

**[Report 1940] / School Medical Officer of Health, South Shields County Borough.**

**Contributors**

South Shields (Durham, England). County Borough Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1940

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/cqe9cx3q>

**License and attribution**

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

AC 4474

COUNTY BOROUGH OF SOUTH SHIELDS.




ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

For the Year 1940.



W. CAMPBELL LYONS,

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2018 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30115930>

**TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE.**

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the work of the School Medical Service during the year 1940.

The report, as in 1939, has been considerably curtailed, but the essential details for record purposes have been retained.

While there was some reduction in the number of children inspected at routine medical inspections compared with former years and a reduction in the number of attendances at the clinic, the service was not curtailed, in spite of the difficulties caused by the War.

Consequent on Dr. Levy's joining H.M. Forces, Mr. Gowans undertook the refraction of those children whose sight was found at routine inspections to be defective, while the deputy school medical officer carried out certain inspections in the schools, assisted at clinics and examined those children who were reported to be mentally retarded.

Particular attention has been paid to the nutrition of the school child and the result of the surveys carried out for this purpose show that the children are, at least, not less well nourished than in former years.

A considerable amount of work was imposed on the staff of the school medical service by reason of the evacuation scheme. Unfortunately in some cases very little notice of the intention to evacuate parties of children was received, so that it was impossible, in the time at the disposal of the staff, to carry out as complete a medical inspection as was desirable. During the year 1832 children of school age were officially evacuated, which brought the total to approximately 6000, including the evacuation schemes of 1939. At the end of the year only 2509 remained in the reception areas.

There has been a definite improvement in the teeth of the children. Ten years ago about 75 per cent. of those inspected in elementary schools required dental

treatment; in 1940 this figure had been reduced to about 50 per cent.

I have pleasure in again expressing my appreciation of the work of my staff during a very difficult year and often under very difficult conditions.

W. CAMPBELL LYONS,

Medical Officer of Health.

16th October, 1941.  
Public Health Department,  
Stanhope Road,  
SOUTH SHIELDS.

---

### **SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.**

#### **Annual Report of the School Medical Officer.**

#### **STAFF.**

The staff has been depleted by the transfer of Dr. H. Levy to the R.A.M.C. in June. Dr. Evelyn H. Bolt took up duties on 1st March, 1940, in place of Dr. Kathleen Wilson, who had resigned on 24th November, 1939.

Dr. Levy's place has not been filled, but arrangements were made whereby Mr. T. Gowans, the authority's consultant ophthalmologist, undertook refraction work. Other duties incidental to the school medical service, e.g., examination of mentally deficient children, were carried out by the Deputy Medical Officer of Health.

#### **CO-ORDINATION.**

Co-ordination with the other branches of the Council's medical services has been maintained as before.

The following are the reports made to me by the Assistant School Officers, School Dentists and the Consultant Ophthalmologist.

## THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE IN RELATION TO PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Number of children on the register at end of 1940 ...   | 11,684 |
| Average attendance for the year (84.8 per cent.) ...  | 10,078 |
| Number of elementary schools (excluding the<br>School for the Partially Sighted, the Open-Air<br>School and the Day Special School) ..... | 17     |
| Number of elementary departments .....  | 43     |
| Number of children on registers of special schools at<br>end of 1940 .....  | 221    |
| Average attendance at special schools (80.7 per cent.)  | 196    |

### School Hygiene and Sanitation.

There were no important alterations carried out in the school departments during the year.

### Medical Inspection.

Routine medical inspections have been carried out under considerable difficulties, as some of the schools were working on a part-time basis and in many cases sharing their accommodation with others.

The thanks of the school medical service are gratefully recorded to the teachers who, working under the most difficult conditions, have continued to co-operate most willingly.

The number of children examined at routine and special inspections during 1940 is as follows:—

#### 1. Routine Medical Inspections.

|                                 |      |
|---------------------------------|------|
| Entrants (5-6 years) .....      | 1561 |
| Intermediates (8-9 years) ..... | 1257 |
| Leavers (12-13 years) .....     | 1179 |
| Total .....                     | 3997 |

#### 2. Other Inspections.

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Number of Special Inspections and Re-inspec-<br>tions ..... | 12,941 |
|---|--------|

The annual routine inspections at the special schools and the nutritional and cleanliness survey are not included in the above figures.

“Other inspections” include the examination of children referred to the clinic by parents, teachers and health visitors.

### **Nutrition.**

A nutritional survey was held at the end of the year, but was not completed until the beginning of 1941.

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Approximate number of children examined .....   | 10,000 |
| Number of children recommended free milk by the<br>School Medical Officer .....                 | 1,861  |
| Number of children granted free milk .....  | 869    |
| Number where household income was over scale<br>(not granted) .....                             | 505    |
| Number of children whose parents refused free milk<br>or did not return income statements ..... | 487    |

### **Uncleanliness.**

Two surveys were carried out but neither was complete and the figures obtained cannot be regarded as a reliable guide. The percentage found to be unclean should probably have been larger than the figures show, as the poorer children did not, in many cases, attend school on account of the distance from their homes to the temporary accommodation at schools in the neutral part of the town.

At the first survey it was revealed that 18.7 per cent. of the 7968 children examined were unclean; at the second examination the figure was 21.2 per cent. of 3324 examined.

No compulsory cleansing orders were served during the year, but one notice under Section 87 of the Education Act was served on the parents of a child.

The school nurses paid 548 visits to homes of verminous or dirty school children.

### **Visual Defects and External Eye Diseases.**

At the routine or special inspections there were 762 cases of defective vision and 209 cases of squint referred for treatment. 32 cases of conjunctivitis were found.

### Nose and Throat Defects.

The number of children requiring treatment for nose and throat defects was 194 or 5 per cent. of the children examined.

### Ear Disease and Defective Hearing.

57 children were found to have defective hearing. Those suffering from otitis media numbered 69 and those with other ear diseases 32.

### Tuberculosis.

There was an increase in the number of cases of tuberculosis among school children during 1940.

66 children were referred by the school medical officers for examination by the tuberculosis medical officer during 1940, compared with 27 in the previous year. Of these, 21 were suffering from tuberculosis (pulmonary 9, non-pulmonary 12).

The following table shows the incidence of tuberculosis among children of school age, as revealed by notifications received by the medical officer of health, or otherwise ascertained:—

| Age-Group.        | 1939.          |        | 1940.          |        |
|-------------------|----------------|--------|----------------|--------|
|                   | Pulmonary.     |        | Pulmonary.     |        |
|                   | Boys.          | Girls. | Boys.          | Girls. |
| 5—10 years .....  | —              | 2      | 9              | 9      |
| 10—15 years ..... | 4              | 7      | 9              | 9      |
| Total .....       | 13             |        | 36             |        |
| Age-Group.        | Non-Pulmonary. |        | Non-Pulmonary. |        |
|                   | Boys.          | Girls. | Boys.          | Girls. |
|                   | Boys.          | Girls. | Boys.          | Girls. |
| 5—10 years .....  | 8              | 7      | 10             | 3      |
| 10—15 years ..... | 11             | 10     | 8              | 6      |
| Total .....       | 36             |        | 27             |        |



The following table shows the marked decrease in the number of notifications of tuberculosis among school children during the past ten years:—

| Age.                |            | 1931 | 1932 | 1933 | 1934 | 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 | Average |
|---------------------|------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|---------|
| Pulmonary           | Boys 5-10  | 6    | 11   | 10   | 11   | 2    | 8    | 5    | 6    | —    | 9    | 7       |
| do.                 | do. 10-15  | 7    | 12   | 12   | 9    | 4    | 6    | 1    | 4    | 4    | 9    | 7       |
| Pulmonary           | Girls 5-10 | 7    | 4    | 10   | 14   | 8    | 4    | 3    | 1    | 2    | 9    | 6       |
| do.                 | do. 10-15  | 9    | 8    | 15   | 12   | 6    | 10   | 7    | 1    | 7    | 9    | 8       |
| Total Pulmonary     |            | 29   | 35   | 47   | 46   | 20   | 28   | 16   | 12   | 13   | 36   | 28      |
| Non-Pulmonary       | Boys 5-10  | 25   | 16   | 14   | 23   | 15   | 15   | 16   | 16   | 8    | 10   | 16      |
| do.                 | do. 10-15  | 18   | 16   | 7    | 14   | 9    | 12   | 9    | 7    | 11   | 3    | 11      |
| Non-Pulmonary       | Girls 5-10 | 24   | 33   | 9    | 13   | 17   | 3    | 14   | 9    | 7    | 8    | 14      |
| do.                 | do. 10-15  | 16   | 19   | 11   | 13   | 14   | 10   | 15   | 12   | 10   | 6    | 13      |
| Total Non-Pulmonary |            | 83   | 84   | 41   | 63   | 55   | 40   | 54   | 44   | 36   | 27   | 54      |
| GRAND TOTAL         |            | 112  | 119  | 88   | 109  | 75   | 68   | 70   | 56   | 49   | 63   | 82      |

### **Following-up.**

The Health Visitors paid 1179 visits to the homes of school children for the purpose of ascertaining whether the necessary treatment was being obtained; 548 visits in connection with uncleanliness; 631 visits after surgical and dental treatment; 26 in connection with orthopaedic cases; 545 regarding mentally defective children; 43 visits regarding evacuees and 39 visits for other miscellaneous purposes in connection with the school medical service. In addition 124 visits were paid to the schools for similar purposes and 113 visits for routine medical inspection apart from 397 visits to the schools in connection with cleanliness surveys. 231 visits to schools were paid by Health Visitors in connection with evacuation and 15 visits for other reasons. This is in addition to the visits paid to the homes regarding tuberculosis, infant welfare and infectious diseases. They also attended 452 sessions at the general school clinics, 219 sessions at dental clinics, 215 sessions for artificial sunlight treatment, 50 sessions for the treatment of scabies, 33 sessions at the clinic re evacuation and 54 sessions at the clinic for the purpose of diphtheria immunisation, apart from the attendances at child welfare and tuberculosis clinics.

A female dental attendant also assists the dental surgeons at the dental clinic and occasionally at inspections at the school.

### **Medical Treatment.**

School clinics continued to be carried on in the temporary premises at Laygate Infant School and were well attended. The number of children who attended during the year was 3689; of these 2851 were treated. The total number of attendances was 12,990.

The numbers treated as given in the following paragraph refer to the elementary school children only, although the same facilities at the clinic are available also to high school pupils.

### **Skin Diseases.**

The number of children who received treatment was as follows:—

|                           |     |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Impetigo .....            | 284 |
| Ringworm (scalp) .....    | 16  |
| (body) .....              | 25  |
| Scabies .....             | 311 |
| Other skin diseases ..... | 660 |

There has been a very marked increase in the incidence of scabies under war conditions. The number of cases treated at the school clinic in 1940 was 311, as compared to 187 in 1939. Most of these cases had the treatment carried out by a nurse at the municipal clinic and the homes were visited for the purpose of finding out whether the parents and other members of the family were also affected. Treatment was provided for these, too, when required. Bedding and clothing were dealt with also.

### **Vision.**

During the year 486 cases were submitted for refraction and in 466 of the cases examined spectacles were prescribed. The number of spectacles supplied through the Education Authority's scheme was 453.

### **Nose and Throat Defects.**

During 1940, 264 elementary school children received operative treatment for enlarged tonsils and adenoids at the General Hospital. In addition, 3 children were known to have been treated elsewhere.

### **Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.**

During the year 17 cases were referred from the school clinic to the orthopaedic department at the Ingham Infirmary. These may be summarised briefly as follows:—

- 2 children had congenital wry neck.
- 1 child had a plantar wart.
- 1 child had pes cavus.
- 4 children had flat feet.
- 1 child had metatarsal arch collapse, and double hallux valgus.
- 1 child had Schlotter's disease.

- 2 children suffered from the effects of anterior poliomyelitis.
- 1 child suffered from dropped foot after diphtheria.
- 1 child was suffering from a traumatic synovitis (an old tuberculous case—wrist and glands).
- 1 child had kyphosis.
- 1 child had congenital dislocation of hip.
- 1 child suffered from the effects of birth palsy.

In addition, 5 cases referred in previous years continued in attendance during 1940, 3 operations were performed; the patients were in hospital a total of 21 days. 312 attendances were made at the out-patient department.

Eight other patients received treatment for crippling defects at other hospitals.

Six patients were provided with surgical appliances.

At the end of the year, 1 child was attending a residential school for cripples.

### **Dental Defects.**

The following is the report of the School Dental Surgeon, Mr. F. Innes, L.D.S.:—

“During 1940 routine dental inspections were carried out in all schools in the Borough and the necessary treatment was completed in all those cases where the parents' consent had been obtained.

“A larger number of children than usual was not inspected owing to the poor attendance at some schools when the inspections were carried out.

“Altogether 10,300 Elementary and 361 High School children were examined at the schools, and in addition, there were 60 special cases from the Elementary Schools and 139 from the High Schools. 62 children were also sent to the Clinic from the Junior Instruction Centre for inspection and treatment.

“The number of children inspected was as follows:—

|                                 |        |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| Elementary (Routine) .....      | 10,300 |
| „ (Special) .....               | 60     |
| High School (Routine) .....     | 361    |
| „ (Special) .....               | 139    |
| Junior Instruction Centre ..... | 62     |

making a total of 10,922. 5700 of this number required treatment (52 per cent.).

“ 2958 children were treated at the Clinic during the year, made up as follows:—

|                                |      |
|--------------------------------|------|
| Elementary .....               | 2735 |
| High School .....              | 161  |
| Junior Instruction Centre .... | 62   |

“ This is a percentage of 52 of those requiring treatment.

“ 3,719 attendances at the Clinic were necessary to complete the treatments.

“ Some children were also treated privately, but no record is available of the number.

“ The work completed comprised 1110 fillings, all in permanent teeth; 7168 extractions, 1514 permanent and 5654 deciduous teeth and 114 ‘other operations.’ The ‘other operations’ includes temporary fillings, sealings and cleanings and dressings.

“ For the great majority of the extractions a local anaesthetic was used, but in 58 cases a general anaesthetic was necessary.”

### **Ultra Violet Ray Therapy.**

76 children of school age were treated by ultra-violet radiations, including treatment by the Kromayer lamp.

The following is a summary of the conditions treated:—

| Type of case                  | No. treated | Cured | Ceased attending | Improved | Still under treatment |
|-------------------------------|-------------|-------|------------------|----------|-----------------------|
| Diphtheria carriers .....     | 14          | 14    | —                | —        | —                     |
| Bronchitis .....              | 8           | —     | 2                | 5        | 1                     |
| Debility .....                | 26          | —     | 4                | 16       | 6                     |
| Alopecia .....                | 5           | 1     | 1                | 3        | —                     |
| Post-diphtheria debility ...  | 3           | —     | 1                | 2        | —                     |
| "    "    paralysis...        | 1           | 1     | —                | —        | —                     |
| Impetigo .....                | 6           | 4     | 2                | —        | —                     |
| Psoriasis .....               | 2           | 1     | 1                | —        | —                     |
| Abscess of chin .....         | 1           | —     | —                | 1        | —                     |
| Asthma .....                  | 2           | —     | —                | 1        | 1                     |
| Post-scarlatinal chorea ..... | 1           | —     | —                | 1        | —                     |
| Chronic otorrhoea .....       | 4           | —     | —                | 2        | 2                     |
| Post-meningeal debility ...   | 1           | —     | —                | —        | 1                     |
| Rickets .....                 | 1           | —     | 1                | —        | —                     |
| Seborrhoea .....              | 1           | —     | —                | 1        | —                     |
| Blepharitis .....             | 1           | —     | —                | 1        | —                     |
| Totals .....                  | 77          | 21    | 12               | 33       | 11                    |

One child was treated for two conditions. 60 children attended for the first time during 1940 and 16 continued their therapy from the previous year. In all the 76 patients made 1077 attendances. 194 sessions at the sunlight clinic were held.

### Ionization.

A clinic for the treatment of chronic suppurative otitis media by ionization was started in December, 1940. Preliminary results are encouraging.

### Diphtheria Immunisation.

Voluntary immunisation under the Authority's scheme during 1940 was continued. 1064 school children were immunised, falling into the following age groups:—

| Age. | Numbers. | Age. | Numbers. |
|------|----------|------|----------|
| 4    | 213      | 10   | 44       |
| 5    | 419      | 11   | 32       |
| 6    | 167      | 12   | 17       |
| 7    | 62       | 13   | 18       |
| 8    | 42       | 14   | 10       |
| 9    | 40       |      |          |

The number of school children inoculated in 1940 is much less than in previous years. Inoculations carried out in previous years accounts for some of the disparities in the numbers of the various age groups.

### **Physical Education.**

The following is a report of the Physical Education Organisers:—

“Since writing our last report the School Curriculum has been greatly interrupted, as only for a short period were schools on full time education. The greater part of the time most of the children have had half-time and many much less than this. Of necessity the time allowed for physical training has been cut drastically, and the work has, therefore, lacked the continuity so essential to get the maximum benefit from this subject. Apart from curtailed time, the war has hampered the progress of physical training in other ways.

“At the outbreak of war all schools were equipped with special shoes for physical training, and a great number of the schools were encouraging children to strip and get into proper costumes for the lesson and, where possible, shower baths were taken. Owing to fear of air raids schools chiefly among the Junior and Infants' Departments felt they were unable to change shoes and strip. In place of showers, however, several senior schools have introduced a dry rub down, which is beginning to be appreciated by the girls.

“Cleadow Park Recreation Ground has been used, and many children have played games there. Again owing to fear of air raids while travelling, fewer school games have been arranged.

“Organised swimming for the children in their off session has been arranged each day, and although the numbers have not been as large as in previous years, this is not due to any lack of interest in swimming, but once again partly owing to parents being afraid of air raids, and also particularly in the case of the girls, to parents finding the children useful for home duties, and therefore not permitting them to attend.

“Evening classes held throughout the season have been comparatively few, but we hope there will be a very much larger demand for this work among the younger members of the community when the Youth Organiser takes up his appointment, and when young men and women realise the excellent facilities offered to them.”

### **School Baths.**

Instruction by the Education Authority's instructors continued as before. School children made 24,906 attendances at Derby Street Public Baths (boys 19,202 girls 5704). The number of swimming certificates granted during the year was as follows:—

|                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Elementary schools ..... | 401 |
| Secondary schools .....  | 104 |

22 medallions and 22 intermediate certificates were awarded by the Royal Life Saving Society.

### **Provision of Meals and Milk.**

There was a decrease in the number of children supplied with free meals during the year. The total number of meals supplied was 94,631, at a cost of £2326 9s. 2d.; the number of children supplied at the seven centres being 733. In 1939, 1475 children were supplied at a cost of £4416 9s. 9d.

As a result of inspections, 804 school children were supplied with free milk at a cost of £641 6s. 4½d.

6031 children received milk in school under the Milk Marketing Board's scheme of part payment.

## **BLIND, DEAF AND PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.**

### **Mental Deficiency.**

During 1940, 46 children reported by the head teachers as very much retarded in educational progress or brought to notice in other ways were specially examined by the assistant medical officers, with the following results:—



|  | Boys. | Girls. | Total. |
|--|-------|--------|--------|
| Dull and backward .....                      | 12    | 8      | 20     |
| Feeble minded:—                              |       |        |        |
| For special day school .....                 | 10    | 4      | 14     |
| For residential school .....                 | 3     | —      | 3      |
| Ineducable .....                             | —     | 1      | 1      |
| Moral defective .....                        | 1     | —      | 1      |
| Imbecile .....                               | —     | —      | —      |
| Idiot .....                                  | —     | —      | —      |
| Partially sighted .....                      | 1     | —      | 1      |
| Partially deaf .....                         | 1     | —      | 1      |
| Physically defective (pituitary gland) ..... | —     | 1      | 1      |
| Neurotic or unstable .....                   | 1     | 1      | 2      |
| Epileptic .....                              | 1     | —      | 1      |
| Normal .....                                 | —     | 1      | 1      |

In addition, four boys and two girls in attendance at special schools were re-examined and recommended for notification to the Mental Deficiency Act Committee, with a view to their being sent to an institution or kept under statutory supervision or guardianship. Three children under 7 years old were informally reported to the Local Control Authority, viz., one imbecile (boy), one idiot (girl), and a feeble-minded girl.

At the end of 1940 there were 121 ascertained educable feeble-minded children under the control of the Education Authority, as under:—

|  | Boys. | Girls. | Total. |
|--|-------|--------|--------|
| At certified residential schools for mentally defective children ... | 3     | 2      | 5      |
| At a certified day school for mentally defective children ...        | 31    | 30     | 61     |
| At public elementary schools .....                                   | 6     | 5      | 11     |
| At open-air school .....   | 1     | —      | 1      |
| Evacuated to reception areas .....                                   | 8     | 12     | 20     |
| At no school or institution .....                                    | 11    | 12     | 23     |

Of the 23 children at no school or institution, 7 boys and 3 girls were working, 3 boys and 2 girls are physically unfit as well as being mentally defective, and one boy and 7 girls (ages 14 and 15) were at home.

### Special Day School.

This school is at present accommodated at the Open-Air School and School for Partially Sighted. Unfortunately, there was no provision this year for domestic science, manual instruction and gardening.

The average number on the register was 72.38.

Children evacuated 20.

Of the 16 "leavers," eight found employment; one transferred to the Junior Instruction Centre, one was admitted to Prudhoe Hall Colony and two were recommended for institutional care.

### School for Partially Sighted Children.

In November, 1940, there were 32 children attending this school, classified below according to their visual defects:—

|                                    |    |
|------------------------------------|----|
| Highly myopic .....                | 11 |
| Coloboma of iris and choroid ..... | 3  |
| Ophthalmia neonatorum .....        | 1  |
| Nystagmus .....                    | 3  |
| Choroiditis .....                  | 2  |
| Opacities of cornea .....          | 8  |
| Cataracts .....                    | 2  |
| Optic atrophy .....                | 2  |

The children were examined by Mr Gowans, the consulting ophthalmologist, who in sending the reports on each individual child, reported that most of the scholars had made satisfactory progress and were mentally brighter.

### Speech Training.

Unfortunately, the speech training centre which closed down at the beginning of the war has not re-opened.

### Open-Air School.

During 1940, the average number of children attending was 108—their average attendance being 81.2 per cent.

The following cases were admitted during the year:—

|                           |    |
|---------------------------|----|
| Debility .....            | 32 |
| Bronchitis .....          | 5  |
| Rheumatism .....          | 2  |
| Chorea .....              | 1  |
| Tubercular adenitis ..... | 2  |
| Cretin .....              | 1  |

As in previous years it was observed that in most cases there was improvement in the physical condition of the children and a satisfactory gain in weight.

The following is an extract from the head teacher's report:—

“It is interesting to see how the regime of an Open Air School brings a cheerful outlook to children, so that their whole nature seems to change. They become very responsive and happy.”

### **Convalescent Home.**

27 school children were admitted to the Convalescent Home during 1940. 2283 in-patient days were spent there by the children, which is an average of six patients per day.

### **School Camps.**

The summer camps, interrupted by the war, were not held in 1940.

### **Shoeless Children's Fund.**

I am informed by the Chief Constable that 3506 children were provided with boots and stockings during the year through the Shoeless Children's Fund.

### **Higher Education of the Blind.**

The courses of training were as given in my annual report for 1934. During the past year 7 blind persons (6 male and 1 female) were in attendance at the Royal Victoria School for the Blind, Benwell, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 5 young men completed the training and 1 died during the year. There were 2 admissions to the school during the year (1 male and 1 female). At the end of 1940 there were three trainees in attendance at the school (2 male and 1 female).

## MISCELLANEOUS.

### Junior Instruction Centre.

13 girls were sent by the juvenile department of the Employment Exchange to the general clinics and were examined by the School Medical Officer as to fitness for employment.

Regular visits have continued to be paid to the Junior Instruction Centres since they re-opened in April, 1940. Defects were noted and treatment offered where necessary.

The number of individual juveniles who attended the centres at any time during the year was—boys 776, girls 820. 29 boys and 13 girls required medical treatment and 107 boys and 137 girls needed dental treatment. Other physical defects found in the course of routine inspection included:—

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Eye defects .....                                     | 16 |
| Nose and throat defects for operative treatment ..... | 13 |
| Enlarged glands .....                                 | 1  |
| Heart diseases .....                                  | 2  |
| Defective speech .....                                | 1  |
| Goitre .....  | 1  |
| Minor ailments .....                                  | 6  |
| Defects, other forms .....                            | 4  |

As regards dental conditions, 62 juveniles were treated; there were 130 extractions, 11 fillings and 3 other operations.

The state of nutrition of the 374 juveniles specially examined was as under:—

|             | Excellent. | Normal. | Slightly<br>sub-normal. | Bad. | Total. |
|-------------|------------|---------|-------------------------|------|--------|
| Boys .....  | 15         | 121     | 14                      | None | 150    |
| Girls ..... | 38         | 167     | 19                      | None | 224    |

All trainees received two-thirds of a pint of milk and biscuits each session.

**Examination of Scholarship and Special Place Candidates:—**

145 candidates were inspected, the defects discovered being:—

|                           |    |
|---------------------------|----|
| Carious teeth .....       | 48 |
| Defective vision .....    | 20 |
| Chronic tonsillitis ..... | 2  |

The parents were advised as to appropriate treatment.

**Examination of Children for the Stage.**

6 children who required certificates for stage performances were examined. All were granted the necessary certificates.

**Deaths of School Children.**

The following is a statement of the causes of death during 1940 of children of school age (5-14 years):—

| CAUSES OF DEATH.             | Boys.     |             | Girls.    |             | Total.    |
|------------------------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
|                              | 5-9 years | 10-14 years | 5-9 years | 10-14 years |           |
| Diphtheria .....             | 6         | ..          | 5         | 1           | 12        |
| Influenza .....              | ..        | ..          | 2         | ..          | 2         |
| Cerebro-spinal fever .....   | ..        | ..          | 1         | ..          | 1         |
| Tuberculosis—lungs .....     | ..        | ..          | 1         | 3           | 4         |
| "    —meninges .....         | ..        | 1           | 1         | ..          | 2         |
| "    —disseminated .....     | ..        | ..          | 1         | ..          | 1         |
| Cerebral tumour .....        | ..        | ..          | ..        | 1           | 1         |
| Rheumatic fever .....        | ..        | 1           | 1         | ..          | 2         |
| Valvular heart disease ..... | ..        | ..          | ..        | 1           | 1         |
| Broncho-pneumonia .....      | 1         | 1           | ..        | ..          | 2         |
| Pneumonia not defined .....  | ..        | ..          | ..        | 1           | 1         |
| Disease of tonsils .....     | 1         | ..          | ..        | ..          | 1         |
| Gastritis .....              | 1         | ..          | ..        | ..          | 1         |
| Epidemic enteritis .....     | ..        | ..          | 1         | ..          | 1         |
| Appendicitis .....           | ..        | 1           | ..        | ..          | 1         |
| Nephritis .....              | 1         | ..          | ..        | ..          | 1         |
| Accidents (vehicles) .....   | 1         | ..          | 3         | ..          | 4         |
| <b>Total .....</b>           | <b>11</b> | <b>4</b>    | <b>16</b> | <b>7</b>    | <b>38</b> |

## ELEMENTARY AND HIGHER SCHOOLS.

**Table 1.—Medical Inspections During the Year ended  
31st December, 1940.**

## A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

*Elementary. Higher.*

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups :—

|   |       |       |
|---|-------|-------|
| Entrants .....                            | 1,561 | } 534 |
| Second Age Group (Intermediates) .....    | 1,257 |       |
| Third Age Group (Leavers) .....           | 1,179 |       |
| Total .....                               | 3,997 | 534   |
| Number of other Routine Inspections ..... | ..    | ..    |
| Grand Total .....                         | 3,997 | 534   |

## B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

|   |        |     |
|---|--------|-----|
| Number of Special Inspections and<br>Re-Inspections ..... | 12,941 | 116 |
|---|--------|-----|

**Table 2.—Classification of the Nutrition of Children  
Inspected during the Year in the Routine Age Groups up to  
31st December, 1940.**

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

| Age-groups.         | No. of<br>Children<br>inspected. | A.<br>(Excel-<br>lent). |      | B.<br>(Normal). |      | C.<br>(Slightly<br>sub-<br>normal). |     | D.<br>(Bad). |     |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|------|-----------------|------|-------------------------------------|-----|--------------|-----|
|                     |                                  | No.                     | %    | No.             | %    | No.                                 | %   | No.          | %   |
| Entrants .....      | 1,561                            | 339                     | 21.7 | 1,198           | 76.7 | 24                                  | 1.5 | ..           | ..  |
| Second Age-group    | 1,257                            | 336                     | 26.7 | 844             | 67.1 | 69                                  | 5.5 | 8            | 0.6 |
| Third Age-group ..  | 1,179                            | 303                     | 25.7 | 772             | 65.5 | 97                                  | 8.2 | 7            | 0.6 |
| Other Routine Insp. | ..                               | ..                      | ..   | ..              | ..   | ..                                  | ..  | ..           | ..  |
| Total .....         | 3,997                            | 978                     | 24.5 | 2,814           | 70.4 | 190                                 | 4.7 | 15           | 0.4 |

## HIGHER SCHOOLS.

|  |     |     |      |     |      |    |     |    |    |
|--|-----|-----|------|-----|------|----|-----|----|----|
|  | 245 | 125 | 51.0 | 107 | 43.7 | 13 | 5.3 | .. | .. |
|--|-----|-----|------|-----|------|----|-----|----|----|

**Table 3.—Treatment Tables for the Year Ended 31st December, 1940.**

**GROUP 1.—TREATMENT OF MINOR AILMENTS.**

(Excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table 5).

|   | Elementary. | Higher. |
|---|-------------|---------|
| Total number of Defects treated or under treatment during the year under the Authority's scheme ..... | 1920        | 43      |

**GROUP II.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I.).**

| Disease or Defect.                             | Number of Defects dealt with. |     |            |     |        |     |
|--|-------------------------------|-----|------------|-----|--------|-----|
|  | Under the Authority's Scheme  |     | Otherwise. |     | Total. |     |
|  | El.                           | Hr. | El.        | Hr. | El.    | Hr. |
| Errors of refraction (including squint) .....  | 486                           | 28  | 1          | 1   | 487    | 29  |
| Other defect or disease of the eyes ..         | ..                            | ..  | ..         | ..  | ..     | ..  |
| Total .....                                    | 486                           | 28  | 1          | 1   | 487    | 29  |
| Number of Children for whom spectacles were :— |                               |     |            |     |        |     |
| (a) Prescribed .....                           | 466                           | 28  | 1          | ..  | 467    | 28  |
| (b) Obtained .....                             | 453                           | 26  | ..         | ..  | 453    | 26  |

El—Elementary

Hr—Higher

**GROUP III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.**

Number of Children—

|  | Elementary | Higher. |
|--|------------|---------|
| (1) Received operative treatment—  |            |         |
| (a) Under the Authority's scheme, in clinic or hospital .....                    | 264        | 2       |
| (b) By private practitioner or hospital, apart from the Authority's scheme ..... | —          | 3       |
| (2) Received other forms of treatment  | 8          | 1       |
| Total number treated .....   | 272        | 6       |

Table 4.—Dental Inspection and Treatment.

(1) Number of Children who were inspected by the Dentist:

(a) Routine Age-groups.

| Age.   | Elementary. | Higher. |
|--|-------------|---------|
| 4 .....  | 2           | —       |
| 5 .....  | 1024        | —       |
| 6 .....  | 1431        | —       |
| 7 .....  | 1220        | —       |
| 8 .....  | 1000        | —       |
| 9 .....  | 1078        | —       |
| 10 .....   | 907         | 1       |
| 11 .....   | 1100        | 62      |
| 12 .....   | 1039        | 127     |
| 13 .....   | 1027        | 104     |
| 14 .....   | 417         | 96      |
| 15 .....   | 54          | 71      |
| 16 .....   | 1           | 29      |
| 17 .....   | —           | 10      |
| Total (Routines and Specials)                                    | 10,360      | 500     |
| (b) Specials .....   | 60          | —       |
| (2) Number found to require treatment .....                      | 5252        | 386     |
| (3) Number actually treated (by School Dentists) .....           | 2735        | 161     |
| (4) Attendances made by children for treatment .....             | 3333        | 295     |
| (5) Fillings:—   |             |         |
| Permanent teeth .....  | 893         | 207     |
| Temporary teeth .....  | —           | —       |
| (6) Extractions:—  |             |         |
| Permanent teeth .....  | 1251        | 113     |
| Temporary teeth .....  | 5578        | 72      |
| (7) Administration of general anaesthetics for extractions ..... | 58          | —       |
| (8) Other operations:—   |             |         |
| Permanent teeth .....  | 103         | 8       |
| Temporary teeth .....  | —           | —       |
| (9) Half-days devoted to:—                                       |             |         |
| Inspection, 116; Treatment, 561. Total, 677.                     |             |         |



**Table 5.—Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.**

|  | <i>First Survey.</i> | <i>Second Survey.</i> |
|--|----------------------|-----------------------|
| (i) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses for cleanliness surveys..... | 5                    | 5                     |
| (ii) Total number of examinations of children in the schools by School Nurses :—                               |                      |                       |
| (a) Children examined .....  | 7,968                | 3,324                 |
| (b) Examinations made .....  | 10,084               | 4,432                 |
| (iii) No. of individual children found unclean .....   | 1,493                | 706                   |
| (iv) No. of individual children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921 .....         |                      |                       |
| (v) No. of cases in which legal proceedings were taken .....   |                      |                       |
| (a) Under the Education Act, 1921 .....  |                      |                       |
| (b) Under the School Attendance Byelaws .....  |                      |                       |

**Table 6.—Blind and Deaf Children.**

Number of totally or almost totally Blind and Deaf children who are not at the present time receiving education suitable for their special needs:—

|  | Blind Children. | Deaf Children. |
|--|-----------------|----------------|
| (1) At a Public Elementary School .....              | ..              | 2              |
| (2) At an Institution other than a Special School .. | 1               | ..             |
| (3) At no School or Institution .....                | 1               | 1              |
| <b>Total not receiving suitable Education .....</b>  | <b>2</b>        | <b>3</b>       |

The name of a blind child has been forwarded to the appropriate authority under the Blind Persons Act, 1920.

### **Mentally Defective Children.**

Total number of children notified during the year ended 31st December, 1940, by the Local Education Authority to the Local Mental Deficiency Authority under the Mental Deficiency (Notification of Children) Regulation, 1928:—8.