpose of this heading whether the children are inspected at the School or at the Inspection Clinic or elsewhere.

TABLE II.

**A—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in  
the Year ended 31st December, 1924.**

| DEFECT OR DISEASE.<br><br>(1)                       | Routine Inspections.                |   | Special Inspections.        |   |   |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|---|
|   | No. of Defects.                     |   | No. of Defects.             |   |   |
|   | Requiring Treatment.<br>(2)         | Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring Treatment.<br>(3) | Requiring Treatment.<br>(4) | Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring Treatment.<br>(5) |   |
| Malnutrition ... ..                                 | 37                                  | 2   | 44                          | 2   |   |
| Uncleanliness (see Table IV., Group V.)...          | —                                   | —   | —                           | —   |   |
| Skin {  | Ringworm—Scalp ... ..               | —   | 17                          | —   |   |
|   | Body ... ..                         | —   | 16                          | —   |   |
|   | Scabies... ..                       | 1   | —                           | 4   | — |
|   | Impetigo ... ..                     | 2   | —                           | 50  | — |
|   | Other Diseases (Non-Tuberculous)... | 28  | —                           | 88  | — |
| Eye {   | Blepharitis ... ..                  | 21  | —                           | 8   | — |
|   | Conjunctivitis ... ..               | 8   | —                           | 33  | 1 |
|   | Keratitis ... ..                    | —   | —                           | 3   | — |
|   | Corneal Opacities ... ..            | —   | —                           | 1   | — |
|   | Defective Vision (excluding Squint) | 13  | 1                           | 66  | — |
| Ear {   | Squint ... ..                       | 6   | —                           | 15  | — |
|   | Other Conditions ... ..             | 1   | 1                           | 15  | — |
|   | Defective Hearing ... ..            | —   | —                           | 5   | — |
|   | Otitis Media ... ..                 | 8   | —                           | 11  | — |
|   | Other Ear Diseases ... ..           | 1   | —                           | —   | — |
| Nose and Throat {                                   | Enlarged Tonsils only ... ..        | 11  | 48                          | 1   | 1 |
|   | Adenoids only ... ..                | 10  | 3                           | 3   | 1 |
| Throat {  | Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids ...   | 21  | 11                          | 10  | — |
|   | Other Conditions ... ..             | 9   | 2                           | 21  | — |
| Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous)          | 6                                   | 6   | 16                          | —   |   |
| Defective Speech ... ..                             | 1                                   | —   | —                           | —   |   |
| Teeth—Dental Diseases<br>(see Table IV., Group IV.) | —                                   | —   | —                           | —   |   |
| Heart and Circulation {                             | Heart Disease—Organic ... ..        | 1   | 7                           | —   | — |
|   | Functional... ..                    | —   | 6                           | —   | — |
| Lungs {   | Anæmia ... ..                       | 1   | —                           | 2   | — |
|   | Bronchitis ... ..                   | 30  | 1                           | 21  | — |
| Tuberculosis {                                      | Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases      | 3   | 1                           | —   | — |
|   | Pulmonary—Definite ... ..           | —   | —                           | —   | — |
|   | Suspected ... ..                    | 3   | —                           | —   | — |
|   | Non-Pulmonary—Glands ... ..         | 1   | —                           | 4   | — |
|   | Spine ... ..                        | —   | —                           | —   | — |
| Nervous System {                                    | Hip ... ..                          | —   | —                           | —   | — |
|   | Other Bones and Joints ..           | —   | —                           | —   | — |
|   | Skin ... ..                         | 1   | —                           | 1   | — |
| Other Defects and Diseases {                        | Other Forms ... ..                  | —   | —                           | —   | — |
|   | Epilepsy ... ..                     | —   | —                           | —   | — |
|   | Chorea ... ..                       | —   | —                           | 2   | — |
| Deformities {                                       | Other Conditions ... ..             | 1   | 1                           | 6   | 1 |
|   | Rickets ... ..                      | 1   | 4                           | 1   | — |
|   | Spinal Curvature ... ..             | 6   | —                           | 3   | — |
| Other Defects and Diseases {                        | Other Forms ... ..                  | 3   | 3                           | 3   | — |
|   | Other Defects and Diseases ... ..   | 21  | 3                           | 59  | 2 |

TABLE II  
 A—Return of Defects Found by Medical Inspection in  
 the Year ended 31st December 1934.

**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. |  |
| (1)                                     | (2)                 | (3)                         | (4)  |
| <b>CODE GROUPS—</b>                     |                     |                             |  |
| Entrants... ..                          | 325                 | 90                          | 27.6   |
| Intermediates ... ..                    | 299                 | 94                          | 31.4   |
| Leavers ... ..                          | 390                 | 116                         | 29.7   |
| <b>Total (Code Groups)</b> ... ..       | <b>1014</b>         | <b>300</b>                  | <b>29.5</b>  |
| <b>Other Routine Inspections</b> ... .. | <b>73</b>           | <b>35</b>                   | <b>47.9</b>  |

TABLE III.

## Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area.

|  |  |   | 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 ... ..                               | 1    | —     | 1      |
|  |  | 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 ... ..                               | 11   | 8     | 19     |
|  |  | Attending Public Elementary Schools   | —    | 2     | 2      |
|  |  | 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 ... ..                                | 1    | 2     | 3      |
|  |  | 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   | —    | —     | —      |
|  |  | At other Institutions ... ..  | —    | —     | —      |
|  |  | At no School or Institution ... ..  | —    | —     | —      |
| MENTALLY DEFECTIVE.                                | Feeble minded (cases not notifiable to the Local Control Authority).                   | Attending Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children ... ..                        | 13   | 12    | 25     |
|  |  | Attending Public Elementary Schools   | —    | —     | —      |
|  |  | At other Institutions ... ..  | —    | 1     | 1      |
|  |  | At no School or Institution ... ..  | —    | —     | —      |
|  | Notified to the Local Control Authority during the year.                               | Feeble Minded ... ..  | 1    | 1     | 2      |
|  |  | Imbeciles ... ..  | —    | 1     | 1      |
|  | Idiots ... ..  | 1   | —    | 1     |        |
| 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   | 2    | 7     | 9      |
|  |  | At no School or Institution ... ..  | —    | —     | —      |
| PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE.                              | Infectious pulmonary and glandular tuberculosis.                                       | At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board ... .. | 1    | —     | 1      |
|  |  | 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 Sch.  | —    | —     | —      |
|  |  | At Certified Day Open-Air Schools ... ..  | —    | —     | —      |
|  |  | Attending Public Elementary Schools   | 8    | 5     | 13     |
|  |  | At other Institutions ... ..  | —    | —     | —      |
|  |  | At no School or Institution ... ..  | —    | —     | —      |

TABLE III.—*continued.*

|                       |  |  |    |    |    |
|-----------------------|--|--|----|----|----|
| PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE. | Delicate children<br>( <i>e.g.</i> , pre- or latent tuberculosis, malnutrition, debility, anæmia, etc.)  | At Certified Residential Open-Air Sch.   | 3  | 3  | 6  |
|                       |  | At Certified Day Open-Air Schools ...  | —  | —  | —  |
|                       |  | Attending Public Elementary Schools  | 6  | 6  | 12 |
|                       |  | At other Institutions ...  | —  | —  | —  |
|                       |  | At no School or Institution ...  | 1  | 1  | 2  |
|                       | Active non-pulmonary tuberculosis.   | At Sanatoria or Hospital Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board ... | 2  | —  | 2  |
|                       |  | Attending Public Elementary Schools  | 8  | 4  | 12 |
|                       |  | At other Institutions ...  | —  | —  | —  |
|                       |  | At no School or Institution ...  | —  | —  | —  |
|                       | Crippled children<br>(other than those with active tuberculous disease). <i>e.g.</i> 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 ...   | —  | —  | —  |
|                       |  | Attending Public Elementary Schools  | 21 | 29 | 50 |
|                       |  | At other Institutions ...  | —  | —  | —  |
|                       |  | At no School or Institution ...  | 2  | 1  | 3  |

TABLE IV.

**Return of Defects Treated during the Year ended  
31st December, 1924.**

**Group I.—Minor Ailments** (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Group V.).

| Disease or Defect.  | Number of Defects treated or under treatment during the year. |                   |               |
|---|---|-------------------|---------------|
|   | Under the Authority's Scheme.<br>(2)                          | Otherwise.<br>(3) | Total.<br>(4) |
| (1)   |   |                   |               |
| Skin—   |   |                   |               |
| Ringworm—Scalp... ..  | 23  | —                 | 23            |
| Ringworm—Body... ..   | 13  | 1                 | 14            |
| Scabies ... ..  | 5   | —                 | 5             |
| Impetigo ... ..   | 58  | 2                 | 60            |
| Other Skin Disease ... ..   | 99  | 18                | 117           |
| Minor Eye Defects—<br>(External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II.) ... .. | 80  | 7                 | 87            |
| Minor Ear Defects ... ..  | 32  | 13                | 45            |
| Miscellaneous—<br>( <i>e.g.</i> , minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.) ... ..  | 206   | 144               | 350           |
| TOTAL ... ..  | 516   | 185               | 701           |

TABLE IV—*continued.*

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

| Defect or Disease.  | Number of Defects dealt with. |  |            |        |
|---|-------------------------------|--|------------|--------|
|   | Under the Authority's Scheme. | Submitted to refraction by Private Practitioner or at Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme. | Otherwise. | Total. |
| (1)   | (2)                           | (3)  | (4)        | (5)    |
| Errors of Refraction (including Squint) ... ..                                    | 117                           | 1  | 1          | 119    |
| Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.) ... .. | 4                             | —  | 2          | 6      |
| TOTAL ... ..  | 121                           | 1  | 3          | 125    |

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed—

|   |    |
|---|----|
| (a) Under the Authority's Scheme ... .. | 87 |
| (b) Otherwise ... ..                    | 1  |

Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles—

|   |    |
|---|----|
| (a) Under the Authority's Scheme ... .. | 86 |
| (b) Otherwise ... ..                    | 1  |

**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)                   |
| 33   | 6   | 39     | 69                                 | 108                   |

TABLE IV.—*continued.***Group IV.—Dental Defects.**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| (1) Number of Children who were:—  | (2) Half-days devoted to:—                                       |
| (a) Inspected by the Dentist:  | Inspection     ...   31 } Total 120                              |
| Aged:  | Treatment     ...   89 }   |
| 5 ... 12   | (3) Attendances made by children for Treatment     ... 1055      |
| 6 ... 327  | (4) Fillings:—   |
| 7 ... 546  | Permanent teeth 680 } Total 703                                  |
| 8 ... 594  | Temporary teeth 23 }   |
| Routine Age Groups { 9 ... 556 } Total 3768  | (5) Extractions:—  |
| 10 ... 449   | Permanent teeth 307 } Total 1633                                 |
| 11 ... 476   | Temporary teeth 1326 }   |
| 12 ... 420   | (6) Administration of general anaesthetics for extractions     — |
| 13 ... 305   | (7) Other operations:—   |
| 14 ... 83  | Permanent teeth     — } Total —                                  |
| Specials     ...     150   | Temporary teeth    — }   |
| Grand Total     ... 3918   |  |
| (b) Found to require Treatment     ... 2270  |  |
| (c) Actually Treated     ... 817   |  |
| (d) Re-treated during the year as the result of periodical examination     ... 238 |  |

**Group V.—Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.**

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| (i.) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...         | 50  |
| (ii.) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...             | 247 |
| (iii.) Number of individual children found unclean     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...   | 8:1 |
| (iv.) Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority     ...     ...     ...     ...     ... | —   |
| (v.) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken—  |     |
| (a) Under the Education Act, 1921     ...     ...     ...     ...  | —   |
| (b) Under School Attendance Byelaws     ...     ...     ...     ...  | —   |

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