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Isle of Man Education Authority

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Principal
School Medical Officer
1959



S. V. CULLEN, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H.
Principal School Medical Officer

Printed by Victoria Press Limited,
Martins Bank Chambers,
45 Victoria Street, Douglas, I.O.M.



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SCHOOL HEALTH REPORT

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE ISLE OF MAN EDUCATION
AUTHORITY.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report on the work of the School Health Service during the year ended 31st December, 1959.

It is pleasant to report that there were no staff changes on the Medical side during the year. On the Dental side, Mr. R. D. Tinker resigned from his full-time appointment as a Dental Officer but was able to continue in a part-time temporary capacity. Mr. H. Fox, part-time Dental Officer at Castletown, resigned during the year and his duties were taken over by Mr. D. A. E. Chambers on a sessional basis. Other changes in the Dental Staff are referred to in the main body of the report.

It is with pleasure that I again thank the staff ; Dental, Nursing and Clerical, for their help throughout the year and, in particular, Dr. K. M. Vernon, for her continued loyalty and assistance.

I am grateful to the Director of Education, Mr. H. C. Wilkinson, and his staff for their consideration and assistance and thanks are a'so due to the Head Teachers and Teaching Staffs and to the Medical Practitioners and Hospital Staffs for their ready help and collaboration during the past year.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, my thanks are due to you for your support and interest and, in particular, to the Chairman and Members of the Medical Committee for their consideration and ready help.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

S. V. CULLEN,

Principal School Medical Officer.

Isle of Man Education Authority

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

Report for Year 1959

STAFF

FULL TIME.

Principal School Medical Officer :	S. V. Cullen, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H.
School Nurses :	Miss E. H. Quirk, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.M.P.A., H.V. Miss D. C. Qualtrough, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss M. Patrick, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., Q.N. Mrs. H. Parry, S.R.N.
Principal School Dental Officer :	Kathleen E. Smith, B.D.S. Hons., L.D.S.
School Dental Officer :	R. D. Tinker, L.D.S. (Part-time from 3/5/59).
Dental Attendants :	Miss D. M. Crellin. Miss I. E. Smith. Mrs. C. Hotchkiss. (Resigned 24/12/59). Miss D. A. Killey. (From 28/12/59).
Clerks to the Medical Department :	Miss V. Devereau. Miss L. Stuart. Miss E. A. McGrath.

PART TIME.

School Medical Officer :	Kathleen M. Vernon, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B.
School Dental Officers :	H. Fox (Resigned 30/6/59). J. C. Curphey, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng). C. D. Roe, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Irel.). J. H. Cain, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Irel.). H. C. Magee, L.D.S. D. A. E. Chambers, L.D.S. (From 7/59).
Dental Attendants :	Miss M. A. Leather. (Resigned 31/3/59). Mrs. B. Fairbairn. (From 23/3/59).

CONSULTANTS.

Aural Surgeon :	W. M. Owen, F.R.C.S., D.L.O.
Ophthalmic Surgeon :	Dorothy Barton, M.B., Ch.B., D.O.M.S.
Orthopædic Surgeon :	H. G. Almond, M.Ch. (Orth.), F.R.C.S.
Radiologist :	B. B. Harrison, M.B., Ch.B., M.Rad., D.M.R.D.
PHYSIOTHERAPIST :	Miss A. J. Caine, M.C.S.P., H.T.

PRELIMINARY.

An important step forward in the progress of the School Health Service in the Isle of Man was the opening at the beginning of the Autumn Term in 1959 of a new clinic in Murray's Road, Douglas. When the service started in 1923, an old house in Tynwald Street was adapted as a main school clinic in the Douglas area and to serve the needs of the administrative staff. It was a three storied terraced house which, as the service expanded, became both inconvenient and inadequate. Restrictions on building following the war, limitations in the size of the site, and the bounds imposed by the old-fashioned design prevented any remodelling of the Tynwald Street premises and it was finally decided that the only solution was to build a new clinic if a suitable site could be found. As it was essential to have a site centrally-placed and as near as possible to the bulk of the school population, this was no easy matter but, with the co-operation of the Civil Defence Commission, some land in the grounds of the Civil Defence Headquarters became available and on it was erected a modern bungalow-type building specially designed to provide practical, hygienic, and convenient clinic facilities and reasonable accommodation for the clerical staff and medical records.

The clinic was in daily use soon after it opened when it was clear that both parents and children were appreciative of the new accommodation and of the bright, clean, and cheerful surroundings in which medical and nursing treatment, vision testing, speech therapy, inoculations, etc., could be carried out. Visiting Consultants also expressed their approval of and thanks for better working conditions. It was also possible to carry out the periodic examinations of children from some of the nearby schools where facilities for routine examinations had never been ideal. Although certain sections of the original scheme had to be abandoned in order to keep the cost to an absolute minimum, provision was made for later extensions if these became imperative.

A main advantage of the new clinic is the opportunity it gives for health education in appropriate surroundings. In the early days of the School Health Service, the medical officers were concerned principally with children who were suffering from infectious diseases, rickets, or malnutrition and opportunities for health education were limited. With the reduction in the incidence and severity of most infectious diseases and the disappearance for all practical purposes of rickets and malnutrition, more time is available for the assessment of the individual child and for education in health matters of both parents and children. The ideal time for this is at the routine medical examination when, in most cases, parent and child are present together and advice of an individual nature can be given. However, more time is usually available at the Consultation Clinics and they too offer wide scope for health education.

It is now an accepted fact that during the past few decades the health and physique of children has improved. School meals and milk and the higher standard of living since the war have largely contributed to this but the School Health Service has also played its part. It is rare to-day to see a child who is under-nourished and since the number of fat children seen by the School Medical Officers is increasing, the inclination

now appears to be in an opposite direction. If this tendency to obesity in school children continues, the necessity for the provision of milk in school may have to be reviewed especially as many children now have school dinners.

Care of the handicapped continues to account for a great deal of the time of medical officers. In this connexion, it is very satisfactory to report that an Occupation Centre for the more severely mentally retarded children was opened by the Health Services Board during the year and that these children now receive training of value to them in later life. On the other hand, the problem of the maladjusted child persists. These children though not mentally retarded are so emotionally disturbed as to require special attention and a small number of them have demonstrated their maladjustment by staying away from school without adequate cause. They seem to develop an unreasoning fear of school and are not real truants in the accepted sense. Rarely are the school or teaching staff to blame and the difficulties usually become obvious when the child transfers from one school to another. Whilst the number of children affected is not large, treatment is difficult and protracted and it has been necessary in certain cases to remove the child temporarily from home. This seemingly drastic measure has usually been effective and after a short separation from the family, normal and regular attendance has been resumed.

Mrs. Smith, the Principal School Dental Officer, draws attention in her report to the increasing demand for orthodontic treatment and the apparent lack of co-operation by some parents and children. Orthodontic treatment is not only time consuming and expensive but also the chances of a successful result are prejudiced from the start unless parent and patient co-operate with the dental officer. Although the dental officers explain the nature of the treatment to the parents and are careful to select patients who appear likely to be co-operative, a number each year fail to complete their treatment or persistently lose their appliances. More drastic measures may have to be taken to deal with this problem in future unless some improvement is shown.

Finally, a tribute must be paid to the Children's Committee for their work on behalf of the deprived children of the Island and for the special part they play in the supervision of children from problem families. Their close collaboration with the School Health Service has been of the greatest value in these difficult cases.

SCHOOL ACCOMMODATION AND HYGIENE.

I am indebted to the Works Inspector for the following report:—

“During 1959 the following schools were painted externally: Foxdale, Arbory, St. John's, Rushen, Dhoon, Dhoor, Castle Rushen (Assembly Hall only), Marown.

Ballakermeen Baths, the High School for Girls (Park Road Section), St. Mary's, St. Thomas', Onchan, Pulrose, the High School for Boys (St. Ninian's Section), Victoria Road, Laxey, Hanover Street, Tynwald Street

and Rushen Primary School (Dining Room and Clinic) were partially or wholly decorated internally.

An entirely new floor to the upper assembly hall of Albert Road Junior School was laid, a new reinforced concrete staircase was constructed giving internal access from the Infants' to the Junior Department and a modern hot water supply was installed for the whole school.

The main entrance roadway to Ramsey Grammar School, Junior Department was entirely resurfaced with bitumen macadam, also Pulrose School.

Heating improvements and partial reconstruction of the basement at the School of Art to improve teaching facilities were carried out.

Oil burning apparatus was installed at Pulrose and Braddan Schools and an additional burner at Ramsey Grammar School, Junior Department.

Cycle sheds were provided at Rushen Primary School.

New heating boilers were installed at Tynwald Street, St. Mary's, St. John's and Laxey Schools.

Galleries were removed from floors of certain classrooms in Tynwald Street, Demesne Road and Albert Road Schools.

In the following schools a certain amount of renewal or modernisation of furniture and equipment was carried out:

Murray's Road:	Desks.
Albert Road:	Desks, chairs.
Demesne Road:	Desks.
Tynwald Street:	Desks.
High School for Boys (St. Ninian's):	Desks, chairs, cupboards.
Ramsey Grammar School:	Desks.
Castle Rushen:	Desks.
Ballakermeen:	Desks.
Rushen Primary:	Folding tables, chairs, tables, unit cupboards.
Victoria Road:	Tables, unit cupboards.
Sulby:	Tables, unit cupboards.
Peel Clothworkers':	Folding tables.

Built in cupboards were constructed at Santon and St. Maughold's Schools.

Renewal of electric power circuits at Ramsey Grammar School, Senior Department was necessary for safety purposes.

Extensions forming a woodwork room and two extra classrooms to the High School for Boys (St. Ninian's) and the new School Clinic in Murray's Road, Douglas, were completed."

MEDICAL INSPECTION.

During 1959, periodic inspections were carried out as in previous years, and children were examined at the ages of five, eight, twelve, and fifteen years.

The total number of examinations made was 2,521—a figure which differs little from that of the previous year although a slight increase in the twelve-year-old and fifteen-year-old groups was still evident. 51 children of whom 1.96% required some form of treatment were examined outside the normal age groups.

4.06% of the five-year-olds, 6.29% of the eight-year-olds, 6.47% of the twelve-year-olds, and 4.19% of the fifteen-year-olds required treatment. The total number of children in all age groups requiring treatment was 134 or 5.32%.

The number of re-inspections, i.e. follow-up examinations of children who at previous periodic or special examinations had some defect requiring treatment or observation was 4,295.

Special inspections carried out at the request of parents, teachers, or school nurses totalled 671.

Parents once again continued to co-operate in attendance and interest and 1,522 or 60.37% were present at periodic medical examinations.

PHYSICAL CONDITION.

Only one child out of a total of 2,521 examined in the periodic age groups was considered to have an unsatisfactory physical condition.

The average heights and weights of the children examined in the periodic age groups were as follows:

	Number examined	Height in inches	Weight in pounds
Eight-year-old boys	313	50.033	58.417
Eight-year-old girls	323	49.895	58.047
Twelve-year-old boys	373	57.459	84.283
Twelve-year-old girls	369	57.693	88.888
Fifteen-year-old boys	284	65.368	120.472
Fifteen-year-old girls	241	63.087	115.434
Entrants (boys)	301	43.01	43.779
Entrants (girls)	266	42.336	42.325

There was very little variation in the average heights and weights compared with those of the previous year.

MINOR AILMENTS.

The number of individual cases treated at Minor Ailments Clinics was 8,393 and the total number of attendances 11,166 both figures being less than those of 1958. These clinics are for the treatment of lesser

childish conditions which do not normally call for medical aid and those that do are referred by the School Nurses to the School Medical Officers, who then, if necessary, advise them to consult the family doctor.

The opening of the new clinic at Murray's Road provided more satisfactory and more hygienic conditions in which to carry out treatment and favourable surroundings for individual health education. Apart from the daily clinic at Murray's Road, all other clinics are held on school premises. It was considered advisable to start a weekly Minor Ailments Clinic at Pulrose School in October in addition to the clinics at Ballakermeen, Albert Road, Ramsey Grammar, Laxey, Peel, Victoria Road, Andreas, Castle Rushen, and Rushen Schools.

UNCLEANLINESS.

During 1959, the School Nurses carried out 33,621 examinations of children for cleanliness. 7,298 children were examined and of these 176 or 2.41% had some degree of infestation and the School Nurses are to be commended on the increased number of examinations made and the energetic follow-up of children found to have infected heads which has resulted in decline in the percentage of those infested.

The nurses also made 230 visits to the homes of children who were under observation in order to give advice to parents and continued close co-operation between parents and nurses is essential if the percentage is to be reduced further. Head shampoo remains available free of charge and the School Nurses are always prepared to advise parents in the more obstinate cases.

VISUAL DEFECTS AND EXTERNAL EYE DISEASE.

293 school children and 42 pre-school children were examined by the Visiting Consultant Ophthalmologist, Mrs. D. Barton, the total number of examinations made being 522. Of this number, 25 school children and nine pre-school children were recommended for operation and most of the recommended operations were for the correction of squint.

During the year, 21 children, seven of whom were below school age were admitted to St. Paul's Eye Hospital, Liverpool, for operative treatment. In addition, two eye operations of a minor nature were performed at Noble's Hospital.

Mrs. Barton devoted 50 consultation sessions at Noble's Hospital to the examination of children and 122 children were prescribed glasses. One school child was ordered corneal lenses which were fitted at Liverpool.

263 eye examinations were made by the Principal School Medical Officer and all but four of these were refractions. 130 children were supplied with glasses. Owing to the transfer of the department from Tynwald Street to Murray's Road, certain eye examinations had to be deferred until the Murray's Road clinic was in full operation.

During the year, the list of children awaiting appointments with Mrs. Barton was considerably reduced and by the end of 1959 there was practically no waiting list.

The number of children awaiting operation at St. Paul's Eye Hospital was also showing evidence of decreasing and with the co-operation of the St. Paul's Hospital staff it was found possible for more cases to be admitted there and it is hoped that the operation list will be still further reduced in the future.

Eye conditions of a minor nature treated by the School Nurses at the Minor Ailments Clinics during the year amounted to 760.

I am grateful to Mrs. Dorothy Barton for the following report:—

"Attendance at the Eye Clinics has been extremely good, usually 100% even from the remote country districts where a real effort is often needed for the parent to keep the appointment.

It is most encouraging to find children with squints being sent for treatment in the really early stages; if a squint in a child is treated as an emergency it is often possible to correct it without recourse to surgery.

The stereoscopes have proved their value in orthoptic training, particularly post-operatively, and a large number are always out on loan.

The parents are most co-operative and interested, and I have the strong impression that they appreciate and are grateful for what we are trying to do for the children."

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT DEFECTS.

The Consultant Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon, Mr. W. Mervyn Owen, held 12 consultation sessions at the School Clinic and 14 operation sessions at Noble's Hospital. 160 school children and 19 pre-school children were examined and the total number of examinations made was 258.

Mr. Owen performed 84 operations at Noble's Hospital, seven of which were on children of pre-school age:—

- 51 Removal of tonsils and adenoids
- 15 Removal of adenoids
- 18 Other operations on the ear, nose, or throat.

21 children were referred by the School Medical Officers to Noble's Hospital for operative treatment and the School Health Service was informed of six other children who had been referred direct to the hospital by General Practitioners.

Two children were admitted to Clatterbridge Hospital for operation by Mr. Owen.

In 1959, 65 children who were examined at the Consultation Clinics were referred for operation, mostly for the removal of tonsils and adenoids.

The School Nurses treated 492 aural and 335 nasal conditions of a minor character at the School Clinics.

I am indebted to Mr. Owen for the following report on the work of the Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic:—

“The demand for consultation for Ear, Nose and Throat conditions continues at a high rate.

It is pleasing to report an improvement in the waiting time for operation. The waiting list has at last been reduced to reasonable proportions being now only a matter of a few weeks.

One case of a rare condition, which was mentioned in my last report, showed a recurrence of the condition. Because of its rarity, there was little in the literature to afford guidance in treatment. The extent of the recurrence provided a further problem in treatment. It was at first thought that only extensive surgery of a mutilating extent would suffice to eradicate the disease. Finally, it was decided to try radiotherapy before resorting to surgery. The response was dramatic and resulted in complete disappearance of the condition. So far it is gratifying to report no sign of recurrence.

I cannot let this opportunity pass without mentioning my appreciation of the improved working conditions provided in the new School Clinic building.”

TUBERCULOSIS AND CHEST CONDITIONS.

During the year, reports on 66 school children and two of pre-school age were received from the Consultant Chest Physician and the co-operation of the Tuberculosis Officers and the staff of the Chest Clinic in continuing to send reports on children examined is very much appreciated. These reports are most helpful and enable the School Medical Officers to maintain regular supervision of the children concerned.

Certain children with defective hearts are also seen at frequent intervals by the Consultant Chest Surgeon. They are reviewed regularly at school and in some cases it has been necessary for the School Medical Officers to advise Head Teachers to limit the activity of these children during the Physical Education and Games periods.

During the year, children between the ages of 13 and 15 in the Douglas area were offered B.C.G. vaccination. After the preliminary skin testing, those with a negative reaction were offered vaccination and a number accepted. It is hoped that this scheme will be extended to other areas during 1960.

33 candidates for admission to Teachers Training Colleges were X-rayed at Noble's Hospital and found to be free from disease of the lungs.

THE SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE.

I am obliged to Mrs. K. E. Smith, Principal School Dental Officer, for the following report on the work of the School Dental Service:—

“During 1959 it has been possible to make up the equivalent of three-and-a-half full-time Dental Officers with the help of several private practitioners working on a sessional basis and thus maintain the volume of work carried out in the year 1958.

Although Mr. Tinker resigned from his full-time appointment in Douglas on May 2nd, he continued giving five sessions per week. Mr. Cain continued to work two sessions in this clinic. At Ramsey Dental Centre, Mr. Roe and Mr. Curphey continued working two sessions per week each. Mr Magee worked two sessions a week at Laxey Clinic.

On June 30th, Mr. Fox resigned from his part-time appointment at Castletown Dental Centre and was replaced by Mr. Magee who worked four sessions and Mr. Chambers who worked two sessions per week.

One session a week was devoted throughout the year to Peel.

On the resignation of Mrs. Hotchkiss, the duties of Dental Attendant at Ballakermeen Dental Centre were taken over by Miss Killey on December 24th. Miss Leather, part-time Dental Attendant at Castletown, resigned in March and was replaced by Mrs. Fairbairn.

The total of 7,666 dental inspections carried out at routine school inspections includes several schools inspected twice during the year. 5,256 children were found to require treatment and of these 3,887 consented to school treatment.

Casual patients are children who attend with toothache or because of accidents involving their teeth and the number who attended in 1959 was 896, slightly less than in the previous year. 115 pre-school children were treated in 1959.

With the increased number of working sessions available, more fillings in permanent teeth were possible. The number of extractions of permanent teeth shows little change, many are carried out to relieve overcrowded mouths. The number of deciduous teeth extracted shows a slight increase compared with last year's total.

There was an increased amount of orthodontic treatment undertaken during the year—103 new cases and 45 cases carried over from last year. Of these, 68 patients completed treatment and 16 patients discontinued treatment. Unfortunately, each year there has been an average of 15 patients who commence orthodontic treatment and are discontinued either

because they lose their appliances without reasonable explanation or persist in not wearing them. Under the present system, there seems to be no way of avoiding this wastage.

The number of dentures fitted during the year increased in 1959 to 76. This total of dentures and orthodontic appliances fitted includes all the children receiving private treatment who are referred under the health scheme to the School Dental Service for such appliances.

When patients fail appointments, it is possible very often to substitute children from the school in which the Dental Centre is situated and for this helpful co-operation I would like to thank the school staffs concerned. Unfortunately, this system cannot operate during holiday time when failed appointments occur most frequently."

ORTHOPÆDICS.

During 1959, Mr. H. G. Almond, the Consultant Orthopædic Surgeon, made 11 visits to the Island's School Clinics. 322 individual children, 73 of whom were of pre-school age were examined and the total number of examinations made was 588. Five domiciliary visits were made to a physically-handicapped child.

18 operations were performed by Mr. Almond at Noble's Hospital, 14 of these for the correction of deformities of the feet or toes and four for various other conditions.

Three children of school age were admitted to Broadgreen Hospital, Liverpool for operative treatment and one schoolgirl was admitted to the Orthopædic Hospital at Oswestry for a spinal operation.

In addition to the operation cases, seven school children and two pre-school children were admitted to hospital with orthopædic conditions during the year.

Miss Caine, the physiotherapist, treated 224 children at the After-Care Clinics at Castletown, Peel, Ramsey, and Douglas, 3,822 treatments being given. 465 treatments were also given by Miss Caine to children at Noble's Hospital.

I am grateful to Mr. Almond for the following report on the Orthopædic Service:—

"Attendance of the parents and their children has been most satisfactory, and the careful supervision of the deformities, particularly the club feet and the paralytic conditions, has been both easy and adequate.

With the impending departure of Miss Caine, the physiotherapist, for Canada, this present system which has gone on for the last eight years will now break down unless a replacement be found quickly. I think it most important that with orthopædic conditions the treatment must go to the child. If children with club feet have got to travel several miles to

hospital, particularly if there are others in the family, adequate correction of the deformities will not be possible, and a considerable increase in the number of cases requiring operative intervention will occur.

The Education Authority orthopædic service in the Isle of Man in my experience is almost unique in the meticulous attendance of the people. This does not occur to anything like the same extent on the Mainland. The children will not get the same standard of service if they have to attend hospital for their physiotherapeutic treatment or for their clinic attendances, and I would stress again most strongly the value of these clinics which cater not only for the school children, but for the babies from birth to school age."

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following infectious diseases were notified by the Schools:—

Measles	227
Whooping Cough	12
Chickenpox	222
Mumps	34
German Measles	1
Scarlet Fever	20

There was a marked increase in the number of cases of chickenpox notified and a slight increase in the number of Scarlet Fever notifications. Once again no cases of diphtheria occurred amongst school children.

Vaccination of school children against poliomyelitis continued during the year under the Health Services Board scheme and it is very gratifying to report that no cases of poliomyelitis occurred in school children.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION.

I am obliged to the Organiser of Physical Education for the following report:—

"The Physical Education in both Secondary and Primary Schools has an important place in the Time Table, and through the interest shown by Head Teachers, Physical Education Staff and other members of staff the children receive good all-round training in many types of Physical Education; to mention a few, gymnastics, dancing in its many forms, swimming, athletics and games such as hockey, football, cricket, tennis, etc. .

Inter School House Matches, Athletic Meetings, and Swimming Galas were keenly played in the Secondary Schools and Sports Days, District Folk Dance Festivals and friendly games were held in many of the Primary Schools giving valuable contact with other schools.

Training not only involves learning how to play games, but also the handling and care of apparatus. There is also the important social

aspect, covering sportsmanship, pleasing appearance, good manners, etc., all an integral part of training both in the Primary and Secondary Schools.

School Playing Fields, etc., are well looked after by our Groundsmen, who take a real interest and pride in having pitches, athletic tracks, etc., well prepared and kept in good condition.

Thanks are due to the Head Teachers and their staffs, the School Meals Department, the Works Department, Groundsmen, Caretakers, and Office Staff who all take a keen interest and help in every way to improve conditions for the children."

MILK AND SCHOOL MEALS.

I am indebted to the Organiser of Domestic Subjects and School Meals for the following report:—

"For some time the Authority has had under consideration the extension of the School Meals Service to the Primary Schools in the North of Island. Albert Road School and St. Maughold's School are the only Primary Schools in the North of the Island which have facilities for the provision of hot meals. These meals are supplied from Ramsey Grammar School kitchens and the extra work involved has been efficiently carried out by the School Meals Staff at the Grammar School but a supply of additional meals from these kitchens could not be undertaken without extensive alterations to the Senior Department. This kitchen already serves 160-170 meals on the premises. Albert Road and St. Maughold's and the Northern schools would raise the number to 450-470, which is an uneconomical proposition.

After due consideration of various suggestions for the siting of a kitchen required to prepare and serve 250-300 meals to Primary school children in the North of the Island, the Primary Education Committee decided that the most suitable proposal was one for the building of an annexe to the Albert Road School Dining Hall.

This proposal together with the proposal for the purchase of the necessary equipment for the kitchen was approved and the whole scheme was submitted to the Isle of Man Board of Education for their approval.

The kitchen at Albert Road School will supply 140 to 150 children with meals cooked on the premises, and a further 150 meals by container to the Northern Primary Schools.

It is proposed to send the container meals by two vans, one taking the route, Dhoor, Andreas, Bride, and the second taking the route St. Jude's, Sulby, Ballaugh, Kirk Michael. In this way the meal will be in the best possible condition.

This further development will assure that any child who has to travel a distance to school will be supplied with a hot dinner.

The following is a list of School Meals Centres and shows the number of meals served on 6th October, 1959:—

Ramsey Grammar School (Senior Department) ...	165
Ramsey Grammar School (Junior Department) ...	152
Albert Road School (served from Ramsey Grammar School)	125
High School for Boys (St. Ninian's Section) (serving Braddan, Onchan, and Kewaigue)	318
High School for Girls (Park Road Section)	186
Ballakermeen School	280
Castle Rushen High School	356
Victoria Road School (serving Ballasalla and Santon)	130
Laxey School (serving Dhoon School)	109
Peel Clothworkers' School (serving Patrick, Foxdale, Marown, and St. John's Schools)	190
Rushen Primary School	147
	<hr/> 2,158 " <hr/>

Milk.

Approximately 2,300 third-of-a-pint bottles of T.T. or Pasteurized milk were delivered daily to schools in all parts of the Island and about 1,000 of these were supplied to children free of charge.

SPECIAL MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.

94 children who were examined in connection with the issue of Employment Certificates were found to be fit. 25 children were examined prior to dental treatment under a general anæsthetic. 51 candidates for admission to Teachers Training Colleges were examined and found to be fit.

No specific complaint was found in 70 children who were examined as special cases.

138 examinations of 50 children boarded out by the Education Authority were made.

Other special examinations were made at the request of the Juvenile Court Magistrates or to ascertain fitness for admission to a Children's Home or Special School or for various other reasons.

The Principal School Medical Officer also attended the Juvenile Court on two occasions to give evidence in cases concerning school children.

HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

Blind Children.

One boy at a school for the blind in Liverpool continued in attendance there. He has been visited at his home during the school holiday and is making very satisfactory progress.

Partially Sighted Children.

Seven children attending ordinary schools and two pre-school children were registered as partially sighted. The education of these children at a special school at some future date has to be kept in mind.

Five children with an advanced degree of myopia attended ordinary schools and were reviewed periodically by the Eye Specialist in case they might require special education.

Deaf Children.

Two children continued to attend the Royal Residential Schools for the Deaf in Manchester, the younger of the two being a pupil in their Nursery Department.

Partially Deaf Children.

One child who is also educationally sub-normal remained in attendance at a school for backward deaf children and is making satisfactory progress.

A boy attending one of the Authority's schools was classed as partially deaf.

Epileptics.

Twelve pupils at ordinary schools were known to suffer from epilepsy. One of these left school during the year. One boy was unfit to attend school and was receiving tuition at home from one of the Home Teachers.

Mentally Handicapped Children.

25 children were classified as ineducable and considered unfitted for education in the Authority's schools. Some of these children are handicapped physically as well as mentally.

Ten school children would benefit more from training than from education.

Most of these children are suitable for admission to an Occupation Centre and some are already attending a centre under the direction of the Health Services Board.

12 children of pre-school age have already been noted as unlikely to benefit from education in an ordinary or special school and likely to be suitable for training in an Occupation Centre.

25 children were classified as educationally sub-normal and were kept under observation because of their low-grade mentality. One boy continued to attend a residential school for educationally sub-normal children in Liverpool.

Maladjusted Children.

17 children were noted as being maladjusted. One of them—a pupil at a special school in Liverpool—was transferred during the year to a residential school for educationally sub-normal pupils. One boy was admitted to Alder Hey Hospital School and was still under treatment by the Psychiatric Unit there at the end of the year.

Physically Handicapped Children.

40 pupils at ordinary schools, some of whom would be suitable for special schools, and eight pre-school children were listed as physically handicapped. Two children unfitted to attend ordinary schools were admitted to Residential Schools for the Physically Handicapped in England. One child in temporary attendance at a hospital school in Liverpool was discharged home in the early part of the year fit to resume attendance at an ordinary school. Four other children so physically handicapped that they were unable to attend school were receiving home teaching.

Six diabetic children were considered fit to attend ordinary schools.

Speech Defects.

Arrangements are being made for some of the children with the more serious types of speech defects to receive speech training during the coming year. The scheme will start with an initial clinic at Murray's Road.

Isle of Man Education Authority

MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS

STATISTICAL TABLES

Year ended 31st December, 1959.

TABLE I.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED
PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (INCLUDING SPECIAL
SCHOOLS).

A. PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Age groups inspected and Number of Pupils examined in each

Five year old Group	567
Eight year old Group	636
Twelve year old Group	742
Fifteen year old Group	525

Total ... 2,470

Additional Periodic Inspections 51

Grand Total ... 2,521

B. OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections 671

Number of Re-Inspections 4,295

4,966

C. PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

Number of individual Pupils found at Periodic Medical Inspection to require
treatment (excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin).

Age Groups Inspected (1)	For defective vision (excluding squint) (2)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIIA (3)	Total individual Pupils (4)
Five year old Group	2	22	23
Eight year old Group	17	23	40
Twelve year old Group	23	26	48
Fifteen year old Group	11	11	22
Total	53	82	133
Additional Periodic Inspections	1	—	1
Grand Total	54	82	134

**D. CLASSIFICATION OF THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF PUPILS
INSPECTED IN THE AGE GROUPS RECORDED IN TABLE I.A.**

Age Groups Inspected	Number of Pupils Inspected	Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
		No.	% of Col. (2)	No.	% of Col. (2)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Five year old Group	567	566	99.82	1	.18
Eight year old Group	636	636	100.00	—	—
Twelve year old Group	742	742	100.00	—	—
Fifteen year old Group	525	525	100.00	—	—
Additional Periodic Inspections	51	51	100.00	—	—
Total	2,521	2,520	99.96	1	.04

TABLE II.

INFESTATION WITH VERMIN.

(1) Total number of individual examinations of pupils in schools by the school nurses or other authorised persons	33,621
(2) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	176
(3) Total number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 86 (2) Education Act, Isle of Man, 1949)	Nil
(4) Total number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 86 (3) Education Act, Isle of Man, 1949)	Nil

TABLE III.

**RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1959.**

A. PERIODIC INSPECTIONS.

Defect Code Number	DEFECT OR DISEASE	Periodic Inspections				Total (in- cluding all age groups inspected)	
		Entrants		Leavers		Requiring Treatment	Requiring Observation
		Requiring Treatment	Requiring Observation	Requiring Treatment	Requiring Observation		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
4	Skin	—	10	2	21	3	57
5	Eyes :—						
	(a) Vision	2	4	11	101	54	231
	(b) Squint	13	27	1	5	20	58
	(c) Other	—	5	1	7	3	29
6	Ears :—						
	(a) Hearing	—	2	—	6	2	15
	(b) Otitis Media	—	12	—	3	—	27
	(c) Other	1	10	2	8	9	57
7	Nose or Throat	1	75	2	21	14	199
8	Speech	2	23	—	6	2	52
9	Lymphatic Glands	—	29	—	6	1	65
10	Heart	—	18	—	3	—	37
11	Lungs	—	30	1	18	1	100
12	Developmental :—						
	(a) Hernia	1	7	—	—	2	13
	(b) Other	—	2	—	—	—	3
13	Orthopædic :—						
	(a) Posture	—	1	—	12	2	45
	(b) Flat foot	—	1	—	—	3	9
	(c) Other	6	39	4	31	28	208
14	Nervous System :—						
	(a) Epilepsy	—	1	—	1	—	4
	(b) Other	—	7	—	1	—	16
15	Psychological :—						
	(a) Development	—	8	—	16	—	68
	(b) Stability	—	3	—	5	—	33
16	Abdomen	—	3	—	7	—	36
17	Other	—	10	15	38	30	114

B. SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.

Defect Code No.	DEFECT OR DISEASE	Special Inspections	
		Requiring Treatment	Requiring Observation
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
4	Skin	20	5
5	Eyes :—		
	(a) Vision	26	16
	(b) Squint	3	2
	(c) Other	8	6
6	Ears :—		
	(a) Hearing	3	3
	(b) Otitis Media	1	1
	(c) Other	16	6
7	Nose or Throat	26	8
8	Speech	—	—
9	Lymphatic Glands	1	2
10	Heart	—	1
11	Lungs	1	2
12	Developmental :—		
	(a) Hernia	—	—
	(b) Other	—	1
13	Orthopædic :—		
	(a) Posture	—	1
	(b) Flat foot	—	—
	(c) Other	33	15
14	Nervous System :—		
	(a) Epilepsy	1	2
	(b) Other	—	2
15	Psychological :—		
	(a) Development	—	7
	(b) Stability	—	2
16	Other	75	19

TABLE IV.

TREATMENT OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY
AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (INCLUDING SPECIAL SCHOOLS).

GROUP I.—EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with	
	by the Authority	Otherwise
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	803	1
Errors of refraction (including squint) ...	525	8
Total ...	1,328	9
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were prescribed	231	—

GROUP II.—DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT.

	Number of cases known to have been treated	
	by the Authority	Otherwise
Received operative treatment :—		
(a) for diseases of the ear	2	—
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	82	6
(c) for other nose and throat conditions	24	1
Received other forms of treatment	827	—
Total	935	7
Total number of Pupils in schools who are known to have been provided with hearing aids :—		
(a) in 1959	—	—
(b) in previous years	1	—

GROUP III. ORTHOPÆDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

	by the Authority	Otherwise
Number of pupils known to have been treated at clinics or out-patient departments	224	27

GROUP IV. DISEASES OF THE SKIN (excluding uncleanness for which see Table II).

	Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year by the Authority
Ringworm : (i) Scalp	—
(ii) Body	6
Scabies	2
Impetigo	25
Other skin diseases	570
Total ...	603

GROUP V. CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT.

Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics under arrangements made by the Authority	—
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GROUP VI. SPEECH THERAPY.

Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapists under arrangements made by the Authority	—
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GROUP VII. OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN.

(a) Number of cases of miscellaneous minor ailments treated by the Authority	6,203
(b) Pupils who received convalescent treatment under School Health Service arrangements	—
(c) Pupils who received B.C.G. vaccination	103
(d) Other than (a), (b) and (c) above (specify)	—

TABLE V.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT BY THE AUTHORITY.

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers :—	
(a) At Periodic Inspections	7,666
(b) As Specials	896
	<hr/>
Total (1) ...	8,562
(2) Number found to require treatment	5,256
(3) Number offered treatment	3,887
(4) Number actually treated	4,005
(5) Number of attendances made by pupils for treatment, including those recorded at heading 11 (h) below	10,736
(6) Half days devoted to : Periodic (School) Inspection	51
Treatment	1,461
	<hr/>
Total (6) ...	1,512
(7) Fillings : Permanent Teeth	4,658
Temporary Teeth	494
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Total (7) ...	5,152
(8) Number of teeth filled : Permanent Teeth	4,439
Temporary Teeth	402
	<hr/>
Total (8) ...	4,841
(9) Extractions : Permanent Teeth	1,971
Temporary Teeth	3,782
	<hr/>
Total (9) ...	5,753
(10) Administration of general anæsthetics for extraction	1,079
(11) Orthodontics :	
(a) Cases commenced during the year	103
(b) Cases carried forward from previous year	45
(c) Cases completed during the year	68
(d) Cases discontinued during the year	16
(e) Pupils treated with appliances	122
(f) Removable appliances fitted	124
(g) Fixed appliances fitted	1
(h) Total Attendances	1,150
(12) Number of pupils supplied with artificial dentures	76
(13) Other operations : Permanent Teeth	2,634
Temporary Teeth	437
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Total (13) ...	3,071



