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CITY OF EXETER



SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

ANNUAL REPORT 1973



CITY AND COUNTY OF THE CITY OF EXETER



EDUCATION COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1973

G. P. McLAUCHLAN, M.B., CH.B., (EDIN.), D.P.H., D.C.H., M.F.C.M.
PRINCIPAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER



EDUCATION COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

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SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

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YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1973

G. P. McLAUCHLAN, MR. CHR. (2014), CAN. CAN. MACH.

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INDEX

						Page
Education Comm	ittee	US DISHAS		THE		9
Staff				book bal		10-11
Statistics and Ge	neral	Information			0 0.0	12
		MEDICAL	CAR	E		
Cleanliness						18
Colour Vision						17
Employment of S	School	Children				18
Independent Sch						16
Medical Examina		and Treatme	ent	10D LONDA		14
Selective Medical	Exam	minations				15-16
Squint						17
Teachers' Medica	l Exa	minations		****		19
Vision				****		17
	HAN	DICAPPED	CHII	LDREN		
Children attendir	ng Spe	cial Schools				22
Ellen Tinkham S						24-25
Employment of I						30
Home Tuition		onprod come	0. 200			28
Hospital Tuition						28
Pre-School Child						27
Southbrook Scho						23-24
Special Education						25-26
Transport						29
		be silvente				20
	The s	SPECIAL C	LINI	CS		
Audiology						20.20
Child Guidance		****				32-38
Dental Service		and its then		avai" use		39-42 36-38
Enuresis						53-54
Minor Ailments				****		55
Obesity						54-55
Speech Therapy		****				43-44

Index—continue	d					Page
	INF	ECTIOUS	S DISE	ASE		
Immunisation as	nd Vaco	ination				48-49
Infectious Disea	ses		i lament	senoral In	bnn 2	48
Tuberculosis						48
	1	MISCELL	ANEOU	S		
Accidents						53
Cost of Service					HORRY	57
Deaths				J loodos I	O Jasan	57
Department of I	Educati	on & Scier	ice Retu	ırns		57-62
Health Education	on	Jnem		nations at	HITO:	53-55
Inward and Out	ward T	ransfers	anothen	maexel la	e hiedic	55-56
National Child I	Develop	ment Stud	ly			52
School Meals an	*		mollani	cal Exam	ibald 's	55
School Absentee						52-53

School Health Department,
1A, Southernhay West,
Exeter.

March, 1974.

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In my report for 1972 I traced the history of the School Health Service since it was started in 1908 and showed how it had been adapted to meet the changing needs. This will be my last report to the City of Exeter Education Committee as from 1st April, 1974, Area Health Authorities will provide the medical services to the new Devon County Education Committee.

Although facilities for diagnosis and treatment are available to all through the National Health Service, there will be a continuing need for specially experienced doctors and nurses who can relate a child's health to his education and to ensure that he is able to take full advantage of the educational facilities provided and, if not, to advise on the provision of special facilities. The change from regular routine medical examination of school children to the selective examination has enabled more time to be devoted to children with any condition, whether physical or emotional or social, that is likely to affect their educational progress.

It is important that each child is assessed as an individual and they are not dealt with simply according to the category of their disability. Whenever possible these children should be integrated into an ordinary school, if necessary, by making special arrangements, or, in some cases by having small teaching groups within ordinary schools so that they can secure special education but still be able to spend part of their day in ordinary school activities. Some children because of the nature or severity of their handicap cannot benefit from education in an ordinary school and for them a special school is necessary. When this is necessary it is preferable that these children should attend school as day pupils whenever possible, so avoiding a break with home and family, although in some cases, because of social or emotional factors, it becomes desirable that a child goes to a residential school even though a day school place is available. The committee has developed

specialised facilities for assessment and treatment where it would seem to be an advantage that this should be done by the School Health Service.

AUDIOLOGY

A progressive audiology centre has been developed at Bull Meadow Road where detailed assessment of both preschool and school children can be carried out. It looked at one time as though road work would necessitate the demolition of this centre, but fortunately this will not now happen.

THERAPY

A speech therapy centre was opened adjacent to the audiology centre a few years ago. This centre provides facilities for assessment and treatment of children with speech difficulties, as well as administration of the speech therapy service in the various clinics throughout the City. As strong emphasis is now being placed on the early diagnosis and treatment of very young children with signs of speech difficulties, a therapeutic play group has been started in the Bull Meadow Child Health Clinic to help in this work. For the last two Summers a therapeutic holiday at Double Lock Cottage, Topsham, has been arranged for older children with speech difficulties. This has proved very successful and has helped several children very considerably; it is a tribute to the interest of the speech therapy staff as this is arranged during the school Summer holidays.

ENURESIS

We have found in Exeter that about 6% of each school entry is still bed wetting with twice as many boys affected than girls. Most will clear up as they get older even if nothing is done; however, in some the bed wetting will persist and as they get older this becomes more embarrassing to the child apart from creating problems in going away for holidays and in the washing of wet bed-clothes. An enuresis clinic was set up within the school health service many years ago to help in the treatment of these children and electric enuresis alarms are supplied to those children considered suitable to use them. The results of the treatment has been good and in many cases is completely successful; in others, after initial success, there is a breakdown but in most a second period of treatment is successful. Only in a few cases in spite of all efforts is there no improvement.

OBESITY

Obesity is the commonest form of malnutrition among school children today and the obesity clinic run by the school health service in Exeter is making some contribution to dealing with the problem. There is no norm however measured above which a child is fat and below which he is slim. Many children go through life with what some may regard as an excess layer of subcutaneous fat, but yet still retaining a good figure. I am of the opinion that if the condition is static and the fat layer is not increasing, this should be regarded as "acceptable obesity" and does not call for drastic treatment. When the figure is distorted with fat, then there can be no doubt that treatment is indicated.

In treating obesity it always gives satisfaction when you start with a fat child and end with a slim one; however, it must be accepted that because of the nature of obesity, it is only in a small proportion of children that this degree of success will be achieved. I consider that if treatment succeeds in getting rid of some of the excess fat, or, in some cases, even in preventing the child growing any fatter, that at least something has been achieved.

SCHOOL ABSENTEEISM

Although involving only a small proportion of the school population—absenteeism in High Schools presents a problem that calls for further information. I arranged a meeting of representatives from the many disciplines likely to be concerned with this and from this a small working party was formed to look in detail at the problem and with the co-operation of the head teachers lists of those children absent more than 3-5 times either consecutively or repeatedly during the Autumn term was drawn up. These lists were checked by the school doctor and it was possible immediately to eliminate many who had known illnesses. In Dr. C. J. Wardle's preliminary report it is interesting to note that less than half of the children were classified as being physically ill, or suffering from a physical handicap. It is obvious that further investigation of this problem is indicated.

ACKNOWLEDG-MENTS

thanks to the Chairman and members of the Education Committee, to the Director of Education and his staff and to the Head teachers and their staff for their support and understanding during my period as Principal School Medical Officer. I would also like to thank the staff of the School Health Department, especially Mr. Stamp, administrator for many years, upon whose shoulders much of the responsibility for administering the department has rested.

I look forward as District Community Physician for the Exeter Health Care District from 1st April, 1974, to continuing close association with the Head teachers not only of Exeter but of East Devon's schools. I hope to be able to provide as good, if not a better service.

Yours truly,

G. P. McLAUCHLAN,

Principal School Medical Officer.

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EXETER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

(as constituted on 31st December, 1973)

The R.W. The Mayor (Alderman E. C. Tozer)

Councillor A. Speller, B.Sc., B.A. (Chairman)

Councillor R. J. VAN OPPEN (Deputy Chairman)

Committee

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Alderman W. Hunt

Alderman Mrs. M. Nichols, B.SC.

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Prof. W. E. Minchinton

Mr. A. E. Harris

Miss F. K. Morford, B.A., DIP.ED.

Mr. S. T. Knowles, B.A.

A. R. GODDARD, B.SC., F.I.M.A., Acting Director of Education

G. P. McLauchlan, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.C.H., M.R.C.M.

Principal School Medical Officer

STAFF OF THE SCHOOL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Principal Sch. Med. Officer & Medical Officer of Health

GEORGE P. McLauchlan, M.B., Ch.B. (EDIN.), D.P.H., D.C.H., M.F.C.M.

Dep. Principal Sch. Medical Officer & Dep. Med. Officer of Health.

DOROTHY CULLEN, M.B., B.S. (LOND.), L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.

Senior Medical Officers

MARY ALLEN, M.B., CH.B., B.A.O. (BELFAST), D.OBST.R.C.O.G., D.P.H., M.F.C.M. CHRISTOPHER P. HALLETT, M.B., CH.B. (BRISTOL), D.P.H., M.F.C.M.

School Medical Officer & Departmental Medical Officer.

GERALD F. C. HAWKINS, B.A., B.M., B.CH. (OXON.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Beverley D. Stephens, M.B., CH.B. (Resigned 14.9.73).

HILDA M. LEVIS, M.R.C.S., M.B., B.S. (LOND.), D.P.H. (Appointed 22.10.73).

Principal Dental Officer

EDWARD G. READER, F.D.S.R.C.S., D.ORTH.

Dental Officers ROBERT B. MYCOCK, L.D.S. (BRIS.).

TALBOT N. PRAAT, L.D.S., R.C.S. (ENG.).

WALTER A. STEINER, B.D.S. (LOND.).

Child Guidance Centre : Medical Director and Consultant in Child

Psychiatry

*Christopher J. Wardle, m.d. (LOND.), D.P.M. (Part-time).

Consultant in Child Psychiatry

*Paul M. Jackson, M.B., B.CH., D.P.M. (Part-time).

Educational Psychologist

Mrs. M. F. Whinnom, B.Sc. (SPEC. HONS.) (LOND.).
Mrs. P. Keen, B.A. (Appointed 15.1.73.
Part-time).

Psychiatric Social Workers

MRS. M. V. JENKIN, B.A. (HONS.) (LOND.), A.A.P.S.W. MRS. M. BRANCH, B.SC. (HONS. ECON.) (LOND.), A.A.P.S.W. (Part-time).

Senior Speech Therapist

MISS C. A. NEWLOVE, L.C.S.T. (Resigned 10.3.73).

MRS. H. J. CURLE, L.C.S.T. (Appointed 12.3.73).

Speech Therapists

Miss R. Morgan, L.C.S.T.
Miss E. M. Odgers, L.C.S.T. (Appointed 8.10.73).

Speech Therapists (Part-time)

MRS. M. PEEL, L.C.S.T. (Retired 19.10.73). MRS. M. A. REES, L.C.S.T. MRS. P. LEEDING, L.C.S.T.

Mrs. H. J. Curle, L.C.S.T. (To 10.3.73).

Director ot Nursing Services

MISS P. WHITE, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., M.T.D. (Resigned 31.8.73).

MRS. D. BURGE, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. CERT.,

N.D.N. CERT. (Appointed 20.8.73).

Nursing Officer (H/Vs) Mrs. K. Dunham, s.r.n., s.c.m. (Pt. I), H.V. CERT.

^{*} Regional Hospital Board appointment.

Group Adviser (H/V) MISS Y. CASELLI, R.F.C., S.R.N., S.C.N., H.V. CERT. (Left 2.9.73). Senior Health Visitor MISS G. M. BASTOW, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. CERT. School Nurses (also Health Visitors) 7 Health Nurses School/Clinic Nurses 3 Mrs. M. B. Chubb, s.e.n. Mrs. P. E. Roberts, s.r.n. Audiometricians (Part-time) Physiotherapists (Part-time) Mrs. D. Woodman, M.C.S.P. Mrs. P. W. Bird, M.C.S.P. **Dental Surgery Assistants** MISS P. M. BOLT Mrs. Y. Eastlick Miss D. G. Freeman MRS. M. SANDERS Administrative Assistant MR. W. H. STAMP MRS. S. A. HOOPER MRS. D. P. GORMAN MISS S. R. MAYNE. (Resigned 11.8.73). Clerks MISS J. SHEARSBY
MISS J. P. E. DEMPSEY.
MISS J. E. MITCHELMORE. (Appointed 13.8.73).
MRS. J. M. CANN (School Dental Service). Mrs. H. A. Page (Part-time) (School Dental Service). MISS M. A. FENWICK (Child Guidance Clinic). MRS. G. WYKES (Child Guidance Clinic). (Part-time). (Resigned 31.5.73).

MRS. D. L. WALROND. (Audiology—Speech Therapy). (Part-time).

STATISTICS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Population of City (Mid-Year 1972) 93,800											
Population (city) over 5 and under 15 years (Mid-Year 1971) (Registrar-General's estimate) 13,000											
				. 14,947							
Number o	f Maintain	ed Schools	S VI C	. 41							
	Pupils	BOLT SYLICE	Schools	Dental Sarg							
Boys	Girls	Total	Department	Number							
30	32	62*	Nursery	Administrati 1 Clerks can							
39	40	79	Infants	1							
34	25	59	Junior	1							
2,341	2,293	4,634	First	20							
2,684	2,530	5,214	Middle	17							
2,417	2,239	4,656	Comprehensive	6							
2	2	4	Hospital Special School	1							
130	109	239	Day Special School	2							
7,677	7,270	14,947	1974 TOTAL	49							
7,381	6,938	14,319	1973 TOTAL	51							

^{*} Includes 30 part-time,

EMOSTAMENTAKE STADISTIN

line a cotal exactation region population of the consideration of the population of the consideration of the consideration of the consideration of the consideration of the consideration. Farents were present at 1,416 (97%) of the outrants' periodic examinations. 55 children (i.e. approx. 1 in 36 of these examined at the periodic examined at the periodic examination) were found to require treatment for some defects other than dental disease or vereduces conditions.

MEDICAL HEAMINATIONS 1873

Statistics

Potal Bumber of Children Examined

MEDICAL CARE

A special examination is one that is carried out at the special request of a parent, doctor, nurse, teacher or other person; the term includes also employment examinations and "inward transfers". A retransmination is an examination arising out of

Sumber of Children Referred to Hospital

TO AT THE PART OF THE PART OF

Of the 62 " other cases " referred in 1973 to hospital con-

During the year 1,042 reports were received from local hospital consultants (879 from the Royal Dovon & Exeter Herpitals, 163 from the Princess Elizabeth Orthopaedic Hespital) about children reteined to them through the school health service, or, by the child's family doctor; these reports are much

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

In a total maintained school population of 14,947 the periodic medical examinations numbered 1,453 (all 5-year-old entrants) and "other medical examinations" 3,269. No children were classified as "unsatisfactory" because of their general physical condition. Parents were present at 1,416 (97%) of the entrants' periodic examinations. 56 children (i.e. approx. 1 in 26 of those examined at the periodic examination) were found to require treatment for some defect other than dental disease or verminous conditions.

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS 1973

Statistics

Total Number of Children Examined

Year:	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	2973
Re-Examinations	3,245	2,313	2,264	2,260	2,074	2,267
Special Examinations	1,130	1,171	912	885	906	1,149
	4,375	3,484	3,176	3,145	2,980	3,416
Periodic Medical Examinations	1,862	2,236	1,972	2,513	1,837	1,453
TOTAL	6,237	5,720	5,448	5,658	4,817	4,869

A special examination is one that is carried out at the special request of a parent, doctor, nurse, teacher or other person; the term includes also employment examinations and "inward transfers". A re-examination is an examination arising out of one of the period or special medical examinations.

Number of Children Referred to Hospital

			1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
Ear, Nose and	Throat cases	****	114	121	74	77	60	52
Other cases		****	79	75	73	82	59	62
	TOTAL		193	196	147	159	119	114
			-	STATE STATE	-		-	

Of the 62 "other cases" referred in 1973 to hospital consultants, 13 were for orthopaedic conditions.

During the year 1,042 reports were received from local hospital consultants (879 from the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospitals, 163 from the Princess Elizabeth Orthopaedic Hospital) about children referred to them through the school health service, or, by the child's family doctor; these reports are much appreciated.

Special Selective Examinations

(a) Complete Medical Examinations were carried out on 1,099 children, all at the request of school doctors and were basically children coming into the city from outside areas and fitness for employment examinations.

DEFECTS FOUND.

REFERENCE FOR TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF:

3
2
14
15
2
3
3
_
.88

KEPT UNDER OBSERVATION FOR DEFECTS OF :

Skin			17	Developmental—	
Vision			47	Hernia	1
Squint			6	Other	25
Other			1	Orthopaedic, posture	7
Hearing			18	Orthopaedic, feet	13
Otitis		1	16	Orthopaedic, other	1
Ears, other		D. 13.00	7	Psychological stability	22
Nose or throat			44	Psychological development	11
Speech			16	Abdomen	5
Lymphatic glands			3	Bladder control	11
Heart and circulati	on		7	Other	3
Lungs			21		17 J.S.
Nervous system-					
Epilepsy			3		
Other			3	Total	308
					CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE

(b) Special Selective Examination (not complete), i.e. not involving for example, cardio-vascular system, or respiratory system, etc.

50 children were medically examined in school by special request of school doctors (11), of head teachers (31), and of parents (8).

DEFECTS FOUND.

REFERRED FOR TREATMENT FOR DEFECT OF:

Vision				1	Speech	12
Hearing				1	Psychological development	2
Other		1900	000000	1		ald2
Nose or Thro	oat	110	Hangor	1	Total	18

KEPT UNDER OBSERVATION FOR DEFECT OF:

Vision			3	Psychological development	3
Hearing			20	Stability	2
Nose or Throat			1	Abdomen	1
Speech		3	1	Bladder control	4
Lungs			2	General condition	1
Developmental	, other		1	TOTAL	39

MEDICAL QUESTIONNAIRES

During 1973 the use of medical questionnaires and subsequent selection of those to be examined in place of the "13/14 year-old periodic medical examinations" was extended to cover all these children attending High Schools (7) and Independent Schools (3).

In all 1,275 questionnaires were sent out; 1,220 were returned duly completed by the parents.

The information showed that 434 (217 boys; 217 girls) had some medical condition causing anxiety to their parents; of these, 263 were known to us and were already under observation by the school doctors; the 171 "new" cases were examined, result:—20 referred for treatment, 67 to be kept under observation, and in 84 no action was indicated.

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

Selective medical examination, hearing and vision testing, were continued at St. Margaret's and Mount St. Mary's Schools during the year and started in September at St. Wilfrid's School. At St. Margaret's School 49 girls had complete medical examinations; of these, 8 showed some condition requiring treatment and

12 are being kept under observation. In addition, 49 girls were re-examined. At Mount St. Mary School 37 girls had complete medical examinations; of these, 7 showed some condition requiring treatment and 6 are being kept under observation. In addition, 58 girls were re-examined. At St. Wilfrid's School 15 (8 girls; 7 boys) had complete medical examinations; of these, 5 are being kept under observation.

VISION

The school eye service is provided by the West of England Eye Infirmary, one session a fortnight being reserved for our school children.

400 children were referred by the school medical officers during the year, 249 of them for the first time; spectacles were prescribed for 54 of these (33 boys; 21 girls).

All children have their vision tested at school by the school nurses at 5, 8, 10, 12, 13, 14 and 16 years of age. During the year 5,477 tests were carried out; children found for the first time to have defective vision are advised to attend the Eye Infirmary.

SQUINT

During the year 4 new cases of squint (all boys) were found in the age range of 5 to 12 years. All the children were referred to the Eye Infirmary; in one child the diagnosis of squint was confirmed.

MASTER VISION SCREENER

16 children were examined by this method during 1973; 10 were found to have defective vision and referred to Eye Infirmary; in 5 children no further action was indicated; the remaining child is being kept under observation.

COLOUR VISION

During the year school nurses using Ishihara plates tested 955 ten year old and 226 older boys. 51 (41 10 year olds and 10 older boys) were considered to be defective and were tested by Dr. G. F. C. Hawkins, using the Giles Archer Lantern; (3 were found to be normal; 19 were found to be "safe" and 11 "unsafe"); the remaining 18 boys failed to keep appointments. We have not tested the girls since 1958, as defective colour vision is rare among them.

(Safe—means that there should be no mistake made in regard to the naming of the deeper shades or red and green. Lighter shades may be incorrectly named. Unsafe—means that red is described as green or vice versa, or red or green is described as black or no light.

CLEANLINESS

17,567 head inspections were carried out during the year compared with 16,703 in 1972. 227 children (74 boys; 153 girls) were found to have nits or lice compared with 297 in 1972.

The following table shows the individual cases of unclean (verminous) heads found in 1973 by age groups.

	AGE (at 31.12.73)	Inolia	Once	ONLY	More Ti	IAN ONCE
37/13	strange.		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Aged	5 years (and und	ler)	14	14	1	_
"	O secondo		10 8	14 21 16	1	8 3
"			8	16	3	3
"	8 ,,		5	11	1 1 2 10	2
" 1 " 1	,,		2	12 22	0	5
" 1	1 "		6	14	2 2	5
" 1	2 ,,		1	6	1	2
, 1: ,, 1:	3 ,,		2	4	-	2
	4 years (and ove		3	2	1	1

TOTAL IN 1973: 227=1.5% of schoolchildren.

PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN

Where a child has had a complete medical examination within the previous 12 months and subject to written confirmation by the parents that the child has had no serious illness or accident since that date, an employment certificate is issued without carrying out any medical examination.

New Cases

During the year 471 children (1972—251 children) applied for the first time in accordance with the Bye-Laws (1949) for part-time employment certificate, licences were issued in respect of all the children after medical examinations.

Old Cases

During the year 136 (67 boys; 69 girls) were reviewed after working 3-6 months; 42 of these children were medically examined (no medical check-up during the previous 12 months); the

remaining 94 were certified on their history as fit to continue part-time employment without having further medical examination.

Type of Employment	Boys	Girls	TOTAL 1973	Тотац 1972
Delivery of newspapers	108	48	156	137
Delivery of groceries	35	_	35	7
Delivery of meat	3	_	3	1
Delivery of milk	3	_	3	5
Hairdressing	_	12	12	5
Shop assistants	_	148	148	47
Waitress	_	21	21	7
Miscellaneous	68	25	93	42
Total	217	254	471	251

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF ENTRANTS TO COURSES OF TRAINING FOR TEACHING AND TO THE TEACHING PROFESSION

Ministry of Education Circular 249

178 students (96 women; 82 men) and 9 teachers (3 women; 6 men) had complete medical examinations with radiographic examinations during the year in regard to their fitness for the teaching profession.

remaining 94 were continued on their harmy as he to confined partitions employment without having furnish medical exemples.

		TOTAL

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF ENTRANTS TO COURSES OF TRAINING FOR TEACHING AND TO THE TEACHING PROPESSION

Ministry of Education Chronian 200

178 students (95 women; 52 men) and 9 teachers (5 weamen; 5 men) had complete medical examinations with radiographic examinations during the year in regard to their stness for the teaching profession.

THE RESERVE OF SCHOOL CHILDREN

When a cold has been accomplete medical accumination within the second configuration of the second configuration.

The first of the state of the children of the

and the gulleric star negligible landing beautiful

HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

TABLE SHEWING THE NUMBER OF EXETER HANDICAPPED PUPILS IN SPECIAL SCHOOLS OR HOMES AS AT 17th JANUARY, 1974

DISABILITY	Total No. of children classified as handi- capped	SPECIAL SCHOOL OR HOME	R	SD.	Ne Re	DN SD.	Total No. of children attending Special	Total No. of children awaiting admission to Special
	as at 17-1-74		В.	G.	В.	G.	Schools or Homes	Schools or Homes
BLIND	2	Condover Hall, Shrews- bury Linden Lodge, London	- 1	1	=	=	2	} -
PARTIALLY SIGHTED	14	West of England School for the Partially Sighted, Exeter	1	-	8	5	14	_
DEAF	21	Larchmore, Bucks. Royal School for the Deaf, Exeter Mary Hare, Berks.	_ 1 _	1 - 2	12 —	5	21	} -
PARTIALLY HEARING	54	Royal School for the Deaf, Exeter	-	-	4	11	15	_
PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED	63	Vranch House School, Exeter Heathercombe Brake, Devon	_ _1	1/1	10	7	19	} -
Autistic -	1	Gulworthy, Devon	1	-	-	-	-	_
EPILEPTIC	78	Lingfield, Surrey	1	_	-	-	1	-
EDUCA- TIONALLY SUBNORMAL	249	Withycombe Hse. School, Exmouth Bradfield School, Devon Rocklands, Chudleigh Pitt House, Torquay Lampard Vachel, Devon Southbrook Sch., Exeter Ellen Tinkham, Exeter Courtenay Sch., Exmouth Oaklands Park, Dawlish Dennington College, Devon Chelfam Mill, Barnstaple	-2 2 7 1 - 3 1	3	73 32 —	- - 58 30 - -	216	33*
DELICATE	32	Heathercombe Brake, Devon	10	1	_	_	11	-
MALADJUSTED	51	Heathercombe Brake, Manaton, Devon Pitt House, Torquay The Gables Hostel, Devon Crichel Hostel, Devon Lupton House School, Brixham, Devon Childscourt, Wincanton, Somerset Bicknell School, Bournemouth	1 1 2 1 1 —	- 4 - 1		=	12	-
Speech	4		_	-	4	-	4	-
TOTAL	569		41	15	143	116	315	33

^{*} All of these children are awaiting Admission to a Day Special School.

SOUTHBROOK SCHOOL

(Observations by Headmaster, Mr. D. S. Kerr)

The past year has proved to be one of consolidation in a pattern established during the previous two years. It has seen the development of remedial teaching within a school situation which is itself remedial. A slightly more generous staffing ratio has enabled groups of children with learning problems beyond the norm even for a special school to be given more specific help in small groups for a few hours each week. This is much in line with a recent memorandum from the D.E.S. suggesting, and advising, that the now recognised multi-handicapped role of the Special E.S.N. School requires smaller and more flexible teaching units.

Due to the introduction of R.S.L.A. this year, the school leavers faced less competition for work placement. Consequently all those pupils capable of open employment were found jobs before leaving or soon after. The figures for 1973 were thus:—

Pupils to open employment			21
College of Further Education (2-y	ear course)		2
Adult Training Centre	string to	9	3
Nil Employment (unsuitable)			3
an environ Product to partition of	mink a bound		-
	TOTAL	****	29

(In addition to these figures 3 younger children were returned to ordinary schools).

Every effort is made to persuade parents of pupils who are incapable of open employment to accept preliminary placement at an Adult Training Centre—it is unfortunate that three such parents saw fit to refuse such placement.

Much of the credit for the success of the school's efforts in placing its pupils into employment is due to the close co-operation between the careers officers and the school staff concerned with careers and after care. Considerable care is taken to place the young adolescent into the right kind of job—possibly with the right kind of employer or staff officer.

The supportive role of the leavers club enables the school staff to exercise pastoral care beyond the leaving date and to advise in cases of employment difficulty or irresponsibility after the initial placement. The popularity of this club is reflected in its growing attendance and the consistency of its membership. During the course of a year approximately 90% of past pupils utilise the club to some extent, some regularly, some spasmodically, but certainly it serves to maintain contact with the great majority of ex pupils.

Pressure for places in the school continues to present the perennial problem of the proverbial pint and half pint pot. One would like to give high priority to younger children for whom, logically, there are greater expectations of benefit from special education, but this priority invariably founders when faced with the needs of older children for whom school has become an

experience filled with dread.

There is undoubtedly a need for an assessment/diagnostic class or unit to serve the school's catchment area. With such a facility it would be possible to eliminate much of the "on trial" nature of some of the present admissions. Once a child is admitted to the school it is impossible to arrive at an accurate assessment (in some cases) within a reasonable time, and parents come to accept the placement as confirmed when in fact the pupil's progress and educational needs are still under review.

ELLEN TINKHAM SCHOOL

(Observations by Headmistress, Miss F. Crook)

The year has been one of steady progress—a year in which all the staff have co-operated to provide an educational and happy atmosphere of encouragement, in which our children spend a great part of their lives.

The number of children attending Ellen Tinkham School during 1973 was 68, ages ranging from two to sixteen years. As there are going to be a large number of school leavers in 1974, a greater emphasis of training is going to be placed on the Nursery end of the school, because the children coming in will be those with multiple handicaps, therefore making the teacher's job more specialised. This means the services of the Speech Therapist and Physiotherapist are going to be in even more demand.

I would also like to welcome more "experts" into the school, who have a full understanding of our children and realise their limitations. Because a child responds well on a one to one basis, does not follow they are good all rounders in a group situation which covers all aspects.

The Ellen Tinkham School continues to run mainly on the play, look and learn method, with great emphasis on social training and introducing our children, to the everyday situations they are likely to face in later life. **But** any child who has the potential for reading, writing and number work, is encouraged to develop this to the fullest.

One of my fears when the transfer of these schools, from the Department of Health to the Department of Education took place in April, 1971, was that parents would presume education in the popular sense of the word would now take over. However, schools of our structure are not necessarily functional for the child who is able to sit down at a desk and tackle the "3 Rs". If I ever have a child who is capable of this, they are very soon moved on to other educational establishments. Activities are geared to change every ten minutes of the day on the school timetable, because concentration is very soon lost. So when it comes to reading, this does not mean picking up a book, etc., but being

able to recognise signs seen outside, different letters on a bus for when they have to use public transport, again, recognising labels on tins or bottles in the home or shops. As regards writing, a few can "copy write reams"—some have no pencil control whatso-ever; nevertheless, the teacher's highest hope is that the majority will be able to write their names and addresses before they leave. Even in their adult life, they do not escape the chore of signing forms. A good deal of time is given to teaching numbers. Day to day situations are used to help acquire number concept. Telling the time is all important, recognising numbers on houses, etc. Shopping situations for learning decimal currency. To stimulate the latter the Intermediate Class have opened a tuck shop three mornings a week in which all other classes are invited to shop. The children bring their own money from home and one of the Intermediate children act as shop-keeper.

Hence E.S.N. (S) schools are geared to training our children for the future and all they are going to have to face. Education in our case starts in the very early stages. Teaching the children the social graces, e.g. how to wash properly, toilet training, doing up shoe laces and buttons and so on. Things that come so easy to the non brain damaged child, but, so very, very hard to our children. These abilities are necessary if they are to take their rightful place in society.

At this closing point, I would like to take the opportunity of welcoming the members of the newly-formed Board of Governors at Ellen Tinkham School. To express my gratitude to all the members of staff for their co-operation and efforts during the past year.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

(Report by Dr. Mary Allen)

There has been a great deal of emphasis in the past years about the early provision of education for all children and since the implementation of the 1944 Education Act special education has been provided for all children with a particular handicap from the age of two years. This education has been given mostly to the child with sensory and physical defects. There is also provision given to the increasing importance of the early years in learning and the early identification and assessment of the handicap, both in assessment centres, hospitals, or, in the community. In 1971 the responsibility for severely mentally handicapped children became that of the Department of Education and Science.

The classification of handicap is changing in the assessment from the medical one to the education one, because many of the children with different medical handicaps have the same educational needs. There still remains, however, a need for comprehensive assessment of the children for medical, social, and educational needs, and in the new integrated Child Health Service this must be maintained, otherwise it would be a retrograde step to consider any of these needs in isolation of the others. The Area Health Authority will have a duty to make services available to the Local Education Authority to continue responsibilities made under the Education Act, 1944, Sections 33 and 34. Child orientation in assessment is needed as well as in the classroom. It can be one of the pitfalls in the new administration to have fragmentation at the periphery unless there is close co-operation with other disciplines, not only in the committee room, but on the "ground floor".

There is a growing tendency for more children with handicaps to remain in ordinary schools either in special classes or units or in remedial departments. This is increasing in popularity and has many advantages, but if this is to be the policy then more assistance should be given to the ordinary school to help them to play a greater part in special education.

The special school will in the future have to become more special and provide more than can be given in the ordinary school, but I believe there is always going to be a need for the special school, because there will always be the child who has too many "things" against him to allow him to remain in an ordinary school, even with the special help, there is also the child who is hypersensitive to stress, and who reacts to his situation by this means. It is the child who shows signs of anxiety and stress who is the candidate for special education. This is the type of child who is catered for more and more at Southbrook School and this is why the children are getting older on admission to the school; something should be done to prevent this. There should be more awareness of the child who is under stress and attempts made to remove some of his anxieties early.

Many of the children, however, require special education in the early years and are then able to return to ordinary school; other children, very often because of stress, require special education in their later years.

The disadvantaged child has come into prominence and many schemes have been carried out to help these children. There is, however, a great deal more to be accomplished before the cycle has been stopped. More help for mothers at an early age through helping the mothers to help their children; more nursery education and community schools.

Social adaptation is a very important factor in the child's ability to learn.

Summary of special education needs for the future:-

- 1. Handicapped children from birth to be given special education.
- More on going comprehensive assessment for special educational needs.
- 3. More assistance in the ordinary schools to help them to become a part of special education.
- 4. Special schools to become more special.
- Children to have special education relative to their educational needs rather than medical ones.
- More research about stress in children to prevent the need for special education.

THE PRE-SCHOOL CHILD

(Report by Dr. Mary Allen)

The School Health Service in the past few years has concentrated on the assessment of the pre-school child with the educational psychological services.

The child who has shown developmental delay, environmental stress or a management problem, as well as the child who has a recognised handicap.

There has been close co-operation between all sections of the medical profession to co-ordinate their knowledge of the child and family in order to make the assessment as full as possible, and then to link this with educational assessment and the future needs of the child. The Social Services will, I hope, be able in the future to help in assessment and to also assist in the home situation. There is a great need to link the home and early school placement so that continuity of development is maintained.

Many of the children seen have been placed in the nursery section of special schools appropriate to their needs, but there are many children who have to attend play groups, who would benefit from a more structured environment where professional help would be more readily available.

The publication of the white paper on nursery education expansion will, I hope, give new opportunities to many of these children. The climate of opinion to have these placed in primary schools is very good, but there are some children who will not be able to fit into this environment any more than they can to the school environment.

There is a need for a special nursery section for the child who falls into any of the following groups:—

- (1) The severe management problem because the child may show the following symptoms:—aggressiveness, temper tantrums, whining or miserable. These children are stressful to the family and any group where they are placed.
- (2) The highly anxious child who will need to be separated slowly from mother.
- (3) Speech problems associated with emotional problems. These children very often have problems in relationships.
- (4) The child with the autistic symptoms who needs help early.
- (5) The child with primary retardation and the need for early help and observation. The child with developmental problems such as soiling and feeding.
- (6) The battered baby who is very much at risk in the home situation, that parents of these children need help and support.

The special Unit at Newtown School caters for some of these children of school age, but a nursery section attached to this unit would be of great value for the pre-school child. The children in this Unit have developed many problems before they are admitted and very often it is only when they have been under observation in the Unit that other problems are revealed, and these may be the dominant ones in the child's educational progress. In many instances, the child would have been relieved of many of these stresses and his developmental progress enhanced, his attitude to learning increased, and a better personal and social relationship established, if this could have been diagnosed and treated at an early age.

There is a great deal more research needed on the effect of the personality and later career and pattern of living to these early stresses.

All research findings strengthen the case that pre-school and early school years are crucial to later development of potential, and stress prevents development. The stress can be more harmful in the early years can be a fair conclusion, and yet, less is done to relieve stress in pre-school years than at any time in the life of the individual.

A nursery section for this type of child would not only relieve stress and enhance development, but it is also **sound economic sense** in terms of personal services and future education.

I hope that the future Child Health Service under the National Health Service will give the same priority to relieving children from stress in the future, as the School Health Service of the past did in the prevention of nutritional deficiencies and environmental hazards.

TUITION IN HOSPITAL

The local education authority continue to provide educational facilities in the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospitals. Additionally, there are hospital special schools in the Princess Elizabeth Orthopaedic Hospital, Exe Vale Hospital, Franklyn Hospital and Honeylands Children's Hospital.

Home Tuition

5 new cases, viz.: duodenal ulcer (1), severe maladjustment (2), glandular fever (1), heart disease (1). Three were still receiving home tuition at the year end.

The sum of £20,143 was spent during the year ended 31.3.73 on arrangements made under section 56 of the Education Act, 1944, for the education of handicapped children otherwise than at school.

Transport

Transport (by taxi) to and from school was provided during the year for 31 new cases and continued for 58 "old" cases: the new cases were: factures (11), orthopaedic condition (13), partially hearing (2), partially sighted (1), spastic (2), miscellaneous other (2). 63 children still had transport at the year end.

Special transport, not included here, is also provided for a large number of children attending special schools / classes in the city.

EPILEPTIC SCHOOL CHILDREN

We had 73 children classified as suffering from epilepsy at the beginning of the year. During the year 9 new cases were reported and 4 cases were removed from the register: left school 2, declassified 2, leaving 78 on the register at the year end.

The age range of the NEW CASES was:-

5 year old school entrants—5 (3 boys; 2 girls).

8 to 10 years old—3 (all boys).

12 years and over-1 (a girl).

67 (29 boys; 38 girls) attend ordinary schools; 10 (9 boys; 1 girl) attend special school for educationally subnormal children; 1 boy attends Lingfield Hospital School, Surrey.

PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

At the end of the year, there were 63 children classified as physically handicapped. We had 20 new cases reported during 1973. The age ranges and defects of these 63 children are:—

HANDICAP	AGE GROUP			
		5-8 years	8-12 years	and over
Cerebral Palsy		6	11	2
Heart: Congenital		8	_	1
Other Congenital Defects		10	-	1
Perthes Disease		3	_	_
Hydrocephalus/Spina Bifida		4	1	_
Meringo Myclocoele		_	2	4
Miscellaneous		7	1	2
Тот	AL	38	15	10

EMPLOYMENT OF SCHOOL LEAVERS WITH HANDICAP

Reports on Form Y.9 during 1973

Close liaison is maintained by our school medical officers with the principal careers officer with regard to handicapped school leavers and regular meetings are held to consider the most suitable form of employment for them. In addition to memoranda on individual children, 74 Forms Y.9 and 14 Forms Y.10 were sent to the careers department during 1973.

Forms Y.9:—defective colour vision (40 boys), defective vision (11 boys; 5 girls), defective hearing (2 boys; 4 girls), epilepsy (1 boy; 1 girl) and miscellaneous defects (7 boys; 3 girls).

Form Y.10:—educationally subnormal (5 boys; 3 girls), defective hearing (1 boy; 2 girls), asthma (1 boy), epilepsy (1 boy) and heart disease (1 boy).

(Form 10 is a medical report indicating severe handicaps where registration under the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944 should be considered).

SPECIAL CLINICS

EXETER AUDIOLOGY CLINIC-HEARING IMPAIRMENT

(Report by C. P. Hallett, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.)

In the last Annual Report of the Principal School Medical Officer, I referred to an investigation of sweep and subsequent hearing test failure by season and place of failure.

Table I gives the overall sweep failure rate 1970-1973 inc. Reference to Table IV on page 41 of last year's report gave the number of children followed up during 1973. I am now able to give more information about those particular children.

TABLE I

YEAR	No. Tested	No. Failed	% Fail Rate
1970	1,229	123	10.0
1971	1,306	140	10.7
1972	1,328	151	11.3
1973	1,429	160	11.3

Children failing their hearing tests came from three main geographical areas. For location of grid reference please refer to the Scale Map of the City of Exeter (six inches to the mile). Children are included who live within 1" of a grid boundary.

TABLE II

Grid Reference	Children
D, E, F, 2, 3	10
F, G, 5	8
В, С, 5, 6	12
C, 8	3
J, 10	2
TOTAL	35

These findings may reflect population concentration, type of house, relative altitudes and family size.

Table III refers to size of family amongst hearing failures.

TABLE III

No. of children in family	No. of children failed Hearing Tests
1 child	at well 8 a other ha
2 children	22
3 children	11
4 children	4
5 or more children	.zogor 2 cimoffal
TOTAL	47

These figures probably reflect relative national family size rather than increased proneness to conductive hearing losses. Further investigation is suggested to compare these children with others with normal hearing but matched for sex, habitat and family size. In general hearing losses seemed to be balanced equally between girls and boys (Table IV).

TABLE IV

Children			Failing Hearing Tes		
Girls	28		22		
Boys			25		
- Israe	TOTAL		meed and 47 th neith		

Cause of Deafness

The cause of deafness was predominantly conductive, one child having a monaural perceptive hearing loss and another child a psychogenic deafness. Many of these children were cleared subsequently and Table V summarises the results.

TABLE V

Month from	time of	test	Cleared
0-3/12			12
4-6/12			7
7-12/12	alegan d		4
13-18/12			8
Not yet cle	ared		16

34% children remain on our books for further follow up during 1974.

It is often postulated that fluctuating hearing loss, especially in the early school years, can cause maldevelopment of language and speech. Among this specially selected group of children whose hearing had been at risk, were seven children with speech impairment as well as other handicaps. The hearing of five of these is still abnormal despite specialist referral being taken to alleviate the deafness.

For information regarding the provision and supervision of hearing aids, I refer to Table VI and the summary of statistical data on the following pages.

TABLE VI

Make of He	1972	1973		
N.H.S.			2	
Phillips		-	16	
Maico			1	
Danavox			4	
Audium			3	
Multitone	****		1	
Oticon		1	3	16:0
	TOTAL		30	

In conclusion, this has been a frustrating and unhappy year for all audiology clinic members. The future of the clinic and its staff remains in doubt even at the time of writing this report, and whereas from time to time one hears rumours, there is no substitute for proper consultation between those who work in the field and those who are preparing to organise it in future.

Fortunately the relationship which has been built up between ourselves and our hospital and general practitioner colleagues remains a happy and co-operative one and I firmly believe that we possess in Exeter the nucleus of a Regional Hearing Assessment Centre for both children and adults. One can only hope that a similar thought has occurred to others able to foster such an understanding. The next two years of national belt-tightening may give us an opportunity of looking closely at all aspects of present audiology services to produce a carefully argued, co-ordinated, and integrated service with less of the shortcomings and weaknesses of the past. I am quite sure that my colleagues and I would welcome an opportunity to join community and specialist colleagues as soon as possible to forge out a new service for the benefit of young and old alike.

HEARING IMPAIRED CHILDREN

The statistical details about partially hearing Exeter school children are set out below.

			At y	rear end	1973	197
	School Population	n			14,947	14,31
	Attending School	s for the Deaf				
	(a) Royal S	chool for the I	Deaf, Exeter		32	2
		lare and Larch			2	
	(c) Larchm	oor School and	d others		2	artail.
	Wearing hearing including (6)		nding ordinary red and provide			
	hearing-aids				39	3
	Children wear	ring hearing	aids:			
		FIRST	MIDDLE	HIGH		TOTAL
	Boys	5	6	8		19
	Girls	2	7	11		20
	Tomic	7	13	19		39
	Wearing hearing schools becaus	g-aids and atte e of handicaps	nding residential	ness	1	
	Wearing hearing schools because Wearing hearing because of har	e-aids and atter e of handicaps -aids and atter dicaps other th	nding residential	ness y school	1	AT TO
-	Wearing hearing schools because Wearing hearing because of har are County chi	e of handicaps -aids and atternation of the control	nding residential other than deaf nding special day han deafness (2	y school of these	4	AT TO SEE THE PERSON OF T
100	Wearing hearing schools because Wearing hearing because of har	e of handicaps -aids and atternation of the control	nding residential other than deaf nding special day han deafness (2	y school of these	e any	AT PER CONTRACTOR OF THE PER CONTRACTOR OF T
100	Wearing hearing schools because Wearing hearing because of har are County chi	g-aids and atter e of handicaps g-aids and atter idicaps other the ildren)	nding residential other than deaf and deafness (2 deaf	y school of these longer	4	
45	Wearing hearing schools because Wearing hearing because of har are County children with he Hearing-aids we required	g-aids and attered of handicaps g-aids and attered of and attered of and attered of and attered of an attered of a attered	nding residential other than deaf and and deafness (2 and deaf	y school of these	4	
	Wearing hearing schools because Wearing hearing because of har are County children with he Hearing-aids we required	g-aids and attered of handicaps g-aids and attered of and attered of and attered of and attered of an attered of a attered	nding residential other than deaf nding special day han deafness (2 have left school ring 1973—no	y school of these	4	9.
45	Wearing hearing schools because Wearing hearing because of har are County children with he Hearing-aids we required Number of school year with vary	g-aids and attered of handicaps g-aids and attered of handicaps g-aids and attered of handicaps other the hidren of handicaps other the hidren of hidren and hing degrees of	nding residential other than deaf nding special day han deafness (2 have left school ring 1973—no	y school of these longer t end of	4 2 1	94
45	Wearing hearing schools because Wearing hearing because of har are County children with he Hearing-aids we required Number of school year with vary	g-aids and attered of handicaps g-aids and attered of handicaps g-aids and attered of handicaps other the hidren of handicaps other the hidren of hidren and hing degrees of	nding residential other than deaf nding special day han deafness (2 dear no man deafness dear no deafness dear no deafness deafness dear no deafness dear no deafness dear no deafness dear no deafness deafness dear no deafness dear no deafness deafness dear no deafness deaf	y school of these longer t end of	4 2 1	el o
10	Wearing hearing schools because Wearing hearing because of har are County children with he Hearing-aids we required Number of school year with vary The 1,070 remarks.	g-aids and attered of handicaps g-aids and attered dicaps other the didren of handicaps other the didren of handicaps other the didren of handing degrees of handing under the handicaps of the h	nding residential other than deaf nother than deaf ness (2 of the nother than deaf ness (2	y school of these longer t end of attende	4 2 1	TOTAL 591
	Wearing hearing schools because Wearing hearing because of har are County chit Children with he Hearing-aids we required Number of school year with vary The 1,070 rem	g-aids and attered of handicaps g-aids and attered of and attered of and attered of aring-aids who withdrawn during degrees of anaining under the stress of	nding residential other than deaf nother	y school of these longer t end of attende	4 2 1	98 TOTAL 591 479

43 of these 1,070 children were referred to consultants at the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital; others were referred to general practitioners or the Audiology Clinic. The remainder remain on our books for further review.

SWEEP TESTS

	1973	1972
No. of 5 year olds given sweep test	. 1,429	1,328
No. of these children who "failed" sweep test	. 160	151
Further investigation of these 160 children showed:		
Left Exeter and not tested further	. 9	5
After full audiometric test:		
Hearing within normal limits	. 41	34
Referred to ear, nose and throat consultants	. 7	9
Remaining under observation	. 103	103

553 inward transfer children (1973) were given sweep tests; in 73 children the result was unsatisfactory and they remain under observation, 45 children were from private schools; of these, 4 children had a hearing impairment and continue under observation.

CHILDREN HAVING PURE TONE AUDIOMETRIC TESTS

			1973	1972
(a)	Having " failed " in sweep test (5 year olds)		160	151
(b)	Wearing hearing aids		39	32
*(c)	Referred for other reasons (re-tests, etc.)		2,219	2,061
	Total number of individual children		†2,418	2,244
(d)	Total number of all tests and re-tests	hane	2,571	3,343

^{* (920} of the 2,219 children were found to be within normal limits of hearing).

REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL SCHOOL DENTAL OFFICER FOR 1973

(Edward G. Reader, F.D.S.R.C.S., D.ORTH.)

In his annual report for 1911, the School Medical Officer for Exeter wrote: "As the work of the Medical Inspection progresses I am sure my estimate of eighteen months ago that six thousand of the children were in need of dental treatment was no over estimate" (School population was then just over seven thousand).

This matter was considered by the Hygiene Sub-Committee and in 1912 a five year lease was taken on 46, Longbrook Street as a dental clinic. The total cost of adaptation of premises, furniture and instruments was £86. The first School Dentist appointed was James Raymont, who worked under the general supervision and control of the School Medical Officer. The Board of Education laid down the enlightened guide lines that the work

[†] In addition 47 children either failed to attend or left Exeter before the tests could be made.

should be of a preventive and conservative character. However, due to a need for priorities it was decided initially to restrict the service to those between 6 and 8 years. (95.7%) of the girls and 96.4% of the boys examined needed treatment).

By 1913 the age groups treated had been extended to 6 and 10 years and each school involved was inspected twice yearly. In 1914 Mr. Raymont resigned to take up a similar appointment with Devon County Council and was succeeded by Clifford Haydon. In 1917 the School Medical Officer could write: "In the Dental Department, the dentist has far more work than he can cope with."

Following the decease of the School Dentist, Ethyl Watson was appointed in 1922 and George Smallwood succeeded her in 1924. Mr. Smallwood continued as School Dentist (subsequently Senior Dental Surgeon) until June, 1945, his period of service having been extended by the Authority considerably beyond the usual retiring age owing to the circumstances of the war.

The present Central School Clinic was opened at No. 1a, Southernhay West on 31st October, 1935. In 1936 in response to a circular of the Board of Education, the Education Committee decided to appoint a part-time Assistant Dental Surgeon as a prelude to the re-organisation of the dental service in 1937. Thus my father became the Authority's first Assistant Dental Surgeon. The Education Committee decided to take over the dental work conducted by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, and also the Children's Home and Honeylands; and to extend the service to the whole elementary school population. To cope with this work the post of Assistant Dental Surgeon was made full-time and Clifford Reynolds was appointed.

War-time conditions and the increase in population due to Evacuees, necessitated the establishment of a temporary Assistant Dental Surgeon's post, and a further temporary was appointed when Mr. Reynolds joined the forces.

On Mr. Smallwood's retirement John Smythe was appointed temporary Senior Dental Surgeon in July, 1945 and in his report he mentions the advantages of having branch clinics to treat the outlying schools. Mr. Reynolds was appointed Senior Dental Surgeon on his return from active service in 1946. The inauguration of the National Health Service in 1948 produced staffing problems which were to last for over ten years. The appointment of a third dental officer took three years to accomplish and the Whipton Dental Clinic was finally opened in 1952. William Crofts Arkle succeeded as Principal Dental Officer in 1953 and the following year saw the new Whipton Health Clinic opened by the Minister of Health (Iain Macleod). He died in 1956 and John Clark, the next Principal Dental Officer, was concerned with the new dental clinic at Tin Lane, St. Thomas, but although the establishment was now four dental officers, for some time only two were on the staff. James Lawson succeeded Mr. Clark in 1958 and resigned in February, 1961. Alvin Pryor, appointed in

July, 1961, saw fewer staff problems and the standard of equipment was gradually improved. The City extended its boundaries in April, 1966 and the schools at Topsham, Alphington and Pinhoe were incorporated. A new branch clinic (for part-time use) was opened at Countess Wear in that year. St. Thomas Health Centre, with a dental suite to replace the Tin Lane Clinic, was opened in October, 1969 and has proved very successful. For some years now the facilities for dental inspection and treatment have been offered to the independent schools in Exeter; up to date three have accepted.

I succeeded Mr. Pryor as Principal School Dental Officer in December, 1972. It is clear that the process of rebuildingtne schools peripherally renders the two surgery unit at 1a, Southernhay West inconveniently placed for many, and it is hoped to have a dental suite in the proposed Heavitree Health Centre. The improved atmosphere of a Health Centre over the old-type clinic has been well established at St. Thomas. The more outlying schools can probably be best served by Mobile Clinics. We have introduced twice yearly dental inspections for all First schools, and I must record my thanks to the Headteachers concerned for their help. An attempt is being made to reduce the number of extractions and increase the amount of conservative work done, and this policy is now reinforced following a visit of a dental officer of the Department of Education and Science towards the end of the year. Talks on prevention by the dental officers continue and thanks are also due to Miss Robertson (Health Education Officer). The arrangements for sterilisation of instruments have been improved and we are re-equipping with autoclaves in accordance with acceptable modern standards. orthodontic welder has been purchased, enabling fixed appliance work to be done. Co-operation has been established with Devon County Council and patients are seen when and where needed. On an informal basis I have started treating "County" orthodontic patients who prefer to travel to Exeter.

I have been on a management course in London organised by the Department of Health and Social Security and am shortly off on another at Lyngford House (Regional Hospital Board). Mr. Mycock has attended a course on Children's Dentistry at Bristol University. Much time has been spent on work concerned with National Health Service re-organisation and I have served on the Working Party to consider the Dental Services, of the Devon Joint Liaison Committee.

Future. In April, 1974 the City and the County of the City of Exeter will be no more. The School Dental Service will be nationalised and be responsible to a largely nominated Area Health Authority. Care must be taken not to lose local interest and co-operation, however great possibilities exist for development and improvement of the service, particularly as part of a larger unit—but time alone will tell.

CHILD GUIDANCE SERVICE

(Report of the Medical Director, Dr. Christopher J. Wardle)

The psychiatric services for children and young people aged 0-18 are jointly provided by the local authority and the Regional Hospital Board. Outpatient clinics are held at 97 Heavitree Road and less frequently, at the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital (Southernhay). The consultants in child psychiatry are Dr. Christopher J. Wardle, M.D., D.P.M., and Dr. Paul M. Jackson, M.B., D.P.M., who are supported by the team of psychiatric social workers and psychologists, the latter providing the link with the school psychological service and the education service for the community. In 1973, 160 patients were referred to the outpatient service at 97 Heavitree Road, 8 of these being under school age, and 31 patients from Exeter to the clinic at the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital (Southernhay). In addition to their work in the outpatient setting, the doctors and social workers also provide an inpatient service, the Dryden Clinic. The Dryden Clinic has 18 beds for children up to 14 and a 12-bedded unit for teenagers. There are also 10 day places for children who need special treatment but can sleep at home. A school specially geared to the needs of children with behaviour difficulties and emotional disturbances is provided by the local education authority in the hospital premises. The age range for inpatients is from 5-18. During 1973 16 patients were admitted to the children's unit of the Dryden Clinic and 14 patients to the adolescent unit from the Exeter district.

All ages are seen in the outpatient departments. Referral may be initiated by anyone with a professional concern for children and by the parents themselves, but it is of course, important that the co-operation of the parents is obtained before referral is made, and equally important that the general practitioner who is concerned with the health of the family is consulted. All children who are referred will have a full assessment, after which a plan for treatment may be made if this is indicated. Treatment may include activity group therapy or individual therapy, occasionally medication may be indicated or the use of the alarm bell for bedwetting. Special educational treatment may be needed for children who are retarded or have a specific handicap in learning. Special schooling may sometimes be necessary and occasionally it may be helpful for the child to be placed in a boarding school or hostel. Two hostels are available in Devon, one at Totnes for secondary boys (all the boys in this hostel attend the Totnes Comprehensive School) and a hostel for junior school boys and girls of all ages, at Willand. The children at this hostel attend either the local junior school or secondary modern schools, or the grammar school at Tiverton. During 1973, 3 patients from Exeter made use of the hostel at Totnes and 6 patients the hostel at Willand. Admission to the Dryden Clinic may be indicated by the severity of the child's illness or by the need for fuller assessment than is possible as an outpatient. In

the Dryden Clinic the child can be seen in all types of settings—living, playing and school, and in relationship with other children and adults.

It should be emphasized here that admission to the hostels or to the hospital is no reflection on the child admitted or his parents. All kinds of problems can be solved by admission. Many of the children from very sheltered homes have developed crippling fears or worries which prevent them from leading a proper life, others require adjustment to medication, while others from very good homes have somehow or other got into difficulties in their relationships either with adults or with other children, so that they need to make a fresh start in a new group to learn a more successful way of relating. Others still, while perfectly happy and well adjusted at home, have got into difficulties at school, either educationally or in relationship with other children or teachers. While on the opposite side of the coin, children who are very well adjusted at school and succeed well there, may have become upset at home. Nowadays even children can fall prey to the stresses of life and become depressed or over-anxious, or develop psychosomatic disorders.

The pattern of work during 1973 has followed that of previous years. We welcome the growing trend for children to be referred younger and before their problems are too well established. Many problems stem from an overall family difficulty and we are trying to see the whole family wherever possible. Fewer children with problems of delinquency are being referred, but far more with family relationship difficulties. Difficulties in family relationships and emotional disturbances in children are those problems we can help most effectively, but it is worth noting by those who refer children, that we can do little without the cooperation and goodwill of the parents. The Social Services Department is better geared for helping the problem family who will often not be willing to co-operate, and even if willing, the material and social situation is so bad that little can be done by individual psychiatric treatment. We feel it important that all those concerned should recognise the need for early referral of certain problems which can be treated easily if seen near their beginning and may become impossible to treat once well estab-Among these the most important are: lished.

- (1) The child who is beginning to be anxious about attending school, having odd days off with tummyaches or sickness or headaches, or is actually beginning to become frightened of going to school at all. (We would like to see these children within a week of the beginning of their condition—early treatment can often prevent the establishing of school phobia.)
- (2) The child who is beginning to clash with his parents; often a teenager beginning to rebel and show off.
- (3) The child whose school work is suddenly deteriorating out of the blue. Often this is the first sign of a depressive

illness or severe disturbance in family relationships. If nipped in the bud, the child may recover, otherwise the usual course is progressive deterioration, leading to situations from which it is impossible for the child to pull out.

Too often these problems are not referred until the problem is so entrenched that treatment is made difficult or impossible. It is better to see a few cases not in need of treatment than miss some who are. Some children are still being referred without proper consultation with the parents and others concerned; it is essential that an explanation is given to the parents as to why the referring agent wants them to see a specialist, before the referral is made. It is also important that the family doctor should know of the need for referral, occasionally it will be found that he has already made some arrangements for specialist advice, and in any case it is important that he should be aware of what is going on so that he can play his part in subsequent treatment.

On April 1st, 1974, the health services provided by the local authorities and the hospital services will be integrated under the Area Health Authority. It is hoped that this will improve the already well established integration of the child psychiatric services in Exeter. The outpatient services will continue to be held mainly in the Iddesleigh House Clinic, 97 Heavitree Road, but an additional weekly outpatient session will be held at the new Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital (Wonford). This will increase the links between the child psychiatric and other departments of the hospital, in particular neurology and paediatrics.

Over the year some parents and older patients, particularly adolescents, have objected to the name "Child Guidance Clinic". It is reasonable to point out that we help families and adolescents and not only younger children. The word "guidance", too, is also misleading because the treatment we offer includes the full range of medical and psychological approaches to treatment, while the word "guidance" implies that all we offer is advice. We have not found a satisfactory short description for our activities and are therefore suggesting that we call the clinic the "Iddesleigh House Clinic", since the house in which it is situated, was originally so named.

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CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC STATISTICAL RETURN FOR 1973

1	Number of cases on the books on 31st December, 1972	110
2.	Number of cases awaiting investigation on 31st Decem-	
	ber, 1972	2
3.	Number of cases investigated but awaiting treatment on 31st December, 1972	10
4.	Number of cases referred during 1973 Source of Reference:	160
	(a) Invenile Court and Probation Officers	
	(b) School Medical Officers 49	
	(c) Hospitals	
	(d) Other Dectors	
	(e) Head Teachers	
	(f) Perents	
	(a) Others	
	or this entry with the sentanticles flow	
5.	Number of cases re-opened during 1973	11
6.	Number of cases investigated during 1973	137
7.	Number of cases treated for the first time during 1973	102
8.	Total number of children seen during 1973	277
9.	Total number of attendances during 1973	1,731
10.	Total number of cases discharged during 1973	179
	Reason for Discharge:	
	(a) Treatment complete (see below) 123	
	Symptom free 21	
	Much Improved 41	
	Satisfactory 23	
	Improved 29	
	No change 9	
	(b) Diagnosis with advice only 19	
	(c) Unsuitable for treatment 2	
	(d) Left city 3	
	(e) Defaulted 8	
	(f) Other reasons 24	
11.	Number of cases remaining on the books on 31/12/73	102
12.	Number of cases awaiting investigation on 31/12/73	1
13.	Number of cases investigated but awaiting treatment on 31/12/73	13

N.B.—24 cases included in 10 above were closed whilst awaiting or before investigation was completed.

SPEECH THERAPY-1973

(Report by Mrs. H. J. Curle, L.C.S.T., Senior Speech Therapist)

During 1973 we have had several staff changes, losing two part-time therapists, Mrs. M. Pell and Mrs. H. Beardsall, but welcoming a full-time addition to the staff in Miss M. Odgers, who joined us in October.

With the opening of Mount Pleasant Health Centre in June, we were able to extend our Clinic facilities in that area of the City with two sessions a week for the children of Stoke Hill. In November this was increased to 3 sessions per week, to include a pre-school play therapy group.

In November it was found necessary to devote one of the St. Thomas Health Centre sessions to Foxhayes First School, as parents found it difficult to bring their children to the Clinic. As a result of this there is now a waiting list for admission at St. Thomas, as the two sessions still worked are full.

Much work has been done on the problems of the Mentally Handicapped children attending Ellen Tinkham School. There are 51 children there requiring Speech Therapy and the three sessions that the speech therapist attends is not adequate considering the numbers and severity of their handicaps. However, with the full co-operation of the teaching staff, Mrs. Rees has designed and is implementing a Language Acquisition Programme for use by teachers and speech therapists, to prevent speech language difficulties arising in the younger children, and to fill in the gaps in the development of the older boys and girls. Parent counselling remains an important feature in the work with the mentally handicapped.

Bradley Rowe First School continues to be an area of special need, as a large proportion of the children need special help with speech and language when they start school. The local playgroup is co-operating with us over this problem and one session of Speech Therapy a week is conducted in the play-group at Shakespeare Road; this is a start, but it will by no means cover all the children who will later come into the first school, and the school itself will continue to need the minimum of two sessions a week.

In the Summer holidays we were again able to take advantage of the loan of Topsham Lock Cottage from Southbrook School for a week residential holiday, with intensive therapy for seven speech and language handicapped children. I would like to express my thanks to the other therapists, students and voluntary helpers who made it not only possible, but a great success. Five out of the seven children were subsequently discharged and the other two have made marked improvement. It is hoped that we can make this an annual event, as on both occasions where there has been a residential "holiday" it has proved to be outstandingly successful.

The Special Unit for Children with Communication Disorders

has now moved to Newtown First School, which is to be its permanent home. I should like to thank Mr. D. Milford the Headmaster for the wholehearted way he has encouraged their integration into the life of school. There are at present a number of children on the waiting list for places when they start school; it is hoped that the Unit will continue to provide a successful stepping stone by which these children may reach the normal Infant Class.

The pre-school play therapy group continues successfully two mornings a week at Bull Meadow Clinic; it also has a waiting list for admission. It is planned that a third session should be started in the near future to take up the waiting list and utilise to the full the equipment available.

Although there has been a satisfactory turnover of cases during the past nine months, there was considerable time devoted to routine clerical and administrative work, which could have been more profitably spent on Therapy. It is to be hoped that in the very near future adequate clerical assistance will be made available for the Speech Therapy Service.

	SPEECH CLINICS	Sessions per Week
Bull Meadow St. Thomas Heal Whipton Clinic Mount Pleasant Burnthouse Lane	self-to-no-ente-base windows tyd oec thi	8 2 3 3 1
in the work wi	SCHOOLS VISITED	resut count
Special Schools	Southbrook School Ellen Tinkham School Vranch House	2 3 2
First Schools	Bradley Rowe	2 2 1 1 ½
Nursery Schools	Chestnut Avenue Nursery Administration	2 21 21/2
Children on the	register 1.4.73	395
New referrals 1.4	79 110	
Total number of	children seen in 1973	584
Total number of	children discharged	223
Children remaini	ng for observation and treatment	361
Total number at	tendances at all schools and clinics	5,301

NOCTURNAL ENURESIS

(Bed Wetting)

New Cases (104, all ages)

During the year 84 (6%) "new cases" of nocturnal enuresis (56 boys—28 girls) were noted by the school doctors among the 1,453 children examined at the periodic medical examination at school entry. Additionally 6 new cases (4 boys—2 girls) were found among 2,267 of various ages re-examined and 14 (7 boys—7 girls) among 1,002 of various ages having special examinations.

Treatment with Electric Alarms during 1973

Cases were selected on the same general lines as described in previous reports.

82 children (53 boys—29 girls) were recommended an alarm, 54 by school medical officers, 11 by their family doctors, 3 by health visitors, 12 at the request of their parents, and a further 2 were referred by the child guidance clinic.

43 children were issued with an alarm during 1973. 7 were still using it at the year end; an alarm was not issued to 39 for the following reasons: 11 were still on the waiting list, 6 were considered after further assessment not to be suitable to have an alarm, 15 failed to keep two appointments to collect the alarm, and 7 were dry when called for alarms.

The result of the treatment with the alarm of the 36 children is set out below:—

	apo -	D	гу	lsb t	1	No Impi	rovemer	nt		et due eview	onin
	Во	Boys		RLS	Boys		GIRLS				TOTAL
	New cases	Old cases	New cases	Old cases	New cases	Old cases	New cases	Old cases	Boys	GIRLS	
Results on return of the Alarm	9	7	7	_	7	3	3	_	_	_	36
Further reports of the children:— Results after School Nurse's 1-monthly visit	9	6	5	how to	6	2	3	Clinds Clinds	3	2	36
Results after School Nurse's 6-monthly visit	6	3	3	0.15	5	2	5		10	2	36

The subsequent follow-up reports on the children shewn in the above table, as having returned the alarm, do not give a true indication of the final results because some of them were not due either for the one month and/or the six month follow-up review at the year end.

OBESITY CLINIC

The obesity clinic has continued during the year with a short waiting list of children to attend. In spite of this, the clinic only deals with a small proportion of the children who could benefit from attendance; in treating obesity one would like in every case to finish up with a slim child, but it must be accepted that only in a small proportion will this be achieved, and one must be prepared to regard a certain reduction in a child's obesity to bring it to an accepted level, as being for that child a satisfactory result. No child is discharged from the clinic until he or she has reached a weight level that can be maintained over a period of at least nine months. For these reasons the small number of children for whom treatment has been satisfactorily completed does not reflect the true ratio of the clinic.

Details of children attended during 1973:-

Treatment satisfactorily comp	leted		6
Failed to attend	TOLA A	THE OLD	25
Case closed on leaving school	1.00 5	the los	7
No longer wishes to attend			7
Children still attending	T	ar man	113

SCHOOL CLINICS

The Central Clinic was open every Thursday morning throughout the year, mainly as a clinic for consultation with the school doctor; a considerable number of special cases, including enuretic children, fitness for employment cases and prospective student teachers attend; these are not included in the figures below. The Eastern Clinic was open only on Wednesday mornings during term time.

Of the 537 children attending the minor ailment clinics there were:—plantar warts (337), warts (42), skin conditions (63), minor injuries (40), nose and throat defects (25) and miscellaneous (30).

The location of the school clinics and the attendances were as follows:—

		Ailment- Attendance	
	1971	1972	1973
Central Clinic, la Southernhay West	555	499	506
Eastern Clinic, Shakespeare Road	858	920	294
Totals	1,413	1,419	800

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Incidence (notifications) of certain infectious diseases, other than tuberculosis, in 1973 in children (Exeter residents) 5-16 years of age is shown in the table below. There were no notified cases of diphtheria, infective jaundice, tetanus, acute meningitis, acute encephalitis, poliomyelitis, typhoid and paratyphoid fevers.

(Corrected	Boys	GIRLS			
Measles			 	27	20
Whooping Cough			 	5	3
Scarlet Fever	****		 	13	6
Dysentery			 	1	_
Food Poisoning			 	3	1
Rubella			 	_	2
Gastro-enteritis (inf	ormal not	ifications)	 	_	_

TUBERCULOSIS

(Report by Dr. G. E. Adkins, Consultant Chest Physician)

At the end of December, 1973, a girl aged 13 years was notified as a new case of Respiratory Tuberculosis. No children were taken off the T.B. Register for any reason during the year. This means there are now 5 boys and 4 girls (all respiratory) and 1 boy (non-respiratory) on the register as at the end of 1973. Contact tracing procedure on the new case of Tuberculosis will be carried out during 1974.

20 strongly positive schoolchildren were referred for follow-up of whom 10 were known to have had B.C.G. in early life as contacts. No abnormalities were found, but they will be X-rayed annually during their teenage years.

1973 TUBERCULIN TESTING/B.C.G. VACCINATION

Parental consent was received in respect of 1,312 (84%) of the 1,563 thirteen-year-old children in maintained and independent schools in the city eligible for the tests. 1,270 (96.8%) children were tuberculin tested; of these, 35 were absent for the reading of their tests.

70 children showed positive reactions:-

Grade I 33
Grade II 28
Grade III 9
Grade IV —

Grades I and II are now regarded as being non-specific reactions and are recorded as negative. These children are

given B.C.G. vaccination if considered necessary (e.g. B.C.G. not given previously).

Thus we had 1,226 children whom we regarded as negative reactors; of these, 61 are shown above as Grades I and II. 63 children had sometime previously had B.C.G. vaccination.

9 children had strong positive reactions (Grade II), of whom 4 had had B.C.G. previously. All 9 children are being referred to the chest physician for chest X-ray and medical examination (in 1974).

A total of 1,189 children were given B.C.G. vaccination.

VACCINATIONS FOR SCHOOL PARTIES GOING ABROAD

Smallpox, cholera and typhoid vaccination was offered, subject to parental consent, to parties of school children attending the Council's maintained schools, who were going on an education cruise to the Eastern Mediterranean. In the six schools concerned, 147 children were vaccinated against smallpox, 155 against cholera and 153 against typhoid.

A further 69 children, all from the same school, who were going to Spain and France in organised parties, were vaccinated against typhoid.

RUBELLA (GERMAN MEASLES) VACCINATION

During the year 539 girls, in the relevant age group (i.e. 11 to 16 years), were vaccinated against rubella. Of these, 486 were vaccinated at 11 and 12 years of age.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

VACCINATION STATE AS NOTED DURING SCHOOL ENTRANTS' MEDICAL EXAMINATION IN 1973

Year of Birth	Vaccinated	Not Vaccinated	Not Known	TOTAL
969 and later	16	12	9	37
968 ,, ,,	396	145	99	640
1967 ,, ,,	525	168	82	775
GRAND TOTAL	937	325	190	1,452

Vaccination is recorded by the school nurses from information given to them by the parents. 64% of the school entrants examined at complete periodic medical examinations during the year were stated to have been vaccinated.

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AA total of 1,150 children were given B.C.G. veccination of

VACCINATIONS FOR SCHOOL PARTIES COMO ABROAD

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MISCELLANEOUS

NATIONAL CHILD DEVELOPMENT STUDY

(Report by Dr. G. F. C. Hawkins)

The School Health Department was again asked to co-operate in examining school children who are included in this piece of research. It is a longitudinal survey of the progress of some 16,000 children born in one week of March, 1958. They are examined at intervals under arrangements made by the National Children's Bureau, the last occasion being 1969.

Interesting reports, with the promise of progress through improved knowledge of child care, are already beginning to appear in the medical and sociological literature as a result of this Study. Examination now consists of recent health history, physical examination, some performance tests and an educational test.

26 Exeter school children were eligible for re-examination, and of these 24 were fully examined. Parental co-operation was on the whole good, as in 1969, but a new factor has appeared, in that two of the children refused to participate because they could not be convinced of the usefulness of the Study.

SCHOOL ABSENTEEISM

(Report by Dr. C. J. Wardle, Consultant in Child Psychiatry)

During 1973 a multidisciplinary group of people concerned with children, investigated the problem of school absenteeism. The group included Dr. D. Cullen, Deputy Medical Officer of Health, Mrs. M. Whinnom, Educational Psychologist, Mr. J. Stanton, Social Services, Mr. Heard, Education Welfare Officer, and myself. A special study was made of children who had been absent from school more than 35 times during the Autumn term.

It was noticed that school absenteeism was a problem more commonly found in children aged 13 and 14 years. It is of considerable significance that less than half of these children (38%) were identified as being physically ill or physically handicapped. A high percentage were noted to have emotional or behavioural difficulties, 24% were known to have a psychiatric or emotional problem, 14% were known to be delinquent or show other anti-social behaviour and 17% were found to be very much duller or more backward than the average school population. In more than half the families of secondary school absentees (56%), difficulties in the family had been noted by one or other of the agencies concerned, indicating that social and emotional factors in the family play a very important part in absenteeism from school.

This study is seen as a pointer to further investigation and the formation of a plan of action; the first aim has been achieved, that is, co-ordination of the different agencies involved with children who absent themselves from school.

SCHOOL ACCIDENTS

233 accidents to children in school (131 boys; 102 girls) have been reported this year. This is the largest number of accidents reported in any one year since they have been recorded.

High Schools

125 accidents were reported in High Schools (69 boys; 56 girls).

Middle Schools

66 accidents were reported in Middle Schools (36 boys; 30 girls).

First Schools

42 accidents were reported in First Schools or Infant Departments of Combined Schools (26 boys; 16 girls).

HEALTH EDUCATION

(Observations by Health Education Officer, Miss E. H. Roberston, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.N.T.)

This year the Health Education Officer reports that she has been invited to visit increasingly more schools to talk on topics for which the school has expressed a need.

Courses in Health Education and Personal Relationships have been arranged for senior pupils at St. James, St. Thomas's and Vincent Thompson Schools and for junior trainees at the Nichols Centre. A special pilot scheme Safety Course with specialised speakers concerned with the different aspects of safety, was arranged at St. James School in the Autumn Term; this was popular with the first group of senior pupils spending an extra year in school. All entrants at this school have had a complete term's course in the more important aspects of Health Education.

The very successful Child Care Course at St. Thomas School goes from strength to strength, with this year a special continuation course for girls wishing to take the National Association for Maternity and Child Welfare Society's Senior Child Care Certificate; a Health Visitor who is assisting with part of this course, has the special responsibility of Child Care Courses in other

Secondary Modern Schools—in all cases visual aids are made available by the Health Education Section.

The target topic campaign method does seem the most effective means of explaining matters of most vital importance to health, to the widest numbers of young people of a specific age range. The Health Education Officer almost feels a member of the staff of the schools she visits and wishes to thank teachers for the welcome and support they give her. The pupils also she considers treat her almost as if she belonged to their school, but the fact that a special topic is the reason for her visit lends it significant importance for their consideration.

Target topic campaigns seem more effective for pupils in the younger more impressionable age ranges. They have been offered to all schools in the City, including the special and independent schools, and include:—

The Rules of Health—discussed with 10-11 year old children highlighting the more essential factors which have a direct bearing on healthy living—such as enough sleep—with a window open, elementary nutrition and the special importance of breakfast, why face flannels and this year also platform shoes are dangerous to health.

Smoking and the Harm it does to Health—has been a topic discussed with eleven year olds of whom about two-thirds have already experimented with cigarettes, while probably half the rest have been thinking about them. The proportion at this age with an already firmly established conviction that they do not wish to smoke is really comparatively small; so it is important to make an attempt to influence the general attitude of the greater numbers before it is too late.

Dental Health—was treated this year for the first time as a "target"—the comparative "animal anatomy" approach with special transparencies produced by the Dental Council has proved extremely popular in Junior Schools—these talks have been arranged for any age range chosen by the school.

The Health Education of Menstruation—these talks centred on personal understanding and care in relation to personal hygiene—a topic not so readily approached in the school situation and fulfilling an important need for girls approaching puberty. These talks are now being arranged for pupils of approximately 10–11 years of age.

Personal Relationships and the Venereal Diseases—these discussions are now treated as a special target topic for senior schools where they seem increasingly acceptable. A group psychology approach to the understanding of human relationships in modern society lends to insight into its problems and the personal responsibilities and risks involved.

Talks regarding the Health hazards of Smoking and also concerning Drugs and Society have been given when requested in Senior Schools. These have not been treated as special target campaigns, as all senior boys and girls are already aware of the risks they may wish to take and it is realised that any counter emphasis may only have the opposite of the desired effect.

The Health Education Officer has been invited to speak to groups at the University, the College of Further Education, at St. Loyes and St. Luke's Colleges. Students have frequently come to observe the ongoing work of Health Education, and also to collect material and advice for projects of their own. It has been a pleasure to foster the enthusiasm of these young people whose efforts do much to further the influence of Health Education in the City and beyond.

EXETER EDUCATION COMMITTEE SCHOOL MEALS AND MILK REPORT, 1973

The statistical return required by the Department of Education and Science, shown below, gives the number of children taking milk and meals on selected dates during the last three years.

Date	Number of children taking Free Milk	Percentage	Number of children taking Meals	Number of children taking Free Meals	Percentage
4.10.73	3,931	91·25	8,916	1,775	65·56
5.10.72	4,009	95·73	8,457	1,935	62·32
23.9.71	3,548	96·25	7,634	2,030	55·03

During the major holidays, meals were provided for children eligible to have free meals. The attendance was as follows:—

HOLIDAY	Number on register for free meals	Average daily attendance	Percentage of attendance of those eligible	
Easter Summer	2,290 2,360	244 184	10·65 7·80	
Christmas	2,220	107	4.82	

MOVEMENT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN IN AND OUT OF OUR SCHOOLS DURING 1978

The statistics show that the overall movement of school children in and out of the city schools during the year was 1,143 (616 inward transfers and 527 outward transfers), representing 7% of the total school population. At the year end, we still had the medical records of 237 children from 159 families who had moved away from the city and we were still waiting for the records of 145 children from 87 families who had moved into the city's schools.

NUMBER OF MEDICAL RECORDS TRANSFERRED TO OTHER AUTHORITIES

Set out according to the number of Children in the Family who previously attended Exeter Education Committee Schools

Month	Size A	ND NUME	Number of Children Involved			
month,	One Child	Two	Three	Four or more	Records sent	Not sent
Jan.	25	12	ille 1 ad	1	32	24
Feb.	25	6	4		18	31
March	16	5	2		29	10
April	29	3		1	26	22
May	20	6 5	3 3 2 5	_	17	24
June	9	5	2	UGE R	14	11
July	47	9	5	_	53	23
Aug.	(EHO)	N.H. N.	110 _110	BALL	W TOOF	38
Sept.	19	10	_	_	44	4
Oct.	21	9	2 2	-	24	20
Nov.	30	14	2	1000000	27	41
Dec.	11	11	MOTOR D	1	6	27
three years.	g the last	es durin	sted day	s on sele	cand mea	lim sabla
Tomas	252	90	24	3	290	237
TOTAL	patient patient	36	39		5	27

NUMBER OF MEDICAL RECORDS RECEIVED FROM OTHER AUTHORITIES

Set out according to the number of Children in the Family who were admitted to Exeter Education Committee Schools

	SIZE A	ND NUMI	Number of Children Involved			
Month	One Child	Two	Three	Four or more	Records Received	Not Received
Jan.	27	5	2	2	51	_
Feb.	23	4	4	_	26	17
March	12	55	1	TOPRO	17	3
April	19	8	2	1	24	21
May	23	6	4	01100	25	20
June	22	13	4	-	37	27
July	9	2	001 1	nt_work	11	2
Aug.	-	nnon of	-	-	Trans.	
Sept.	140	16	5	_	153	32
Oct.	24	13	5 5	1	63	10
Nov.	25	15	4	uram lo	58	9
Dec.	3	1	tron Telefo	1	5	4
nonen silb	327	138	31	5	470	145
TOTAL	P. Paker	5	01	May 10	6	15

DEATHS

I regret to have to report the deaths during 1973 of three Exeter school children: 1 (girl) influenzal pneumonia, 1 (boy) degenerative cerebral disease, and 1 (girl) whilst on holiday in Spain.

Financial Year ended 31st March, 1973

(The City Treasurer has kindly supplied me with the following figures):

(a)	Total cost of School Medical and Dental Services	 £94,444
(b)	Cost in terms of penny rate	 1.59p
(c)	Cost per child to the Exeter Education Committee	
	(based on a school population of 14,319)	 6.59p

RETURNS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE

MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT Return for the Year ended 31st December, 1973

Number of pupils on registers of maintained primary, secondary, special and nursery schools in January, 1974:

(i)	Form 7 Schools		 14,642
(ii)	Form 7M	AND THE	 243
(iii)	Form 11 Schools		 62
		TOTAL	 14,947

PART I.

Medical Inspection of Pupils attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools (including Nursery and Special Schools)

TABLE A—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

AGE GROUPS INSPECTED		No. of Pupils who have		Physical Condition of Pupils Inspected			
		birth)		received a	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	warrant a medical
			7 14	full medical examination	Number	Number	examination
N((1)	IV 3	VI	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1969	and	later		50	50		_
1968				641	641	_	4
1967				782	782	_	6 6 2 5
1966				_	-	-	6
1965				_	_	_	2
1964	****			_	_	_	5
1963		****	****	-	-	-	1
1962		****	****	In the Parties	multiput in the most	ther, ex clu ding or	then har brest
1961	****	****	****	_	-	-	-
1960		****	****		alupi	and bule-to and to	Harrist of rebri
1959	****	****	****	193	193	_	-
1958			****	244	244	_	-
1957	and	earlier	****	75	75	_	_
		TOTAL		1,,453	1,453	NIL	25

TABLE B-OTHER INSPECTIONS

Notes: A special inspection is one that is carried out at the special request of a parent, doctor, nurse, teacher or other person.

A re-inspection is an inspection arising out of one of the periodic medical inspections or out of a special inspection.

Number	of	special inspections	 	 1,149
Number	of	re-inspections	 	 2,267
				-

TOTAL 3,416

TABLE C-INFESTATION WITH VERMIN

Notes: All cases of infestation, however slight, should be included in Table C

The numbers recorded at (b), (c) and (d) should relate to individual pupils, and not to instances of infestation.

(a)	Total number of individual examinations of pupils in schools by school nurses or other authorised persons	17,567
(b)	Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	227
(c)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54(2), Education Act, 1944)	Nil.
(d)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54(8), Education Act, 1944)	Nil.

PART III.

Treatment of Pupils attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools (including Nursery and Special Schools)

TABLE A—EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	12
Errors of refraction (including squint)	537
Total	549
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were prescribed	213

TABLE B-DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT

(pl. ov set or generally)		3 2020	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
Received operative treatment—			
(a) for diseases of the ear	****		49
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis			140
(c) for other nose and throat conditions			9
Received other forms of treatment			82
Complete to the state of the st	TOTAL		280
Total number of pupils still on the register of so December, 1971, known to have been provided aids:			
(a) during the calendar year 1972	****		6
			33

TABLE C-ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

	book plot too	pilos he	control of	Number of cases known to have been treated
(a)	Pupils treated at clinics or out-patients depar	tments		113
(b)	Pupils treated at school for postural defects			Market Ma
		TOTAL		113

TABLE D—DISEASES OF THE SKIN (excluding uncleanliness, for which see Table C of Part 1)

OK STY		hiller	ninen s	e an Li	184.40	AL DE	Number of cases known to have been treated
Ringworm:	(i)	Scalp					per la company
	(ii)	Body					2
Scabies							3
Impetigo				****			11
Other skin disea	ses						453
					TOTAL		469

TABLE E-CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT

	Number of cases known to have been treated
Pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics	277

TABLE F-SPEECH THERAPY

(s) Ja	ret .		Number of cases known to have been treated
Pupils treated by speech therapists		 	584

TABLE G-OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN

21	DEATHE AND POSTURAL DEFECT	Number of cases known to have been treated
(a)	Pupils with minor ailments	50
(b)	Pupils who received convalescent treatment under School Health Service arrangements	
(c)	Pupils who received B.C.G. vaccination	1,189
	Total (a) — (d)	1,239

SCREENING TESTS OF VISION AND HEARING

Where boxes are provided for the answers please place ticks in the appropriate box or enter the ages, where requested, in Arabic numerals).

1	(a)	Is the v	vision o	f entrants	tested	as a	routine	within
		their	first year	ar at school	1?			

YES	NO
V	

(b) If not, at what age is the first routine test carried out?

2 At what age(s) is vision testing repeated during a child's school life?

6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		1	343		~		1	1	1	

			lm	
			YES	NO
3	(a)	Is colour vision testing undertaken?	V	soniff()
	(b)	If so, at what age?	1	0 years
			BOYS	GIRLS
	(c)	Are both boys and girls tested?	V	
		end annerthetics 783 402 80 1,1	ear to	Number
	-	m interpret		
4	(a)	By whom is vision testing carried out? School Nurs	es	
	(b)	By whom is colour vision testing carried out? Ishi by School Nurses; "failures" tested by School using Giles Archer Lantern.	ihara so Medical	reening Officer
_			YES	NO
5	(a)	Is routine audiometric testing of entrants carried out within their first year at school?		
	(b)	If not, at what age is the first routine audiometric test carried out?	nties ses cons	Orthodo New cos
			atolqm	Cases or
	(c)	By whom is audiometric testing carried out? Aud	iometri	cians.

PART IV.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT BY THE AUTHORITY

Inspections								
(a) First insp	pection	at scho	ol—Nu	ımbe	r of pup	oils	(13,800
(b) First insp	pection	at clini	c—Nu	mber	of pup	ils		1,108
(c) Pupils re	-inspec	ted at s	chool	or cli	nic			4,068
						Тот	ALS	18,976
Visits					Ages 5 to 9	Ages 10 to 14	Ages 15 & over	Total
First visit		O Terroria	T [6]		1,727	1,519	485	3,731
Subsequent v	isits				1,246	3,051	1,066	5,363
Total visits					2,973	4,570	1,551	9,094
Courses of Tre	eatmen	t						
Additional co	urses c	ommen	ced		437	272	84	793
Total courses	comm	enced			2,164	1,791	569	4,524
Courses comp	leted				_	_	- 4	3,630

Treatment	Ages 5 to 9	Ages 10 to 14	Ages 15 & over	Total
Fillings in permanent teeth	354	2,444	1,282	4,080
Fillings in deciduous teeth	923	139		1,062
Permanent tooth filed	321	2,248	1,214	3,783
Desidueus teeth filled	885	129		1,014
Downsont tooth autocated	139	571	136	846
Desidence to the extended	1,192	388	ered_lind a	1,580
Number of general apporting	733	492	80	1,305
Number of emergencies	–	_	_	_
Number of pupils x-rayed				331
Prophylaxis		diameter		560
Teeth otherwise conserved				1,087
Teeth root filled				19
Inlays				_
Crowns				37
Orthodonties				
New cases commenced during the year	ır			61
0 14 1 1 1 1 1 1 1				39
Cases discontinued during the year		60		10
Number of removable appliances fitte				97
Number of fixed appliances fitted				_
Number of pupils referred to Hospita	l Consult	ants		2
Dentures				
Number of pupils fitted with denture for the first time :—	es			
(a) with full denture	_			miles
(b) with other dentures	1	12	3	16
Total	1	12	3	16
	10000			
Number of dentures supplied (first of subsequent time)	or 1	15	6	22
Anaesthetics		Water with		
Number of general anaesthetics admir	nistered b	y Dental (Officers	907
Sessions				
Dental Officers (including P.S.D.O.)				1,810
Dental Auxiliaries				enclasted/
Dental Hygienists				Total con
TOTAL				1,810





