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Borough of Ilkeston Education Committee.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

School Medical Officer,

For 1914.

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Members of the Education Committee of the Borough of Ilkeston.

The Mayor—Councillor J. A. Macdonald.
The Chairman—Alderman Shakspeare.

Deputy Chairman—Councillor Arthur Henshaw.
Alderman Scattergood.
Councillor Chadwick.
Councillor Manners.
Councillor Cutls.
Councillor Pounder.
Councillor Sutton.
Councillor Woolley.
Mrs. G. Maltby.
Mr. G. W. Woolliscroft.
Professor Carr.
Mr. F. P. C. Walker.

School Medical Officer.

John A. Watt, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (on Active Service).

Temporary School Medical Officer.

R. L. Wotherspoon, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (Glasgow).

School Nurses.

Ann E. Jones, A,R,S,I.

Ellen Sievwright, C.M.B.

Mary E. Sherlock, C.M B. (on Service).

M. A. Shakspeare (for duration of War).

The Medical Inspection and Treatment of School Children.

The scope of the medical work consists in the examination of children of certain age groups at schools, the treatment of simple ailments at a school clinic held at the Town Hall, and the after care and following up of cases requiring treatment.

The total number of routine med	dical insp	ections	
done during the year was			1049
Examined at Inspection Clinic			833
			1882

The number examined at each age group is shown in the following table:—

Table I.

Number of Children Inspected, 1st January to 31st December, 1914.

		ENT	RANTS.			
Ag	ge 3.	4.	5.	6.	Other Ages.	Total.
Boys	2	43	133	57	5	240
Girls	2	38	130	47	14	231
Totals	4	81	263	104	19	471
					_	
		LE.	AVERS.			
	Aş	ge—12.	1	3.	Total.	
	Boys	274		28	302	
	Girls	261		15	276	
	Totals	535		43	578	
		THE REAL PROPERTY.		_		

The Board's requirements have been fully carried out. All "Entrants" and "Leavers" have been examined.

Attendance of Parents.

The attendance of parents was very good, and amounts to 31.9 per cent. It was best in the infant departments, and lowest in the boys' classes. The presence of the parents has a re-assuring

effect upon the infants. The parents usually take the opportunity of asking whether the child is free from disease, and it gives the Medical Examiner an opportunity of drawing their attention to defects found. Occasionally the fathers attend.

Table II.

Return showing the Physical Condition of Children Inspected.

Total Inspected			1049
Clarking) Satisfactory		1028
Clothing	Unsatisfactory		21
) Clean		834
Cleanliness of Head	Nits only		200
) Pediculi		15
	Clean		1035
Cleanliness of Body	Dirty		14
	Pediculi		0
) Normal		1002
Nutrition	Below Normal		47
	No Defect	***	768
	Mouth Breathers	Enlarged	2
Nose and Throat	Tonsils: Slightly Tonsils: Much E		217
	Adenoids Slight	igiarged	19
	Adenoids Marked		41
	, machonas marken		
	\ No Disease	***	994
	Blepharitis		, 46
External Eye Disease	- Conjunctivitis	***	3
	Corneal Opacities		2
	Other Disease		4
) No Disease		1009
Ear Disease	Otorrhœa	***	16
) Other Disease		24
	Sound		361
Teeth	Less than Four D		445
Teetn	(Four or more Dec	cayed	237
) Oral Sepsis	***	6
	No Disease		935
Heart & Circulation	Organic Disease		63
ricalt & Circulation	Functional Diseas	se	27
	Anaemia		24
	No Disease		956
	Bronchitis	***	87
Lungs	Tuberculosis		3
	J Tuberculosis Susp	pected	3

TABLE II.—continued.

	No Disease		011
	Ringworm Body		943
Skin	Ringworm Head		11
JKIII	Impetigo	***	22
	Scabies Other Disease	***	68
) Other Disease	***	06
Rickets	No Disease	***	1031
THOREES	∫ Rickets Present		18
Defermities	No Deformity		1045
Deformities	Deformity Present	***	4
Tuberculosis	No Disease		0
Non-Pulmonary			1048
,		***	, 1
Speech	Not Defective Defective Articulation	***	1042
Speech	Stammering	***	4
	,	***	3
Martal Cardinian	Normal		1053
Mental Condition	Dull or Backward Mentally Defective		94
	J Memany Delective		2
	Other Diseases.		
Enlarged Submax.	Glands	***	67
Enlarged Cervical C	Glands		29
Enlarged Thyroid C	Glands		28
Tonsillitis			7
Debility			1
Nephritis			
Nasal Catanah		***	1
	***	***	55
Diphtheria	***	***	1
Scarlet Fever	***	***	1
Influenza			1
Infantile Paralysis		***	2
Old Scars, &c			20
Bifia Vivula			2
Hernia	***		
x 1:			
	***		1
Gingivitis	***		1
Tumour	***	***	1
Papiloma	***	***	2
Polypus			1
Naevi : arm	***		1
Number of Children			
			232

TABLE II.—continued.

	370
	45
	21
	68
	89
	29
.,.	22
	22
	23
	15
	20
	20
	19
	3
	5
	2
	4
	25

The Schools with their Accommodation and General Sanitary Condition.

There are 6 provided and 3 non-provided elementary schools in the borough. These have 20 separate departments, with accommodation for 4884 scholars in the provided schools, and in the nonprovided schools for 855 scholars. The average number of children on register during the year was 5941, as shown in Table III.

The sanitary condition of these schools is good, with exceptions to be afterwards mentioned, and they are all supplied with water from the public supply. Hallam Fields School, both on account of its situation and structure, is unsatisfactory, and the Board of Education have very properly condemned this school. Plans are now in hand with regard to its closure and the building of a new school. The Managers of Trinity School have submitted plans of alterations for the improvement of ventilation, and these are now before the Board. The ventilation in this school has been improved.

Attendance.

The general average attendance at school was about 90 per cent. An outbreak of Measles and Whooping Cough occurred between January and May, which made it necessary to close the following schools:—

	1914	
School	Period Closed.	Cause.
Holy Trinity Infants'	 7th Jan. to 26th Jan.	 Measles.
Gladstone St. Infants'	 29th Jan. to 16th Feb.	 Measles & Whooping Cough
Kensington Infants'	 23rd Feb. to 9th Mar.	 Measles.
Hallam Fields Infants'	 2nd Mar. to 16th Mar.	 Measles.
Kensington Infants'	 9th Mar to 16th Mar.	 Measles.
Gladstone St. Infants'	 6th Apr. to 10th Apr	 Measles & Whooping Cough
Gladstone St. Infants'	 21st Apr. to 4th May	 Measles.

The action taken in dealing in infectious disease follows the principle laid down by the Board of Education in their memorandum on "Closure and Exclusion from School."

Table III.

PRÒVIDED SCHOOLS. School.	Acce	mmodation.	Average. Attendance.	Average number on Roll.
Bennerley Avenue Boys'		312	299	314
Bennerley Avenue Girls'		320	289	314
Bennerley Avenue Infants'		340	316	355
Chaucer Street Boys'		308	294	326
Chaucer Street Girls'		259	244	271
Chaucer Street Infants'		480	460	528
Gladstone Street Boys' Gladstone Street Girls'		330}	584	640
Gladstone Street Infants'		280	267	316
Granby Boys'		331	284	310
Granby Girls		297	268	301
Hallcroft Boys'		340	280	305
Hallcroft Girls'		340	278	328
Kensington Boys'		162	167	180
Kensington Girls'		220	228	246
Kensington Infants	***	235	209	245
NON-PROVIDED SCHOOLS.				
Hallam Fields Mixed		262	253	272
Hallam Fields Infants'		177	138	159
Roman Catholic Mixed & Inf	ants'	156	124	144
Trinity Infants'		260	251	269
		5720	5263	5823
		5739	5203	30-3

The accommodation available at the schools for medical inspection varies. At some of them there is considerable noise, which is worse during play-time.

Cleanliness of Body.

The general standard of cleanliness is high. No children were found with body lice, and in only 14, or 1.3 per cent cases was the condition of the body noted as dirty.

Clothing and Footgear.

The children of Ilkeston are generally well clad. Their fathers earn good wages, and can buy them sufficient clothing. The general fault in most cases is that there is only one thin cotton garment next to the skin, and they do not purchase light woollen garments. Twenty-one children were found to have defective footgear and clothing. It is very noticeable that where children are found dirty, verminous, or ill-clad, the day fixed by the Medical Examiner is found inconvenient for the parent to attend at the inspection.

Cleanliness of Head.

Children examined were divided into three classes—(a) those with clean heads, (b) those with nits only, and (c) those verminous. 200 children, or 190 per cent., were found to have dirty heads, while 15, or 14 per cent, children were found to be in a verminous condition. These latter were nearly all girls, whose hair, of course, is more difficult to keep clean. The practice adopted has been to exclude children from school who have living vermin, while those having nits get a notice as to how to cleanse the head. There is a gradual improvement in the standard of cleanliness, as a result of medical inspection.

Ringworm and Skin Diseases.

There seems to be a considerable amount of ringworm at the present time. Eighty-two children were brought to the school clinic suffering from ringworm, and 14 were discovered at medical inspection, equal to 1.3 per cent.

The practice adopted has been to allow children to attend school if they wear a cap with a washable lining inside. It is very difficult to get parents to carry out the treatment with the thoroughness which is necessary to effect a cure.

Teeth.

Perfect dentition means no decayed teeth. Fair dentition less than four decayed teeth. Bad dentition, four or more decayed.

The under-noted table gives the details of the number of carious teeth in each child examined.

port.				* 1	
1 3	ы	0	- 1	1/	
Ta	D)	C	1	V	

Percentages		34.8	13.6	16.1	10.6	7.8	5.8	2.6	2.5	39
Totals	1049	367	164	169	112	83	61	28	24	41
Roman Catholic Mixed	28	11	0	7	3	3	2	1	0	1
Kensington Girls'	28	13	9	5	1	0	0	0	0	0
Kensington Boys'	24	13	3	4	1	2	- 1	0	0	0
Hallam Fields Mixed	32	10	5	11	5	0	0	0	1	0
Gladstone Street Girls'	47	18	S	9	5	5	2	0	0	0
Gladstone Street Boys'	57	20	16	8	5	4	1	I	2	0
Hall Croft Girls'	50	22	14	5	8	0	0	0	1	0
Hall Croft Boys'	41	16	9	4	5	4	2	0	1	0
Chaucer Street Girls'	51	9	7	8	11	10	3	0	2	1
Chaucer Street Boys'	69	19	7	11	15	6	6	2	2	1
Granby Girls'	39	17	10	6	2	3	1	0	0	0
Granby Boys'	46	15	14	7	5	3	2	0	0	0
Bennerley Girls'	47	14	9	13	3	6	1	1	0	0
Be merley Boys'	38	10	8	9	5	3	I	0	0	2
Bennerley Infants'	128	62	12	18	7	9	9	5	1	5
Hallam Fields Infants'	24	8	4	4	1	0	2	0	1	4
Kensington Infants'	127	49	I 2	22	12	4	13	6	5	4
Chaucer Street Infants'	123	32	15	18	11	10	. 7	9	4	17
Holy Trinity Infants'	50	9	2	0	7	11	8	2	5	6
SCHOOL.	Number Examined.	Number with Sound Teeth,	N th		er of C mber					More than 7 Bad.

Children whose teeth were all sound ... 34.8 per cent.

Those with fair dentition ... 42.4 ,,

Those with bad dentition ... 22.5 ,,

It is hoped that when the new school clinic is completed there will be some provision made for the care of the children's teeth.

Nose and Throat.

The number of children with enlarged tonsils were found to be 236, and of these 19 children had tonsils much enlarged, equal to 1.8 per cent. Adenoids were found present in 43 children.

Heart and Circulation.

Ninety children, or 8.5 per cent., were found to be suffering from some affection of the heart. It is seldom necessary to exclude a child from school because it has a heart murmur. If the disease is accompanied by definite symptoms, or if the child is anæmic, it is better to exclude it for a period. Rheumatism seems to be pretty common in Ilkeston, probably owing to the clay sub-soil, and the percentage of children with heart disease is therefore higher than in other districts. Rheumatism in children is often overlooked, and the pains they suffer from are thought to be "growing pains" Parents are surprised when they are told the child has got organic heart disease.

Diseases of the Lungs.

The most common condition found was bronchitis, and 87 children, or 8'2 per cent., were found suffering from bronchitis or bronchial catarrh. A good deal depends upon the time of the year the examination is made. It is nearly always the infant children who are affected, and the number found is higher during a damp wet spell of weather.

Tuberculosis.

Three children were found on medical inspection to be suffering from Tuberculosis of the Lungs, and one child from another form of Tuberculosis. The Health Committee of the Corporation generously allowed a ward to be used for the treatment of children suffering from or threatened with Tuberculosis. It must be confessed that the number of children diagnosed during life to be suffering from Tuberculosis is small in proportion with the number of cases in which it is found post mortem. It is doubtful when

advanced disease is found clinically whether the condition is not most often due to chronic catarrhal conditions, either the residue of pneumonia or varying degrees of bronchiectasis. It is very uncommon to get tubercle bacilli in the spit of children. It is likely that the tuberculous lesions in children do not commonly communicate with the bronchi, and thus the bacilli cannot be found.

The diagnosis of Tuberculosis in children is extremely difficult. Children may be riddled with tubercles, and have disease of the glands without showing any serious impairment to health. Wasting is not an essential feature, though generally weight is not put on in the usual ratio. General lassitude, poor appetite in the mornings, and night sweets, with altered spirits, all suggest Tuberculosis.

It is now known that practically all town children are infected with Tuberculosis. There is the greatest danger to life if they are infected in the first two years, and the essential step seems to be to remove young infants from the environment of open infection.

Hearing.

Twenty-four children were found to be suffering from defective hearing, recognisable by ordinary tests, equal to 2.2 per cent. A much larger number have a loss of hearing power not marked enough to be detected by their friends.

Vision.

The results of the tests for vision, asked for by the Board of Education, are given in Table II. Nothing has been done yet in the way of provision for glasses to the poorer children, and this work will have to be taken up when the permanent school clinic is open.

Following up Treatment.

Notices were issued in cases where the children had marked defects, and the results of the School Nurses' enquiries are shown in the table below.

Concerning Notices sent re School Children for the Year 1914.

Number of Notices issued	 		81
Number left School	 		26
	N E 1	1 22 02	55

Notices Complied with		 	29
Parents refuse treatment		 	4
Parents cannot afford treatm	ent	 	11
Notices not complied with		 	11
			-
			55
			_

Details of Notices Complied with.

Defective Vision			 	13
Defective Hearing			 	3
Enlarged Tonsils			 	1
Verminous and Dir	ty condi	tions	 	12
				29

School Clinic.

During 1914 a clinic has been held twice weekly, on Tuesday and Friday mornings, from 10.30 to 12 noon. In addition to granting of exclusion certificates to children unable to attend school through ill-health, the clinic now treats simple cases of eye disease, ear, verminous conditions, and diseases of the skin. Children suffering from slight ailments are given general advice, and, if necessary, are referred to their own practitioner. Errors of refraction are in the meantime referred to ophthalmic hospitals.

A register is kept at the school clinic, and a list is given every week to the attendance officers, copied from the entry in the register, giving the name, age, address, disease, period of exclusion, and the name of the school attended.

The County Council, in exchange for land given by the Corporation, have built a combined Tuberculosis Dispensary and School Clinic on a centrally situated site in Albert Street, quite near the Town Hall, where a general system of treatment of special diseases will be commenced.

Table V.

Notice Complication 7

Conditions for which Children Attended at the School Clinic.

(1)	DISEASES	S OF THE	E SKIN		
Ringworm					82
Impetigo			***	***	90
			***		200
Scabies			***		4
Boils			***	***	6
Dermatitis		***	****		2
Eczema	***	***	***	***	. 5
Seborrhæe		***			2
Herpes			***		8
Alopecia Are	eata				10
Verminous C	onditions	***	re.		16
Chilblains			***		2
Erythema	444		***	***	2
Urticaria					5
(2) I	NFECTIO		ASE		
Pulmonary T					-
Tuberculous		***	***	***	5
			***		4
Tuberculous		***	***	***	I
Tubercle of I					2
Scarlet Feve		2)			2
Measles (con	tacts, 1)				3
Diphtheria (c	contacts, 2)		***		9
Chicken Pox		***	***	144	12
Mumps			***		6
Whooping Co	ough				20
Influenza					2
	DECDIDA	TORY C	VOTEM	***	-
(3)	KESPIKA	TORY SY	YSTEM.		
Bronchitis	***		4.4	***	27
Pneumonia Pleurisy		***			4
Asthma		***			3
	DISEASES	OF THE	HEART.		
Organic Mur			***		5
Functional M	urmurs			***	2
(5) DISEAS	ES OF T	HE NERV	OUS SY	STE	M.
Chorea					3
Fits					4
Neuralgia			***		2
Headache	***			***	1
(6) DISEASES OF THE EYE.					
Defective Vis	sion	**	***		25
Conjunctivitis			***		9
Ptosis					1
Blepharitis					21
Corneal Ulce		***	***	***	9
Lachrymation		1.1			1

TABLE V.—continued,

(=	N	OSE AND THROAT		
Nasal Catarr		OSE AND THROAT		-
Adenoids		***	***	5
Tonsils Enlar		***	***	
Tonsillitis			***	10
		Dana Inclin	***	51
Post Diphthe	ritie	raraiysis	***	2
(8)	DIS	EASES OF THE EAR.		
Discharging .	Ears			10
Earache				1
Deaf				1
Otorrhoea	110		0.0	12
-	9) 5	SEPTIC DISEASES.		
Septic Wound	1000			22
Ulcers				23
Burns			***	1
Scald		***	***	-
Abscesses	***	***	***	2
Sinus	* . *	***		17
Sinus	111	***	444	1
	(10)	DEFORMITIES.		
Foot				1
Cleft Palate				1
(11) G	ENERAL DISEASES.		
Anaemia	, –	2.03.1020		8
Rheumatism	***			20
Enlarged Gla				18
Debility	enci3			11
Mastoiditis				I
Hernia				2
Phimosis			***	1
Enlarged Th			**	2
Gingivitis				1
Jaundice	***	***	***	
Gangleon	***			7
Gastric Cata	ceh			3
Colic			***	
Diarrhoea	222	***		3
Adenitis	***	***	***	4
Carious Teet	h			19
Imbecile			***	11
				8
Vomiting			***	
Piles	***	***	***	1
Pharyngitis Worms				2
Stomatitis	***		***	1
Cystitis		***		1
Mastitis	1.11			I
Injuries		***	***	8
Recovered Referred to	own	Practitioner, T.B.D. and	not	54
Diagno			1100	77

Since the appointment of two additional School Nurses in June, 1914, a regular system has been adopted with regard to the school children. Each of the three nurses have a district in which they visit all children absent from school through illness. Particulars are given in Table VII. regarding the condition of cases when visited. The schools are visited at regular intervals for the examnination of children, re verminous and unsatisfactory conditions, &c. Notices are issued upon which are printed instructions for remedying defects found. Since this method has been adopted, there has been a considerable improvement in all the schools.

Children are treated for minor ailments, such as ringworm, &c., at the Health Department, between the hours of 9 and 10 a.m. daily.

In November of last year, Nurse Sherlock was called up to join the 5th Northern General Hospital, Leicester. Nurse Shakspeare has been appointed in her place until the war is over.

The under-noted table gives a summary of the School Nurses' work for the year 1914.

Table VI.

Summary of School Nurses' Work for year 1914.

	Nurse Jones.	Nurse Sievwright.	Nurse Sherlock.	Total.
Visits re School Absentees	554	491	277	1322
Visits re Infectious Disease	14	36	13	63
Visits re Medical Inspection	23	13	21	57
Visits to Schools re Cleanliness	46	39	77	162
Visits to Schools re Medical Inspection	10	12	6	28
Children Examined for Cleanliness	6812	6072	6546	19430
Notices issued re Verminous and				
Dirty Condition	536	454	313	1303
Attended Clinics in Office	3	30	15	48

Table VII.

Condition of Children Absent from School when Visited by School Nurses.

Number of Children visited-814.

(1) DISEAS	ES OF THE	E SKIN.			
Ringworm	***		6		
Impetigo			35		
Scabies			1		
Boils			2		
Eczema		***	2		
Herpes			3		
Verminous Con-	dition		3		
Chilblains			1		
Erythema			I		
Urticaria			7		
	CTIOUS DIS	SEASE.			
Pulmonary Tub			4		
Tuberculous Gla			4		
Tubercle of Bon			4		
Scarlet Fever (C			5		
Measles (Contac			1		
Diphtheria (Cor	itacts, 1)	***	9		
Chicken Pox			22		
Mumps			3		
Whooping Coug	h		25		
Influenza		•••	28		
(3) RESPIRATORY SYSTEM.					
Bronchitis			16		
Pneumonia			3		
Asthma			1		
Pleurisy			1		
Coughs		***	20		
Croup			1		
(4) DISEASES OF THE HEART.					
Organic Murmu	rs	**	7		
DISEASES OF	THE NERV	ous sy	STEM.		
Chorea	***		1		
Neuralgia			2		
Headache			3		
Neuritis			-1		

(5)

TABLE VII.—continued. (6) DISEASES OF THE EYE. Defective Vision Conjunctivitis Blepharitis Eye Strain

3

3

5

9

36

	(9)	SEPTIC	DISEA	SES.	
Septic	Wo	unds			17
Ulcers					2
Durne					-

Otorrhoea 3

Scalds			***	2
Abscesses		***		7
(10)	GENER.	AL DISE	ASES.	
Anaemia				10
Rheumati	sm			12
Enlarged	Glands			10

Debility		***		26
Jaundice				6
Gastritis				2
Colic	***			4
Diarrhoea			***	17
Adenitis				23
Carious Te	eth		194	13
Vomiting				2
Biliousness	***			11
Injury			***	12
Stomatitis				1
Sprains				3
Colds				54
Rickets				1
Cystitis				1
Not Diagnosed				35
At School when Visited				139
Wrong Ad			11	
Attending	Hospitals	***		3
Out when V	Visited		***	19
Left Ilkesto	on			3

Parents Ill, no Shoes, &c.

Recovered



