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CITY OF LINCOLN
EDUCATION COMMITTEE




FORTY-FOURTH
ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE
MEDICAL INSPECTION
OF
SCHOOL CHILDREN
BY

M. L. BERY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
*Medical Officer of Health and
School Medical Officer for the City of Lincoln*



YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1951



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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE EDUCATION
COMMITTEE.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the work of the School Health Service during 1951, in connection with the health of the children attending Primary, Secondary Modern and Secondary Grammar Schools in Lincoln.

This is my Twenty-second Report as School Medical Officer and it is the Forty-fourth of the Series.

The Report is in accordance with the suggestions made by the Ministry of Education.

The medical, nursing and other staff continued to impress upon the parents the need of seeking early medical advice for the ailments of their children.

I would like to thank members of the Education Committee for their encouragement and support, the Chief Education Officer for his co-operation, and also the staff of the School Health Service for their interest and devotion to their duties.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

M. L. BERY,

School Medical Officer.

City Health Department,
Beaumont Fee,
Lincoln,
May, 1952.

SCHOOL POPULATION.

Particulars of the number on register.

	1951	1950
Special, Primary and Secondary Modern.		
Average number on Register ..	8301	8141
Secondary Grammar.		
Average number on Register ..	1468	1485
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	9769	9626
	<hr/>	<hr/>

THE STAFF.

The Medical Officer of Health is also School Medical Officer and close co-operation is being maintained between the School Health Service and the other Public Health Services under his control.

The Head Teachers and their staffs continued to co-operate fully in the work of the School Health Service.

MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The total number of Routine and Special inspections carried out was :—

	1951	1950
Routine	3104	2721
Special	3117	2803
Re-inspections	3566	3464

PROVISION OF SCHOOL CLINICS.

At the School Clinic, Beaumont Fee.

Medical Clinics	Monday and Thursday afternoons.
Minor Ailments	Every morning at 9 a.m.
Orthopaedic Clinic	By appointment.
Dental Clinic	By appointment.

Other clinics.

St. Giles Junior School	Minor ailment clinic each morning 9 a.m.
Skellingthorpe Rd. Junior School	.. .. .
Sincil Secondary Modern Boys'	.. .. .
Sincil Secondary Modern Girls'	.. .. .

The Attendances at the various Clinics are summarised in the following table:—

WORK OF SCHOOL CLINICS.

Minor Ailment Clinics :—				New Cases	Revisits	1951 Totals	1950 Totals
Central Clinic	..	..	..	416	3132	3548	4530
St. Giles	..	..	..	189	4306	4495	4400
Skellingthorpe Road	..	..	..	717	5327	6044	5429
Sincil Boys	..	..	..	753	6255	7008	7543
.. Girls	..	..	..	349	4904	5253	4712
Total				2424	23924	26348	26614
Medical Clinics	..	..	..	543	367	910	1187
Orthopaedic Clinics	..	..	..	95	638	733	1091
Dental Clinics	..	..	..	1276	2202	3478	1822
TOTALS				4338	27131	31469	30714

FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

GENERAL CONDITION.

Classification of the general condition of pupils inspected in the 3 age groups during the last four years was as follows ;—

	1951	1950	1949	1948
Class A.—(Good)	24.8	22.0	28.8	42.1
Class B.—(Fair)	70.3	74.2	66.7	55.3
Class C.—(Poor)	4.9	3.8	4.5	2.6

INCIDENCE OF PEDICULOSIS AND SCABIES.

(a) Pediculosis.

During the last five years the percentage of primary school children found to be suffering from pediculosis, however slight, was:—

1947	....	7.9%	1950	....	4.7%
1948	....	5.8%	1951	....	4.7%
1949	....	5.1%			

(b) Scabies.

During the last 5 years the percentage of children suffering from Scabies was ;—

1947	....	1.5%	1950	....	0.83%
1948	....	2.1%	1951	....	0.39%
1949	....	0.76%			

RINGWORM.

During 1951 there were 9 ringworm cases reported.

During the last 10 years the numbers were as follows:—

1942	....	3	1947	....	9
1943	....	37	1948	....	5
1944	....	82	1949	....	8
1945	....	16	1950	....	9
1946	....	15	1951	....	9

At the end of 1951 there were no cases under treatment.

VISUAL DEFECTS AND EXTERNAL EYE DISEASES.

The number of school children who were found to have some visual defect at Routine Medical Inspection was 254 as compared with 217 in the previous year.

During 1951, arrangements were made by the Regional Hospital Board for the eye clinics to be held at premises provided by the Board.

The number of cases seen by the Ophthalmic Surgeon at these clinics during the year was 804.

The number of spectacles prescribed was 491 and in each case spectacles were obtained.

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT DEFECTS.

The total number of children found to be suffering from enlarged tonsils or enlarged adenoids or enlarged tonsils and adenoids was 573 as compared with 510 during the previous year.

The total number of operations for tonsils and adenoids was 203 as compared with 169 last year.

Middle ear disease was found to be present in 38 children, as compared with 66 in the previous year and 26 of these were referred for treatment.

Defective hearing was detected in the case of 25 children and 11 of these were referred for treatment. Figures for the previous year were 72 and 59.

158 cases attended at the School Clinic during the year and were kept under supervision by the Assistant School Medical Officer. During the previous year this figure was 208.

393 cases were seen by the Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeons as compared with 513 cases during the previous year.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

It was found possible to obtain the services of four Dental Practitioners in the City to be available for eight sessions each week up to the end of August. The number of sessions was increased to eleven each week from September to the end of the year. Some of these sessions were devoted to Maternity and Child Welfare work.

Routine dental inspections were resumed during the year.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year, for school children :—

	1951	1950
No. inspected (Routine age groups)	2194	—
Referred for treatment	2355	832
No. actually treated	1276	832
Privately treated	109	—
Half days devoted to inspection	12	—
" " " treatment	349	201
Fillings	1107	511
Extractions	2476	1743
General anaesthetics	684	399
Other operations	1258	691

ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

The Orthopaedic Clinic continued to be held at the School Clinic and the following is a summary of the work carried out :—

	1951	1950
No. of sessions held by the Orthopaedic Surgeon ..	18	20
No. of cases seen by the Orthopaedic Surgeon ..	233	239
No. of new cases seen by the Orthopaedic Surgeon ..	98	136
No. of cases admitted to the County Hospital ..	4	3
No. of cases admitted to Manfield Orthopaedic Hospital	—	—
No. of cases admitted to Harlow Wood Orthopaedic Hospital	3	2
No. of cases seen by the Physiotherapist	95	90
No. of treatments given by the Physiotherapist ..	733	654

HEART DISEASE AND RHEUMATISM.

The number of children found at Routine or Special Inspections to be suffering from Heart Lesions was 35 as compared with 49 last year. These cases are kept under the supervision of the School Medical Officer and their attendance at school and the amount of exercise that they should take is regulated by medical advice.

In addition a Register of Rheumatism cases is kept at the Clinic. At the end of 1951 there were 9 children on the books as compared with 12 at the end of 1950. All children known to be suffering from Rheumatism are kept under supervision and examined periodically.

There is a special Heart and Rheumatism clinic held once a month at Lindum Road and during the year 57 school children were referred to the Specialist in charge as compared with 53 during the previous year.

This clinic is also the centre for investigation of Acute Rheumatism in children up to 16 years of age.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The total number of cases of Infectious Diseases whether notifiable or non-notifiable occurring amongst school children was 182 as compared with 885 in 1950.

The numbers of notifiable infectious diseases were:—

				1951	1950
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	13	62
Diphtheria	..	..	..	—	—
Chickenpox	..	..	..	132	103
Dysentery	..	..	..	24	—
Measles	..	..	..	6	616
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	3	94
Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	4	8
Total	..	..	..	182	883

The numbers of non-notifiable infectious diseases were:—

				1951	1950
German Measles	—	2
Mumps	—	—
Total	—	2

CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND CONTAGIOUS DISEASES IN THE SCHOOLS.

1951.	Cases	Scarlet Fever.		Diphtheria		Measles.		German Measles.		Whooping Cough.		Chicken Pox.		Mumps.		Polio-myelitis		Meningo-coccal Infections		Dysentery		Ringworm.	Impetigo.	Scabies.	Total Cases.	Total Contacts	Grand Total.
		Cases Cont.	Cont.	Cases Cont.	Cont.	Cases Cont.	Cont.	Cases Cont.	Cont.	Cases Cont.	Cont.	Cases Cont.	Cont.	Cases Cont.	Cont.	Cases Cont.	Cont.	Cases Cont.	Cont.	Cases Cont.	Cont.						
January ..	32	3	3	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	15	1	32	3	35
February ..	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	4	2	17	—	17
March ..	44	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	—	—	4	3	44	—	44
April ..	32	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	6	7	32	—	32
May ..	34	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	34	—	34
June ..	17	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	17	—	17
July ..	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	20	1	21
August ..	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	13	—	13
September	12	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	3	12	3	15
October ..	17	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	17	1	18
November	23	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	18	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	23	3	26
December	9	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	9	1	10
TOTALS ..	270	13	10	—	—	6	—	—	—	3	—	132	—	—	—	4	2	—	—	24	—	9	46	33	270	12	282

DISTRIBUTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOLS OF THE CITY
DURING 1951.

Min. of Ed. Number	SCHOOL.	Average No. of School Children on Register.	TOTAL	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Whooping Cough	Mumps	Measles	German Measles	Chicken pox	Polio-myelitis	Meningococcal Infections	Dysentery
1908	Nursery Schools												
N. 90/4	St. Cuthbert's	45	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	St. Giles' ..	46	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1.D.	Primary Schools												
1. E.	Boultham C.	460	11	3	—	—	—	—	—	7	1	—	—
5	Bracebridge C.	539	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	2	—	2
6	Eastgate V.	151	28	—	—	—	—	—	—	22	—	—	6
6A	Monks Road C.	696	16	3	—	2	—	—	—	5	—	—	6
9	Mount Street C.	390	11	1	—	1	—	2	—	7	—	—	—
10	St. Andrew's V.	559	11	2	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—
11	St. Botolph's C.	75	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
19	St. Faith's V.	444	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
4	St. Giles' C.	796	12	2	—	—	—	3	—	7	—	—	—
13	St. Hugh's R.C.	307	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—
16	St. Martin's V.	144	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	—
17C	St. Peter at Gowts V.	567	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—
18	Skellingthorpe Road C.	832	26	1	—	—	—	1	—	23	1	—	—
	Westgate C.	202	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	8
	Secondary Modern Schools												
17A	Spring Hill Girls'	333	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17B	Sincil Boys'	452	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
21	Rosemary Boys'	313	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
19	St. Giles' Mixed	326	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17B	Sincil Girls'	472	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Secondary Grammar Schools												
5257	Christ's Hospital Girls' High	361	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5304	South Park High	330	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
5288	The City ..	491	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
5258	Lincoln	286	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Special Schools												
30,665	St. Christopher's E.S.N.	61	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
29,568	Open Air	91	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		9769	182	13	—	3	—	6	—	132	4	—	24

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Facilities were offered for Immunisation of school children at the School Clinic, at the schools and at other clinics under the Health Services.

Special sessions were conducted at school premises whenever a sufficient number of acceptances was received from a school.

The number of children between 5 and 15 years of age immunised during 1951 was 307, as compared with 148 during the previous year. In addition reinforcing doses were given to 2567 children during the year. In 1950, this number was 784.

TUBERCULOSIS.

18 children were referred to the Chest Clinic during the year as compared with 10 during the previous year.

CHOREA.

1 child was found to be suffering from Chorea as compared with 6 last year.

RICKETS.

1 child was found to be suffering from Rickets as compared with 6 last year.

VACCINAL CONDITION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Vaccination is not now compulsory.

During the year 15·9% of the School children were found to be vaccinated or protected against Smallpox as compared with 21·0% in 1950 and 23·6% during 1949.

“FOLLOWING-UP.”

The method of “following-up” children found suffering from any defects was carried out in the same way as described in previous reports. Repeated visits, both to schools and to the homes, were paid with a view to seeing that effect was given to the remedying of defects.

The following is a summary of the work carried out by the school nurses:—

No. of clinic sessions attended	118
No. of follow-up visits:—	
(a) In school	13367
(b) At homes	183
No. of special visits:—	
(a) In school	297
(b) At homes	441
Visits for vision testing:—	
(a) No. of visits	104
(b) No. of children dealt with	3992
Inspections for the presence of Pediculi:—	
No. of visits to schools	207
No. of inspections of children	43693
No. of individual children found to be verminous however slight	386
Notices issued to parents	585

PHYSICAL TRAINING.

The report on physical education for the year ended 31st August, 1951, is included in the report for that year of the Education Committee presented to the City Council.

SCHOOL BATHS.

Open Air School—8 shower baths.

St. Giles Secondary Modern School—8 shower baths.

St. Christopher's School—5 baths and 1 shower bath.

South Park High School—16 shower baths (sprinkler type) in gymnasium changing room.

South Park High School—Swimming bath. This bath is used for instructional purposes by children from Primary and Secondary schools and by Youth organisations and other bodies. There are 6 shower baths in the dressing rooms.

CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS.

The percentage of parents who attended at the medical inspection of boys was 52·5 as compared with 63·0 during last year and the percentage of parents attending medical inspection in the case of girls was 69·0 as compared with 64·9 last year.

PROVISION OF MILK AND MEALS.

The School Meals Service has continued throughout the year to supply meals to all schools in the City. A new kitchen/dining room was opened at Skellingthorpe Road Infants' School in May, 1951, and thirteen school departments now have their own kitchen/dining rooms. The remainder of the schools are supplied with carried meals from the four Central Kitchens—Boultham, St. Giles, Saxilby and Sincil Bank.

The number of meals provided during the year ended 31st December, 1951, was as follows:—

To Nursery, Primary, Secondary Modern Schools, etc.	.. .. .	1951	1950
		708,337	718,859
To Staff and Helpers	.. .. .	53,426	50,071
To Secondary Grammar Schools	.. .. .	184,627	197,253
To Staff and Helpers	.. .. .	9,598	10,315
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		955,988	976,498

Meals provided at the Open Air School (included in the figures for Nursery, Primary and Secondary Modern Schools), were:—

		1951	1950
Breakfasts	.. .. .	16,724	16,851
Dinners	.. .. .	16,766	16,891
Teas	.. .. .	16,638	16,769

The supply of free pasteurised milk in one-third pint bottles under the Milk in Schools scheme was continued during the year in all schools.

The number of bottles supplied during the year ended 31st December, 1951, was 1,546,111 as compared with 1,534,109 for the year 1950.

HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

Partially Sighted.

2 children are in special schools.

Birmingham Royal Institution 2

Maladjusted.

1 child is in a special school.

Ledston School 1

Deaf and Dumb.

2 children are in special schools.

Royal School for the Deaf, Derby 2

Deaf.

5 children are in special schools.

Royal School for the Deaf, Derby 5

Delicate

90 children are in Open Air Schools.

Lincoln Open Air School 90

Epileptic.

1 child is in a special school.

Soss Moss School 1

Educationally Subnormal.

36 children are in special schools or classes.

St. Christopher's (Boys') School, Lincoln 23

Special Class for Girls 13

Physically Handicapped.

5 children are in special schools.

Halliwick Cripples' School 2

Rudolf Steiner School 1

Lincoln Open Air School 2

At the end of the year the following Handicapped Pupils were awaiting admission to special schools:—

Cripple	3
Delicate	5
Educationally subnormal	13
Maladjusted	3

Notifications to the Local Authority under the Education and Mental Deficiency Acts.

No children were notified under Section 57 (3) of the Education Act, 1944.

DEFECTIVE SPEECH.

The services of a Speech Therapist were not available during 1951, as the Speech Therapist employed by the Education Authority resigned her post in August, 1948, and it has not yet been possible to obtain the services of another Speech Therapist.

Special cases, however, were referred to the Speech Therapist under the Hospital Services.

CHILD GUIDANCE CENTRE.

The Psychiatric Social Worker left on 31st July, 1948, and the Educational Psychologist left in February, 1949.

On account of this, the work of the Child Guidance Centre was discontinued during the Spring Term of 1949. Both posts have remained unfilled.

The services of the Consultant Psychiatrist were, however, available for special cases.

NURSERY SCHOOLS.

Under the Education Authority's Scheme ..		2
The average and total attendances during the year were as follows:—	Average attend.	Total attend.
St. Cuthbert's Nursery School ..	39.5	15,756
St. Giles Nursery School ..	39.0	15,495

OPEN AIR SCHOOL.

This School provides accommodation for about 90 children.

There were 92 children attending the Open Air School in December, 1951.

Of the pupils discharged last year, the average increase in weight during the period of attendance at the Open Air School was:—

Boys, 22.9 lbs. Girls, 24.1 lbs.

while the average duration of attendance was:—

Boys, 37.7 months. Girls, 34.6 months.

The average attendance was 78.4% as against 85.8% last year.

THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS' ACT, 1933.

218 children were examined for Employment before School hours as compared with 134 in the previous year.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

The School Medical and Nursing Staff continued to take all opportunities to instruct parents in general hygiene during the year.

SCHOOL ACCOMMODATION.

The only change made in the accommodation at schools during the year was as follows:—

Skellingthorpe Road County Infants' School—the assembly hall, kitchen and dining room were completed and the whole of the new accommodation brought into use.

