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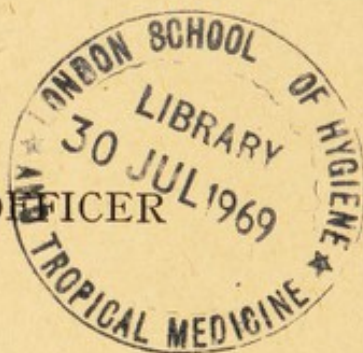


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EIGHTH
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER
TO



The Education Committee

OF THE
SALOP COUNTY COUNCIL,

1915.

JAMES WHEATLEY, M.D., D.P.H.



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1915.

JAMES WHEATLEY, M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Staff.

School Medical Officer :

JAMES WHEATLEY, M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Inspectors :

AUGUSTE BOYES, M.B., Ch. B.

MARGARET LOGAN KIRKWOOD, M.B., Ch. B.

To the Chairman and Members of the Salop Education Committee.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my eighth Annual Report as Medical Officer to the Salop Local Education Authority.

In accordance with instructions of the Board of Education and of the Education Committee, the report is cut down to the smallest possible dimensions compatible with the maintenance of due continuity.

Matters of great general interest which have been repeated in past reports are this year omitted, and the remarks are almost entirely confined to the actual work of the year.

Although the statistics are much curtailed, there is all the material in the office for instituting full inquiries at any future time.

Suggestions for extension of the work in various directions are reserved for a future occasion.

The importance of the work of medical inspection is greatly emphasized by the war. There is no doubt that we should now have a much more efficient army if medical inspection of school children had been established 10 or 15 years earlier.

It is hoped that it will be possible to continue the work during the war without any serious decrease of efficiency, and that the necessary extensions and improvements will be made expeditiously after the war is over.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES WHEATLEY,

County Medical Officer of Health
and School Medical Officer.

County Buildings,
1916.

AREA COVERED BY THE SALOP LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY, NUMBER OF SCHOOLS, DEPARTMENTS, AND CHILDREN ON REGISTER.

The area covered by the Salop Education Authority comprises 858,277 acres, and had a population at the 1911 census of 201,673. It is co-terminous with the Administrative County with the exception that the Borough of Shrewsbury is not included. The number of Schools is 293, comprising 358 departments. The number of children on the registers necessarily varies from time to time to some extent. On November 26th, 1915, it was 33,910.

HYGIENIC CONDITION OF SCHOOLS.

Structural alterations for the improvement of health conditions have been limited mostly to matters urgently required.

There are many improvements that should be effected as soon as a suitable opportunity arises. In the meantime special attention should be paid to maintaining the premises in as good a state as possible with regard to cleanliness, ventilation and general care.

The limitations put upon capital expenditure in the improvement of schools, make it all the more necessary that every effort should be made by managers, teachers and school cleaners in this direction.

ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The general arrangements described in my report for 1909 have continued throughout the year.

The resolution of the County Council dated 25th July, 1914, to appoint a third inspector, has not been carried into effect. In consequence the examination at the intermediate age group has not been carried out, nor has the examination of mentally defective children been done in the systematic and thorough manner that was intended.

SCHOOL NURSES.—Seventy nurses have been employed in connection with 189 school departments; 60 of these nurses are working for Associations connected with the Shropshire Nursing Federation; 6 are nurses employed by other Associations or by private persons and 4 by the Lady Forester Trust in the Borough of Wenlock.

On the whole the scheme has worked satisfactorily and has proved very beneficial.

VOLUNTARY HELPERS.—(see remarks page 8, report for 1914). In addition to the list given, the following schools are without helpers:—Hopton Wafers, Ightfield, Lineal, and Wombridge C.E.

TEACHERS AND ATTENDANCE OFFICERS.—(see page 9, report for 1914).

PRESENCE OF PARENTS AT INSPECTIONS AND THEIR CO-OPERATION.—(advantages of, see page 10, report 1914.)

INTERFERENCE WITH ROUTINE SCHOOL WORK AND THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR CORRELATION OF THE SCHOOL AND PUBLIC HEALTH MEDICAL SERVICES are as described in my last report.

EDUCATION COUNTY EXCLUSIVE OF BOROUGH OF WENLOCK.

EXTENT AND SCOPE OF THE MEDICAL INSPECTION CARRIED OUT IN THE YEAR 1915.

Full systematic examinations were made of children age 12, and all entrants over 5 ; children under 5 were examined superficially. In addition all cases thought to be defective by the teachers were examined and all children found defective on previous inspections.

The special cases referred to in Table II. include both those brought to the notice of the Medical Inspectors by the teachers and children under 5 years of age.

The number of re-examinations are much in excess of those of previous years, and now form a considerable part of the inspection.

TABLE I.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN INSPECTED 1st JANUARY, 1915. TO 31st DECEMBER, 1915.

A—" CODE " GROUPS.												
Age.	Entrants.						Leavers.					
	3	4	5	6	Other ages.	Total.	12	13	14	Other ages.	Total.	Grand Total.
Boys	68	302	1307	416	179	2272	1556	140	4	1	1701	3973
Girls	57	255	1125	481	201	2119	1623	110	3	..	1736	3855
Totals ..	125	557	2432	897	380	4391	3179	250	7	1	3437	7828

B.—GROUPS OTHER THAN " CODES."

	Special Cases.	Re-Examinations (i.e., No. of Children Re-Examined).
Boys	675	} 4524
Girls	692	
Totals ..	1367	4524

TABLE II.—RETURN SHOWING THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED.

CONDITION.	Inspection age 5.				Inspection age 12.				Total.				Special Cases.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent	B.	G.	Total.
Total Inspected.. ..	1902	1807	3709		1701	1736	3437		3603	3543	7146		675	692	1367
Nothing :—															
Satisfactory	1682	1633	3315	89.4	1531	1587	3118	90.7	3213	3220	6433	90.0	..	..	..
Unsatisfactory	220	174	394	10.6	170	149	319	9.3	390	323	713	9.9	4	..	4
Footgear :—															
Satisfactory	1749	1648	3397	91.6	1546	1612	3158	91.9	3295	3260	6555	91.7	..	..	..
Unsatisfactory	153	159	312	8.4	155	124	279	8.1	308	283	591	8.3	4	..	4
Cleanliness of Head :—															
Clean (i.e., no nits or pediculi)	1700	1076	2776	74.8	1588	910	2498	72.6	3288	1986	5274	73.8	..	..	..
Nits only	137	612	749	20.2	91	751	842	24.5	228	1363	1591	22.2	30	145	175
Pediculi	65	119	184	4.9	22	75	97	2.8	87	194	281	3.9	15	36	51
Cleanliness of Body :—															
Clean	1767	1687	3454	93.1	1590	1639	3229	93.9	3357	3326	6683	93.5	..	..	..
Dirty	128	115	243	6.5	97	86	183	5.3	225	201	426	5.9	10	4	14
Pediculi present	7	5	12	.3	14	11	25	.7	21	16	37	.5	3	6	9
Nutrition :—															
Excellent	216	157	373	10.05	140	146	286	8.3	356	303	659	9.2	1	6	7
Normal	1470	1444	2914	78.6	1366	1384	2750	80.0	2836	2828	5664	79.2	..	..	..
Below normal	214	201	415	11.2	195	205	400	11.6	409	406	815	11.4	12	12	24
Bad	2	5	7	.18	..	1	1	.02	2	6	8	.1	2	2	4
Nose and Throat :—															
No defect	908	934	1842	49.6	1040	1047	2087	60.7	1948	1981	3929	54.9	..	..	..
Mouth breathers	247	159	406	10.9	120	83	203	5.9	367	242	609	8.5	37	12	49
Tonsils : slightly enlarged	676	636	1312	35.3	499	535	1034	30.4	1175	1171	2346	32.8	90	93	183
Tonsils : much enlarged	114	93	207	5.6	68	79	147	4.2	182	172	354	4.9	12	13	25
Adenoids : slight	300	256	556	14.9	118	108	226	6.5	418	364	782	10.9	62	38	100
Adenoids : marked	43	47	90	2.4	20	24	44	1.3	63	71	134	1.8	12	8	20
Enlarged Cervical Glands :—															
Slight	734	654	1388	37.4	300	248	548	15.9	1034	902	1936	27.0	23	35	58
Bad	11	14	25	.6	6	11	17	.5	17	25	42	.5	3	5	8
External Eye Disease :—															
No disease	1839	1750	3589	96.7	1649	1673	3322	96.6	3488	3423	6911	96.7	..	..	..
Blepharitis	44	32	76	2.0	35	46	81	2.3	79	78	157	2.2	14	11	25
Conjunctivitis	5	3	8	.2	3	2	5	.1	8	5	13	.1	2	1	3
Corneal opacities	10	12	22	.59	8	3	11	.3	18	15	33	.4	3	2	5
Other disease	18	14	32	.8	8	15	23	.6	26	29	55	.7	10	8	18
Ear Disease :—															
No disease	1884	1765	3649	98.3	1676	1702	3378	98.2	3560	3467	7027	98.3	..	..	..
Obstruction : R.	5	11	16	.4	14	7	21	.6	19	18	37	.5	..	3	3
Obstruction : L.	6	11	17	.4	13	10	23	.6	19	21	40	.5	2	4	6
Otorrhoea : R.	7	24	31	.8	4	12	16	.4	11	36	47	.6	6	2	8
Otorrhoea : L.	5	22	27	.7	5	14	19	.5	10	36	46	.6	6	3	9
Other disease	1	..	1	.02	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	.01	..	..	..

TABLE II.—RETURN SHOWING THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF CHILDREN
INSPECTED—continued.

CONDITION.	Inspection age 5.				Inspection age 12.				Total.				Special Cases.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.	B.	G.	Total.
<i>Teeth :—</i>															
Sound	82	71	153	4.1	14	41	55	1.6	96	112	208	2.9	..	..	..
Less than four decayed ..	285	289	574	15.4	402	520	922	26.8	687	809	1496	20.9	2	1	3
Four to six inclusive decayed	421	423	844	22.7	766	731	1497	43.5	1187	1154	2341	32.7	..	..	..
Over six decayed	1114	1024	2138	57.6	519	444	963	28.0	1633	1468	3101	42.4	3	2	5
Sepsis	58	42	100	2.6	9	21	30	.8	67	63	130	1.8	..	1	1
<i>Goitre :—</i>															
Slight	55	64	119	3.2	193	379	572	16.6	248	443	691	9.6	4	5	9
Bad	6	3	9	.2	14	75	89	2.5	20	78	98	1.3	2	6	8
<i>Evidence of Rheumatism</i> ..	7	7	14	.3	40	61	101	2.9	47	68	115	1.6	2	4	6
<i>Heart and Circulation :—</i>															
No disease	1794	1709	3503	94.4	1585	1578	3163	92.0	3379	3287	6666	93.2	..	..	..
Organic disease	11	15	26	.7	20	18	38	1.1	31	33	64	.9	1	2	3
Functional disease	36	19	55	1.4	22	28	50	1.4	58	47	105	1.4	2	5	7
Anaemia	61	64	125	3.3	74	122	196	5.7	135	186	321	4.4	6	12	18
Other defect	1	1	2	.05	3	2	5	.1	4	3	7	.09	2	..	2
<i>Lungs :—</i>															
No disease	1745	1652	3397	91.5	1625	1680	3305	96.1	3370	3332	6702	93.7	..	..	..
Chronic bronchitis and bronchial catarrh	141	141	282	7.6	33	22	55	1.6	174	163	337	4.7	10	8	18
Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	2	3	5	.1	2	3	5	.06	2	..	2
Tuberculosis suspected ..	11	11	22	.5	40	30	70	2.0	51	41	92	1.2	9	10	19
Other disease	5	3	8	.2	1	1	2	.05	6	4	10	.1	1	..	1
<i>Nervous System :—</i>															
No disease	1884	1801	3685	99.3	1687	1725	3412	99.2	3571	3526	7097	99.3	..	..	..
Epilepsy (major or minor) ..	15	3	18	.48	6	7	13	.37	21	10	31	.43	1	4	5
Chorea	..	..	..	..	3	1	4	.11	3	1	4	.05	3	..	3
Other disease	3	3	6	.16	5	3	8	.23	8	6	14	.19	1	1	2
<i>Skin :—</i>															
No disease	1802	1703	3505	94.5	1643	1672	3315	96.4	3445	3375	6820	95.4	..	..	..
Ringworm : body	4	2	6	.16	3	3	6	.17	7	5	12	.16	5	1	6
Ringworm : head	25	26	51	1.37	12	11	23	.66	37	37	74	1.03	24	31	55
Impetigo	33	34	67	1.80	14	12	26	.75	47	46	93	1.30	28	21	49
Scabies	5	5	10	.26	8	7	15	.43	13	12	25	.35	6	7	13
Other disease	38	38	76	2.05	22	31	53	1.54	60	69	129	1.80	25	26	51
<i>Rickets :—</i>															
No disease	1883	1801	3684	99.3	1698	1735	3433	99.9	3581	3536	7117	99.6	..	..	..
Slight	14	5	19	.51	3	..	3	.09	17	5	22	.31	..	1	1
Marked	5	1	6	.16	..	1	1	.03	5	2	7	.09	..	1	1
<i>Deformities :—</i>															
No deformity	1800	1731	3531	95.2	1583	1624	3207	93.3	3383	3355	6738	94.3	..	..	..
High Palate	68	61	129	3.4	76	79	155	4.51	144	140	284	3.9	1	2	3
Scoliosis	5	5	10	.26	23	17	40	1.16	28	22	50	.7	1	2	3
Deformity from Infantile Paralysis	3	5	8	.21	6	2	8	.23	9	7	16	.2	2	1	3
Other deformities	28	10	38	1.02	19	17	36	1.04	47	27	74	1.03	1	..	1

TABLE II.—RETURN SHOWING THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF CHILDREN
INSPECTED—continued.

CONDITION.	Inspection age 5.				Inspection age 12.				Total.				Special Cases.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent	B.	G.	Total.
<i>tuberculosis, non-pulmonary</i> :—															
No disease	1899	1806	3705	99.9	1698	1734	3432	99.8	3597	3540	7137	99.8	..	..	..
Glandular	3	1	4	.10	1	1	2	.06	4	2	6	.08	..	..	..
Bones and Joints	..	..	..	..	2	1	3	.09	2	1	3	.04	1	..	1
Other forms	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
<i>Speech</i> :—															
Not defective	1772	1719	3491	94.1	1679	1710	3389	98.6	3451	3429	6880	96.2	..	..	..
Defective articulation	119	85	204	5.5	9	14	23	.67	128	99	227	3.1	34	18	52
Stammering	11	3	14	.37	13	12	25	.72	24	15	39	.54	1	..	1
<i>Mental Condition</i> :—															
Normal	1867	1782	3649	98.4	1639	1693	3332	96.9	3506	3475	6981	97.7	..	..	..
Dull or backward	32	22	54	1.4	57	39	96	2.79	89	61	150	2.1	1	5	6
Mentally defective (all grades)	3	3	6	.16	5	4	9	.26	8	7	15	.21	2	5	7
<i>Other Defective Conditions</i> :—															
Slight	255	193	448	12.1	215	174	389	11.3	470	367	837	11.7	36	35	71
Bad	26	15	41	1.1	8	11	19	.55	34	26	60	.84	11	9	20
<i>Vision</i> :—															
6/6 each eye (normal vision)	47	60	107	..	954	800	1754*	51.0	1001	860	1861	..	16	9	25
6/6 R.	10	8	18	..	190	206	396	11.5	200	214	414	..	11	10	21
L.	3	5	8	..	97	106	203	5.9	100	111	211	..	6	7	13
6/9 R.	51	63	114	..	422	538	960	27.9	473	601	1074	..	58	63	121
L.	59	65	124	..	508	627	1135	33.0	567	692	1259	..	54	63	117
6/12 R.	6	4	10	..	35	50	85	2.4	41	54	95	..	14	21	35
L.	3	3	6	..	29	51	80	2.3	32	54	86	..	22	19	41
6/18 R.	3	7	10	..	36	61	97	2.8	39	68	107	..	21	24	45
L.	4	6	10	..	44	65	109	3.1	48	71	119	..	17	27	44
6/24 R.	2	..	2	..	18	28	46	1.3	20	28	48	..	14	16	30
L.	1	1	2	..	17	24	41	1.2	18	25	43	..	13	18	31
6/36 R.	1	1	2	..	19	23	42	1.2	20	24	44	..	9	14	23
L.	1	2	3	..	22	29	51	1.4	23	31	54	..	9	12	21
6/60 R.	1	1	2	..	15	14	29	.8	16	15	31	..	1	5	6
L.	2	2	4	..	12	19	31	.9	14	21	35	..	4	3	7
6/0 R.	3	3	6	..	7	13	20	.6	10	16	26	..	5	7	12
L.	4	3	7	..	13	12	25	.7	17	15	32	..	9	10	19
<i>Children with Defective Eyesight requiring Treatment</i>	13	15	28	..	222	322	544	15.8	235	337	572	..	90	110	200
<i>Quint</i> :—															
Slight	37	50	87	..	14	13	27	.8	51	63	114	..	16	8	24
Bad { Convergent { R.	9	11	20	..	8	3	11	.3	17	14	31	..	3	3	6
L.	11	12	23	..	10	3	13	.4	21	15	36	..	5	4	9
Alt.	11	7	18	..	2	4	6	.2	13	11	24	..	4	..	4
Divergent { R.	3	1	4	..	2	..	2	.06	5	1	6	..	..	2	2
L.	1	4	5	..	4	3	7	.2	5	7	12	..	1	2	3

* 8 children 12 years of age were illiterate and no particulars of eyesight is given.

TABLE II.—RETURN SHOWING THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED—continued.

CONDITION.	Inspection age 5.				Inspection age 12.				Total.				Special Cases.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent	B.	G.	Total.
<i>Hearing (whisper) :—</i>															
20 feet each ear (normal hearing)	1837	1726	3563	96.1	1669	1709	3378	98.2	3506	3435	6941	..	8	5	13
20 feet R.	27	23	50	1.3	12	9	21	.6	39	32	71	..	4	1	5
L.	14	24	38	1.0	10	8	18	.5	24	32	56	..	1	1	2
10 feet R.	35	50	85	2.3	16	15	31	.9	51	65	116	..	2	1	3
L.	46	50	96	2.6	19	15	34	1.0	65	65	130	..	6	1	7
5 feet R.	2	7	9	.2	4	3	7	.2	6	10	16	..	2	..	2
L.	4	7	11	.3	3	2	5	.1	7	9	16	..	1	..	1
Less than 5 feet R.	1	1	2	.05	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	..	1	1	2
L.	1	..	1	.02	..	2	2	.06	1	2	3	..	1	1	2
Children with deafness requiring Treatment ..	1	2	3	.08	..	1	1	.03	1	3	4	..	3	4	7

These tables are those prescribed by the Board of Education with some additional columns. The additions to Table II. refer to (1) enlarged cervical glands, (2) goitre, (3) evidence of rheumatism, (4) high palate, scoliosis and deformity from infantile paralysis, (5) other defective conditions.

Of the children completely examined 16 per cent were suffering from defects requiring medical attention. The corresponding percentages were 18.9 in 1914, and 19.6 in 1913.

Forty-four per cent. of the cases brought forward by the teachers, and 5 per cent. of the children under 5 were found to require medical attention.

These percentages are apart from defects of teeth.

Statistics with regard to prevalence of infectious disease amongst the children have been compiled from the information got from the parents.

On the whole they compare fairly closely with those of previous years and support the deductions made in last year's report.

EYESIGHT.—This is the third year that the eye defects have been analysed in the full manner shown on Table II.

It is only at the age of 12 that the children are systematically examined for eyesight. At this age it will be observed that 51 per cent. have normal vision and that a further 17.4 per cent have normal vision in one eye, giving a total of 68.4 per cent. who have normal vision in at least one eye. The remaining 31.6 per cent. have defect of vision of both eyes, but of these a considerable proportion have only the slight defect represented by $\frac{6}{9}$ vision.

The preliminary examination by the teachers has continued to be most useful in the absence of an intermediate inspection.

Of the children examined at the age of 12, 544 or 15.8 per cent. required medical treatment. The corresponding figure in 1914 was 19.4.

The children age 5 were not systematically inspected, but 28 were found to have defective vision requiring treatment.

Amongst the cases brought to the notice of the Inspectors by the teachers, there were no less than 200 with serious defective vision.

Of the total children systematically examined, 223 were suffering from squint and 258 from external eye disease.

Amongst the extra cases and children under 5 years of age there were 48 with squint and 51 with external eye disease.

The excess of defects amongst girls was again most marked.

DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.—The defects of the nose and throat were almost entirely obstructive conditions due to adenoids and enlarged tonsils. Of 7146 children examined 134 or 1.8 per cent. were suffering from adenoids and 354 or 4.9 per cent. from enlarged tonsils, sufficiently bad to require medical treatment. Amongst the "special cases" there were 20 of adenoids and 25 cases of enlarged tonsils requiring treatment. In all, there were therefore 154 cases of adenoids and 397 cases of enlarged tonsils requiring treatment. In addition there were a large number of children who were suffering from these defects in a minor degree (see table), and to whom instructions were given particularly with regard to breathing exercises.

The percentages of children suffering from adenoids sufficiently serious to require medical treatment amongst those coming up for medical examination during the last seven years were :—

Year.	Age 5.	Age 12.
1909	6.1	5.5
1910	4.9	4.3
1911	5.2	4.1
1912	3.2	3.9
1913	3.2	2.3
1914	2.8	1.7
1915	2.4	1.3

The decrease of the cases of adenoids and enlarged tonsils noticed in previous years, has continued. Although it would be rash to assert positively that there has been a real decrease, the evidence each year becomes stronger.

The causation of adenoids has been discussed at considerable length in previous reports. There seems much to support the idea that adenoids are an overgrowth of glandular tissue brought about by the irritation of frequent infection or even by the irritation of inorganic dust, the overgrowth producing much more serious symptoms whenever the jaws and palate are unduly narrow.

Efforts have been directed to the prevention as well as cure.

TEETH.—As in the last three reports, the statistics with regard to decay of teeth have been got out in three forms—

(1) The children are classified in four groups according to the number of decayed teeth ;

(2) The average number of decayed teeth per child is given for each attendance district, the figures being further sub-divided for town and country schools and age and sex ;

(3) The children are classified in 20 groups, the number of the group indicating the number of decayed teeth of each child in the group ; the figures in this table are further sub-divided for attendance districts and age periods.

These tables are not now published but are in the office for future reference. Generally speaking they correspond fairly closely with those of previous years.

Statistics have been got out as in former years dealing with the prevalence of dental caries in (1) Town and Country schools, (2) children who have been breast-fed as infants, and artificially fed, (3) children classified according to the amount of sweets eaten. On the whole the figures correspond closely with those of former years, but as regards the influence of sweets they are much more conclusive than those of last year.

In my report for 1910 I said :—" *In my opinion more improvement in public health can be obtained by efforts to abolish these conditions (dental caries and oral sepsis) than in any other line of action.* It is a matter affecting not only Education Authorities but all bodies responsible in any way for the public health, and should be looked upon as such."

"The object we should strive after, is to arrest this development of caries in the present generation so far as possible, and to see that the children of the next generation are brought up in such a way that caries will only develop as an exceptional and abnormal condition."

Further experience has strongly confirmed the opinion here expressed.

For a description of the measures taken for the prevention of dental caries and for the rules to be observed, reference must be made to pages 31 and 32 of the Annual Report for 1914.

Much is expected from the system of health visiting that has been established and is being extended.

There are no dental clinics in the County at present. This is one of the first matters that should receive attention after the war.

TUBERCULOSIS. Phthisis.—Out of 7,146 children examined, only 5 or .06 per cent. were diagnosed as suffering from phthisis. In addition there were 92 or 1.2 per cent. who showed signs or symptoms pointing to phthisis in an early stage, but the symptoms were not sufficiently definite to allow of a diagnosis being made. Amongst the extra cases and the children under 5 years of age, there were two definitely diagnosed and 19 suspected.

Eighty-eight children were referred to the Tuberculosis Officer for examination. 8 of these were definitely diagnosed as phthisis; 28 as suspicious of phthisis; 5 as suffering from tuberculosis of bones or glands; and 47 were reported as showing no signs of tuberculosis.

The Medical Inspectors are now supplied with lists of children from phthisis houses. Under this arrangement 122 children were referred for examination. Of these, 25 had left school or were absent at the inspection, 13 were below school age. Eighty-four children were examined; 3 were diagnosed as consumptive; 17 as suspicious of consumption, and in 64 there were no physical signs.

The cases from previous years have been kept under observation.

Twenty-two children of school age, belonging to the Education County, were treated in the County Sanatorium during the year.

Other Forms of Tuberculosis.—Only 9 cases were found amongst the children systematically examined and 2 amongst the extra cases.

Ten children of school age belonging to this County, suffering from tuberculosis other than phthisis, were treated during the year in the Salop Convalescent and Surgical Home, Baschurch. This does not include cases from the Borough of Shrewsbury.

The question of open-air schools has not yet been considered.

DISEASES OF HEART AND RHEUMATISM.—Amongst the children systematically examined 64 were found to have organic disease of the heart, and 105 to be suffering from functional and probably temporary derangements. In 115 children there was evidence of rheumatism.

Amongst the extra cases and children under 5, there were 3 cases of organic disease and 7 with evidence of functional derangement.

For remarks on the cause and prevention of Rheumatism, reference must be made to page 34 of the last Annual Report.

The provision of properly heated cloak-rooms and the provision of slippers in certain schools should have consideration in the near future.

RINGWORM.—Of the children systematically examined 74 or 1.03 per cent. were found to be suffering from ringworm of the scalp.

Amongst the extra cases and those under 5 years there were 55 cases of ringworm.

In addition, 303 cases have been notified by the teachers. These were not usually based on medical opinion.

Examination of hairs was made by the Medical Inspectors in 469 cases—253 positive and 216 negative.

Hairs were submitted to Birmingham University, with 54 positive results and 79 negative results.

Three children have been absent from school off and on for more than six years, 5 for 5 years, 10 for 4 years, 17 for 3 years, and 32 for 2 years, on account of ringworm.

As there does not seem any probability of obtaining a proper system of treatment of ringworm including X-ray treatment in the near future, I recommend that children suffering from ringworm be admitted to school under certain clearly defined conditions, where authorised by the School Medical Officer.

VERMINOUS HEADS.—The figures with regard to this condition as found at the Medical Inspection are given in Table II.

There is evidence that a higher standard of cleanliness is being brought about, but the number of cases with a few nits shows little sign of decreasing.

Where there are school nurses the conditions are certainly improving.

The instructions now to the school nurses are to examine the heads of the children each term, that is three times a year, and to follow up the verminous children so as to get them clean before the end of the term. The inspection in the following term is to be begun *de novo*. If instructions had been carried out there would have been about 450 primary inspections and about 1,300 following up inspections in the year. In most districts, however, this standard was not reached. So far as the returns show, there appear to have been 321 primary inspections and the following up inspections were often very incomplete. At the primary inspections 19,589 children were examined and 3,582 were found verminous or a percentage of 18.28.

MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.—In the routine inspection 15 or .21 per cent. of the children were found to be mentally defective, and the attention of the inspectors was called to 7 other mentally defective children by the teachers.

NUTRITION.—The figures almost exactly correspond with those of last year.

In those schools where there are nurses, all cases of malnutrition not requiring medical treatment are reported to the nurse, in order that she may give advice on food, sleep and general domestic hygiene. The cases are usually kept under observation and weighed at intervals. The nurse can then advise medical help before the next inspection if she thinks it desirable. In the rare cases where there is a definite deficiency of food, efforts are made through private or public sources to remedy this.

The advantages of the teacher being present at the mid-day meal were pointed out in last year's report. The suggestion has been acted on to a considerable extent.

TABLE IV—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF CHILDREN DURING 1915.

CONDITION.	No. of defects found for which Treatment was considered necessary.			No. of defects for which no report is available	No of defects treated.	Results of Treatment				No. of defects not treated.	Per-centage of defect treated
	From previous year.	New	Total.			Re-medied.	Im-proved.	Un-changed	Un-known		
Nose and Throat ..	583	332	915	111	339	66	84	72	117	465	37.0
External Eye Disease	9	14	23	3	16	4	3	1	8	4	69.5
Ear Disease ..	52	36	88	12	56	15	18	4	19	20	63.6
Teeth ..	42	44	86	15	44	9	33	..	2	27	51.1
Heart and Circulation	20	28	48	9	32	3	17	..	12	7	66.6
Lungs ..	8	4	12	2	8	..	5	..	3	2	66.6
Nervous System ..	2	4	6	..	6	2	2	..	2	..	100.0
Skin ..	175	116	291	41	224	117	26	25	56	26	76.3
Rickets ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Deformities ..	11	13	24	2	13	1	3	3	6	9	54.1
Tuberculosis—Non-pulmonary ..	5	3	8	2	6	..	3	..	3	..	75.0
Speech ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mental Condition ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Vision and Squint ..	894	788	1682	230	†744	33	312	41	358	708	44.2
Hearing ..	7	2	9	..	4	..	2	1	1	5	44.4
Miscellaneous ..	87	100	187	33	105	29	35	9	32	49	56.1
Total ..	1895	1484	3379	460	1597	279	543	156	619	1322	47.2

† 579 of these have glasses.

The provision for treatment made by the County Council and the methods employed for following up the cases so as to obtain treatment are described on page 42 of the Annual Report for 1914.

During the year the School Medical Officer presented a report recommending the establishment of centres for the treatment of eye and throat defects at Oswestry, Market Drayton, Bridgnorth, and Ludlow. It was decided to establish centres for eye defects in these towns, but owing to circumstances connected with the war, it was not found possible to carry out the scheme. The establishment of throat centres was postponed.

AMOUNT OF TREATMENT.—It is satisfactory to observe that the percentage of cases that have had treatment has gone up from 40 to 47 per cent.

The amount of treatment has varied greatly in different districts.

In the following table the districts are arranged in order of the amount of treatment obtained for throat and eye defects commencing with those that have provided the least treatment. The defects of throats and eyes form a large proportion of the total defects.

Name of District.	Percentage of Defects Treated.
Whitchurch	27
Cleobury Mortimer	30
Market Drayton	31
Oswestry	33
Wem	36
Shifnal	36
Bridgnorth	37
Church Stretton	40
Pontesbury	43
Ellesmere	47
Condover	49
Wellington	51
Newport	51
Bishop's Castle	53
Ludlow	61
Albrighton	70

Some of the lack of treatment may be attributed to the distance of the district from any hospital and this applies particularly to Cleobury Mortimer. In this connection it will be observed that a remote district like Bishop's Castle has 53 per cent. of treatment. There can be no good and adequate reason why in a district like Whitchurch there should be only 27 per cent., and Wem 36 per cent. The treatment is extremely poor too in Market Drayton 31 per cent., Oswestry 33 per cent. and Shifnal 36 per cent.

The establishment of treatment centres would have considerably improved matters.

It is obvious that where the schools are only inspected once a year, no accurate report can be made as to the result of the treatment of the "new" cases. Where there are no nurses, no report can be made, and only in a portion of the cases can the report of the nurse be accepted as showing the result of treatment.

In a large number of the cases, it has consequently been necessary to report the *result* of treatment as "unknown" although one knows that the best available treatment has been obtained. For example out of the 358 cases of defect of vision classed "result of treatment unknown," about 200 were known to have been examined by an oculist, and glasses obtained.

Treatment received at the Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital for Shropshire and Wales, Shrewsbury, during the year 1915, on Recommendations supplied by the County Council.—Two Hundred and seventy two letters of recommendation were supplied. Before a recommendation was supplied the School Medical Officer certified that the case was a suitable one for treatment at the hospital, and the Managers of the School, that the parents were unable to afford treatment.

Two hundred and fifty of the 272 letters of recommendation were used.

The results of treatment, so far as re-inspection has gone, are very satisfactory.

Of the 250 children who have had treatment, 195 were for eye defects, 48 for throat defects, 2 for ear defects, 1 for defect of nose, 3 for defects of eyes and throat, and 1 for defects of eye and ear.

Eye Defects.—Sixty-eight of the 195 children have been re-inspected :—

64 have obtained glasses with satisfactory results.

4 had treatment—glasses not required.

One hundred and twenty-seven have not yet been re-inspected, but information shows that :—

109 have obtained glasses.

1 has had glasses prescribed but we have no further information.

12 other treatment than glasses prescribed.

5 no information received.

Throat Defects.—Thirteen of the 48 children have been re-inspected. All of these have been operated on with satisfactory results. Of the 35 not yet re-inspected, information from other sources shows that 29 have been operated on. Two others were treated at the hospital without operation. Of 4 there is no information.

The two children with ear defects have received treatment, with improvement.

The three children with defects of eyes and throat have been operated on, and glasses have been obtained.

One child was treated for defects of eyes and ears with improvement.

Work of the Nurses in bringing about Treatment.—Every case found by the Medical Inspector to require medical or other treatment has been referred to the nurse to follow up. In most districts the nurse has followed up the cases satisfactorily, but in a few districts the following up was very incomplete. Of 1,713 cases referred to the nurses during the year, 1,473 were followed up more or less satisfactorily. In 240 cases no visit was paid.

ACTION TAKEN TO DETECT AND PREVENT INFECTIOUS DISEASES INCLUDING REFERENCE TO ACTION UNDER ARTICLES 45 (b), 53 (b), AND 57 OF THE CODE OF 1909.

A description of the scheme of notification of infectious disease from schools and of the measures taken to prevent the spread of infectious disease was given on pages 44, 45 and 46 of the report for 1914.

Investigations into the spread of diphtheria have been made at Pontesbury and Harmer Hill Schools, and 86 swabs have been submitted by the school staff.

The school nurses have on many occasions rendered valuable help in taking swabs from doubtful sore throats or contacts during the year.

Under Article 53 (b) 605 children have been excluded from school for infectious disease :—

139	on account of	impetigo.
257	„	ringworm of scalp.
13	„	ringworm of body.
35	„	scabies.
46	„	verminous conditions.
7	„	pulmonary tuberculosis.
36	„	suspected phthisis.
5	„	measles.
13	„	chicken-pox.
1	„	mumps.
19	„	whooping cough.
1	„	tonsillitis.
33	„	various causes.

School closure has been effected entirely under Article 45 by the School Medical Officer, either on information obtained direct from the school, or on the advice of the District Medical Officer of Health. Under this Article 236 schools were closed for the following reasons :— 102 for measles, 52 for whooping cough, 14 for scarlet fever, 6 for diphtheria, 5 for chicken-pox, 11 for mumps, 34 for influenza, and 12 for other causes.

REVIEW OF THE METHODS ADOPTED AND THE ADEQUACY OF SUCH METHODS FOR DEALING WITH BLIND, DEAF, MENTALLY OR PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE AND EPILEPTIC CHILDREN UNDER THE ACTS OF 1893 AND 1899.

A numerical return of all exceptional children in the area was made in the last report. The information is not available for this report.

Two blind children, one mentally defective and 5 deaf and dumb children were sent to special schools. One epileptic child is awaiting a vacancy.

TEACHING OF HYGIENE, PHYSICAL EXERCISES, OPEN AIR SCHOOLS.

For the general remarks on these subjects reference must be made to the 1914 report, pages 49 and 50.

During the year six teachers were sent to the Summer Vacation Course of the Education Handwork Association held at Reading.

Classes were held, commencing in the autumn of 1914, and continuing up to the summer of 1915. Thirty of the teachers took the certificate of the Board of Education in November, 1915.

It is most important that the training of teachers should be pushed forward as rapidly as possible. It is a matter in which it will be difficult to make up later for delay at the present time.

The question of the provision of open air schools has not been dealt with. Phthisical children are sent to the County Sanatorium where a certain amount of education is provided, and other cases of tuberculosis have been sent to Baschurch Convalescent Home.

At the Baschurch Home 29 children of school age belonging to the Education County were treated during the year. The children were treated for the following conditions :—

Tuberculosis	Bones and Joints.	Rickets.	Deformities from Poliomyelitis.
	8	3	2
Scoliosis.	Other Deformities.	Other Diseases.	
3	2	11	

Teachers should be encouraged to hold open air classes when the weather permits where there is a playground suitable for the purpose. A covered playing shed, or the shelter of a spreading tree will frequently provide all the protection that is required. The provision of a suitable shed in connection with the schools, where otherwise open air teaching is impossible, is worth consideration.

It is most important, however, that the ordinary schoolrooms should be so constructed, that in suitable weather by throwing all the windows open they become practically open air classrooms. This is the important aim that should be constantly kept in view.

BOROUGH OF WENLOCK.

GENERAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR MEDICAL INSPECTION.—No alteration of importance has been made in the mode of inspection since the Borough was included in the area of the Salop Education Authority.

The inspection is carried out by three local practitioners.

Great assistance has been given by the District Nurses of the Lady Forester Trust, whose services continue to be available by the kind sanction of the Trustees. One or other of the Nurses attends at each inspection, assists in the preparation of the children for examination, and in the clerical work of the cards and summary sheets; also takes note of the children in whom defects are found, with a view to following up the cases at their homes.

EXTENT AND SCOPE OF MEDICAL INSPECTION DURING THE YEAR.—Each school was visited twice during the year for the purpose of systematic inspection of the children.

The following groups of children are inspected :—(1) entrants; (2) children 12 years old; (3) children suspected of defects by the teachers.

The number of children examined in the systematic inspections was :—

129 boys age 12.
152 girls age 12.
164 boys on entry.
137 girls on entry.

In addition, 58 children were examined at the request of the teachers.

CONDITION OF THE CHILDREN.—The number of children examined, the condition of the children as regards nutrition, cleanliness, clothing, etc., and the defects found are stated in Table II.

TABLE II.—RETURN SHOWING THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED.

CONDITION.	Inspection age 5.				Inspection age 12.				Total.				Special Cases.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent	B.	G.	Total.
Total Inspected	164	137	301	..	129	152	281	..	293	289	582	..	26	32	58
Nothing :—															
Satisfactory	142	129	271	90.0	117	128	245	87.1	259	257	516	88.6	..	..	..
Dissatisfactory	22	8	30	9.9	12	24	36	12.8	34	32	66	11.3	..	..	..
Hair :—															
Satisfactory	139	126	265	88.1	120	128	248	88.2	259	254	513	88.1	..	..	..
Dissatisfactory	25	11	36	11.9	9	24	33	11.7	34	35	69	11.8	..	..	..
Cleanliness of Head :—															
Head clean (i.e., no nits or pediculi)	155	111	266	88.3	129	115	244	86.8	284	226	510	87.6	..	..	..
Nits only	9	26	35	11.6	..	37	37	13.1	9	63	72	12.3	..	..	..
Pediculi	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cleanliness of Body :—															
Head clean	144	128	272	90.3	126	140	266	94.6	270	268	538	92.4	..	..	..
Body dirty	19	8	27	8.9	3	12	15	5.3	22	20	42	7.2	..	..	..
Pediculi present	1	1	2	.6	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	.3	..	..	..
Condition :—															
Excellent	60	39	99	32.9	42	62	104	37.0	102	101	203	34.8	..	..	..
Normal	97	94	191	63.4	73	79	152	54.1	170	173	343	58.9	..	..	..
Below normal	7	4	11	3.6	14	11	25	8.8	21	15	36	6.2	..	..	..
Bad	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nose and Throat :—															
No defect	142	105	247	82.0	110	115	225	80.0	252	220	472	81.1	..	..	..
Mouth breathers	..	3	3	1.0	3	..	3	1.0	3	3	6	1.0	..	..	..
Tonsils: slightly enlarged	9	8	17	5.6	4	16	20	7.1	13	24	37	6.3	..	..	..
Tonsils: much enlarged	11	22	33	10.9	14	19	33	11.7	25	41	66	11.3	2	2	4
Adenoids: slight	3	2	5	1.6	2	5	7	2.4	5	7	12	2.0	..	..	..
Adenoids: marked	5	7	12	3.9	4	1	5	1.7	9	8	17	2.9	2	..	2
Enlarged Cervical Glands :—															
Slight	4	6	10	3.3	5	3	8	2.8	9	9	18	3.0	..	..	..
Hard	1	2	3	1.0	2	1	3	1.0	3	3	6	1.0	..	1	1
Ocular Eye Disease :—															
No disease	161	135	296	98.3	129	150	279	99.2	290	285	575	98.7	..	..	..
Conjunctivitis	2	2	4	1.3	..	2	2	.7	2	4	6	1.0	..	2	2
Corneal opacities	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Other disease	1	..	1	.3	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	.17	..	1	1
Other disease :—															
No disease	163	133	296	98.3	128	150	278	98.8	291	283	574	98.6	..	..	..
Obstruction: R.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Obstruction: L.	..	1	1	.3	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	.17	..	..	..
Discharge: R.	1	1	2	.6	1	2	3	1.0	2	3	5	.8	2	..	2
Discharge: L.	1	3	4	1.3	1	2	3	1.0	2	5	7	1.2	1	..	1
Other disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

TABLE II.—RETURN SHOWING THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF CHILDREN
INSPECTED—continued.

CONDITION.	Inspection age 5.				Inspection age 12.				Total.				Special Cases		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent	B.	G.	T.
<i>Teeth :—</i>															
Sound	39	45*	84	27.9	22	39	61	21.7	61	84	145	24.9	..	..	..
Less than four decayed ..	59	39	98	32.5	67	76	143	50.8	126	115	241	41.4	..	..	..
Four to six inclusive decayed	40	32	72	23.9	31	33	64	22.7	71	65	136	23.3	..	..	..
Over six decayed	26	19	45	14.9	9	4	13	4.6	35	23	58	9.9	6	1	..
Sepsis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Goitre :—</i>															
Slight	2	3	5	1.6	3	6	9	3.2	5	9	14	2.4	..	..	..
Bad	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	.7	..	..	2	.3	..	1	..
<i>Evidence of Rheumatism</i> ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
<i>Heart and Circulation :—</i>															
No disease	160	134	294	97.6	126	145	271	96.4	286	279	565	97.0	..	..	..
Organic disease	3	2	5	1.6	2	4	6	2.1	5	6	11	1.8	1	1	..
Functional disease	1	..	1	.3	..	2	2	.7	1	2	3	.5	..	..	..
Anaemia	..	1	1	.3	1	1	2	.7	1	2	3	.5	..	1	..
Other defect	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
<i>Lungs :—</i>															
No disease	163	135	298	99.0	128	150	278	98.8	291	285	576	98.9	..	..	..
Chronic bronchitis and bron-	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
chia, catarrh	1	2	3	1.0	..	..	..	..	1	2	3	.5	..	1	..
Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculosis suspected ..	..	..	..	..	1	2	3	1.0	1	2	3	.5	..	..	..
Other disease.. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Nervous System :—</i>															
No disease	163	137	300	99.6	128	151	279	99.2	291	288	579	99.4	..	..	..
Epilepsy (major or minor)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chorea	1	..	1	.3	..	1	1	.3	1	1	2	.3	..	..	..
Other disease.. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	.3	1	..	1	.17	..	..	..
<i>Skin :—</i>															
No disease	161	134	295	98.0	125	148	273	97.1	286	282	568	97.5	..	..	..
Ringworm : body	..	1	1	.3	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	.17	..	..	..
Ringworm : head	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Impetigo	..	3	3	.9	..	1	1	.3	..	4	4	.6	1	1	..
Scabies	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other disease.. .. .	3	..	3	.9	4	3	7	2.4	7	3	10	1.7	..	2	..
<i>Rickets :—</i>															
No disease	157	132	289	96.0	127	152	279	99.2	284	284	568	97.5	..	..	..
Slight	7	5	12	3.9	2	..	2	.7	9	5	14	2.4	..	..	..
Marked	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Deformities :—</i>															
No deformity	162	137	299	99.3	128	152	280	99.6	290	289	579	99.4	..	..	..
High Palate	1	..	1	.3	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	.17	..	..	..
Scoliosis	1	..	1	.3	1	..	1	.3	2	..	2	.3	1	1	..
Deformity from Infantile	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Paralysis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other deformities	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

* No particulars in 2 cases.

TABLE II.—RETURN SHOWING THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED—continued.

CONDITION.	Inspection age 5.				Inspection age 12.				Total.				Special Cases.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.	B.	G.	Total.
<i>tuberculosis, non-pulmonary:</i> —															
No disease	164	136	300	99.6	129	152	281	99.9	293	288	581	99.8	..	..	..
Glandular	..	1	1	.3	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	.17	1	..	1
Bones and Joints	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other forms	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Speech:</i> —															
Not defective	163	137	300	99.6	129	151	280	99.6	292	288	580	99.6	..	..	..
Defective articulation	1	..	1	.3	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	.17	..	1	1
Stammering	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	.3	..	1	1	.17	..	..	..
<i>Mental Condition:</i> —															
Normal	163	137	300	99.6	118	143	261	92.8	281	280	561	96.3	..	..	..
Dull or backward	1	..	1	.3	9	9	18	6.4	10	9	19	3.2	..	..	..
Mentally defective (all grades)	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	.7	2	..	2	.3	..	..	..
<i>Other Defective Conditions:</i> —															
Sight	10	9	19	6.3	3	8	11	3.9	13	17	30	5.1	2	3	5
Hearing	4	3	7	2.3	..	1	1	.3	4	4	8	1.3	..	..	..
<i>Vision:</i> —															
6/6 each eye (normal vision)	3	9	12	..	103	115	218	77.6	106	124	230	..	..	..	..
6/6 R.	..	..	..	..	6	9	15	5.3	6	9	15	..	2	1	3
6/6 L.	..	..	..	..	3	1	4	1.4	3	1	4	..	..	..	..
9/9 R.	1	1	2	..	13	19	32	11.3	14	20	34	..	1	..	1
9/9 L.	1	1	2	..	16	27	43	15.2	17	28	45	..	1	2	3
12/12 R.	..	..	..	..	2	4	6	2.1	2	4	6	..	2	3	5
12/12 L.	..	..	..	..	3	3	6	2.1	3	3	6	..	2	2	4
18/18 R.	..	..	..	..	2	4	6	2.1	2	4	6	..	3	..	3
18/18 L.	..	..	..	..	2	4	6	2.1	2	4	6	..	4	5	9
24/24 R.	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	.3	..	1	1	..	..	4	4
24/24 L.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
36/36 R.	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	.7	2	..	2	..	1	1	2
36/36 L.	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	.7	1	1	2	..	..	1	1
60/60 R.	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	.3	1	..	1	..	..	1	1
60/60 L.	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	.3	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
0/0 R.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
0/0 L.	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	.3	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
<i>Children with Defective Eye-sight requiring Treatment</i>	..	..	..	..	7	16	23	8.1	7	16	23	3.9	10	11	21
<i>Defect:</i> —															
Sight	..	..	..	..	4	1	5	1.7	4	1	5	.8	..	..	..
Hearing	..	3	3	1.0	..	..	..	..	..	3	3	.5	..	..	..
Convergent { R.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
L.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	3
Alt.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Divergent { R.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
L.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Hearing (whisper):</i> —															
6 feet each ear (normal hearing)	162	133	295	98.0	123	146	269	95.7	285	279	564	96.9	..	..	..
6 feet R.	..	1	1	.3	1	..	1	.3	1	1	2	.3	..	..	..
6 feet L.	1	..	1	.3	..	1	1	.3	1	1	2	.3	..	..	..
8 feet R.	2	2	4	1.3	3	5	8	2.8	5	7	12	2.0	1	..	1
8 feet L.	1	3	4	1.3	4	4	8	2.8	5	7	12	2.0	1	..	1
10 feet R.	..	1	1	.3	1	..	1	.3	1	1	2	.3	..	1	1
10 feet L.	..	1	1	.3	1	..	1	.3	1	1	2	.3	..	..	..
Less than 5 feet R.	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	.7	1	1	2	.3	..	..	..
Less than 5 feet L.	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	.7	1	1	2	.3	..	1	1

Amongst the 582 children, 121 or 20.7 per cent., were suffering from defects requiring medical treatment. Of the 58 cases referred by the teachers for examination 33 required medical treatment.

Eye defects.—Amongst the 281 children systematically examined at the age of 12, 23 or 8 per cent., were found to have defective vision requiring treatment, and amongst the extra cases there were 21 with defective vision.

Amongst the 582 children systematically examined at both age periods there were 8 cases of squint and 7 of external eye disease.

Amongst the extra cases there were 3 cases of squint and 4 of external eye disease.

Defects of Nose and Throat.—Sixty-six or 11.3 per cent. of the children were found to have enlarged tonsils, and 17 or 2.9 per cent. to have adenoids requiring treatment.

There were also 4 cases of enlarged tonsils and 2 of adenoids requiring treatment amongst the extra cases.

Ear Defects.—Twelve or 2.0 per cent. were suffering from discharge from the ear, and there were 3 cases of ear discharge amongst the extra cases.

Tuberculosis.—No case was definitely diagnosed as pulmonary tuberculosis. In 3 cases there was some suspicion. There was 1 case of tuberculosis of the glands amongst the routine cases and one amongst the extra cases.

Diseases of Heart and Circulation.—Eleven children, or 1.8 per cent., were found to be suffering from organic heart disease; in addition 3 children were found to be suffering from functional disturbance of the heart.

Rickets.—Fourteen children or 2.4 per cent. were suffering from the effects of rickets.

Infective Skin Conditions.—One case of ringworm, 4 of impetigo, and no cases of scabies were discovered at the inspections.

Verminous Heads.—The percentage of verminous heads was 20.5. This percentage closely approximates to that for the remainder of the County.

Besides the examination of a very limited number of heads by the Medical Inspectors, the nurses have done a large amount of inspection and are now carrying on the scheme described on page 39 of last year's report. On the first inspection they examined 1,908 heads and found 550 or 28 per cent. verminous. These were almost in all cases followed up and examined two, three or more times as required. The percentage of verminous children found is a very high one, and shows the urgent need of this work.

TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF CHILDREN DURING 1915.

CONDITION.	No. of defects found for which Treatment was considered necessary.			No. of defects for which no report is available	No. of defects treated	Results of Treatment.				No. of defects not treated.	Percentage of defects treated.
	From previous year.	New.	Total.			Re-medied.	Im-proved.	Un-changed.	Un-known.		
Nose and Throat ..	53	51	104	1	32	17	3	..	12	71	30.6
External Eye Disease	6	1	7	..	7	3	3	..	1	..	100.0
Ear Disease ..	2	2	4	..	4	..	2	1	1	..	100.0
Teeth	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Heart and Circulation	8	1	9	..	6	1	4	1	..	3	66.6
Lungs	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Nervous System ..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	100.0
Skin	..	4	4	..	4	2	1	..	1	..	100.0
Rickets	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Deformities ..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
Tuberculosis—Non-pulmonary ..	1	1	2	..	2	..	1	..	1	..	100.0
Speech	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mental Condition ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Vision and Squint ..	39	43	82	2	62*	16	18	2	26	18	75.6
Hearing	10	10	20	1	11	5	3	..	3	8	55.0
Miscellaneous ..	14	15	29	7	16	4	5	..	7	6	55.1
Total ..	134	131	265	11	145	48	40	4	53	109	54.7

* 38 have glasses.

Treatment.—The facilities for treatment are much greater in the Borough of Wenlock than in the rest of the County. This is due to the help very generously given by the Lady Forester Charity Trust, who not only allow their nurses to undertake school nursing but provide for the treatment of defects of eyes, ears, throat and teeth.

The Broseley Hospital has been fitted up with rooms for this work. Defects of eyes, ears, throat and nose are treated by Mr. Russ Wood. The dental work is undertaken by Mr. Mugford, who visits the hospital as required.

The nurses have paid a large number of visits to the homes of the children, for the purpose of following up those requiring medical treatment and for the verminous conditions.

Glasses are obtained by the Trust in all cases where prescribed, and supplied to the parents who are expected to pay a part or the whole of the cost where they can afford it.

Mr. T. C. Shingler, the Secretary to the Trust, has taken a very active interest in supervising and following up the treatment of the cases, and the Matrons of the Broseley and Wenlock Hospitals and the Nurses have co-operated heartily in this work.

The scheme for dental treatment referred to in my previous reports has not so far been adopted owing to objections on the part of the Charity Commissioners.

Under the present arrangements 201 cases were referred for treatment by the dentist. One hundred and thirty-one temporary teeth and 85 permanent teeth were extracted and 28 teeth filled.

