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City and County of the City of Exeter

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

School Medical Officer

FOR THE

CITY AND COUNTY OF
THE CITY OF EXETER

1939



INDEX.

School Medical Officer's Report upon the Medical
Inspection of School Children and Medical Treatment 2-15

School Medical Staff 16

Tables (Elementary Schools)—

No. 1—Number of Children Examined 17-18

No. 2—Physical Condition of Children Inspected
and Treated 19

No. 3—Return of all Exceptional Children in Area 19-21

No. 4—Treatment of Defects of Children and Dental
Defects 22-28

No. 5—Condition in respect of which Children
attended the Inspection Clinic for Examina-
tion 28

Tables (Secondary Schools)—

No. 1—Number of Children Examined 29

No. 2—Physical Condition of Children Inspected 30-31

Nos. 3 and 4—Numerical Return of all Exceptional
Children in Area, and Treatment of Defects 31

Annual Report
of the
School Medical Officer
for the
CITY AND COUNTY OF THE CITY OF EXETER.
1939

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.

I have the honour to submit my Report upon the Medical Inspection of School Children for the year 1939. The Report has been planned according to the instructions of the Board of Education, and contains the abbreviated information required by the Board of Education in accordance with a circular letter dated 28th December, 1939. In order to preserve the continuity of Annual Reports, the order of the various sections has been retained, but the subject matter has been curtailed in the interests of economy.

The Exeter Extension Act, 1939, received the Royal Assent on 28th April, 1939, and comes into force on 1st April, 1940. Although the area of the City is doubled, the added area contains only one small school.

In spite of the numerous disturbances and difficulties caused by the war, the whole of the routine medical inspections were carried out with the exception of one secondary school, namely Hele's School, where special cases only were examined, the routine examinations being deferred until the Spring of 1940, mainly on account of black-out difficulties. The raising of the school leaving age having been postponed, there have been no additional routine examinations on that account.

The Central School Clinic at No. 1A, Southernhay West, remained open throughout the year, as usual. The branch Minor Ailments Clinics mentioned in last year's Report, were opened on 25th September. They are held every school day in the Community Centres provided by the City Council on the Burnthouse Lane and Buddle Lane Estates. Both Centres have properly equipped medical rooms which are also used by the

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee for their clinics. The medical and nursing staff is the same, thus ensuring co-ordination. These branch clinics have thoroughly justified their existence, and must save a considerable amount of school time as well as promote the health of the children.

The outstanding event of the year was the Government's Evacuation Scheme consequent upon the outbreak of war. Much has been said and written about this Scheme and the way it was carried out. For the present purpose a few salient facts will suffice.

The plan was a novel one and lack of time prevented its being worked out in every detail. It had to be put into operation at the end of the summer holidays when staffs were still scattered, and when the children had been without medical and nursing supervision for several weeks. Medical examination before evacuation with all that such examination implies, was either non-existent or cursory. Medical examination of a detailed kind on reception was difficult or impossible. The staffs of local authorities had other urgent duties to fulfil at the same time : various important sides of Civil Defence required immediate attention, for example, Air Raid Precautions and the Emergency Hospital Services. Already members of staffs were being called to the Colours, and those in Territorial and Militia Camps were retained on service. In a word, evacuation was carried out under very difficult circumstances.

Reception in Exeter of various classes of evacuees began on 1st September. The following figures show the number of school children received as ascertained on various dates up to the end of the school year.

<i>Date.</i>	<i>Official Evacuees.</i>	<i>Refugees. Not ascertained</i>	<i>Total.</i>
4th September	810		810
18th September	792	501	1293
17th November	779	933	1712
End of term	—	—	No Change

It will be seen that the number of unofficial evacuees or refugees exceeded those sent under the Government Scheme.

The evacuees were received in the Higher Market, close to the railway station of arrival, while mothers and young children were received in the Civic Hall adjoining. Billeting of school children was carried out by school teachers under instructions issued by the Secretary for Education acting upon information supplied by the Chief Billeting Officer, the Town Clerk. Offers to receive school children were greatly in excess of the numbers

arriving, so that children went to homes ready and anxious to receive them. On the other hand, mothers and young children could not be sent to pre-arranged billets. It is, therefore, quite unfair and misleading to compare the billeting of these two kinds of evacuees which, in fact, differed in every possible way. A medical room with doctor and nurses was arranged to serve both the Higher Market and the Civic Hall. Here casualties were dealt with, conditions requiring more elaborate treatment being sent to the School Clinic for disposal. The arrangements did not permit detailed examination of all evacuees. All the children were visited and examined by the school nurses within a fortnight.

In view of the unfortunate experiences recorded in some places, the following figures are interesting as well as satisfactory.

CLEANLINESS RETURNS FOR SEPTEMBER.

A. Number of dirty heads cleansed.

Exeter children	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Evacuees	.....	.....	.....	15
Refugees	.....	.....	.....	Nil

B. Other forms of infestation dealt with.

Exeter children	.....	.....	.....	3
Evacuees	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Refugees	.....	.....	.....	1

C. Cases of scabies.

Exeter children	.....	.....	.....	2
Evacuees	.....	.....	.....	1
Refugees	.....	.....	.....	Nil

These figures refer to cases which required to be dealt with at the cleansing station, and do not include slight cases dealt with by parents, guardians, or householders.

At this time the health of all school children was remarkably good, influenced, no doubt, by the fine weather then prevailing. During the year we have been troubled by diphtheria which increased sharply towards the close of the year. It is worth while recording that the Western Health District of the City in which the majority of the evacuees were billeted and went to school, was the least affected part of the City. The origin of this diphtheria outbreak was traceable to events previous to evacuation, and had nothing to do with it.

So-called problem cases were not numerous, and were very adequately handled by the Enquiry Officers in association with the School Medical Department. The paramount problem of evacuation is to billet children in households similar to those

from which they have come, where they will be understood and made to feel at home. If it were possible to move two or three dozen children at a time, it might be possible to billet them happily and permanently at once. As, however, evacuation is necessarily a large scale migration, this is impossible, so that misfits and subsequent transfers would appear to be inevitable.

It is probable that further evacuation schemes will be put into operation. The lessons learned from the September evacuation will be very useful.

As already stated, the Central Clinic, including the Dental Clinic, was not closed at all. The new branch Minor Ailment Clinics opened on 25th September, only three weeks later than planned. The school nurses were at work in the homes from the first, and in the schools as soon as possible after they had opened. Routine medical inspections began again on 4th October, 1939.

The number of Elementary School children examined at the routine ages was 2,858, compared with 2,302 the previous year. Re-inspections were 2,523, against 2,573, and special examinations 1,510 against 1,558.

The estimated cost of the School Medical Service for the financial year ending 31st March, 1940, is £5,435.

1—STAFF.

Particulars of the Staff are given on page 16.

2—CO-ORDINATION.

No change.

3—SCHOOL HYGIENE.—Alterations and Improvements in Schools.

The following alterations and improvements were carried out during 1939.

Provided Schools.

John Stocker Junior Boys' School—new W.C.'s.
Cowick Street Infants' School—new W.C.'s.
St. Thomas Senior Girls' School—new W.C.'s.
Holloway Street School—new W.C.'s, new platform, new window, new covered way, and general renovation.

A new Junior Mixed and Infants' School has been opened at Whipton to accommodate 320 children. It includes a Nursery Room.

4—Medical Inspection.

The Board's scheme of medical inspection has been carried out with little if any modification. The following is a list of

elementary schools in the City as they stand at present, together with the approximate number of scholars on the roll of each.

No. on
Roll,
31/12/39

PROVIDED SCHOOLS.

Cowick Street Infants	229
Exwick Junior Mixed and Infants	113
Holloway Street Junior Girls and Infants	209
Ladysmith Senior and Junior Boys	661
Ladysmith Senior and Junior Girls	411
Ladysmith Infants	356
John Stocker Senior Boys	353
John Stocker Junior Boys	407
Newtown Junior Boys	121
Newtown Junior Girls and Infants	195
St. James' Senior Girls	177
St. Mary Arches Infants	86
St. Thomas Senior Girls	312
St. Thomas Infants	138
Montgomery Junior Girls and Infants	532
Bradley Rowe Junior Boys	275
Bradley Rowe Senior and Junior Girls	636
Bradley Rowe Infants	348
Whipton Junior Mixed and Infants	275

NON-PROVIDED SCHOOLS.

Central Junior Mixed and Infants	180
Episcopal Senior Boys	253
Episcopal Senior Girls	228
Heavitree Parochial Junior Mixed and Infants	295
St. Luke's College Senior Boys	267
St. David's C. of E. Junior Mixed	157
St. Nicholas R.C. Junior Mixed and Infants	88
St. Sidwell's Junior Boys	169
St. Sidwell's Junior Girls and Infants	293

5—FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

In the following sub-sections the previous year's figures are shown in brackets.

(a) Uncleanliness.

During the year 328 (232) visits were made by the Nurses in this connection, involving 22,217 (19,584) examinations, the number found to be unsatisfactory being 952 (733). No legal proceedings were taken under Section 87 of the Education Act, 1921, but 55 (20) children had to be dealt with at the Cleansing Station.

(b) **Minor Ailments.**

Treatment for these is given at the School Clinic, see Table IV, Group I.

(i) *Minor Eye Defects.*

32 (23) cases were treated at the School Clinic making 248 (168) attendances.

(ii) *Minor Ear Defects.*

88 (75) cases were treated at the School Clinic, making 997 (1,069) attendances.

(iii) *Miscellaneous.*

e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.

1,607 (1,130) cases were treated at the School Clinic, making 9,246 (10,170) attendances.

All the above were cured.

(c) **Tonsils and Adenoids.**

226 (299) children received operative treatment under the arrangements made by the Education Authority, and 6 (15) received operative treatment otherwise.

During recent years there has been a steady increase in the number of parents accepting advice as to operative treatment. This advice is given after careful consideration, and frequently a long period of observation.

See Table IV, Group III.

(d) **Tuberculosis.**

During the year 20 (18) children were referred to the Clinical Tuberculosis Officer. The diagnosis was confirmed in 4 (2), not confirmed in 14 (12), while 2 (4) remained under observation at the end of the year. In addition, 3 (2) cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were treated at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, and 6 (5) orthopaedic cases by the Devonian Association for Cripples' Aid.

(e) **Skin Disease.**

(i) *Ringworm.*

During the past year it was again found unnecessary to treat any by X-rays. 21 (29) cases were seen at the School Clinic, all but 3 (2) being treated there. 9 (2) of these were ringworm of the scalp, the remaining 12 (25) being ringworm of the body. They made 441 (392) attendances at the Clinic, and at the end of the year all were cured.

(ii) *Impetigo*.

63 (27) cases of this disease were seen and treated at the School Clinic, making 650 (257) attendances, and all were cured.

(iii) *Scabies*.

20 (29) families were found to be suffering from this disease, and 53 (41) cases were treated at the Cleansing Station, all were cured. On the completion of treatment, disinfection is carried out, free of charge, by the Public Health Department.

(f) **External Eye Disease.**

In addition to those treated at the School Clinic, there were treated at the West of England Eye Infirmary, 27 (39) cases, 4 (12) in-patients, and 23 (27) out-patients.

See Table IV, Group II.

(g) **Vision.**

404 (394) children received advice under the arrangements made by the Local Education Authority for correction of errors of refraction (including squint), 5 (5) being treated privately. 304 (366) pairs of spectacles were supplied, many of these were re-examinations.

(h) **Dental Defects.**

These were referred to in Table IV, Group IV.

6—INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—School Children only.

Scarlet Fever, 144 cases ; Diphtheria, 106 ; Chicken Pox, 72 ; Rubella, 41 ; Whooping Cough, 179 ; Measles, 16 ; Mumps, 1 ; Impetigo, 63 ; Ringworm, 21.

We have accurate knowledge of the notifiable diseases, the other figures are taken from the weekly returns and are incomplete. There was a sharp rise in the incidence of scarlet fever, particularly during the first half of the year. Most of the cases were mild and uncomplicated. Diphtheria was troublesome throughout the year with a considerable proportion of severe cases, including four deaths. The disease has been almost entirely confined to the Eastern and Northern Health Areas of the City. Chicken Pox, whooping cough, measles and mumps have been much less troublesome than in 1938. Rubella was beginning at the end of the year and has since attained pandemic proportions. Exclusion of contacts in this disease where the diagnosis is reliable, is a waste of time and money. Accordingly, it has been decided to dispense with exclusion whenever the diagnosis is verified by a medical certificate or school nurse's visit.

7—FOLLOWING UP.

There is no change in the arrangements.

During the year the school nurses made 3,908 home visits against 4,273 in 1938. The number of visits is influenced by the prevalence of infectious disease.

8—MEDICAL TREATMENT AVAILABLE.

All the arrangements for treatment recorded in the Annual Report for 1938 have been carried on with little if any, interruption.

The following is a summary :—

- (a) **Minor Ailments**, at Central and Branch School Clinics.
- (b) **Tonsils and Adenoids**, at City Hospital.
- (c) **Tuberculosis**, under the City Council's Tuberculosis Scheme, which includes a Children's Sanatorium with school.
- (d) **Skin Diseases**, at Central and Branch School Clinics.
- (e) **External Eye Diseases**, at the School Clinics and/or the West of England Eye Infirmary.

Refraction cases, at the West of England Eye Infirmary.

Orthoptic cases, at the West of England Eye Infirmary.

During the year 54 children made 772 attendances for this treatment.

There has been no alteration in the charges made ^{by} the West of England Eye Infirmary.

- (f) **Ear Disease and Hearing**, at the Central and Branch School Clinics.

Following the suggestion of one of the Board's Medical Inspectors, a trial was made with non-electric hearing aids in certain selected cases of deafness. The trial has been satisfactory and encouraging in the proper type of case.

- (g) **Dental Defects**, at the School Dental Clinic.
- (h) **Crippling Defects and Orthopaedics—Rheumatism.**

Under the agreement between the Education Committee and the Devonian Association for Cripples' Aid, a complete orthopaedic service is available for *elementary school children*. Under present arrangements, any doctor may refer cases to the Association's Exeter Clinic, and the Local Authority guarantees the first clinic fee. Thereafter, cases are referred back to the School Medical Officer for approval and for the assessment of parents' contributions according to the Council's scale. The scheme includes cardiac cripples. The Association has revised its charges as from 1st October, 1939.

Princess Elizabeth Hospital—£2 17s. 6d. per week.

Convalescent Home, Tipton St. John—£1 15s. 0d. per week.

Hospital out-patients—2/6 per visit.

Clinic—4/- per visit.

(i) **Diseases of the Nervous System.—Child Guidance.**

With the approval of the Board of Education, certain cases of functional and organic diseases of the nervous system, selected by the School Medical Officers, are sent to the Clinic conducted by Dr. R. N. Craig on Tuesday afternoons in connection with Exeter Dispensary.

In addition to the Clinic for Nervous Diseases, Dr. Craig conducts a Child Guidance Clinic once a week for Exeter and District.

During 1939 fifteen cases were referred.

The careful and detailed reports which Dr. Craig makes about the children are much appreciated. It is important that patients for this Clinic should be properly selected, and that the Clinic should not become overcrowded with unsuitable cases. Reports from the School Medical Department accompany all new cases.

(j) **Contribution towards cost of Treatment.**

All parents making use of the School Medical Treatment Schemes are called upon to pay according to their means, on a scale approved by the Ministry. During the year 1938-39, the cost and contributions were as under.

	<i>Cost to Authority</i>			<i>Contributions by Parents</i>		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Tonsils and Adenoids	556	10	0	174	4	6
Vision	335	11	6	77	17	7
Orthopaedic	414	19	10	91	15	6
Dental	1415	12	10	89	15	0

9—OPEN AIR EDUCATION.

At Honeylands Children's Sanatorium the school is conducted on open-air principles. There is no open-air day school in Exeter.

10—PHYSICAL TRAINING AND RECREATION.

During the holidays, Play Centres were arranged as follows, the equipment being provided by the Authority.

Whitsun Holiday, 30th May to 3rd June, excluding Whit Monday.

Belmont	average attendance	150-200
St. Thomas	" "	250-300
St. Loye's	" "	50-100
Heavitree	" "	200-300

August Holiday, 2nd to 26th August.

Belmont	.....	average attendance	200-220
St. Thomas	.....	" "	250-300
St. Loye's	.....	" "	40- 60
Heavitree	.....	" "	200-250

The August Play Centre continued for an extra week owing to evacuation.

Each Centre is in charge of an adult play-leader. A variety of games is available to suit all ages and tastes.

The value of these centres is obvious; they are doing an excellent piece of work. Apart from keeping boys and girls pleasantly employed and out of mischief, they provide the opportunity for team games which the elementary school child has tended to lack.

"Keep Fit" Classes for men and women were introduced by the Education Committee in the Spring Term, 1937, as part of their scheme for further education.

Classes were organised as follows :—

JANUARY, 1939.

			No. of Participants.
"Keep Fit" Classes.			
MEN.			
2 Classes at Hele's School		32	} 138
1 Class at St. Luke's College	.....	19	
1 Class at Ladysmith	.....	27	
1 Class at Episcopal	.....	22	
2 Classes at John Stocker	.....	38	
WOMEN.			
3 Classes at Bishop Blackall School		69	} 135
1 Class at Maynard School	.....	12	
1 Class at St. James' School	.....	18	
1 Class at Episcopal School	.....	14	
2 Classes at Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital	.....	22	
Folk Dance Classes.			
2 Classes at Montgomery School		53	} 78
2 Classes at St. James' School	.....	25	

SEPTEMBER, 1939.**"Keep Fit" Classes.**

MEN.			
2 Classes at Episcopal School		21	} 97
1 Class at Ladysmith School	.....	14	
1 Class at St. Luke's College	.....	28	
2 Classes at John Stocker School	.....	34	

WOMEN.

1 Class at St. James' School			12	} 40
1 Class at Bradley Rowe	.....	.....	19	
1 Class at Episcopal School	.....	.....	9	

Folk Dance Classes.

MEN AND WOMEN.

2 Classes at Montgomery School			78
--------------------------------	-------	-------	----

WOMEN.

2 Classes at St. James' School			34	} 129
1 Class at Bradley Rowe School	.....	.....	10	
1 Class at Episcopal School	.....	.....	7	

Arrangements with the County Education Committee as to the sharing of the services of trained organisers, were noted in a previous Report, and are now in being.

11—PROVISION OF MEALS.—Milk in Schools Scheme.

All school departments under the Authority have adopted the official scheme, that is one-third of a pint of milk for one halfpenny. All milk supplied under the scheme is pasteurised.

The number of children taking milk varies from one-third to two-thirds of those on the roll. It varies from school to school, and with the season.

In Exeter very few children can be classified as seriously undernourished. Special reports are always called for in the case of children placed in Grade D, and it is invariably the case that their condition is due to other causes than simple lack of nourishment. There are many causes at work besides insufficient food or improper feeding. Among the commoner causes of sub-nutrition are late hours and insufficient sleep, as well as the results of physical illness.

Last year it was reported that we had a useful check on our nutrition figures owing to the necessity of having to employ temporary medical help. This year we had another check in the shape of a very welcome visit from one of the Board's Medical Inspectors on 27th February and following days. The Inspector was inclined to think that our local standards were rather high, in other words, that the nutrition of our school children was better than the figures. This is encouraging, but is not to be considered a reason for complacency, particularly under war conditions.

Owing to certain local difficulties, there is no free milk scheme, nevertheless it must be admitted that there are school children who come from families with insufficient incomes.

I am one of those who do not consider a free milk scheme the appropriate remedy. It is, in fact, rather clumsy patch work

originally designed to increase the sale of liquid milk, the welfare of the consumers being an altogether secondary consideration.

The causes of malnutrition and the remedies lie much deeper and should be tackled at their source. Sensible education in catering, cooking and food values is one important contribution, the other is the wherewithal to purchase food and other domestic essentials.

The arrangements for mid-day dinner at Hele's School (Secondary) have been continued, and must be regarded as a valuable contribution to the welfare of those scholars who are unable to go home.

12—SCHOOL BATHS.

During the summer session of 1939, 1,178 children received instruction in swimming. 494 lessons were given with a total of 10,686 individual attendances. Of the pupils who attended, 822 were beginners and 245 of these were able to swim at least 25 yards by the end of the session. Certificates were gained as follows: 245 for 25 yards, 139 for 50 yards, 120 for 100 yards, 64 for 440 yards, 41 for 880 yards, 47 for one mile, and 74 for back stroke for 50 yards. In addition, 55 children received instruction at Head Weir, where four lessons were given with a total of 56 individual attendances.

It is difficult to assess accurately the value of the instruction given, as children may begin attendance at the Baths at any time during the season. Only one certificate is issued per child, *i.e.*, for the longest distance, so that the number of children gaining certificates is 504.

The Ross Shield (given annually to the school bringing forward the largest proportion of learners,) was awarded to the St. James' Senior Girls' School.

The usual Swimming Gala was held for boys and girls.

13—CO-OPERATION OF TEACHERS, PARENTS, VOLUNTARY BODIES, Etc.

My thanks are due to the Head Teachers of our schools for all the help they given in connection with medical inspections, the prevention of infectious disease and securing adequate treatment where necessary.

The co-operation of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children is also appreciated.

The presence of parents at the routine examination of their children is obviously advantageous to all concerned. The proportion of parents present at these examinations was high, being 76%

14—BLIND, DEAF, DEFECTIVE AND EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

There is no change in the arrangements which were explained in detail in the Annual Report for 1938.

The 79 mentally defective children under the care of the Education Committee during the year were disposed as follows :

In special residential schools	.....	10
Attending elementary schools	.....	44
Permanently excluded	.....	5
Between 14 and 16 years of age, and therefore left school	.....	20
Total	.....	<u>79</u>

15—SECONDARY AND JUNIOR TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

(a) **Medical Inspection.**

(b) **Medical Treatment.**

There is no change in the arrangements.

16—CONTINUATION SCHOOLS.

None.

17—EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS.

Under the Bye-Laws in force, 241 medical certificates were issued and 113 children were re-examined for continuation of employment.

In 50 cases, medical certificates were deferred owing to the children requiring medical treatment. Certificates were granted in 30 cases only, 20 not having obtained treatment.

18—CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACT, 1933.

The City Council as Local Authority, has delegated its powers under this Act to the Education Committee, other than any powers to borrow money and with the exception of powers arising out of section 12. (Failure to provide for safety of children at entertainments), section 65 (Power of Poor Law Authority to bring a refractory child before a Juvenile Court), section 77 (Provision of Remand Home), and Part 5 (relating to Voluntary Homes).

The School Medical Officer and his Assistants make the necessary examinations, and the Secretary for Education acts as Central Officer for collecting the various documents and reports that may be required. Arrangements have been made with private medical practitioners for the treatment of children and young persons who may be sick while in remand homes or under the guardianship of fit persons.

At present five children are boarded out under this Act, and 23 boys and 5 girls are in Approved Schools.

19—ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT. See Sections 8 (*h*).

Hospital cases 12. Clinic cases 105. Total 117. They were classified as under :—

Infantile Paralysis	.....	14
Rickets	.....	18
Condition due to injury	.....	16
Congenital defects	.....	20
Miscellaneous	.....	49
		117
Tuberculosis	.....	7*
Total	.....	124

NOTE.—Tuberculous cases are dealt with through the Tuberculosis Dispensary.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. F. B. PAGE,

School Medical Officer.

SCHOOL MEDICAL STAFF.

School Medical Officer.

GEORGE F. B. PAGE, M.D., D.P.H., Edin.

Assistant School Medical Officers.

JESSIE SMITH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Leeds.

ROBERT P. BOYD, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Glas., F.R.F.P.S.G.
(Appointed 1.3.39).

ELEANOR PATTERSON, M.B., B.S., B.Hyg., D.P.H., Durham.
(Appointed 1.9.39).

Part Time.—(Temporary).

S. J. P. GRAY, M.A., M.B., B.Chir. Camb., F.R.C.S.E.
Operative Treatment for Tonsils and Adenoids.

School Dental Surgeon.

GEORGE VALENTINE SMALLWOOD, L.D.S., Eng.

Assistant School Dental Surgeon.

CLIFFORD A. REYNOLDS, L.D.S., Eng.

School Nurses.

MISS C. A. KNUCKEY.

MISS B. M. KNUCKEY.

MISS M. M. FOY.

MISS D. HICKSON.

MISS A. EDDS.

MISS G. M. LUNN.

MISS D. KERRIDGE. (Appointed 16.1.39).

MISS M. E. BLACK. (Appointed 4.9.39)*

MRS. F. M. HOCKING. (Appointed 11.9.39)*

Clerks.

W. G. LOTT.

S. A. SNELL. (Resigned 1.5.39)†

R. BUDGE. (Appointed 1.5.39)†

MISS D. E. BUNNY. (Appointed 5.9.39)*

J. BALKWILL. (Appointed 23.11.39)*

*Temporary Appointments.

†Now on Active Service.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS, 1939.

Population of City	.....	69,160	(Registrar-General's figures, mid 1938)
Elementary School Population	.....	7,764	
No. of Elementary Schools	.....	19	
No. of Departments	.....	31	

TABLE I.

**Return of Medical Inspections 1st January to 31st December,
1939.**

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups.

Entrants	.....	1,285
Second Age Group	.....	810
Third Age Group	.....	678
Total	.....	<u>2,773</u>

Number of other Routine Inspections		85
-------------------------------------	-------	----

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	.....	1,510
Number of Re-inspections	.....	2,523
Total	.....	<u>4,033</u>

C.—CHILDREN FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

Number of *individual children* found at *Routine Medical Inspections* to require treatment (**excluding Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases**).

Prescribed Groups.

Entrants	267
Second Age Group	176
Third Age Group	137
Total (Prescribed Groups)	580
Other Routine Inspections	32
Grand Total	612

B. CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS.

(Up to the 31st August, 1939).

Age-Groups.	Number of Children Inspected.	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	794	112	14.10	573	72.17	109	13.73	—	—
Second Age-Group	454	60	13.21	291	64.09	103	22.7	—	—
Third Age-Group	240	43	18.0	168	70.0	29	12.0	—	—
Other Routine Inspections	55	6	11.0	47	85.4	2	3.6	—	—
Total	1543	221	14.3	1079	69.9	243	15.8	—	—

TABLE II.

**A. RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL
INSPECTION IN THE YEAR ENDED
31st DECEMBER, 1939.**

Omitted by instructions of the Board.

TABLE III.—Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area.

At the head of this table and the following tables, it has been the custom to reprint the Board's instructions in order that new members of the Education Committee may understand how the Tables are compiled. In the interest of economy, the Board's instructions have been omitted, but they will be found in last year's Report.

Blind Children.

At Certified Schools for the Blind.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At Other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	—	—	—	Nil

Partially Sighted Children.

At Certified Schools for the Blind.	At Certified Schools for the Partially Sighted.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At Other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total
4	—	—	—	—	4

Deaf Children.

At Certified Schools for the Deaf.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At Other Institutions. (Private Schools)	At no School or Institution.	Total.
2	—	1	—	3

TABLE III.—continued.**Partially Deaf Children.**

At Certified Schools for the Deaf.	At Certified Schools for the Partially Deaf.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At Other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	—	6	—	—	6

Mentally Defective Children.**FEEBLE-MINDED CHILDREN.**

At Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children.	At Public Elementary Schools	At Other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
10	44	—	25	79

Epileptic Children.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution	Total.
1	3	—	1	5

Physically Defective Children.**A. TUBERCULOUS CHILDREN.**

(1) (Including pleura and intra-thoracic glands).

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
9	22	2	—	33

II. Children suffering from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At Other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
9	32	—	—	41

TABLE III.—continued.**B.—DELICATE CHILDREN.**

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At Other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
3	9	—	—	12

C.—CRIPPLED CHILDREN.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At Other Institutions. (Private School)	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	22	1	1	24

D.—CHILDREN WITH HEART DISEASE.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At Other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	8	—	—	8

Children suffering from multiple defects.—1.

Statement of the number of Children notified during the year ended 31st December, 1939, by the Local Education Authority to the Local Mental Deficiency Authority.

Total number of children notified 4

ANALYSIS OF THE ABOVE TOTAL.

Diagnosis.	Boys.	Girls.
1. Children incapable of receiving benefit or further benefit from instruction in a Special School :		
Idiots	1	—
Imbeciles	—	1
2. Feeble-minded children notified on leaving a Special School on or before attaining the age of 16	2	—
GRAND TOTAL	3	1

TABLE IV.—Return of Defects Treated during the Year ended 31st December, 1939.

EXETER CHILDREN.

Treatment Table.

Group I.—Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness) for which see Group VI.

Disease or Defect. (1)	Number of Defects treated or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Otherwise. (3)	Total. (4)
SKIN—			
Ringworm Scalp—			
(i). X-ray Treatment. If none, indicate by dash	—	—	—
(ii). Other Treatment	6	3	9
Ringworm—Body	12	—	12
Scabies	45	—	45
Impetigo	51	3	54
Other skin disease	—	—	—
MINOR EYE DEFECTS— (External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II.)	22	—	22
MINOR EAR DEFECTS—	80	—	80
MISCELLANEOUS— (e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)	1437	—	1437
Total	1653	6	1659

EVACUEES.

Disease or Defect. (1)	Number of Defects treated or under treatment during the year		
	Under the Authority's Scheme (2)	Otherwise (3)	Total (4)
SKIN—			
Ringworm Scalp—			
(i). X-ray Treatment. If none, indicate by dash	—	—	—
(ii). Other Treatment	—	—	—
Ringworm—Body	—	—	—
Scabies	5	—	5
Impetigo	8	—	8
Other skin disease	—	—	—
MINOR EYE DEFECTS— (External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II.)	7	—	7
MINOR EAR DEFECTS	7	—	7
MISCELLANEOUS— (e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)	165	—	165
Total	192	—	192

REFUGEES.

Disease or Defect. (1)	Number of Defects treated or under treatment during the year		
	Under the Authority's Scheme (2)	Otherwise (3)	Total (4)
SKIN—			
Ringworm Scalp—			
(i). X-ray Treatment. If none, indicate by dash	—	—	—
(ii). Other Treatment	—	—	—
Ringworm—Body	—	—	—
Scabies	3	—	3
Impetigo	1	—	1
Other skin disease	—	—	—
MINOR EYE DEFECTS— (External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II.)	3	—	3
MINOR EAR DEFECTS	1	—	1
MISCELLANEOUS— (e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)	5	—	5
Total	13	—	13

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

EXETER CHILDREN.

Defect or Disease. (1)	Number of Defects dealt with.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Otherwise. (3)	Total. (4)
Errors of Refraction including Squint	378	5	383
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.)	27	2	29
Total	405	7	412

Defect or Disease.	No. of children for whom spectacles were—					
	Prescribed. (a)			Obtained. (b)		
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Other-wise.	Total.	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Other-wise.	Total.
Errors of Refraction (including Squint)	282	5	287	282	5	287

EVACUEES.

Defect or Disease.	Number of Defects dealt with.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Otherwise	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Errors of Refraction including Squint	15	—	15
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.)	—	—	—
Total	15	—	15

Defect or Disease.	No. of children for whom spectacles were—					
	Prescribed (a)			Obtained (b)		
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Other-wise	Total	Under the Authority's Scheme	Other-wise	Total
Errors of Refraction (including Squint)	14	—	14	14	—	14

REFUGEES.

Defect or Disease.	Number of Defects dealt with.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Otherwise	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Errors of Refraction including Squint	11	—	11
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.)	—	—	—
Total	11	—	11

Defect or Disease.	No. of children for whom spectacles were—					
	Prescribed (a)			Obtained (b)		
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Other-wise	Total	Under the Authority's Scheme	Other-wise	Total
Errors of Refraction (including Squint)	8	—	8	8	—	8

*Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.***EXETER CHILDREN.**

NUMBER OF DEFECTS.											
Received Operative Treatment.											
Under the Authority's Scheme in Clinic or Hospital.				By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme.				Total.			
(1)				(2)				(3)			
i	ii	iii	iv	i	ii	iii	iv	i	ii	iii	iv
—	—	226	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	232	—

Received other forms of Treatment.

Total number Treated.

(4)

(5)

(i) Tonsils only. (ii) Adenoids only. (iii) Tonsils and Adenoids. (iv) Other Defects of the Nose and Throat.

Group IV.—Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.

	Under the Authority's Scheme. (1)		
	Residential treatment with education. (1)	Residential treatment without education. (ii)	Non-Residential treatment at an orthopaedic clinic. (iii)
Number of children treated	12	—	2 Evacuees 115 Exeter

	Otherwise. (2)			Total number treated.
	Residential treatment with education.	Residential treatment without education.	Non-Residential treatment at an orthopaedic clinic.	
Number of children treated	—	—	—	117

TABLE IV.—continued.

*Group V.—Dental Inspection and Treatment.***EXETER CHILDREN**

(1) Number of children inspected by the Dental Surgeons.

(a) Routine age-groups

Age	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Total.
Number	335	630	814	850	740	753	780	652	620	367	6,541

(b) Specials 471

(c) TOTAL (Routine and Specials) 7,012

(2) Number found to require treatment 3,566

(3) Number actually treated 2,222

(4) Attendances made by children for treatment 5,940

(5) Half-days devoted to :—

Inspection 107

Treatment 770

Total 877

(7) Extractions :—

Permanent Teeth 1644

Temporary Teeth 4032

Total 5676

(8) Administration of general anaesthetics for extractions 1657

(6) Fillings :—

Permanent Teeth 3200

Temporary Teeth 96

Total 3296

(9) Other Operations :—

Permanent Teeth 1672

Temporary Teeth 542

Total 2214*Group VI.—Uncleanliness and verminous conditions.*

(i). Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses 10

(ii). Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses 21,177

(iii). Number of individual children found unclean 868

(iv). Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority 15

(v). Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—

(a) Under the Education Act, 1921 Nil

(b) Under School Attendance Bye-Laws Nil

TABLE IV.—continued.

*Group V.—Dental Inspection and Treatment.***EVACUEES.**

(1) Number of children inspected by the Dental Surgeons.

(a) Routine age-groups

Age	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Ttl.
Number	4	19	18	41	32	57	59	51	59	57	46	122	95	44	704

(b) Specials 38

(c) TOTAL (Routine and Specials) 742

(2) Number found to require treatment 388

(3) Number actually treated 23

(4) Attendances made by children for treatment 95

(5) Half-days devoted to :—

Inspection —

Treatment —

Total —

(7) Extractions :—

Permanent Teeth 24

Temporary Teeth 24

Total 48

(8) Administration of general anaesthetics for extractions 15

(6) Fillings :—

Permanent Teeth 41

Temporary Teeth 2

Total 43

(9) Other Operations :—

Permanent Teeth 28

Temporary Teeth 1

Total 29*Group VI.—Uncleanliness and verminous conditions.*

(i). Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses 2

(ii). Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses 964

(iii). Number of individual children found unclean 83

(iv). Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority 39

(v). Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—

(a) Under the Education Act, 1921 Nil

(b) Under School Attendance Bye-Laws Nil

TABLE IV.—continued.

Group V.—Dental Inspection and Treatment.

REFUGEES.

- (1) Number of children inspected by the Dental Surgeons.
 (a) Routine age-groups

Age	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Total.
Number	2	2	2	9	17	15	24	17	15	9	3	115

(b) Specials * 28

(c) TOTAL (Routine and Specials) 143

(2) Number found to require treatment 72

(3) Number actually treated 29

(4) Attendances made by children for treatment 70

(5) Half-days devoted to :—

Inspection —

Treatment —

Total —

(7) Extractions :—

Permanent Teeth 14

Temporary Teeth 42

Total 56

(8) Administration of general
 anaesthetics for ex-
 tractions 15

(6) Fillings :—

Permanent Teeth 13

Temporary Teeth 26

Total 39

(9) Other Operations :—

Permanent Teeth 13

Temporary Teeth 8

Total 21

Group VI.—Uncleanliness and verminous conditions.

(i). Average number of visits per school made during the year by
 the School Nurses —

(ii). Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by
 School Nurses 76

(iii). Number of individual children found unclean 1

(iv). Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the
 Local Education Authority 1

(v). Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—

(a) Under the Education Act, 1921 Nil

(b) Under School Attendance Bye-Laws Nil

Table V. (Abridged).—Table showing number of Children who attended
 the Inspection Clinic for Examination 1939.

Total — — 2435

Secondary School and Junior Technical School 1939

TABLE I.

Return of Medical Inspection 1st January to 31st December, 1939.

INSPECTED :—

School.	Examinations.		Total.
	Complete.	Curtailed.	
Junior Technical (Boys)	68	—	68
Hele's (Boys) not completed	18	—	18
Total	86	—	86

TABLE II.

A. RETURN OF DEFECTS found in the Course of Medical Inspection, 1939.

School.	Defect or Disease.	EXAMINATIONS.				Had Treatment at end of year.
		Complete.		Curtailed.		
		No. of Defects		No. of Defects		
		Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but <i>not</i> requiring treatment.	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but <i>not</i> requiring treatment.	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	*
Junior Technical (Boys)	Vision	7	—	—	—	4
	Tonsils and Adenoids	—	2	—	—	2
	Teeth	13	—	—	—	13
	Ear Disease	5	1	—	—	6
	Other Defects	1	5	—	—	—
Hele's (Boys) not completed. Special Cases only.	Malnutrition	—	—	—	—	—
	Skin Disease	—	2	—	—	—
	Eye Disease	—	—	—	—	—
	Vision and Squint	5	4	—	—	—
	Ear Disease	—	2	—	—	—
	Tonsils and other Conditions	—	2	—	—	—
	Nose and Throat	—	—	—	—	—
	Teeth	—	—	—	—	—
	Heart Trouble	—	1	—	—	—
	Deformities	—	3	—	—	—
Other Defects	—	7	—	—	—	

*This return was made only two months after the inspection, no doubt the other defects will be remedied before the next inspection.

TABLE II.—continued.

B. Number of *individual children* found at *Routine Medical Inspection* to require treatment.

School.	Group.	Number of Children.		Percentage of Children found to require treatment.
		Inspected.	Found to require treatment.	
Junior Technical (Boys).	Complete Examinations	68	23	33.8
	Total	68	23	33.8
Hele's (Boys).	Complete Examinations	18	4	22.2
	Curtailed Examinations	—	—	—
	Total	18	4	22.2

TABLE III.

Numerical Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area in 1939.

Nil.

TABLE IV.

GROUP I.—Treatment of Minor Ailments, 1939.

No arrangements are made by the Local Education Authority for treatment

GROUP II.—Defective Vision and Squint.

School.	Defect or Disease.	Number of Defects dealt with.		
		Submitted to refraction by private practitioner or at Hospital.	Other-wise.	Total.
Junior Technical (Boys).	Errors of Refraction (including Squint)	2	—	2
	Total	2	—	2

Total number of Children for whom spectacles were prescribed and received spectacles.—2.

GROUPS III., IV., and V.—Nil.