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County Borough of Eastbourne



Local Education Authority.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT

for 1920.

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School Medical Officer.

E. H. B. COGHILL, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.F.P.S.
Assistant School Medical Officer.
(Inspecting Officer).

EASTBOURNE:
V. V. SUMFIELD, Printer, Station Street.

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County Borough of Eastbourne.

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

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit herewith the report of the School Medical Department for the year 1920.

Indications of various important additions to, and changes in, the work during 1920 will be found in the Report.

Dr. H. E. Coghill, whose previous experience included School medical work in Birmingham and in the County of Shropshire, commenced work as Assistant Medical Officer on January 6th.

Medical examination of the pupils of the Secondary Schools commenced on 1st June, 1920, and that of the pupils of the Continuation School on 9th November, 1920. The report as to these will be found separately after that of the Elementary Schools.

Another important addition in 1920 was the inauguration of the Open-Air School for delicate children on 7th June, 1920. This was the twenty-fifth School of its sort opened in England and Wales, and such a scheme is now looked upon as a most essential factor in the process of evolution of a more healthy nation.

Two additional clinics were added during the year, viz., a clinic for Ear Ailments and an X-Ray clinic for Ringworm. A corollary of the latter was the closing of the Ringworm School at the end of the Spring Term. Reference to the details as to this School will show that it answered its purpose well.

There were eight Medical Practitioners assisting as Specialists and part-time Officers in the School Medical Service. I consider this method of coping with the work better than that of appointing extra full-time Assistant Medical Officers. The children have the advantage of more experienced help.

There is a special report on Backward Children on page 24.

This report follows the order suggested by the Board of Education.

The examination of the pupils of the Continuation School revealed a disappointing amount of defect, and I am of opinion that a scientific extension of physical training among the Elementary School children would tend to improve this condition of affairs. In the Report will be found Dr. Turner's comments on the results of his examination of boys in the Secondary and Continuation Schools.

The general result of the inspections may be summed up as follows :—

Number of children having defects :—

- (a) In Elementary Schools, 36%.
- (b) In Secondary Schools, 25%.
- (c) In Continuation Schools, 41%.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. G. WILLOUGHBY.

School Medical Officer.

**The Public Elementary Schools of the Borough with the Number of
Children on the Books, the Average Attendances and Accommodation.**

1920.

	Accommo- dation.	No. on Books.	Average Attendance	Per- centage.
SENIOR DEPARTMENTS—				
All Souls' Mixed	233	180	166	92
Christ Church, Mixed	332	323	305	94
Meads, Mixed	220	80	73	91
St. Joseph's R.C., Mixed	158	146	136	93
St. Saviour's H.G., Mixed	261	243	224	92
Willowfield H.G., Mixed	380	356	331	93
East Street Council, Boys	305	230	215	93
East Street Council, Girls	305	193	178	92
Hampden Park, Mixed	180	93	86	92
Holy Trinity, Boys	197	166	155	93
Holy Trinity, Girls	142	113	103	91
St. Andrew's, Boys	232	177	167	94
St. Andrew's, Girls	232	175	162	92
St. Mary's, Boys	496	335	313	93
St. Mary's, Girls	360	355	318	90
St. Philip's, Boys	250	255	239	94
St. Philip's, Girls	250	259	244	94
Totals in Senior Depts.	4533	3679	3415	93 (92.8)
INFANT DEPARTMENTS—				
Christ Church	245	194	155	80
Compton Place	64	69	61	88
East Street Council	355	252	203	81
Hampden Park	60	30	22	73
Meads	80	37	33	89
St. Andrew's	171	179	144	80
St. Joseph's	147	97	87	90
St. Mary's	347	302	240	79
St. Philip's	236	255	212	83
Willowfield Council	300	292	249	87
Total in Infant Depts.	2005	1707	1406	83 (82.3)
SPECIAL SCHOOLS—				
Whitley Road (Special)	50	57	49	86
Open-Air School	50	47	42	89
Total in Special Schools	100	104	91	87.5
Total in Senior Depts.	4533	3679	3415	92.8
Total in Infant Depts.	2005	1707	1406	82.3
Grand Total	6638	5490	4912	89.4

NUMBER OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN.

The table of attendances is important in that to some extent it indicates the percentage amount of sickness among the children, sufficient to prevent attendance at School.

The percentage of attendance is one of the best recorded.

Theoretically no child in the senior departments should be absent except on account of sickness, and sickness undoubtedly represents the greater portion of the 7.2% absent in the return.

In Infants' Departments weather and other circumstances interfere with this deduction to a greater extent.

As compared with the immediately preceding attendance report, an increase has for the first time in some years been reported in the numbers on the books, viz., of 6 in Senior Departments and of 8 in Infants' Departments.

Close co-operation between the School Attendance Department and the Medical and Nursing Service has been continuous as instructed by the Board of Education.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT STAFF, 1920.

(a) OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL.

School Medical Officer :

W. G. WILLOUGHBY, M.D., Lond., D.P.H.

Assistant School Medical Officer (Inspecting Officer) :

Miss E. H. B. COGHILL, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.F.P.S.

School Nurses :

Miss R. CLARK (Superintendent).

Miss M. L. RICHNELL.

Miss I. M. SIMMONDS.

Miss L. CURTIS.

Clerks :

Miss M. SODDY (until September).

Miss M. G. BENEY (after March).

(b) VISITING STAFF.

Ophthalmic Surgeon :

A. HALLIDIE, F.R.C.S., Eng.

Aural Surgeon :

J. N. DONNELLAN, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.

Physician for X-Ray Work :

F. HARWOOD-HARDMAN, M.D., Edin., C.M.

Surgeons for Throat and Nose Operations :

A. A. MARTIN, M.D., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

R. C. MACQUEEN, F.R.C.S.

Anæsthetists for Throat and Nose Operations :

G. DOUGLAS SHERWOOD, M.B.

L. MUIR SMITH, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Boys Secondary and Continuation Schools, Inspecting

Medical Officer :

T. TURNER, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Dentist :

A. H. PICKETT, L.D.S., D.D.S.

CO-ORDINATION.

The Medical and Nursing Staff of the Education Authority are also engaged in the work of the Sanitary Authority, so that co-ordination is complete. Three of the four nurses are part-time Infant and Child Welfare Nurses ; thus the care of debilitated children under School age is provided for through the same nurses and medical staff.

There are no Nursery Schools.

SCHOOL HYGIENE.

I have in other reports dealt fully with the Hygiene of the various Schools. Although many of the old form of desks have been replaced by newer and more hygienic desks, there are still many that could with advantage be so replaced. In some Schools, for convenience of teaching, the light from the windows still comes from the right instead of the left.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL CHILDREN.

The requirements of the Board of Education have been complied with, and Table I. shows the numbers inspected and the ages at inspection.

The number of children examined at Routine Inspections was 1,457. In addition, 77 special cases were examined, making a total of 1,534. There were also 1,173 re-examinations of children.

Parents attended the inspections as follows :—

Entrants—

Boys	...	...	...	...	74.3%.
Girls	...	...	...	...	70.2%.

Intermediate Group—

Boys	...	...	...	...	50%.
Girls	...	...	...	...	52.9%.

Leavers—

Boys	...	...	...	...	21.8%.
Girls	...	...	...	...	35.9%.

Specials—

Boys	...	...	...	...	19.6%.
Girls	...	...	...	...	39.4%.

There were seven refusals of examination.

Cases of defect found are referred to the Clinics for more thorough examination and treatment.

The schedule used for recording the results of inspection is that suggested by the Board with one addition, viz., particulars as to vaccination.

The special cases represent those brought to our attention by teachers and parents.

Very little disturbance of School routine is occasioned by the inspections. The convenience of the teachers is followed as far as possible.

Where possible the children are examined in the Schools and all in School hours. In some Schools there is no accommodation for medical inspection, and the children of these are examined as follows :—

Holy Trinity	...	Parish Room.
St. Andrew's	...	Parish Room.
St. Saviour's	...	Town Hall.

FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

These are set out in detail in Table II.

Malnutrition.—Fifty-two of these cases were found, and, with the 42 cases of anæmia, are among the reasons for the establishment of the Open-Air School.

Uncleanliness.—The large number that have to be kept under observation will be noted. Considering housing difficulties, the total number actually verminous is not comparatively great, but the figures and those for the cleansing department given later on will show that the nurses spend much time in trying to keep the Schools clear of vermin. Eighty children had to be referred for immediate treatment, and 64 of these were found in the course of inspection even after notice to the parents that the examination was coming on. Of 1,363 children examined by routine, 37 had fleas, 7 lice and 176 nits. Six were bodily dirty.

Ringworm of Head.—Only one case was found at the inspections ; the others referred to in the clinic report were reported specially and dealt with.

Minor Ailments will be found detailed in the report on the Clinic for Minor Ailments, on page 15.

Tonsils and Adenoids.—See clinic report, on page 16.

Tuberculosis.—No definite pulmonary tuberculosis was discovered at inspections, but four suspicious cases were dealt with. There is a special clinic for such cases, combined with malnutrition cases.

Skin Diseases.—These were not particularly prevalent. There were eight general cases, besides ten of impetigo and nine of scabies.

External Eye Diseases.—Nineteen cases were dealt with, including 14 of Blepharitis.

Vision.—One hundred and ninety-three cases of defective vision were found, and 21 of squint. One hundred and forty-three of these were discovered at the ordinary inspections, and this shows how valuable these inspections are. In 1919 there were similarly found 136 of these cases. Such items as the lighting of the Schools and the print of the books are most important.

Ear Diseases and Hearing.—Twenty-seven cases were found at inspections, as compared with 33 in 1919. Some of these are very difficult cases, hence the appointment of a consultant in 1920 to assist us.

Dental Diseases.—This forms the subject of a special section. At the ordinary inspections, 33 cases were found that required immediate attention. The cases are, however, dealt with specially, the School dentist making examinations of children, especially at age six. Parents continue to think too lightly of dental defects, and as the young children naturally object to pain of treatment, there are many refusals, as the tables show.

Crippling Defects.—These are mainly specially reported and dealt with. In the routine inspections, 6 cases were

found requiring treatment, and 20 others requiring special observation. The details will be found in Table II.

The following is a summary as to the education of "cripples" in the Autumn of 1920 :—

PHYSICAL DEFECTIVES (CRIPPLES).

Children attending Elementary Schools in spite of physical defects	... ..	27
Children unable, owing to physical defects, to attend any School at present	... ..	4*
Children under Institutional Treatment	... ..	2
Children not now attending School, but suitable for a Physical Defectives' School	... ..	2
		—
		35
		—

(*One will be fit for School after Christmas).

Of these 35 children, the defect is in 13 cases due to surgical tuberculosis. The other 22 cases are of the type to which the term "cripple children" could be applied, and of these 22, 19 are attending School, 1 is unable to attend any School, and 2 could attend a Special Physical Defectives' School. Arrangements are being made for these 3 children.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

As the School Medical Officers are also the Public Health Medical Officers, the occurrence of Infectious Disease is known at once to them, and steps taken accordingly.

CODE ART. 45 (b) AND 57.—It has not been necessary to close any School for infectious disease in 1920.

The occurrence of three cases of diphtheria in one class in St. Andrew's Girls' School in December led to Bacteriological examination of the throats of the remainder. The result was negative in each case.

CODE ART. 53 (b).—Under this Article, 415 children were excluded from School during 1920, on the advice of the School Medical Officers. A list is submitted showing the causes and the average length of the exclusions.

DISEASES AND TIME FOR WHICH CHILDREN WERE
EXCLUDED DURING THE YEAR 1920.

Disease.	Total period of Exclusions.	No. of Cases.	Average Time excluded in each case.
Anæmia	110 weeks	15	7.3 weeks
Debility	50 "	15	3.3 "
Heart	24 "	2	12 "
Malnutrition	17 months	3	5.66 months
Fainting attacks	1 week	1	1 week
Pains in legs	2 weeks	1	2 weeks
Throat operations	1357 days	128	10.6 days
Lungs	3 weeks	1	3 weeks
Tuberculosis	22 "	5	4.4 "
Bronchitis	11 "	4	2.75 "
Bronchial Catarrh	2 "	1	2 "
Colds	13 "	6	2.16 "
Tonsilitis	12 "	4	3 "
Swollen Glands	4 "	1	4 "
Cervical Glands	4 "	1	4 "
Whooping Cough	30 "	12	4.16 "
Sore Throat	6 "	6	1 week
Mumps	77 "	26	2.96 weeks
Croup	12 "	2	6 "
Chicken Pox	5 "	2	2.5 "
Post Chicken Pox	3 "	1	3 "
Post Scarlet Fever	9 "	3	3 "
Post Diphtheria	23 "	6	3.8 "
Post Diphtheria Paralysis	2 "	1	2 "
Post Influenza	3 "	1	3 "
Post operation for Appendix	15 "	2	7.5 "
High Temperature	2 "	1	2 "
Rheumatism	17 "	4	4.25 "
Chorea	34 "	5	6.8 "
Giddiness and Vomiting	2 "	1	2 "
Stomatitis	3 days	1	3 days
Slight Concussion	1 week	1	1 week
Overstrain	2 weeks	1	2 weeks
Vision	4 "	1	4 "
Conjunctivitis	47 "	16	2.93 "
Styes	2 "	2	1 week
Nebulæ	5 "	1	5 weeks
Scabies	362 "	95	3.8 "
Impetigo	12 "	8	1.5 "
Sores	6 "	3	2 "
Eczema	13 "	2	6.5 "
Boils	1 "	1	1 week
Rash	2 "	1	2 weeks
Ringworm	11 "	3	3.66 "
Injuries	12 "	7	1.7 "
Psoriasis	5 "	1	5 "
Swelling in knee	3 "	1	3 "
Chilblains	1 "	1	1 week
Cretinoid Development	8 months	1	8 months
Hæmaturia	7 weeks	1	7 weeks
Tabes Mesenterica	4 months	1	4 months
Spastic Paraplegia	12 "	1	12 "
Vaginitis	2 weeks	1	2 weeks
Colic	1 week	1	1 week
Favus	2 weeks	2	1 "

Number of exclusions during 1920, 415.

FOLLOWING UP.

The arrangements for following up cases of defect found are as follows :—The child has to attend the Tuesday or Thursday Clinic, or is seen at its own home. Cases are not lost sight of, and parents are as a rule quite anxious as to the cure of the defect. Attendance cards are issued at the Clinics, when children are able to attend School during treatment. The large numbers attending these Clinics will be seen on reference to the Clinic figures.

Records on the card system are kept of all such cases, their progress and treatment.

SCHOOL NURSES.

A summary of the work of the School Nurses is as follows :—

Number of visits by School Nurses to Schools	...	293
Number of visits to Schools by Nurses for Medical		
Inspection	... ..	151
Number of home visits by Nurses	... ..	1,707
Number of children cleansed	... ..	18
Number of cleansing notices sent	... ..	231

MEDICAL TREATMENT.

The natural sequence of medical inspection is treatment of the defects found, and provision for this has been made as follows :—

The parents are referred to their own medical attendants in the ordinary way, but there are numerous conditions, minor ailments especially, which would escape attention unless the Authority arranged for official attention.

The number of cases referred for treatment will be found in detail in the sub-divisions of Table IV., the numbers treated and whether by the Authority's Schemes or not, are there set forth. These tables refer to the results of the inspections.

The measures adopted to secure treatment are the

consistent following up of cases, the provision of clinics set forth in detail herewith and other items referred to in this report, such as the establishment of the Open-Air School.

The only failure in the measures taken is in regard to dental work, where there are far too many refusals.

The various Clinics established by the Authority include : —

1. A Minor Ailments Clinic. Town Hall. Mornings at 9, except Saturdays and Sundays.
2. Ophthalmic Clinic ; mainly for Refractions. Town Hall. A half day, usually about once a month, when sufficient cases, *i.e.*, about 15, have accumulated.
3. Throat and Nose Clinic. Adenoid operations at the Princess Alice Memorial Hospital on Thursdays at 10 a.m., when eight cases have accumulated.
When specially requested by parents, the operation is performed at the Leaf Hospital.
4. Examination Clinic. Town Hall. Tuesday afternoons. For the further examination of special cases and cases referred from routine inspections. This includes backward children.
5. Dental Clinic. Town Hall. Tuesday and Thursday forenoons.
6. Tuberculosis and Malnutrition Clinic. Town Hall. Thursday afternoons.
7. Ringworm Clinic. Attendance at the Consulting Rooms of the X-Ray operator by arrangement.
8. Ear and Hearing Clinic. Town Hall once monthly and in special cases when required. Last Monday in the month.

The last two have been added during 1920.

Skin diseases, external eye diseases and crippling defects are included in the one of the above Clinics found most suitable.

The numbers attending in 1920 were :—

	Children.	Attendances.
Minor Ailments	392 (600)	3193 (5395)
Ophthalmic	193 (171)	193 (172)
Throat and Nose (Operation)...	162 (243)	162 (243)
Do., Leaf Hospital	19	19
Examination	780 (610)	2017 (1283)
Dental	1803 (1479)	2196 (1870)
Tuberculosis, etc.	92 (92)	263 (199)
Ringworm (X-Ray)	19	19
Ear Diseases	60	131
Totals	3520 (3195)	8191 (9162)

The numbers in brackets are the totals in 1919.

MINOR AILMENTS CLINIC, 1920.

Town Hall. The School Medical Officer when required.

Number of days Clinic was open	...	252
Total number of attendances	...	3193
Average daily attendance	...	12.6
Number of cases treated	...	392

AILMENTS.

Eyes—

Blepharitis	...	5
Conjunctivitis	...	7
Corneal Affections	...	1
Others	...	4

Ears—

Otorrhœa	...	48
Wax	...	9
Deafness	...	9
		— 66

Impetigo	...	144
Miscellaneous	...	165

— 392

Total in 1919, 600.

—

In this Clinic there are many daily dressings. The nurse in charge attends. One of the School Medical Officers is available when required.

The long and chronic nature of these affections leads to neglect if the cases are left to the parents to deal with, especially where the income is small. Distress of the child often leads to inability to absorb education, and in some cases such as impetigo, absence from School would be very unduly prolonged were it not for the existence of this Clinic.

OPHTHALMIC CLINIC.

Medical Officer : Mr. A. HALLIDIE, F.R.C.S.

During 1920, 13 Ophthalmic Clinics were held. There were 193 children examined, and of these, 65 were re-examinations. (In 1919, 171 children).

In 123 cases spectacles were prescribed for constant use, and in 31 for use when reading. In 34 cases no spectacles were necessary. In the remaining 5 cases of defect, 3 were operation cases.

Provision of spectacles :—

Provided free in 23 cases.

Provided on part payment in 33 cases.

Repaired on part payment in 1 case.

Note.—In 7 instances the patients were not actually attending Elementary Schools.

THROAT AND NOSE CLINIC.

Number of Clinics held, 21. (1919, 31).

Number of children attending, 162. (1919, 243).

AGES OF CHILDREN.

Years.			Years.		
3	...	1	11	...	12
4	...	3	12	...	14
5	...	14	13	...	17
6	...	19	14	...	2
7	...	19			—
8	...	27			162
9	...	24			—
10	...	10			

The children operated on are afterwards examined at their homes and at the Clinic at the Town Hall.

Others—

Promised private treatment	...	...	5
Refused treatment	...	...	24
Left address	...	...	3
Postponed	...	...	2

The Clinic is held at the Princess Alice Memorial Hospital, to the Chairman and Committee of which the Authority is indebted. When more suitable arrangements can be made, it will be more convenient to all concerned.

By special request of parents, 19 additional children were operated on at the Leaf Hospital.

EXAMINATION CLINIC.

The attendances of 780 children for 822 ailments amounted to 2,017, 836 boys and 1,181 girls.

The defects for which the children attended were the following :—

Nose and Throat Affections	...	...	197
Scabies	...	...	110
Errors of Refraction	...	...	53
Malnutrition	...	...	15
Impetigo	...	...	38
Defects of Heart and Circulation	...	...	5
Ear Diseases	...	...	24
Incontinence	...	...	8
Skin Diseases	...	...	49
Dental Disease	...	...	22
Enlarged Glands	...	...	2
Septic Sores	...	...	33
External Eye Disease	...	...	47
Injuries...	...	...	24
Lung Diseases	...	...	—
Other Ailments	...	...	195
			—
			822

Figures for 1919, 610 children with 615 ailments. —

DENTAL CLINIC.

The School dentist made three visits to Schools to select the children for treatment, but the system in vogue is to have all children aged six whose parents consent examined at the Clinic by the dentist. This is more convenient than a School examination.

Year after year there is a disappointing reluctance on the part of parents to regard dental defects as serious. The figures I append show what a large number of refusals of treatment occur.

DENTAL CLINIC, 1920.

Number of Clinics, 103.

Number of Attendances, 2,196.

Average, 21.3.

Number of Children, 1,803.

Age.	First Cases.	Re-examinations.	Teeth good.	Child refused treatment (re-exam.)	Totals.
3	3	—	—	—	3
4	5	—	1	—	5
5	17	—	—	—	17
6	178	11	9	2	189
7	195	80	26	2	275
8	43	213	40	1	256
9	24	221	42	1	245
10	32	228	61	1	260
11	10	185	63	—	195
12	36	126	46	—	162
13	25	88	31	1	113
14	13	60	16	—	73
15	3	6	4	—	9
16	—	1	—	—	1
Totals ..	584	1219	339	8	1803

CASES INVITED TO ATTEND DENTAL CLINIC, 1920, AND NOT
ATTENDING—PRIMARY CASES.

Age.	No reply.	Promised private treatment	Left Town.	Failed to attend.	Totals.
5	—	—	—	—	—
6	47	52	—	14	113
7	47	67	1	43	158
8	—	—	—	17	17
9	—	—	—	3	3
10	—	—	—	—	—
11	—	—	—	—	—
12	—	—	—	—	—
13	—	1	—	1	2
14	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—
16	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	94	120	1	78	293

6-year old children were inspected from 12 Schools.
Number inspected, 628.
Number with good teeth, 107.

CASES FOR RE-EXAMINATION.
ATTENDED 1919—NOT ATTENDED 1920.

Age.	Reason Un-known	Left Town.	Left School.	Promised private treatment	Parent refused treatment	Totals.
5	2	—	—	—	—	2
6	1	—	—	1	—	2
7	14	1	—	2	—	17
8	41	3	—	1	—	45
9	57	2	—	1	2	62
10	58	4	—	4	2	68
11	45	4	—	1	1	51
12	39	1	—	5	1	46
13	28	1	—	2	—	31
14	—	—	69	—	—	69
15	—	—	38	—	—	38
16	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	285	16	107	17	6	431

TUBERCULOSIS AND MALNUTRITION CLINIC.

Medical Officer : Dr. COGHILL.

Attendances 263 of 92 children. (In 1919, 92 children).

Old Cases, 40.

New Cases, 52.

At this Clinic Tuberculosis Contacts and Malnutrition Cases are examined.

Of the children examined, 5 were suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis or Consumption, and 16 had Tuberculosis elsewhere, as follows :—glands, 4 ; hip, 4 ; ankle, 1 ; abdomen, 4 ; spine, 1 ; knee, 1 ; and fingers, 1.

RINGWORM CLINIC.

X-Ray Medical Officer : Dr. HARWOOD-HARDMAN.

Cases of Ringworm are seen at the Tuesday and Thursday Clinics at the Town Hall by Dr. Coghill.

Where parents consent, cases of Ringworm of the head are sent for X-Ray treatment in Eastbourne.

Owing to the reduction in the number of cases, the Beach Road Ringworm School was closed at the end of the Spring term, 1920.

The number of children in attendance at the time of closure was as follows :—

Boys.	Girls.	Total.
9	1	10

Number of cases at beginning of 1920, 31 cases in 27 families, 7 boys and 23 girls (1 boy under school age).

Cured during the year, 47 cases, 15 boys and 32 girls (1 boy and 1 girl under school age).

Left town during year, 2 cases, 1 boy and 1 girl.

Fresh cases during year, 30 cases in 23 families, 17 boys and 13 girls (1 boy and 2 girls under school age).

Cases at end of year, 11 cases in 9 families, 6 boys and 5 girls (1 boy under school age).

Cases sent for X-ray treatment, 19, 8 boys and 11 girls.

Cases sent for X-ray treatment (under school age) 3, 1 boy and 2 girls.

 EAR DISEASES.

Medical Officer : Dr. J. N. DONNELLAN.

This Clinic was commenced in April, 1920, for specially difficult cases.

Seven Clinics were held during the year. There were 131 attendances of 60 children.

The ages of the children attending was as follows :—

Years.			Years.		
3	...	1	10	...	4
4	...	1	11	...	10
5	...	4	12	...	10
6	...	5	13	...	6
7	...	6	14	...	4
8	...	5	15	...	1
9	...	3			---
			Total	...	60

Twelve cases were referred for operation, 45 for Clinical treatment and 3 required no treatment.

Ordinary cases are seen at the Minor Ailments and Examination Clinics.

UNCLEANLINESS AND SCABIES.

There is a special attendant for bathing the children, under the care of the Superintendent Nurse. Number of baths, etc., at the Special Bath, 1,067, 1,038 for children and 29 for adults.

TREATMENT OF UNCLEANLINESS.

The School Nurses periodically visit each school to examine children as regards cleanliness, the average number of visits to each School for the year being 19.5, the total number of examinations being 293.

Six hundred and fifty-three children were found to be unclean, and the usual procedure is to serve a cleansing notice on the parents. Where this is found to be ineffective, the children are sent to the Cleansing Station at Seaside Baths and cleansed, the number so dealt with during the year being 18.

The Cleansing Station is a bath room used for no other purpose, and attached to the Public Baths. It has a bath, a disinfecting apparatus for clothes, and arrangements for making light refreshments such as cocoa. While the child is having its bath the clothes can be disinfected and

dried. The Local Authority employs an attendant who bathes the children under the supervision of the chief nurse and payment is made to this attendant at the rate of per child. The Cleansing Station is used for others besides Elementary School Children.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

No legal proceedings were taken under the Children Act, 1908.

BACKWARDNESS AND MENTAL DEFECT.

Medical Officers : Drs. WILLOUGHBY and COGHILL.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY.

Fourteen children were specially examined, viz., 11 boys and 3 girls ; 6 were found suitable for the Special School, and 6 are being tried there.

The figures of the Special School in Whitley Road are as follows :—

During 1920, 5 boys and 4 girls were admitted ; 7 boys and 5 girls left.

The numbers on the books at the end of the year were—boys, 35 ; girls, 21 ; total, 56.

The causes of the leaving of the boys were as follows :—

Work	...	...	...	4
Left the town	...	...	...	1
Excluded	...	...	...	1
Died	...	...	...	1

The causes of the leaving of the girls were :—

Left at the age of 16	...	...	1
At work	...	...	1
Excluded (fits)	...	...	3

I submit a report from Miss March as to the after-care and children who have left the School, as follows :—

The After-care Committee was formed in 1910, and its members kept in close touch with the children not only while they were at School, but also when they left, and visited them in their homes. The Committee also helped to find suitable situations for the children.

In 1914, the After-care Committee was asked to form the nucleus of the Voluntary Association for Eastbourne in connection with Mental Defect. Since then the work of visiting the children and their parents at the homes has been carried out by the official visitor appointed for this purpose.

Nearly all the former pupils either visit the School where occasional entertainments are given or keep in touch with it by correspondence. Most of them are at present employed, and several are doing very well.

The following summary shows the manner in which those who have left are employed :—

Boys.			Girls.		
At Home	...	4	At Home	...	4
Gasworks	...	1	Abroad	...	1
Farm work	...	2	Dressmaking, etc.	...	2
Selling papers	...	1	Daily work	...	2
Baker	...	1	Domestic Service	...	4
Hotel	...	2	Laundry	...	4
Boot repairing	...	3	Training Home	...	1
Corporation	...	2			
Golf Links	...	1			
Motor driving	...	2			
Butcher	...	1			
Errand boys	...	2			
Milkman	...	1			
Fisherman	...	1			
Gardener	...	1			
Houseboys	...	2			
Engineering works	...	1			
Recommended for					
Residential Home	...	1			

I submit the following special report on backward children in the Schools :—

BACKWARD CHILDREN. (Senior Departments only).

In the Schools there are a large number of backward children, and I have made enquiries with a view to ascertaining the causes of the backwardness in each case, the amount

of set back and the result both as regards the education of the backward children themselves, and of the other children in the same classes.

In this work I have been largely dependent on the kind assistance of the Head Teachers, who have given me the necessary information on which to base the investigation.

The backward children in each School were arranged in classification as to "one year retarded," "two years retarded," and "three (and over) years retarded," and the Head Teachers kindly supplied me with information as far as possible as to the apparent causes of the backwardness.

The total number of backward children was 504 (257 boys and 247 girls), or a percentage of the number on the books of 13.7.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Backward 1 year	159	169	328
Backward 2 years	84	64	148
Backward 3 years	14	14	28
Total	257	247	504

The causes of the backwardness are often multiple, and difficult to tabulate. The predominating causes ascertained are set out in the following tables. The large number omitted from these two tables are principally the youngest children recently admitted, and concerning whom it is difficult yet to ascribe a definite cause.

Where the causes are multiple, the principal one is that indicated in the table :—

Mentally Retarded.	Boys.				Girls.				Grand Total.
	1 year.	2 years.	3 years.	Total.	1 year.	2 years.	3 years.	Total.	
Weak Intellect, Dulness, General Inability	33	11	4	48	15	11	6	32	80
Medical reasons, Illnesses, Defects, such as Deafness	39	25	4	68	49	18	4	71	139
Irregular Attendance ..	2	4	1	7	11	5	1	17	24
Neglect at Home ..	7	4	—	11	10	2	—	12	23
Frequent change of School ..	4	3	1	8	5	2	—	7	15
Special Cases ..	5	1	1	7*	1	2	—	3†	10
Totals..	90	48	11	149	91	40	11	142	291

* Poverty, 2; Age, 1; "Lazy," 1; Private School, 2; Foreigner, 1.

† Poverty, 2; Employment, 1; "Immature parents" 1.

From this table it will be seen that the commonest cause of backwardness is illness, causing long interruptions in the course of study, or rendering the child unfit for the necessary amount of study.

The above cases and their causes are receiving attention, and the only class of case requiring special consideration as a class is that of dulness and general inability. In one School, viz., St. Mary's Girls, these cases are so numerous that a special class has had to be formed. This School is situated at a long distance from the Special School, and it seems likely that there will always be enough backward children there for a special class. I respectfully suggest that the Education Committee should consider the advisability of the appointment of a teacher in that School specially qualified to teach backward children, unless they can be sent to the Special School.

At St. Andrew's Boys' School there is a number of boys on the border line, and whom it is difficult to teach with the others in the same classes.

The Head Teachers should in every case have the power of not promoting children according to age, but according to ability to work in a particular class, for the triple advantage of the backward child, of the other children in the class, and of the teacher.

OPEN-AIR EDUCATION.

An important advance was made in preventive hygiene by the opening of a School for the education of delicate children in the open air on June 7th, 1920.

There are always about 100 School children suffering from anæmia, malnutrition and similar conditions, who are unable to be properly educated in ordinary Schools, and these often do well in a Special Open-Air School. The results even in the short time the School has been started are already very encouraging. The children are practically all better in health, and during the period of treatment, have been able to continue useful education.

The School has been adapted from a portion of a Military temporary Camp, used in the War as a Convalescent Camp for Officers, from 1916. There are six huts used as follows :—

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. Two Class-rooms | } Sides of huts removeable. |
| 2. Rest room | |
| 3. Dining room. | |
| 4. Head Teachers', Teachers' and Doctors' room. | |
| 5. Store and Kitchen. | |
| 6. Ablutions. | |

There is accommodation for 50 children. The figures from the opening to December 31st were as follows :—

Admitted :—Boys, 34 ; Girls, 31 ; Total, 65.

Discharged :—Boys, 7 ; Girls, 16 ; Total, 23.

Of the discharged, 14 returned to ordinary Schools, better in health, and 2 returned to Private Schools, at parents' request.

It is found that the School can be used all the year round.

There is a large area of surrounding ground, part of which the children use for flower and vegetable gardening.

The Authority were fortunate in obtaining as Head Mistress, Miss E. G. Martin, whose interest and energy have so much contributed to the success of the School. She is ably assisted by Miss E. M. Thorne and Miss A. Luther.

No doubt it would be to the benefit of every child to be educated under such conditions, rather than in closed classrooms. At the end of another year a more complete return can be made as to results ; so far the experiment has been a success. I suggest an early extension of this School.

The Staff consists of Head Mistress, two Assistant Teachers, Cook and Kitchen Maid and Part-time Caretaker.

The children are brought to School in the morning by motor 'bus, and taken back in the same way in the evening.

Until at least a year has elapsed, a statement of accounts would be incomplete and of little use.

The Medical Inspector of the Board of Education has expressed his approval of the arrangements.

Dinner is supplied at a charge of 4d., and hot milk is given in certain cases in the course of the morning (16 cases at present).

The number of meals served from June 7th was 5,817. The cost averaged 5½d. per meal. The balance of expenditure over income from the children was £45 19s. 2¼d.

Vegetables grown in the School garden amounted in value to £5 17s. 10d.

The nature of the disability in the various children was as follows :—

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Anæmia	11	6	17
Malnutrition	6	4	10
Both the above	4	3	7
Bronchitis	4	2	6
Nervous Diseases	1	3	4
Heart Weakness	—	2	2
Spinal Curvature	—	2	2
Others	8	14	22

Pulmonary Tuberculosis cases are not taken.

PHYSICAL TRAINING.

There is no Director of Physical Training. In my opinion this subject requires organising in the interests of health of the children. In some Schools, such as Willowfield and Christ Church, the training is good, but a complete system for all Schools would be beneficial.

PROVISION OF MEALS.

A certain amount of provision of meals (at no expense to the rates) has been made as follows :—

- (A) At the Special School for backward children.
- (B) At the Open-Air School.
- (C) At St. Mary's School.

(A) SPECIAL SCHOOL.

At the Special School the children are provided with the mid-day meal. In addition to these children, a certain

number of those suffering from malnutrition were also given a mid-day meal at the Special School.

The report has been kept by the Head Mistress. I submit her figures from 5th March, 1920, to 21st December, 1920.

The number of dinners provided for the School children was 3,166 ; for children suffering from malnutrition and not belonging to the School, 2,265 ; a total of 5,431.

In addition, 725 breakfasts were provided.

The average cost per meal for these 6,156 meals was 3½d. The total cost was as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Cash	75	16	7
Value of vegetables from garden ...	4	11	11
Value of gifts in kind	7	2	0
	<hr/>		
	£87	10	6

Of the money received during this period, £37 13s. 3d. was paid by the parents and guardians of the children, and £39 15s. was obtained from the Mayor's Poor Fund.

The number of children receiving free meals was 12.

(B) OPEN-AIR SCHOOL.

Every child at this School receives a substantial dinner daily at a charge of 4d.

The cost from June 7th to December 22nd worked out at 5½d. per meal. Further details will be found on page 29.

In a few cases children whose parents could not afford the 4d. received free meals. Children who require it are also given hot milk in the course of the morning.

(C) ST. MARY'S SCHOOL.

Owing to the distance of the School from the Hutment Camp, certain children could not well return home for a mid-day meal. Under the supervision of Canon Streatfeild and ladies of the Old Town, dinners were provided at the Pitman Institute. This provision of dinners was entirely apart from the Authority. The number of children during

1920 (principally during the Winter) reached over 100, having dinner daily, and the charge made was 3d. In 1921 the numbers have diminished to between 40 and 50. The cost of the dinners did not exceed 3d. per head while the numbers were high, but there is a financial loss at present, which is borne privately.

SCHOOL BATHS.

There are no baths provided at the Schools. In connection with Verminous conditions and Scabies, special baths are provided free. There are Public Baths at each end of the Borough provided by the Corporation, and these have been much used by School children during the year. The new houses erected by the Corporation are all provided with baths.

SWIMMING BATH.

The municipal swimming bath has been extensively used by Elementary School children during the year.

Swimming certificates, provided by Mr. Councillor Hollins, are annually awarded to Elementary School children who having learned to swim during the year, swim the length of the bath from the deep end. 85 of these certificates were awarded in 1920, 40 to boys and 45 to girls.

With the kind assistance of the Swimming Club, who presented also various prizes, an Annual Gala for Elementary School children is held. The Education Committee gave prizes in 1920, and a handsome Challenge Shield for Team Swimming was presented by the Eastbourne Schoolmasters' Association. A Silver Cup has also been presented by the Schoolmistresses' Association.

The number of times children used the bath in 1920 was 7,855, boys, 4,260, girls, 3,595. These were not exclusively Elementary School children.

CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS, TEACHERS, SCHOOL
ATTENDANCE OFFICERS AND VOLUNTARY
BODIES.

Throughout this report, I have alluded to the co-operation of various bodies and individuals in the School Medical work.

The attendances of parents reached a high percentage during 1920, as shown by the table on page 8.

The teachers take a kind interest in the work in spite of the occasional interruption of the course of their duties, and their help is most valuable.

Communication and mutual assistance is constant between the Medical Staff and the School Attendance Department.

The work of the After Care Committee of the Special School has been alluded to at length on page 23. It is a difficult work well carried out, as shown by the successful results. Each School has its Care Committee. The Clergy of the various parishes and others are very kind in assisting the department in individual cases.

TABLE I.—NUMBER OF CHILDREN INSPECTED
1ST JANUARY, 1920, to 31ST DECEMBER, 1920.

(A) ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Age.	Entrants.					
	3	4	5	6	Other ages.	Total.
Boys	1	51	99	51	13	215
Girls	—	44	97	58	20	219
Total ..	1	95	196	109	33	434

Age.	Intermediate Group.	Leavers.			Other ages.	Total.	Grand Total.
	8	12	13	14			
Boys ..	219	248	15	5	28	515	730
Girls ..	248	232	4	4	20	508	727
Totals ..	467	480	19	9	48	1023	1457

(B) SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.

	Special Cases.	Re-examinations (i.e., No. of Children re-examined).
Boys	46	601
Girls	31	572
Total ..	77	1173

(c) TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN INSPECTED BY THE MEDICAL OFFICER, WHETHER AS ROUTINE OR SPECIAL CASES (No child being counted more than once in one year).

Number of Individual Children Inspected.
1457 + 77 = 1534.

TABLE II.—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND IN THE COURSE OF MEDICAL INSPECTION IN 1920.

Defect or Disease.	Routine Inspections.		Specials.	
	No. referred for Treatment.	No. to be kept under observation.	No. referred for Treatment.	No. to be kept under observation.
MALNUTRITION	24	8	10	10
UNCLEANLINESS—Head	64	94	16	22
Body	5	23	—	—
SKIN—				
Ringworm—Head	1	—	—	—
Body	1	—	—	—
Scabies	8	—	1	—
Impetigo	7	—	3	—
Other Diseases (Non-Tubercular) ..	4	4	—	—
EYE—				
Blepharitis	7	1	6	—
Conjunctivitis	5	—	—	—
Keratitis	—	—	—	—
Corneal Ulcer	—	—	—	—
Corneal Opacities	—	1	—	—
Defective Vision	81	49	26	36
Squint	8	5	4	4
Other Conditions	2	2	—	—
EAR—				
Defective Hearing	7	6	1	1
Otitis Media	14	—	2	5
Other Ear Diseases	—	—	—	—
NOSE AND THROAT—				
Enlarged Tonsils	42	6	3	1
Adenoids	5	2	1	—
Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids ..	31	11	—	1
Other Conditions	—	3	—	—
ENLARGED CERVICAL GLANDS (NON-TUBERCULAR)	7	5	—	—
DEFECTIVE SPEECH	—	14	—	5
TEETH—Dental Diseases (See Clinic Report) and Table IV. (D)	—	—	—	—
HEART AND CIRCULATION—				
Heart Disease—Organic	—	19	—	3
Functional	1	13	—	1
Anæmia	16	19	6	1
LUNGS—				
Bronchitis	8	13	—	—
Other Non-Tubercular Diseases ..	—	—	—	—

RETURN OF DEFECTS.—Continued.

Defect or Disease.	Routine Inspections.		Specials.	
	No. referred for Treatment.	* No. to be kept under observation.	No. referred for Treatment.	+No. to be kept under observatoin.
TUBERCULOSIS—				
Pulmonary—Definite	—	—	—	—
Suspected	1	2	—	1
Non-Pulmonary—Glands	2	2	1	1
Spine	—	—	—	—
Hip	—	2	—	—
Other bones and joints	—	1	—	—
Skin	—	—	—	—
Other Forms	—	—	—	—
NERVOUS SYSTEM—				
Epilepsy	—	3	—	5
Chorea	1	—	—	—
Other conditions	—	—	—	—
DEFORMITIES—				
Rickets	—	11	—	1
Spinal Curvature	4	5	—	2
Other Forms	2	4	2	6
OTHER DEFECTS AND DISEASES ..	5	10	—	7

Number of individual children having defects which required treatment or to be kept under observation, 547.

TABLE III.—NUMERICAL RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN IN THE AREA IN 1920.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
BLIND (including partially blind, within the meaning of the Elementary Education (Blind and Deaf Children) Act, 1893).			
Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	—	—	—
Attending Certified Schools for the Blind ..	2	1	3
Not at School	—	1	1
DEAF AND DUMB (including partially deaf, within the meaning of the Elementary Education (Blind and Deaf Children) Act, 1893).			
Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	—	—	—
Attending Certified Schools for the Deaf ..	2	—	2
Not at School	—	—	—
MENTALLY DEFICIENT.			
<i>Feeble Minded—</i>			
Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	2	—	2
Attending Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children	1	—	1
Notified to the Local Control Authority by Local Education Authority during the year	3	3	6
Not at School	2	2	4
<i>Imbeciles—</i>			
At School	—	—	—
Not at School	2	—	2
<i>Idiots</i>	—	2	2
EPILEPTICS.			
Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	11	5	16
Attending Certified Schools for Epileptics ..	2	2	4
In Institutions other than Certified Schools	1	—	1
Not at School	2	2	4
PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE.			
<i>Pulmonary Tuberculosis—</i>			
Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	—	—	—
Attending Certified Schools for Physically Defective Children	—	—	—
In Institutions other than Certified Schools	1	2	3
Not at School	—	—	—
<i>Crippling due to Tuberculosis—</i>			
Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	4	2	6
Attending Certified Schools for Physically Defective Children	1	1	2
In Institutions other than Certified Schools	1	1	2
Not at School	1	2	3

NUMERICAL RETURN.—Continued.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE—Continued.			
<i>Crippling due to causes other than Tuberculosis, i.e., Paralysis, Rickets, Traumatism—</i>			
Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	8	7	15
Attending Certified Schools for Physically Defective Children	2	1	3
In Institutions other than Certified Schools	—	—	—
Not at School	1	3	4
<i>Other Physical Defectives, e.g., delicate and other children suitable for admission to Open-Air Schools; children suffering from severe heart disease—</i>			
Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	17	11	28
Attending Open-Air Schools	32	32	64
Attending Certified Schools for Physically Defective Children other than Open-Air Schools	—	—	—
Not at School	1	1	2
DULL OR BACKWARD.			
Retarded 2 years	46	48	94
Retarded 3 years	6	11	17

TABLE IV.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF CHILDREN DURING 1920.

(A) TREATMENT OF MINOR AILMENTS.

Disease or Defect.	Number of Children referred for treatment.	Number of Children Treated.		
		Under Local Education Authority's Scheme.	Other-wise.	Total.
Skin—				
Ringworm—Head ..	1	—	1	1
Body ..	1	1	—	1
Scabies	9	9	—	9
Impetigo	10	10	—	10
Minor Injuries ..	—	—	—	—
Other Skin Disease ..	4	4	—	4
Ear Disease	24	16	—	16
Eye Disease (external and other)	20	20	—	20
Miscellaneous	56	26	6	32

(B) TREATMENT OF VISUAL DEFECT.

Number of Children submitted to Refraction.					Number of Children.				
Number of Children referred for Refraction.	Under Local Education Authority's Scheme or Clinic or Hospital.	By Private Practitioner or Hospital.	Otherwise.	Total.	For whom Glasses were Prescribed.	For whom Glasses were Provided.	Recommended for treatment other than by Glasses.	Received other forms of treatment.	For whom no treatment was considered necessary.
119	102	3	—	105	84	80	4	2 (2 are awaiting operation)	17

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(C) TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

Number of Children referred for treatment.	Number of Children received Operative Treatment.			Number of Children received other forms of treatment.
	Under Local Education Authority's Scheme—Clinic or Hospital.	By Private Practitioner or Hospital.	Total.	
82	67	4	71	—

(D) TREATMENT OF DENTAL DEFECTS.

(1) NUMBER OF CHILDREN DEALT WITH.

Age—	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Specials.	Total.
(a) Inspected by Dentist ..		582	39									621
(b) Referred for Treatment ..	17	291	353	60	27	32	10	36	27	13	Practically all except 6 and 7 group.	866
(c) Actually Treated ..	17	178	195	43	24	32	10	36	25	13		573
(d) Re-treated (Result of Periodical Examination) ..	—	11	80	213	221	228	185	126	88	60		1212

NOTE.—All children aged six are submitted to the Dentist for examination if they are permitted by the parents to attend. The others are sent to the Clinic as "Specials."

(2) PARTICULARS OF THE TIME GIVEN AND OF OPERATIONS UNDERTAKEN.

No. of half days Inspection.	No. of half days Treatment.	Total No. of attendances at Clinic.	Number of Permanent Teeth.		Number of Temporary Teeth.		Total number of Fillings.	No. of administrations of general anaesthetics included in (4) and (6)	No. of other Operations.	
			Extracted	Filled	Extracted	Filled			Permanent Teeth.	Temporary Teeth.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
3	103	2196	175	220	1138	350	570	33	45	8

TABLE V.—SUMMARY OF TREATMENT OF DEFECTS AS SHEWN IN TABLE IV.
(A, B, C, D, and F, but excluding E).

Disease or Defect.	Number of Children referred for treatment.	Number of Children Treated.		
		Under Local Education Authority's Scheme.	Other-wise.	Total.
Minor Ailments	125	86	7	93
Visual Defects	119	102	3	105
Defects of Nose and Throat ..	82	67	4	71
Dental Defects	866	573	—	573
Other Defects	56	26	6	32
Total	1248	854	20	874

TABLE VI.—SUMMARY RELATING TO CHILDREN MEDICALLY INSPECTED AT THE ROUTINE INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR 1920.

(1) The total number of children medically inspected at the routine inspections	1457
(2) The number of children in (1) suffering from—	
Malnutrition	32
Skin Disease	25
Defective Vision (including Squint)	143
Eye Disease	18
Defective Hearing	13
Ear Diseases	14
Nose and Throat Diseases	100
Enlarged Cervical Glands (non-tubercular)	12
Defective Speech	14
Dental Disease	33
Heart Disease—	
Organic	19
Functional	14
Anæmia	35
Lung Disease (non-tubercular)	21
Tuberculosis—	
Pulmonary—Definite	—
Suspected	3
Non-Pulmonary	7
Disease of the nervous system	4
Deformities	26
Other Defects and Diseases	15
(3) The number of children in (1) suffering from defects (other than uncleanliness or defective clothing or footgear), who require to be kept under observation (but not referred for treatment)	220
(4) The number of children in (1) who were referred for treatment (excluding uncleanliness, defective clothing, etc.)	327
(5) The number of children in (4) who received treatment for one or more defects (excluding uncleanliness, defective clothing, etc.)	221

MUNICIPAL SECONDARY
AND
CONTINUATION SCHOOLS REPORTS.

MUNICIPAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

There are two Municipal Secondary Schools:—

(A) Boys.—Number on books at end of year, 306.

(B) Girls.—Seniors, number on books at end of year, 294.

Young children.—Boys, 31 ; Girls, 31 ; Total, 356.

The premises are in each case satisfactory.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF CHILDREN.

This commenced on 18th June, 1920, in the case of the boys and on 1st June, 1920, in the case of the girls. All children were inspected. The Staff for Medical Inspection, etc., is the same as in the case of Elementary Schools, see page 7, with the addition of Dr. T. Turner, as Inspecting Medical Officer for boys.

The arrangements for inspection are similar to those in the case of Elementary Schools.

The schedule used is that suggested by the Board of Education, and differs somewhat from that in use in Elementary Schools.

Re-examinations and following up are carried out as in the case of Elementary Schools.

The results of inspection are set forth in the tables appended. It will be noticed that the outstanding unsatisfactory items are:—

1. Defects of the eyes, and especially abnormal vision.
2. Enlarged tonsils and adenoids.
3. Enlarged cervical glands.
4. Anæmia.
5. Deformities.

In the table summarising these it will be noted that for the most part, especially in the case of deformities, the defects were not sufficient to require actual medical treatment, but rather observation.

The defects mentioned were often multiple in the same child. Of the 668 children inspected, 166 individual children were referred for treatment or observation, *i.e.*, nearly 25%. The appended tables show the defects in detail.

Mr. C. J. Blackburn and Miss C. Adams have kindly given us much assistance in the work.

There were 7 refusals on the part of parents to allow inspection.

Parents were present in 25% of the inspections.

MEDICAL TREATMENT.

The children at the Secondary Schools are as a rule in a better position financially than those in the Elementary Schools. The Authority accordingly resolved that only those children promoted by scholarship from Elementary Schools should automatically be treated at the School Clinics, together with those whose parents were able to show they could not afford ordinary medical attention. Accordingly the parents were specially called upon to give the necessary attention, and on the whole this has been well done, especially in the case of the girls. In the case of many boys, the parents had to receive reminders.

Twenty-five children were treated free in the Authority's Clinics.

TABLE I.—NUMBER OF CHILDREN INSPECTED,
1ST JANUARY, 1920, to 31ST DECEMBER, 1920.

(A) ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Age—	Entrants.					
	3	4	5	6	Other Ages.	Total.
Boys	—	2	2	7	17	28
Girls	—	1	3	8	11	23
Totals ..	—	3	5	15	28	51

Age—	Intermediate Group.	Leavers.			Other ages.	Total.	Grand Total.
	8	12	13	14			
Boys ..	9	83	55	48	111	306	334
Girls ..	16	60	47	40	148	311	334
Totals ..	25	143	102	88	259	617	668

(B) SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.

	Special Cases.	Re-examinations (<i>i.e.</i> , No. of children re-examined).
Boys	—	61
Girls	—	39
Total ..	—	100

(c) TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN INSPECTED
BY THE MEDICAL OFFICER, WHETHER AS ROUTINE
OR SPECIAL CASES.

(No child being counted more than once in one year).

Number of Individual Children Inspected.
668

TABLE II.—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND IN THE COURSE OF MEDICAL INSPECTION IN 1920.

* Not referred for treatment.

† There were no "Specials," as all were examined.

Defect or Disease.	Routine Inspections.		†Specials.	
	No. referred for Treatment.	*No. to be kept under observation.	No. referred for Treatment.*	*No. to be kept under observation.
MALNUTRITION	—	19	—	—
UNCLEANLINESS—Head	6	—	—	—
Body	1	—	—	—
SKIN—				
Ringworm—Head	1	—	—	—
Body	—	—	—	—
Scabies	3	—	—	—
Impetigo	1	—	—	—
Other Diseases (non-tubercular) ..	—	1	—	—
EYE—				
Blepharitis	3	1	—	—
Conjunctivitis	—	—	—	—
Keratitis	—	—	—	—
Corneal Ulcer	1	—	—	—
Corneal Opacities	—	—	—	—
Defective Vision	47	20	—	—
Squint	9	4	—	—
Other Conditions	1	—	—	—
EAR—				
Defective Hearing	3	3	—	—
Otitis Media	2	—	—	—
Other Ear Diseases	—	—	—	—
NOSE AND THROAT—				
Enlarged Tonsils	10	33	—	—
Adenoids	7	6	—	—
Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids ..	7	3	—	—
Other Conditions	—	—	—	—
ENLARGED CERVICAL GLANDS (NON-TUBERCULAR)	—	46	—	—
DEFECTIVE SPEECH	—	3	—	—
TEETH—Dental Diseases (See above).				
HEART AND CIRCULATION—				
Heart Disease—Organic	—	2	—	—
Functional	—	9	—	—
Anæmia	10	10	—	—
LUNGS—				
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—
Other Non-Tubercular Diseases ..	—	3	—	—

RETURN OF DEFECTS.—Continued.

Defect or Disease.	Routine Inspections.		†Specials.	
	No. referred for Treatment.	*No. to be kept under observation.	No. referred for Treatment.	*No. to be kept under observation.
TUBERCULOSIS—				
Pulmonary—Definite	—	—	—	—
Suspected	—	—	—	—
Non-Pulmonary—Glands	—	1	—	—
Spine	—	—	—	—
Hip	1	—	—	—
Other bones and joints	—	—	—	—
Skin	—	—	—	—
Other Forms	—	—	—	—
NERVOUS SYSTEM—				
Epilepsy	—	—	—	—
Chorea	—	—	—	—
Other Conditions	—	—	—	—
DEFORMITIES—				
Rickets	—	12	—	—
Spinal Curvature	5	14	—	—
Other Forms	—	12	—	—
OTHER DEFECTS AND DISEASES	6	5	—	—

Number of individual children having defects which required treatment or to be kept under observation, 166.

TABLE VI.—SUMMARY RELATING TO CHILDREN MEDICALLY INSPECTED AT THE ROUTINE INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR 1920.

(1) The total number of children medically inspected at the routine inspections	668
(2) The number of children in (1) suffering from—	
Malnutrition	19
Skin Disease	6
Defective Vision (including Squint)	80
Eye Disease	6
Defective Hearing	6
Ear Diseases	2
Nose and Throat Diseases	66
Enlarged Cervical Glands (non-tubercular)	46
Defective Speech	3
Dental Disease	22

Heart Disease—								
Organic .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Functional .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Anæmia .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Lung Disease (non-tubercular)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Tuberculosis—								
Pulmonary—Definite ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Suspected ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Non-Pulmonary ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Disease of the nervous system	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Deformities .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	43
Other Defects and Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
(3) The number of children in (1) suffering from defects (other than uncleanliness or defective clothing or footgear) who require to be kept under observation (but not referred for treatment) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	68
(4) The number of children in (1) who were referred for treatment (excluding uncleanliness, defective clothing, etc.) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	98
(5) The number of children in (4) who received treatment for one or more defects (excluding uncleanliness, defective clothing, etc.) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	86

TABLE IV.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS IN CHILDREN DURING 1920.

(A) TREATMENT OF MINOR AILMENTS.

Disease or Defect.	Number of Children referred for treatment.	Number of Children Treated.		
		Under Local Education Authority's Scheme.	Other-wise.	Total.
Skin—				
Ringworm—Head ..	1	—	1	1
Body ..	—	—	—	—
Scabies	3	3	—	3
Impetigo	1	—	1	1
Minor Injuries ..	—	—	—	—
Other Skin Disease ..	—	—	—	—
Ear Disease	2	—	1	1
Eye Disease (external and other)	5	—	5	5
Miscellaneous	31	—	23	23

DENTAL CLINIC, 1920.

Age.	First Cases.	Re-examinations.	Teeth good.	Child refused treatment (re-exam.)	Totals.
4	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—
6	—	—	—	—	—
7	—	—	—	—	—
8	—	—	—	—	—
9	—	1	—	—	1
10	—	1	—	—	1
11	1	—	—	—	1
12	1	3	1	—	4
13	—	3	1	—	3
14	2	1	—	—	3
15	—	—	—	—	—
16	1	3	1	—	4
Totals ..	5	12	3	—	17

TABLE V.—SUMMARY OF TREATMENT OF DEFECTS.

Disease or Defect.	Number of Children referred for treatment.	Number of Children Treated.		
		Under Local Education Authority's Scheme.	Other-wise.	Total.
Minor Ailments	43	3	31	34
Visual Defects	47	4	16	20
Defects of Nose and Throat	24	—	9	9
Dental Defects	22	17	5	22
Other Defects	43	1	27	28
Total	179	25	88	113

MUNICIPAL CONTINUATION SCHOOL.

The Voluntary Continuation School for boys and girls beyond School age under the Education Act, 1918, was opened on 22nd September, 1919, at the Technical Institute.

The arrangements made for medical inspection were as follows:—Dr. T. Turner was appointed to examine the boys and Dr. H. E. Coghill to examine the girls. The first medical examination took place on 18th November, 1920, in the case of the boys, and on 9th November, 1920, in the case of the girls.

All the children were medically examined, the total being 143, with the exception of 15 (1 boy and 14 girls), who refused examination. Parents were invited to be present, and came in the case of 3 boys and 16 girls. The schedule of inspection was the same as that for Secondary Schools and as set forth by the Board of Education. The medical inspection commenced so late in the year that "following up" has not taken place. The totals therefore will not show any results of re-examinations which will take place in 1921.

Table II. shows the results of the medical inspection as regards discovery of defects. The percentage of defects is very high, much higher than in the case of Elementary or Secondary Schools. Fifty-nine children or 41% had defects necessitating treatment (29) or observation (30). The individual defects numbered 310, 75 requiring treatment and 235 requiring observation. A study of the tables will show that the defects included principally deformities, enlargements of glands, defective vision and anæmia. I attribute the large number of deformities, many of them slight, but still interfering with the perfect health of the individual, to the lack of systematic physical training in the Elementary Schools' curriculum. It is obvious, I think, that the children do not get sufficient physical exercises. If they did, there could not have been the number of

mis-shapen spines and flat feet. In this connection I have submitted a report from Dr. Turner on the result of his examination of the Schools.

With reference to the sub-maxillary glands, it is very likely that the dental defects are part causes.

The number of cases of defective vision illustrate the importance of well lit class-rooms and suitable desks during the course of the Elementary School training.

It must be remembered that many of these children were going through a critical portion of their childhood during the acute stage of the late war, but at the same time it is very disquieting to know that between one-half and one-third of the children are certainly not A 1.

The arrangements as regards treatment are the same as in the case of the Secondary Schools. Where it is clear that the means of the parents are such that the child cannot receive proper attention and treatment, the Elementary Schools Clinics are available, but the rule is to call the parents' attention to the defects and to trust to their seeing that the treatment is carried out. The cases will be followed up to see what steps the parents take.

The premises in which the School is held are satisfactory, but the gymnasium arrangements are not so. The gymnasium is not a suitable place for physical drill, and as regards the breathing exercises, which are so important, it is not only unsuitable, but it is a place in which such exercises cannot with safety be conducted, owing to the dust, etc., which is produced by the movement of the children in the building, and the want of suitable ventilation.

REPORT BY DR. TURNER.

I beg to report that I have examined every boy in the Secondary School, and also four months later examined the observation cases. The general physique of the School may be considered good. The defects found consisted mainly of enlarged tonsils, adenoids, non-tubercular cervical glands and flat feet. I was struck by the almost complete absence of curvature of the spine serious enough to require treatment.

Breathing exercises every morning were suggested and immediately adopted. These have been done very thoroughly, and I am glad to say have resulted in a marked improvement in the general physique of the boys, and further, have greatly diminished the cases of tonsils, adenoids and non-tubercular glands. It is hoped that a special class for boys with flat feet will be formed later, and this, I am sure, will improve this affection.

The boys of the Continuation School have also been examined. In this case the physique was poor, and a large number of the boys suffered from defects, especially flat feet. The reason seems to be that the boys only attend School twice a week, and therefore get no systematic training and very little games. The errand boys, as a class, were particularly bad, and this appears to be due to several causes :—

- (A) They are, as a class, drawn from poorer homes.
- (B) The less intelligent boys are, as a rule, sent as errand boys, which means a greater percentage of physically unfit.
- (C) The work is often hard, manual work in a hilly town like ours.

Breathing exercises were suggested and adopted, but one cannot hope much from breathing exercises only twice a week.

I examined the gymnasium, and can only describe it as thoroughly bad. It is a large room below the ground, very badly ventilated, and very difficult, if not impossible, to ventilate efficiently. The floor is concrete with numerous cracks, and after the boys have been drilling two minutes they are surrounded by a cloud of dust, which completely spoils any benefit they may derive from the exercises.

As the boys are in many cases unable to afford gymnastic shoes, all drilling and exercises are done in boots, and, therefore, no flat foot exercises can be undertaken.

I would suggest a new gymnasium, such as an Army hut, on the adjoining ground. I would also suggest that the

Corporation buy shoes and sell them to the boys at cost. Such shoes would, I understand, cost 2/6 to 2/9 a pair, according to quality.

The games in this School are very unsatisfactory. Apparently the School has the use of two grounds in Gildredge Park on Wednesday and Saturday, and these grounds are used almost entirely for matches. This means that the poorer players never get a game. I would suggest that these grounds should be given permanently to the School, and so enable the boys to play football for say the last hour of School. The grounds could also be used for drill, exercises and rifle corps, and in Summer cricket could be played every evening after School. I put these recommendations forward, for, on enquiring of the boys, I was surprised at the small amount of exercise they seem to take voluntarily.

In conclusion, I would like to thank Mr. Blackburn and Mr. Rollings for the way in which they arranged the inspections, and also for the way in which they acted on any suggestions made. Mr. Primmer of the Continuation School has also kindly taken much interest in the work.

T. TURNER, M.B., B.S.

TABLE I.—NUMBER OF CHILDREN INSPECTED,
1ST JANUARY, 1920, to 31ST DECEMBER, 1920.

(A) ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Age—	14	15	16	17	Total.	Grand Total.
Boys ..	29	38	4	—	71	71
Girls ..	30	38	2	2	72	72
Totals	59	76	6	2	143	143

(B) SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.

	Special Cases.	Re-examinations (<i>i.e.</i> , No. of Children re-examined).
Boys	—	—
Girls	—	—
Total.. ..	—	—

(c) TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN INSPECTED
BY THE MEDICAL OFFICER, WHETHER AS ROUTINE
OR SPECIAL CASES.

(No child being counted more than once in one year).

Number of Individual Children Inspected.
143

TABLE II.—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND IN THE COURSE OF MEDICAL INSPECTION IN 1920.

* Not referred for treatment.

† There were no "Specials," as all were examined.

Defect or Disease.	Routine Inspections.		†Specials.	
	No. referred for Treatment.	*No. to be kept under observation.	No. referred for Treatment.	*No. to be kept under observation.
MALNUTRITION	3	15	—	—
UNCLEANLINESS—Head	1	—	—	—
Body	—	—	—	—
SKIN—				
Ringworm—Head	—	—	—	—
Body	—	—	—	—
Scabies	—	—	—	—
Impetigo	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases (non-tubercular) ..	—	4	—	—
EYE—				
Blepharitis	3	—	—	—
Conjunctivitis	4	2	—	—
Keratitis	—	—	—	—
Corneal Ulcer	—	—	—	—
Corneal Opacities	—	—	—	—
Defective Vision	31	—	—	—
Squint	3	9	—	—
Other Conditions	1	1	—	—
EAR—				
Defective Hearing	1	5	—	—
Otitis Media	—	1	—	—
Other Ear Diseases	—	—	—	—
NOSE AND THROAT—				
Enlarged Tonsils	3	35	—	—
Adenoids	—	5	—	—
Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids ..	1	2	—	—
Other Conditions	—	2	—	—
ENLARGED CERVICAL GLANDS (NON-TUBERCULAR)	—	48	—	—
DEFECTIVE SPEECH	—	5	—	—
TEETH—Dental Diseases (See above).				
HEART AND CIRCULATION—				
Heart Disease—Organic	1	5	—	—
Functional	—	4	—	—
Anæmia	18	20	—	—
LUNGS—				
Bronchitis	—	6	—	—
Other Non-Tubercular Diseases ..	—	1	—	—

RETURN OF DEFECTS.—Continued.

Defect or Disease.	Routine Inspections.		+Spec'als.	
	No. referred for Treatment.	*No. to be kept under observation.	No. referred for Treatment.	*No. to be kept under observation.
TUBERCULOSIS—				
Pulmonary—Definite	—	—	—	—
Suspected	—	1	—	—
Non-Pulmonary—Glands	—	3	—	—
Spine	—	—	—	—
Hip	—	—	—	—
Other bones and joints	—	—	—	—
Skin	—	—	—	—
Other Forms	—	1	—	—
NERVOUS SYSTEM—				
Epilepsy	—	—	—	—
Chorea	—	—	—	—
Other Conditions	—	1	—	—
DEFORMITIES—				
Rickets	—	13	—	—
Spinal Curvature	1	20	—	—
Other Forms	4	15	—	—
OTHER DEFECTS AND DISEASES	—	13	—	—

Number of individual children having defects which required treatment or to be kept under observation, 59.

TABLE VI.—SUMMARY RELATING TO CHILDREN MEDICALLY INSPECTED AT THE ROUTINE INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR 1920.

(1) The total number of children medically inspected at the routine inspections	143
(2) The number of children in (1) suffering from—	
Malnutrition	18
Skin Disease	4
Defective Vision (including Squint)	43
Eye Disease	11
Defective Hearing	6
Ear Diseases	1
Nose and Throat Diseases	46
Enlarged Cervical Glands (non-tubercular)	48
Defective Speech	5
Dental Disease	7
Heart Disease—	
Organic	6
Functional	4

Anæmia	38
Lung Disease (non-tubercular)	7
Tuberculosis—	
Pulmonary—Definite	—
Suspected	1
Non-Pulmonary	4
Disease of the nervous system	1
Deformities	53
Other Defects and Diseases	13
(3) The number of children in (1) suffering from defects (other than uncleanliness or defective clothing or footgear) who require to be kept under observation (but not referred for treatment)	30
(4) The number of children in (1) who were referred for treatment (excluding uncleanliness, defective clothing, etc.)	81
(5) The number of children in (4) who received treatment for one or more defects (excluding uncleanliness, defective clothing, etc.)	Not known until 1921.

TABLE IV.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS IN CHILDREN DURING 1920.

(A) TREATMENT OF MINOR AILMENTS.

Disease or Defect.	Number of Children referred for treatment.	Number of Children Treated.		
		Under Local Education Authority's Scheme.	Other-wise.	Total.
Skin—				
Ringworm—Head	—	—	—	—
Body	—	—	—	—
Scabies	—	—	—	—
Impetigo	—	—	—	—
Minor Injuries	—	—	—	—
Other Skin Disease	—	—	—	—
Ear Disease	1	—	—	—
Eye Disease (external and other)	8	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	8	—	—	—

TABLE V.—SUMMARY OF TREATMENT OF DEFECTS.

Disease or Defect.	Number of Children referred for treatment.	Number of Children Treated.		
		Under Local Education Authority's Scheme.	Other-wise.	Total.
Minor Ailments	17	—	—	—
Visual Defects	31	—	—	—
Defects of Nose and Throat	4	—	—	—
Dental Defects	7	—	—	—
Other Defects	23	—	—	—
Total	82	—	—	—

Note.—These tables cannot be complete as the School was only opened in the Autumn.

STATEMENT OF DEFECTS

Number of Children Treated.

Total	Other- wise	Under Local Education Authority's Scheme.
—	—	—
—	—	—
—	—	—
—	—	—
—	—	—
—	—	—

as the school was only



