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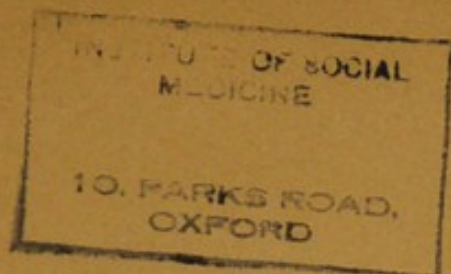
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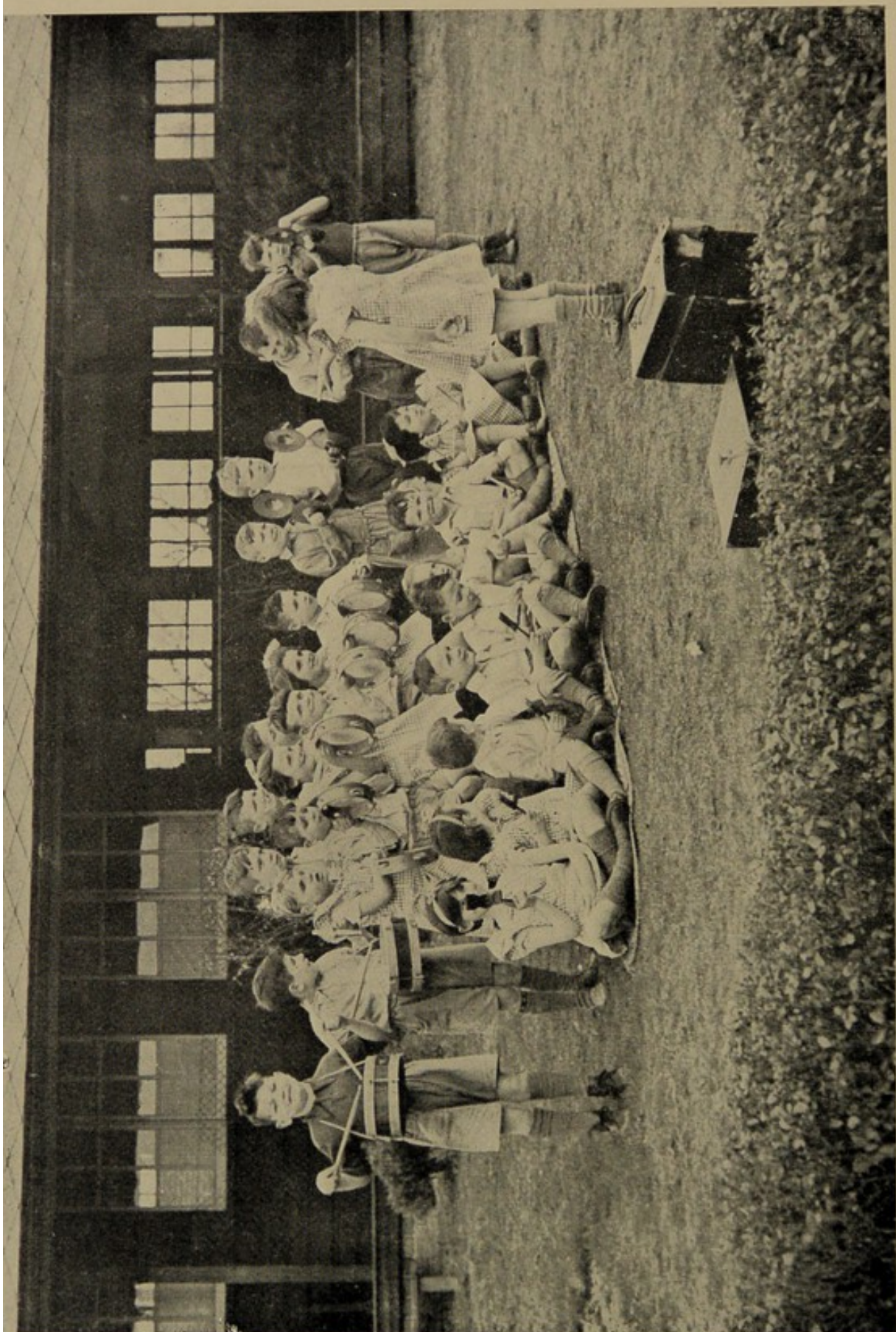


ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER
FOR THE YEAR
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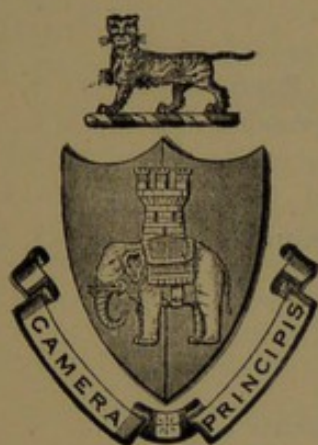


INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL
MEDICINE

10, PARKS ROAD,
OXFORD



CITY OF COVENTRY.



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER
FOR THE YEAR
1947.

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SCHOOL MEDICAL DEPARTMENT STAFF.

School Medical Officer	T. M. CLAYTON, M.D., B.Hy., D.P.H.
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Orthoptic Assistants	{ MRS. G. STOKES.* MISS A. PRITTY.
Speech Therapist	MISS B. CARR.
Dental Attendants	{ MISS D. BARNES. MRS. A. CHURCH. MISS K. FARREN. MISS P. HARRIS.
Chief Clerk	M. J. MILES.
Clerks	MISSES A. STRINGER, J. CUMMINGS, J. BRADBURY, D. CLARK, J. LEWIN.§

† Temporary, part-time. † Resigned 18th December, 1947.

* Part-time. § Temporary.

CITY OF COVENTRY.

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE

1947 Annual Report

To the Right Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen
and Councillors of the City of Coventry.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the work of the School Medical Department for the year 1947. This is the second complete year since the new Education Act of 1944 came into operation. The Act has considerably increased the obligations of Local Education Authorities while, at the same time, widening the scope of medical treatment available to school children, and towards this end it is hoped that additional facilities will be provided in the not too distant future.

In a city the size of Coventry with a school population of 31,828, the excessive burden of work being performed at the Gulson Road Clinic should be relieved for the existing nursing, dental and medical staff. It is essential in the interests of all concerned whether they be parents, children, teachers or school medical staff, that any clinics and facilities offered by the School Medical Service should be easily available and accessible to those directly concerned. At the time when the Central Clinic was built, it did, to a certain extent no doubt meet the requirements at that period but the time is now overdue for decentralisation and it is essential that suitable and efficient branch clinics be set up on appropriate sites at the earliest possible moment. At the present time there are three "stop gap" subsidiary branch clinics functioning at Binley, Whoberley and Windmill Road and it is hoped that in the case of the latter, dental services will shortly be available. It is of some significance to note that the number of children on the school register December 1947 was at 30,438, as compared with 28,404 in January 1947.

It is envisaged when the Health Centres come to be built under the provisions of Section 21 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, that School Medical and Dental facilities will be adequately established therein, but, until that time arrives, however, the position remains exceedingly acute. It is for example, of some urgency that a branch clinic be opened in the Foleshill district, catering, as it would, for a densely populated area and

several schools in that vicinity. By such measures, relief would be forthcoming to the greatly overcrowded and sorely harassed Central Clinic at Gulson Road.

The Education Act (1944) also places upon the Local Authorities the responsibility of ascertaining all children from the age of two years who are in need of special education. In this group are all the pupils with handicaps, whatever their nature or degree be it physical or mental (educationally subnormal) and including such disabilities as epilepsy, diabetes, maladjustment, deafness and blindness.

Such ascertainment can only be undertaken by a competent medical staff, suitably qualified and experienced, and in some instances, specially approved by the Ministry of Education for dealing with particular handicaps. Nowhere is the problem more urgent than in the case of educationally subnormal children.

MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

During the year, 9,862 (9,176) children were medically inspected under routine arrangements. There were also 4,192 (5,434) special inspections and re-inspections in primary and secondary schools.

The branch clinics at Windmill Road, Whoberley and Binley, provide minor ailment treatment facilities and were also used as diphtheria immunisation centres. As was to be expected, the major portion of the work was carried out at the more fully equipped Central Clinic, Gulson Road.

DENTAL SERVICE.

The dental staff difficulties have to some extent been overcome during the past year. There has been satisfactory and general progress in all the dental facilities offered to the school children. This applies not only to inspections, extractions and fillings, but also to the work in connection with specialised orthodontic treatment. Maternity and Child Welfare cases have also received treatment.

During the year, 10,542 (9,532) children were inspected under routine age groups or as special cases and 7,282 (6,507) were found to have some dental defect. The number of children who received treatment was 5,781 (5,035) making 12,113 (10,254) treatment attendances.

At the Windmill Road Clinic, alterations are now in progress and equipment has been ordered so that when the additional Assistant Dental Officer is available, this clinic will provide dental, in addition to medical facilities.

NUTRITIONAL STATE OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Despite the somewhat restricted food position generally during 1947, the nutritional state of the school children appears to be satisfactory.

NUTRITIONAL STATE OF SCHOOL CHILDREN, 1947.

		No. of Pupils Inspected.	Good (A)	Fair (B)	Poor (C)
Entrants ...	...	3578	20.40%	77.50%	2.10%
2nd Age Group ...	...	2592	27.00%	71.10%	1.90%
3rd Age Group ...	...	546	39.40%	59.00%	1.60%
Total ...	...	3146	24.98%	73.02%	2.00%

Due to the fact that a different method for recording the nutritional state of school children has been used, in accordance with the Education Act, 1944, it is not satisfactorily possible to compare the figures with those of preceeding years.

One noticeable feature is the steady increase of the numbers in the nutritional category (A) as pupils advance from entrants to the 3rd Age Group.

MILK AND MEALS IN SCHOOL.

At the end of the year there were 26,399 (23,883) children receiving milk in schools and 11,162 (9,629) receiving regular mid-day meals at school canteens. In the School Meals Service department, every effort is made to ensure a high standard of cleanliness during all stages of food preparation, storage, cooking and serving and this is now receiving intensified attention. As far as possible, all food should be prepared and cooked as required and eaten on the same day to avoid risk of undue contamination.

There can be no doubt that supplementary milk and an efficient School Meals Service do indeed contribute to the satisfactory nutritional state of the school children generally.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.

The local incidence of scabies has again been lower in 1947 than in the preceeding year and this trend should steadily progress as more normal times approach and as the housing problem is solved. During the year there were 425 cases of scabies treated at the School Clinic comparing with 972 cases in 1946 and this represents a substantial decrease in the incidence of the complaint. With regard to impetigo, there were 447 cases treated in 1947 as against 470 cases in 1946. Cases of Ringworm of the scalp remain static at 57 (55).

The total number of individual pupils found to be infested by pediculosis was 3,770 which shows an increase over the preceeding year (2,977). This should serve as a reminder to all concerned that greater efforts will be required in future to counteract this undesirable trend.

CORLEY OPEN-AIR SCHOOL.

Corley Open-Air School continues to give excellent service to the cause of delicate pupils. Credit must be given to the residential staff who have made this possible. Their cheerfulness and co-operation at all times is much appreciated. Dr. Mayou's report of the work accomplished in this school during the past year is incorporated in the report.

WYRE FARM CAMP SCHOOL.

In spite of the severe weather experienced during the first part of the year, the health and hygienic conditions at Wyre Farm Camp School (Cleobury Mortimer) have remained satisfactory although, as would be expected under such circumstances, there was a slightly increased sickness rate. The number of cases requiring hospital admission and treatment were comparatively few.

SPECIAL SCHOOL FOR EDUCATIONALLY SUBNORMAL PUPILS (SOUTH STREET).

Yeoman service continues to be given by all concerned with the work at this school. During the year, Miss Tuft retired after many years of valuable work and she is to be congratulated on her persistent endeavours in the education of these less fortunate children. Her successor is Mr. R. A. Grice, who was appointed to the post on 1st December, 1947.

The year has served to emphasise the urgent need for more adequate and extended accommodation for educationally sub-normal pupils. Dr. Moir has been in regular attendance at the school, and continues to make her commendable contribution to the work.

SPEECH THERAPY.

This is the second full-year that the Speech Therapy Clinic has been functioning. It has been one of continued progress and endeavour and is greatly appreciated by parents and children alike. Miss Carr's report appears on a subsequent page, and records the progress made during the year.

ORTHOPÆDIC TREATMENT.

In 1947, 445 (306) children were referred to Dunsmoor Orthopædic Clinic for specialist's opinion and treatment. The Coventry and District Crippled Children's Guild, under whose aegis these cases are seen, has assisted in the treatment and rehabilitation of this group of handicapped children.

As far as possible, children with minor disabilities such as flat feet, have been treated and advised at the schools and clinics; instructions being given to parents both verbally and in printed form. The more severe cases were referred to Dunsmoor Clinic for examination and treatment.

Co-operation from the organisers of physical training has also been freely forthcoming in the supervision of a number of cases requiring remedial exercises.

CHILD GUIDANCE ARRANGEMENTS.

Cases are now being referred to a special clinic conducted by a consultant in psychiatric medicine at the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital. Selected cases are given play therapy and/or psychiatric treatment as may be considered necessary. Due to the present limited facilities, the number of cases receiving such treatment is small.

HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

The year under review is the second in which the new Handicapped pupils and School Health Service Regulations have functioned. The rate of examination and ascertainment has been maintained at a high level, particularly so in view of the limited medical staff available. The necessary placement of such pupils in special residential schools has proved extremely difficult due to the lack of available places in suitable external educational establishments. An increased rate of ascertainment will only tend to accentuate the magnitude of this problem and will also underline the great need for ample residential facilities for this type of case.

SCHOOL OCULIST DEPARTMENT.

Work in the School Eye Clinic has progressed very satisfactorily during the past year. The consultant oculist, Mr. J. W. Bishop, was appointed 1st May, 1947.

Several notable steps have been taken to improve the standard of service being rendered by the Clinic, including :—

1. Appointment of full-time orthoptist.
2. The issue of more satisfactory spectacles to children who require them.

STAFF.

The school dental staff, under the direction of Mr. Raeside, although somewhat less troubled with staff problems than during the preceeding war years would, however, be less harassed and indeed, the school population would benefit appreciably by a decentralisation of the service and one looks forward with anticipation to the time when peripheral clinics and an augmented staff will be available to deal more expeditiously with the treatment of school children than the present circumstances and limitations allow.

The departure of Dr. M. B. McCann and the promotion of Dr. C. R. Mayou to the position of Deputy Medical Officer of Health has made serious inroads into available School Medical staff and the remaining members have done excellent work in trying to cope with this difficult situation throughout the year.

It is perhaps not out of place here to record our thanks to the medical staff of the Maternity and Child Welfare Department who have, whenever possible, stepped into the breach and assisted us in our dire necessity. This co-operation and co-ordination with the Health Department and Health Services generally is of mutual benefit to both participants and, one feels on reflection, might be extended with advantage to both services.

In future, there will be a closer liaison with local hospitals, largely due to the provisions made in the Education Act, 1944, although a definite scheme under Section 48 (3) is not yet in operation.

CONCLUSION.

I gratefully acknowledge the good work and loyal co-operation of the Senior Assistant School Medical Officer and all other members of my staff throughout the year. My warm thanks are due to the Director of Education and his administrative staff for their valued co-operation in the work of the department. To the head teachers and class teachers in both primary and secondary schools I would offer my sincere thanks for their consistent courtesy and patience to the medical officers, dentists and nurses while conducting school inspections in already congested school premises.

In closing, I would like to record my appreciation of the encouragement and support given to me throughout the year both by the Chairman and Members of the Special Services Subcommittee.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

T. M. CLAYTON.

School Medical Officer.

*The Council House,
Coventry.*

24th June, 1948.

School Population, Accommodation, Attendances.

At December, 1947, there were 71 *primary and secondary schools in the City under :—

- 49 *Primary schools with 64 departments, viz :—
 - 45 County Schools with 31 departments.
 - 12 Voluntary C.E. Schools with 12 departments.
 - 6 Voluntary R.C. Schools with 6 departments.
- 15 Secondary Modern Schools.
- 7 Selective Secondary Schools.

*includes Wyre Farm and Town Thorns.

Number of children on registers, January, 1947	...	28,404
Number of children on registers, December, 1947	...	30,438
Average percentage attendance	...	89.2
Estimated total population of the City of Coventry	...	242,860

The above statistics now include pupils at all Selective Secondary Schools under the control of the Local Authority.

Wyre Farm Camp School.

There were 146 (141) boys admitted to the Camp School during the year. All the boys are medically examined before admission and return to the school after the school holidays. The following are extracts from the report of the Medical Officer (Dr. J. S. Jerome) : —

"In January, February and March the weather was very severe. Fortunately we had no severe illnesses, but a full sick bay of boys suffering with chilblains, feverish colds, etc. Luckily, we had no cases for Kidderminster Hospital.

Although there was a large number of cases treated in the surgery, suggesting the possibility that a large proportion of the school is perpetually sick, this is not so."

Dr. Jerome comments that the increased incidence of minor ailments is mainly to be accounted for by the exceptionally severe weather prevailing during the winter months and by the keenness of the boys to seek the Matron's advice for their indispositions since "... it is natural that they should go to the Matron for reassurance normally given by their parents."

"It is my general impression that the boys at this school are well cared for and are as healthy and happy as any comparable collection of school boys elsewhere."

The number admitted to the sick bay at the school was 284 as compared with 209 in the previous year. There were five cases admitted to Kidderminster Hospital for operation during the year, three were tonsils and adenoids, one hernia and one aural polypus, while 40 hospital out-patient visits were made during the same period.

Corley Open-Air School.

Dr. Mayou reports :—

"The residential school for delicate children has maintained the post-war rate of progress. The exceptionally cold winter with its heavy snowfalls and fuel cuts was successfully negotiated without any impairment of the children's health. The open-air treatment has been extended to include further types of delicate children, some of which had not previously been admitted owing to the particular nature of their defects. However, the increased medical facilities and supervision, together with the very adequate care bestowed upon the children by the school staff has enabled these more defective cases to receive open-air treatment.

As far as possible, all children admitted and requiring removal of tonsils and adenoids have had the operation carried out while in residence, in order to give them the benefit of attendance by a trained nursing staff and the advantage of convalescence in the open air. During the year a certain number of delicate children suffering from amblyopia (dimness of vision) were admitted, and at the same time given special supervision by the School Oculist and Orthoptist. The results obtained in these cases are encouraging and it appears that some apparently intractable cases have improved. The School Oculist, in his report, gives further details relating to these cases.

The nutritional standard of the children has been more than maintained, showing, as it does, an improvement on the nutritional state of the pre-war pupil. There were no serious outbreaks of disease during the year under review."

The number of children who have benefited during the year is 238 (266). The average length of stay at the school was 24.2 weeks (17.5 weeks). The average gain in weight was 8.4 lbs. (8.3 lbs.) and the average gain in height was 1.08 ins. There were 476 (130) special investigations and medical treatments arranged and carried out in conjunction with the various hospitals and clinics. The figures in brackets refer to the previous year.

Speech Therapy.

The following is a report by Miss B. Carr, the Speech Therapist :—

"The Speech Therapy Department is now open throughout the week at the Gulson Road School Clinic, and an average of 70 children have weekly appointments. It has only been found possible to see five children twice a week so far, because of the appointments for new cases to be seen first, and assessed before treatment. Patients come from most regions of Coventry and there are regular attendances from Corley Open-Air School, The Special School for Educationally Sub-normal Children and Town Thorns.

The range of speech defects met with at the Clinic has always been wide and it is still found that a large proportion of cases have been aggravated by circumstances arising from the war and from overcrowded living conditions, which are so prevalent at the present time. It has been observed that there is quite a number of cleft palate cases in Coventry, nineteen having been referred for speech therapy during the past two-and-a-half-years. A few cases of defective articulation have been encountered recently in which there have been reading and writing defects as well.

In September, one of the City's physically handicapped children with grossly defective speech, due to bilateral athetosis, entered Moor

House School as a residential pupil. This school, which was opened by the Minister of Education last June, is the first of its kind in England. Although the boy's speech will never be normal, it is hoped, by daily speech therapy and specially adapted education, to make his talking quite intelligible for social intercourse and to fit him for a suitable occupation "in later life."

The following are the year's figures relating to the speech therapy clinic :—

Attendances	...	...	...	...	1858
Number of new cases	...	...	...	...	87
" " cases treated or now under treatment	...	...	...	...	139
" " interviews with parents	...	...	...	...	241
" " cases discharged	...	...	...	...	24
" " " " temporarily	...	...	...	...	33
" " " found unsuitable for speech therapy	...	...	...	...	12
" on waiting list at 31st December, 1947	...	...	...	...	27

School Oculist.

Mr. Bishop, the School Oculist, reports :—

"Work in the School Eye Clinic has progressed very satisfactorily during the past year. Several notable steps have been taken to improve the standard of service being rendered by the Clinic. Briefly, these are:—

1. The appointment of a full time orthoptist, Miss A. Pritty. As a result of this, Coventry school children with squints are getting the best possible treatment. There is still unfortunately some delay between diagnosis and the taking on of the child for treatment, which is to be regretted.
2. Selected cases of amblyopia are being referred to Corley Open-Air School, and it should be pointed out that one of the biggest obstacles to obtaining a very high percentage of cures in squints is because certain children with a "lazy eye" do not obtain any material improvement on normal occlusion treatment. Such cases are generally labelled as intractable amblyopia, but I doubted if such a condition really existed and so the Corley experiment was suggested. Its advantages are that the children are in a group together so that:—
 - (a) A psychological effect of occlusion of the good eye, so often a troublesome factor, is not noticeable.
 - (b) Education can continue more or less normally.
 - (c) The competitive spirit is encouraged.
 - (d) They receive far more of the correct training for the lazy eye than at home.
 - (e) There is constant supervision so that peeping with the good eye is prevented.

It is too early at present to draw any definite conclusions from the experiment, but results so far are very encouraging.

3. A much more satisfactory pair of spectacles is now being issued free to children who require glasses. They are a great improvement on the old design.
4. A system of staggered appointments has been instituted. As a result, parents and children have a much shorter wait at the clinic before being examined. A waiting period, however, is necessary, as most children are examined after the instillation of eye drops, and it takes 30—45 minutes for these to produce the effect required."

Orthoptic Treatment.

Mrs. G. Stokes, the Orthoptist, comments on the year's work in this section thus:—

"During the year, the work of the Orthoptic Department has grown to such an extent that it necessitated the appointment of a full-time orthoptist. Miss A. Pritty has been appointed as a full-time orthoptist and the department is now open all the week. There are 87 cases of strabismus (squint) receiving weekly treatment for amblyopia.* Many of these have now acquired equal vision, and need weekly synoptophore treatment.

Throughout the year, only two cases have been refused—one a case having a very small strabismus not needing surgical operation, which did not respond to orthoptic treatment—the other, a case of amblyopia with anisometropia†; after a long course of occlusion, the amblyopia showed no improvement.

The number of cases discharged as cured this year was 66, and of these six were corrected surgically. Of the remaining 60 cases, 25 were aided by operation and all were discharged as cured.

These figures give some idea of the work done in the Orthoptic Department, and although in the past the department has developed in a more than satisfactory manner, the waiting list for treatment is still long and continues to increase."

* dimness of vision.

† refractive difference in the two eyes.

Physical Training.

The following is the report of the Organisers of Physical Training (Miss G. W. Baker and Mr. J. F. McCarthy), viz:—

"The past year has been one of continued improvement in the field of physical education in Coventry. Teachers have had opportunities to attend courses provided by the Local Education Authority and have made good use of these opportunities. Facilities, too, have improved, and are improving, and we believe that our teachers with their ability and enthusiasm will be well fitted to make the most of whatever additional facilities the Local Authority is able to provide. The provision of games apparatus is becoming more difficult and considerably more expensive than it was a year ago, but we would stress that it is only by handling and proper use of such apparatus that full enjoyment and reasonable degree of skill can be attained in the playing of those games which have such a marked influence on our national character. For this reason, as well as because of the physical exercise obtained through this means, we believe that difficulties of expense and supply must be overcome in some reasonable way, in order that the children in our schools may be able to develop their physique and natural skills in harmony and as part of all the training which we know as Education.

Coventry Schools Athletic Association deserves a special mention in this report because of its considerable success in arranging games, sports and athletic competitions which have had as their sole object the instilling of sportsmanship, team spirit and a good standard of performance into all children with whom the Association has contact. The membership of the Athletic Association has given time freely and abundantly in the interests of the school children and we believe all people interested in children's activities would wish the Schools Athletic Association to be recognised for its valuable work."

School Playing Fields.

"The cultivation of the Education Committee's Playing Fields is now well advanced and some part of them is expected to be in use during the summer months of 1948. It is hoped that the development

of School Playing Fields will continue after the present programme is completed in order that the special requirements of school children may be met. At present many schools use public recreation grounds for organised games and here we wish to record our appreciation of the generous help and co-operation we have received from the Parks Superintendent and his staff in all matters concerning the provision of adequate playing fields for school children. We look forward to a continuance of this co-operation and we believe we can rely on it."

Swimming.

"The demand from schools for opportunities for Swimming has increased considerably during the past year. During the summer months the Livingstone Road Bath and open-air pools at Gosford Green, Ryton Bridge and Kenpas Highway are fully used, and, throughout the winter months, the Livingstone Road Bath remains in use. We can now report that special transport is available for classes attending the Bath and, consequently, school children from outlying districts are able to receive instruction throughout the whole year. Swimming tests were held on two occasions last year and a record number of certificates were awarded; 83 children gained First Class certificates, 403 children were awarded Second Class certificates and 1,059 children received Third Class awards."

Play Leadership.

"In order to meet the need for organised play periods during the summer holidays three centres were opened during August for children in different parts of the City. Centres at Stoke Green, Foleshill Park and Whoberley School Playing Field were opened for four weeks. The weather was favourable to outdoor activities throughout the month and every session was held out of doors. The indoor facilities for which arrangements had been made were therefore not required. The four leaders employed—one man and one woman for each of the fortnightly periods—were ably assisted by boys and girls recruited from the Secondary Grammar School. The scheme was successful and indicated the necessity for the continuance of such arrangements during the school holidays."

Dental Treatment.

The following account is from the report rendered by the Senior School Dentist (Mr. Raeside) :—

"It is pleasing to report a satisfactory year, and one of general progress in all branches of the service which included the routine inspection and treatment of school children, specialised orthodontic treatment, inspection and treatment of Maternity and Child Welfare cases.

The number of dental officers on the staff still remains at five, but since the 1st October, 1947, the services of one officer were not available on two full days each week. This was due to Mr. Breakspear's temporary appointment as orthodontic assistant at Guy's Hospital for a period of one year.

Even with the above mentioned staff, owing to the vast amount of specialised work undertaken for both children and expectant and nursing mothers, it was found impossible to carry out the usual routine inspections in the schools. This should of course also include all Secondary School children who, in April 1945, were automatically made eligible for treatment. For these children alone the volume of work has increased considerably during the year owing to the number of applications received, and especially from the parents of children who have never received dental treatment in the past. As pointed out in a previous report, it is impossible at the moment to forecast developments under the New Health Act, but it is hoped that a start will soon be made to decentralise the work and establish branch clinics at

various points on the outskirts of the City. In this connection it is gratifying to note that, until long-term clinic facilities are available, preliminary arrangements are being made to set up such a clinic at Windmill Road.

The demand for orthodontic treatment continued, as anticipated, during the year and much valuable work was carried out. 1,103 attendances were made by these orthodontic children and 148 appliances were fitted. Approximately a total of 6 sessions per week were devoted to this special work, and the arrangements worked very well indeed, and with the excellent co-operation of practically all the patients and parents, satisfactory results were achieved. Any increase in the number of sessions devoted to orthodontic cases would be at the sacrifice of the more important general work, and with the school population standing at 30,000 such a step is not justified at present.

As far as can be estimated, the total cost of all mechanical work, including models and appliances, averaged about £1 per patient. All mechanical work was carried out by a local laboratory in the City, but it must be again pointed out that it would be a great advantage to have a full-time dental technician working on the premises. This would undoubtedly facilitate the smoother working of the scheme, and at the same time, reduce expenses. Apart from the various forms of treatment carried out for the school children, much valuable work was again done for expectant and nursing mothers. 1,457 attendances were made by these patients, 2,203 teeth extracted and 198 artificial dentures supplied. During the year visits were made to "Town Thorns" Children's Home and treatment carried out for the children in residence. Also, children recommended for a stay at Corley were inspected and treated before proceeding to the open-air school.

The following tables give details of the various forms of treatment carried out during the year:—

Dental Treatment, 1947.

				Primary and Secondary	Infant Welfare	Ante- Natal	Totals	
Fillings—								
Permanent	...	...	...	2,677	—	86	2,763	
Temporary...	...	...	...	550	25	—	575	
Extractions—								
Permanent...	...	...	...	1,950	—	2,203	4,153	
Temporary...	...	...	...	7,996	287	—	8,283	
Other Operations	...	...	...	1,062	11	600	1,673	
Administration of general anæsthetics for extraction				...	597	84	292	973
Attendances	...	...	...	10,699	255	1457	12,411	

The Special School, South Street

(For Educationally Sub-normal Children)

The report on the activities at the above mentioned school is presented by the new Head Master, Mr. R. A. Grice. The following are extracts from his report :—

1. "No. on Register, January, 1947	...	...	...	79	Boys 41
					Girls 38
No. admitted during 1947	...	...	...	18	Boys 10
					Girls 8
No. excluded as ineducable	...	...	...	7	Boys 3
					Girls 4
No. allowed to leave	...	...	...	10	Boys 5
					Girls 5
Transferred to Corley Open-Air School	...	...	...	2	Girls 2
No. on Register, December, 1947.	...	...	...	78	Boys 43
					Girls 35

2. **Swimming.**

The boys and girls attended Gosford Green Swimming Pool twice weekly in the summer. During the winter the boys have attended Livingstone Road Baths once per week. As a result the following certificates have been obtained :—

2 boys	2nd Class
4 boys	3rd Class

3. **Speech Therapy.**

The Speech Therapist has visited the school one day per week and five children with marked speech defects have received valuable assistance and will benefit permanently.

4. **Open Day for Parents.**

Open Day for Parents and Friends to see the work of the school was held on September 30th. This was very successful and the contact with some of the parents has been invaluable.

5. **Aim of School.**

The underlying aim of the school is that each child's attainment shall be matched to capacity in accordance with his or her own rate of progress. It should be noted that there is a waiting list of 72 pupils. This is largely due to lack of accommodation, and has been aggravated in the past by a long delay elapsing before suitable cases were excluded.

Dr. Moir has visited the school every Wednesday morning for the purpose of retesting children on trial and for making periodic tests with the other pupils. Our thanks are due to Miss Tuft who has done such valuable work for many years at The Special School (as Head Mistress) and who retired during the past year."

Girls' Secondary Schools.

Dr. Moir reports :—

"During the year 1947, 90 entrants to each of the three girls' secondary schools were examined by Dr. Wilson. These numbers are included in the total given below.

The numbers examined in each school during 1947 were as follows —the figures in brackets being the corresponding numbers for 1946 :—

Priory High School	...	454	(456)
Barr's Hill School	...	208	(407)
Stoke Park School	...	472	(92)
		1,134	(955)

In the case of Barrs Hill and Stoke Park Schools, the figures, although they are of children examined in 1947, really represent children examined in the early part of that year as a completion of the systematic examinations of 1946. There has been no systematic examination during 1947 in these two schools.

Ever since these two schools have been medically inspected (for 23 years by me and for how long before I do not know) every girl has been examined each year, a system benefiting the girls, and one that was much appreciated by the Head Teachers."

For the last three or four years this wide flung examination has become increasingly difficult, due to the depleted medical staff. It is therefore proposed to conduct a medical examination which includes the leavers only of all secondary schools each year. This is in accordance with the Ministry of Education Regulations appertaining to the examination of school children as laid down in the School Health Service and Handicapped Pupils Regulations, 1945. Such children will in future receive examination on entry to secondary school and during their last year in attendance. This will in no way prejudice cases requiring referral to a school medical officer for advice and treatment either at the Central School Clinic or at the school, or the "Following up examination" of those pupils requiring observation."

Orthopædic Arrangements.

The Coventry Crippled Children's Guild have continued with their good work for children with orthopædic defects. Cases are referred to the Dunsmoor Clinic by the school doctors. These cases are often found at the routine medical inspection at schools and also as a result of parents requesting appointments at the School Clinic. A total of 597 orthopædic defects were seen by the Orthopædic Surgeon at the Dunsmoor Clinic, Holyhead Road, the necessary treatment being provided, such as remedial exercises under supervision, massage, physio-therapy treatment, and surgical appliances. Suitable cases were also referred for operation. A detailed table of the orthopædic and postural defects found on examination is included.

ORTHOPÆDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS SEEN AT THE DUNSMOOR
ORTHOPÆDIC CLINIC.

<i>Defects.</i>	<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Infantile Paralysis :—			
Leg	2	2	4
Congenital Dislocation of Hip ...	—	2	2
Erb's Palsy	2	—	2
Spinal Curvature :—			
Kyphosis	7	8	15
Scoliosis	3	14	17
Lordosis	2	4	6
Other Postural Defects	7	7	14
Rickets :—			
Knock Knee	67	73	140
Bow Legs	6	6	12
Generalised	—	3	3
Chest	3	1	4
Flat Feet	75	123	198
Pes Cavus	7	5	12
Wry Neck	1	1	2
Accidents	—	6	6
Miscellaneous	26	34	60
Congenital Deformity	2	—	2
Kohler's Disease	1	—	1
Spastics	1	3	4
Hemiplegia	1	—	1
Other Deformities	4	2	6
Valgoid Ankles	21	37	58
Valgoid Feet	7	20	27
Valgoid Heels	—	1	1
Total	245	352	597

Child Guidance Arrangements.

The present position relating to child guidance is as follows :—

All suitable cases requiring child guidance are referred to the department of psychological medicine at the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital. This department is under the direction of Dr. S. W. Gillman, the Honorary Physician in Psychological Medicine. The cases are seen by him personally, or by one of his medical staff, and a full investigation is undertaken with the help of the psychiatric social worker and educational psychologist.

The number of pupils treated under these child guidance arrangements during 1947 were :—

School children	68
Pre-school children	10

and of these, the more suitable types of cases were given such play therapy and psychiatric therapy as were considered necessary. Unfortunately, owing to the limited facilities available, this type of case cannot be seen as often as would be desired.

Infantile Paralysis—1947.

Dr. Woolgrove reports :—

"It is interesting to note that there were 25 cases of Infantile Paralysis amongst children aged 2 to 19 years during the year. These constituted 75% of the cases which occurred in the City during 1947, indicating that in Coventry at least the disease followed the anticipated age range, the highest incidence being amongst the child population.

Below is a table collaborating age and sex incidence amongst the children.

INFANTILE PARALYSIS
AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION IN CHILDREN AFFECTED.

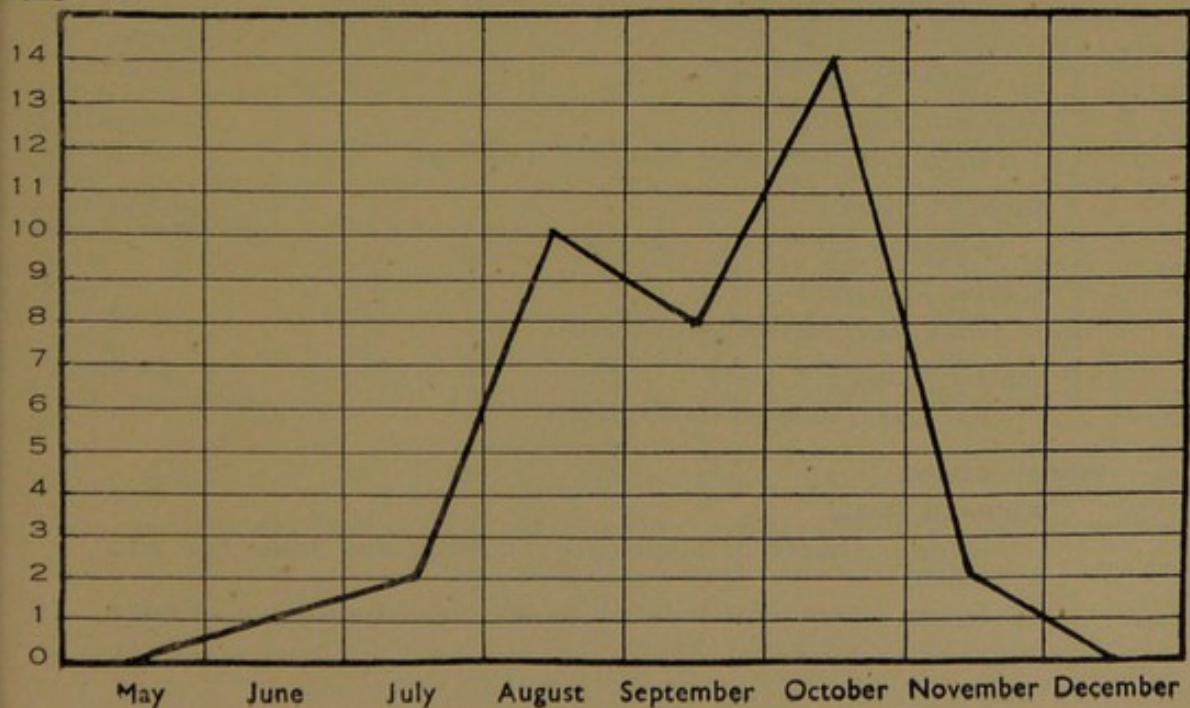
<i>Age in years.</i>	<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>
2	2	1
3	1	1
4	3	1
5	3	1
6	1	2
7	1	—
8	1	—
11	—	1
12	—	1
13	—	1
14	1	1
18	—	1
19	—	1
	13	12 = 25

There was one death during the year attributed to Infantile Paralysis; a boy aged 7 years.

Cases were first notified in May, whilst the last cases occurred towards the end of November. The characteristic seasonal incidence of the disease was exemplified in the incidence of the cases occurring in Coventry, and is shown in the following graph :—

NO. OF
CASES

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF CASES.



Of the cases admitted to the Isolation Hospital, five were transferred, on discharge, to such hospital establishments as the Paybody Home, Keresley Hospital, Manfield Orthopædic Hospital, and two cases were referred to the Orthopædic Surgeons at the Holyhead Road Orthopædic Clinic. All other cases were free from signs and symptoms of a paralytic nature before discharge. During the epidemic, there were 656 special visits to nurseries by school nurses and a total of 940 home visits.

I wish to acknowledge my indebtedness to the Medical Superintendent of the City Isolation Hospital (Dr. Galpine) and to Mr. Lord of the Health Department for their help and co-operation in matters relating to infectious diseases and for the opportunity of perusing all the relevant records and case notes."

Clinic Sessions.

The current arrangements in regard to clinic sessions are set out below :—

Central School Clinic, Culson Road.

Minor Ailment Clinics, each afternoon and Saturday mornings.

Cleansings, each morning.

Medical Officer appointments :—

Monday mornings and afternoons.

Tuesday afternoons.

Wednesday mornings and afternoons.

Thursday mornings.

Saturday mornings.

Medical Officers are also in attendance after 4 p.m. each afternoon.

Dental Clinic :

By appointment each day and Saturday mornings.

Eye Clinic :

Tuesday mornings.

Wednesday afternoons.

Thursday mornings.

Orthoptic Clinic :

Each day, including Saturday mornings.

Sunlight Clinic :

Tuesday and Friday afternoons.

Speech Therapy :

Each day, Monday to Friday.

Scabies Clinic :

Each day, Monday to Friday.

Branch Clinics.

Windmill Road.

Medical Officer in attendance Tuesday, and from 3.30 p.m. Friday.

School Nurse in attendance Tuesday, and from 2 p.m. Friday.

Whoberley Clinic.

Medical Officer in attendance Monday afternoons from 3.30 p.m.

School Nurse in attendance Monday and Thursday afternoons from 2 p.m.

Binley Clinic.

School Nurse in attendance Wednesday afternoons from 2 p.m.
Medical Officer attends by arrangement.

Ringworm—X-ray treatment.

By appointment.

Nose and Throat Operative Clinic.

By appointment.

Orthopædic Clinic.

By appointment.

Attendances at the Clinics during 1947:—

CONDITION.	Central School Clinic, Gulson Road		Windmill Rd. School Branch Clinic		Whoberley School Branch Clinic.		Binley School Branch Clinic.	
	Cases.	Attend- ances	Cases.	Attend- ances.	Cases.	Attend- ances.	Cases.	Attend- ances.
Skin :—								
Ringworm—scalp—								
X-ray treatment..	38	90	—	—	2	19	—	—
Other treatment..	7	27	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ringworm—body ..	47	315	3	4	3	7	4	13
Scabies	415	777	4	8	6	20	—	—
Impetigo	356	1424	20	67	44	177	27	68
Other skin diseases	272	1076	14	55	39	173	13	43
Eye Disease :—								
Blepharitis ..	43	263	2	5	10	45	1	2
Conjunctivitis ..	58	152	10	14	19	36	1	2
Phlyctenular ulcer	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Corneal ulcer ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Styes	48	140	2	5	19	52	6	10
Ear Defects :—								
Otorrhœa	140	567	2	3	20	46	4	12
Wax	115	255	4	11	5	24	1	1
Miscellaneous :—								
Septic conditions ..	260	1194	15	41	52	243	31	69
Sores	177	605	28	85	50	183	43	120
Boils	94	432	5	13	12	51	6	21
Chilblains ..	19	114	1	3	9	47	2	12
Warts	116	384	17	80	62	357	19	89
Injuries	84	210	21	44	81	320	11	30
Other conditions ..	747	1529	117	286	102	325	138	317
Totals ..	3037	9555	265	724	535	2127	307	809

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION.

Table I.

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Entrants	3588
Second Age Group	2592
Third Age Group	536
TOTAL ..	6716
Other Routine Inspections	3146
GRAND TOTAL ..	9862

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections and Re-inspections	4192
--	------

Table II.

No. of Pupils Inspected	9862	
Nutrition A (Good)	2464	24.98%
„ B (Fair)	7201	73.02%
„ C (Poor)	197	2.00%

Table III.

GROUP I.—TREATMENT OF MINOR AILMENTS
(excluding Uncleanliness)

Total Number of Defects treated or under treatment during the year under the Authority's Scheme	4144
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GROUP II.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

Errors of Refraction (including Squint) ..	1372
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded under Group I)	—
	1372

Number of children for whom spectacles were

(a) Prescribed	1028
(b) Obtained	870

GROUP III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

Received operative treatment under the Authority's Scheme	932
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GROUP IV.—ORTHOPÆDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

(a) Number treated as in-patients in hospitals or hospital schools	32
(b) Number treated otherwise, e.g. in clinics or out-patient departments	445

GROUP V.—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT AND SPEECH THERAPY.

Number of pupils treated—

(a) under Child Guidance arrangements ..	—
(b) under Speech Therapy arrangements ..	139

HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

Number of children (a) ascertained in accordance with the Education Act, 1944, during the year 1947, (b) in Special School at 31st December, 1947, and (c) awaiting admission to Special Schools

TYPE OF HANDICAP	Ascertained during year	Total number of pupils in Special Schools	Total number awaiting admission to Special Schools
Blind	1	5	—
Partially Sighted	—	6	—
Deaf	3	20	8
Partially Deaf	2	8	3
Delicate	201	90	41
Diabetic	—	—	—
Educationally Sub-normal Boarding School	2	4	2
Day School	52	78*	70*
Ordinary School	23	45* (ordinary school)	—
Epileptic	3	6	2
Maladjusted	—	—	3
Physically Handicapped	4	3	7
Speech Defects	40	—	27 (awaiting speech therapy)
Multiple Disabilities	12	3	1
Found to be :—			
(a) Ineducable	25	—	—
(b) In need of supervision after leaving school	5	—	—
TOTALS	373	268	164

* Includes children suffering from Multiple defects.



