

**[Report 1947] / School Medical Officer of Health, Sunderland.**

**Contributors**

Sunderland (Tyne and Wear, England). Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1947

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/dte2fgns>

**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>

44/1/7.  
1045.

10, PARKS ROAD,  
OXFORD

COUNTY BOROUGH OF SUNDERLAND



Thirty-ninth

# ANNUAL REPORT

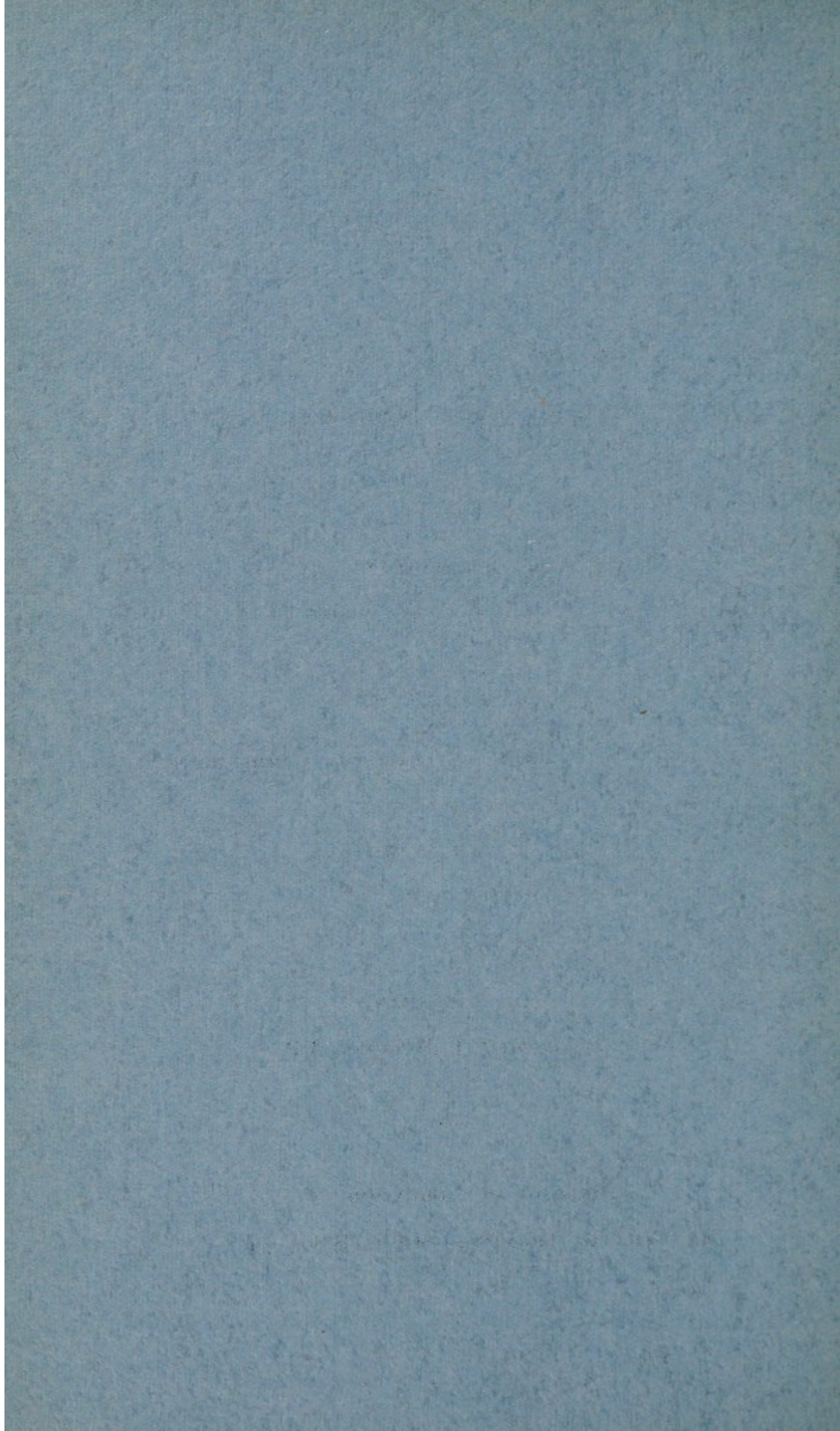
OF THE

School Medical Officer

FOR THE

Year ended December, 1947





INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL  
MEDICINE

1

10, PARKS ROAD,  
OXFORD

EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR J. CARR HUMPHREYS.

VICE-CHAIRMAN.

COUNCILLOR J. W. FOSTER.

SCHOOL HEALTH AND WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE :

CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR R. MILLER.

VICE-CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR MRS. J. HUGGINS, J.P.

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION :

MR. WILLIAM THOMPSON, M.Ed., B.Sc., J.P.



## STAFF.

## School Medical Officer :

A. S. HEBBLETHWAITE, M.C., M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

## Senior Assistant School Medical Officer :

JESSIE R. WATSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

## Assistant School Medical Officers :

ANNIE C. M. FORSTER, M.D., D.P.H.

FORBES J. A. NORRIS, M.B., CH.B.

MARION L. BAINBRIDGE, M.B., CH.B. (Part-time).

W. H. SUFFIELD., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P. &amp; S., L.D.S., R.C.S.

## Senior Dental Officer :

W. J. PROUD, L.D.S.

## Assistant Dental Officers :

C. A. F. LLOYD, L.D.S.

C. MUSHENS.

JOYCE THOMPSON, L.D.S.

## Speech Therapist :

MISS M. F. SIEVWRIGHT.

## Aural Surgeon :

R. E. JOWETT, M.D., CH.B., M.R.C.P., D.L.O., R.C.P.S. (Part-time).

## Orthopædic Surgeon :

D. G. W. BROWN, M.CH., ORTHO., F.R.C.S. (ED.), (Part-time).

## Ophthalmic Surgeon :

GERTRUDE B. LEIGH, M.B., CH.B. (Part-time).

## Organisers of Physical Education :

G. N. JESSOP.

MISS P. M. PETERS.

MISS A. GRAY.

## School Nurses :

MISS E. E. CARR.

MISS D. PICKERING.

MISS S. E. TURNER.

MRS. V. DOWNEY.

MISS E. AIKENHEAD.

MISS M. MCCROSSAN.

MRS. D. WILKINSON.

MRS. A. CHEAVINS.

MRS. A. FAIRCLOUGH.

MISS F. KEAVENY.

MISS S. YOUNG.

MRS. A. CHALK.

MRS. M. DONKIN.

## Clerks :

MRS. D. DRAPER (Sen. Clerk).	MISS E. CLEMENT.
MISS A. M. BROWN.	MISS J. STACEY.
MISS V. PRICE.	MISS M. TAYLOR.

---

## Dental Attendants :

MISS G. W. BOWMAN.	MISS M. I. BOND.
MISS J. JOHNSON.	MISS L. HALLIDAY.

---

## Bathing Attendants :

MRS. M. A. PEEBLES.	MRS. N. VOSPER.
MISS J. KNOWLES.	

---

## Clinic Attendants :

MR. M. H. SHANKS.	MR. J. HUDSON.
MR. P. BELLEW.	MR. P. CRAWFORD.

---

## CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC.

## Psychiatrist :

W. HINDS, M.B., B.S., D.P.M. (Part-time).

---

## Pædiatrician :

MISS J. R. WATSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

---

## Psychiatric Social Worker :

MISS I. R. STIRLING, M.A.,  
Post Grad. Diploma-Social Science. Diploma-Mental Health.

---

## Educational Psychologist :

Post vacant.

---

## Clerks :

MISS L. M. HAMMOND.	MRS. SIMPSON.
---------------------	---------------



COUNTY BOROUGH OF SUNDERLAND.

THIRTY-NINTH

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1947.

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The Annual Report of the work of the School Health Service for the year 1947, is submitted in accordance with the instructions of the Medical Branch of the Ministry of Education.

**Scabies.** Plans for the new Central Cleansing Clinic have been prepared. Separate accommodation for the sexes will be available, and also cleansing facilities for clothing which will also rid them of vermin.

The Central Cleansing Clinic is also used by the Health Committee for persons over school age, and the following table shows the extent of its use.

### School Children—

Scabies	...	...	...	324 cases paid 3,440 visits.
Eczema Capitis	...	...	...	19 cases paid 147 visits.
Pediculus Capitis	...	...	...	84 cases paid 207 visits.

### Adults—

Scabies	...	...	...	60 cases paid 174 visits.
Eczema Capitis	...	...	...	2 cases paid 7 visits.
Pediculus Capitis	...	...	...	2 cases paid 9 visits.

**Diphtheria Immunisation.** 333 children of school age received the complete protecting doses. 78 children attended on one occasion only and received one dose, and 255 children failed



to attend. In addition, 456 children received recurrent inoculations after five years.

2 injections	...	...	...	...	...	333
1 injection	...	...	...	...	...	78
Recurrent inoculations after 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	456

The above table shows that fewer children than last year were immunised, the reason being that many entrants were admitted from Child Welfare Centres already protected.

It will be observed the large increase in the number of those children who have received a "Booster" dose, in order to prolong the period of immunity.

**Child Guidance Clinic.** Full details of this Clinic are given in the appendix to the report.

### NURSERY SCHOOLS.

**Croft Nursery School** has continued to do good work, and 39 children have been admitted and discharged from this School during the year.

Plans have been prepared for an extension up to 60 places for children, when new buildings become a possibility.

**George Street Nursery** has continued to take children between the ages of two and five years. During the year 45 children have been admitted and 48 children discharged.

**St. Columba's C.E. Nursery** has continued to take children between the age of two and five years, and during the year 37 children have been admitted and 32 children discharged.

**Havelock Nursery** has continued to take children between the ages of three and five years, and during the year 126 children have been admitted and 39 children discharged.

### SPECIAL SCHOOLS.

#### Educationally Sub-Normal Children.

During the course of the year under review several buildings in Durham and Northumberland were examined as to their suitability for a Residential School, and finally the most suitable premises were found at Milton Hall near Brampton. By the end of the year negotiations were proceeding for the acquisition.

**Fordhall School.** There are at present 241 children in attendance with 135 on the waiting list. There is therefore urgent need for another School for these children, preferably on the North side of the town. In September, two huts were opened to accommodate 40 children on the North side of the town.



**Thornfield Open Air Day School.** This School has been filled to capacity throughout the year, and there is usually a waiting list. The usual type of child has been admitted. Disease of the respiratory tract head the list with 37 cases, of which 23 are cases of asthma (19 boys ; 4 girls), a condition which appears to be becoming more prevalent.

Cases of debility, anæmia, malnutrition, number 29, many of them children from poor or overcrowded homes : tuberculosis of bone and joints (latent) number 15 ; various forms of paralysis 7 ; cardiac disease 8 ; epilepsy 4 ; crippling defects other than tubercular 5 ; other conditions 7.

Most children in addition to the school meals receive virol or cod liver oil. Many of them have artificial sun-ray treatment. The sun-ray lamp, the original one bought for the School Medical Department in 1938, has done good service, but needs replacing.

Orthopædic cases are seen by Mr. Brown at his monthly visits, and there is good liaison with the Orthopædic Department of the Royal Infirmary and the Emergency Hospital Cherry Knowle, where these children are treated.

The school premises are undergoing repair, and the much needed covered passage-way connecting the classrooms with the main block is now under construction.

**Barbara Priestman School.** Provision for the education of Partially Blind, Deaf and Dumb, and Semi-Deaf children is made at this Special Day School.

**Blind Children.** Children suffering from this disability are educated in the Benwell Dene Residential School, at Newcastle.

### DENTAL SERVICE.

Dental treatment was provided for children attending the Elementary Schools of the Borough by a staff of four full-time dental officers. The raising of the school-leaving age has added considerably to the number of children under our care, and in order to cope with the increasing demand on the services of the dental staff an additional dental officer should be appointed and another clinic provided.

During the year, inspection included the year's entrants together with those children seen in previous years. The total number of children inspected was 20,449, of whom 11,875 were found to have dental defects, and were referred to the clinics for treatment. The attendances at the clinics for treatment numbered 10,958. The number of children actually treated was 8,084.



Parents are invited to be present at the school inspections when the condition of their children's teeth is demonstrated, and the appropriate treatment outlined to them. The attendance of parents at inspections is important, as it enables the dentist to point out defects in the teeth which are not obvious to the parent, and often secures the attendance for treatment of children who otherwise would absent themselves.

**Orthodontic Scheme.** 80 orthodontic cases were completed. The demand for this form of dental treatment continues to increase. Up to the present the type of orthodontic treatment undertaken is that which is well within the scope of every dental officer, and is restricted to the correction of instanding incisor teeth and the retraction of misplaced canine teeth. Many children, however, present gross irregularities and malocclusion whose treatment is beyond the facilities available to the average dental officer and call for treatment by an orthodontic specialist who has had special training and experience in such work. I would, therefore, suggest that arrangements should be made with the Sutherland Dental Hospital in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, for the more complicated orthodontic cases to be sent there for treatment.

**Denture Scheme.** Three dentures were fitted.

### RHEUMATISM.

Stress has continued to be laid upon the preventive aspect of the disease, and in some cases efforts have been made to improve the housing conditions, whilst in others better clothing, obtained from various sources, has been supplied.

Established heart disease has been supervised, and the following totals represent the work carried out by the curative side of the clinic :—

Treated.	Discharged.
39	19

Convalescent accommodation for six children would be a great asset.

### NUTRITION.

It will be observed from the following Tables that there has been a change of assessment of Nutrition. The Table for 1946 was divided into A, B, C and D, but the Table for 1947 is divided into A, B and C.

The effect of this change indicates a smaller percentage of "fair" nutrition as compared with the larger percentage under the heading "normal" nutrition in the previous year.



Year 1946.

Number of pupils inspected.	A. (Excellent)		B. (Normal)		C. (Slightly subnormal)		D. (Bad)	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
7,865	1,067	13.57	6,203	78.86	587	7.46	8	.102

Year 1947.

Number of pupils inspected.	A. (Good)		B. (Fair)		C. (Poor)	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
9,755	7,268	74.505	2,301	23.59	186	1.907

### SPEECH THERAPY.

A full-time Speech Therapist was appointed in October. A preliminary survey of schools revealed 500 cases requiring treatment for defective speech. These cases were referred to the visiting Speech Therapist by Head Teachers.

The 500 cases included 217 stammerers and 283 articulatory defects. Of the articulatory defects, 12 were associated with structural defects such as cleft palate and hare-lip, and roughly 20 were associated with some degree of deafness. These were referred to the Medical Clinic. Of the remainder, a number were felt to be in need of psychological treatment, and were referred to the Child Guidance Clinic.

The total number of stammerers, 217, were made up of 180 boys and 37 girls, and the biggest proportion of these cases was found in the 12—15 age group. In the treatment of stammering, the co-operation of the Child Guidance Clinic is helpful.

Treatment for the cases in the area on the North side of the river is given at Southwick Branch Clinic, and for other districts at Green Terrace School.

### Cleanliness.

29,528 children were examined during the year for cleanliness, and of these only 11·47% were found unclean. This shows a slight decrease as compared with the year 1946, when 11·6% of 29,508 children were similarly declared unclean.

### Orthopædics.

Mr. D. G. W. Brown has continued during the year to see Orthopædic cases submitted to him at the Royal Infirmary. 56 children were referred for advice and treatment.

### Staff.

A complete list of the staff is set out on pages 3 and 4.

Nurse Suffield retired in February, and Nurse Chalk was appointed to fill the vacancy. Miss Wright and Miss Hume resigned and Miss Taylor and Miss Halliday were appointed to fill the vacancies.

In conclusion, may I pay tribute to my Senior Assistant School Medical Officer, Dr. J. R. Watson, and the Assistant School Medical and Dental Officers, who, together with the Nursing and Clerical Staff, have helped me in the work of school medicine throughout the year.

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee, together with the Director of Education, I tender my sincerest thanks.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

A. S. HEBBLETHWAITE,

Medical Officer of Health  
& School Medical Officer.

21st June, 1948.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ORGANISERS OF  
PHYSICAL EDUCATION FOR THE YEAR  
ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1947.

---

Mr. G. N. Jessop and Miss P. M. Peters report :

**Indoor Accommodation.**

The abnormal weather and arctic conditions in the earlier months of the year seriously curtailed all outdoor physical training activities. It is in a period such as this that the need for suitable indoor accommodation is most acutely felt, and it is particularly unfortunate that where suitable Central Halls are available, they often have to be utilised as extra classrooms.

**Apparatus**

(a). Gymnastic Apparatus. The overhaul of apparatus in all the fully equipped gymnasia in the Authority's Schools is now being carried out annually by a firm of experts.

(b). Agility Apparatus. The need of the Primary School child for agility apparatus is now fully realised. There are various types of suitable apparatus made but, at the present time, this Authority has only one set. This set is being retained by a school for one term only. In order that teachers might see the apparatus in use and discuss the possibilities of this and other types, four lecture demonstrations have been given. 290 Head Teachers and Teachers attended the demonstrations.

**Plimsolls.**

There have been two small supplies of plimsolls during the year. For the first time some of the children aged 5—7 years were catered for.

**Playing Fields.**

There is an ever-increasing demand for the use of School Playing Fields both by Schools and Youth Organisations, and from the point of view of maintaining the fields in good condition they are without doubt over-used.

**Girls' Games.**

Following the raising of the school-leaving age, more Schools have been encouraged to teach the girls hockey as well as netball.



## Schools' Cricket.

Schools' Cricket is in flourishing condition, 21 Senior Schools and 14 Junior Schools took part in the "Swan" Cricket Competition this year. Inter-town games were played versus Houghton, South Shields and Chester-le-Street, and two Sunderland boys were awarded County Caps. It is interesting to note that in 1948 the Schools' team representing Durham County will play Newcastle Grammar School, Newcastle City, Yorkshire and Lancashire.

## School Sports.

56 Schools held sports days either at the playing field or in their own school playgrounds. Separate tracks for the boys and girls were marked out at both Hylton Road and Spark Farm playing fields, so that boys and girls sports could be run off simultaneously.

## Swimming.

Pressure on the public swimming baths is greater than ever, and it is impossible to accommodate all the Schools desiring facilities. In Schools which have the privilege, there is often difficulty in carrying out instruction owing to the presence of the general public, who attend the baths in considerable numbers in the months of June and July. The provision of school swimming baths has become a matter of urgency.

Swimming instruction for school children has been successfully continued throughout the year, making its usual contribution to physical development and personal hygiene. The available accommodation has been used to capacity during the summer months for many years, and no increase in attendances can be shown, but the mild weather has meant more regular attendance and continuity of training during the winter months than has been possible for some years.

Swimming Galas have been carried out successfully by the Sunderland Schools' Swimming Association, West Park Central School, Monkwearmouth Central Boys' School, and Monkwearmouth Central Girls' School.

The outstanding success of Monkwearmouth Central Boys' School in winning the National Championship Event is very gratifying.

Awards of School Swimming Certificates for Boys during 1947 have been as set out below :—

3rd Class Certificates	... 554
2nd Class Certificates	... 232
1st Class Certificates	... 131
Special Certificates ...	... 63



### **Nursery Trainees.**

Each student now has one period a week in St. George's House gymnasium and one period a week of outdoor games.

### **Further Training of Teachers.**

Three training courses for women teachers have been held during the year.

1. Games Course. Fifty-five women teachers who are responsible for work with girls, aged 8 years and upwards, attended a five weeks' course of demonstration lessons and discussion.

2. Old Time Dancing Course. Fifty women teachers and leaders attended this five weeks' course, and took an active part in the classes. The course was arranged because of the increasing demand in both adult and youth classes for this type of dancing.

3. Infant Course. A six weeks' training course, for teachers of children aged four to seven years, was attended by a hundred and seventy Head Teachers and Teachers. The aim of the course, each lesson of which included a demonstration with infants, was to show that physical education, whilst demanding quick control and response from the children, is now taught by free activities and practices most of which entail the use of individual apparatus.

### **Parents' Meetings.**

Talks have been given to parents in Schools after they had seen physical training lessons, and others are being arranged. It was felt that so many parents had too little understanding of the work being done, some of them still thought of "drill" performed in four stationary lines, and so they could not see the need to remove surplus clothing, and, where possible, to change. The parents greatly appreciated the explanations given.

### **Youth Organisations.**

A course for Junior Leaders of Physical Recreation was completed in April, 1948. It was held in St. George's House and 34 students enrolled. The syllabus of training included Free Standing Exercises, Vaulting and Agility, Fixed Apparatus Work, Football Training, Boxing, Wrestling, Fencing and Basket Ball. The course was very successful, and the students were very keen.

Facilities for Netball have been seriously reduced by the construction on playgrounds of additional classrooms.



The Winter Session of Evening Classes in Physical Training for Youth Clubs was completed in March. Five Boys' Organisations were provided with an instructor, three holding the classes on their own club premises, one at St. George's House, and one at Commercial Road School. There were 14 classes arranged for Girls' Organisations and five mixed groups received instruction in Ballroom Dancing.

The Y.O.C. Football and Netball Leagues have had a very successful season, but the difficulties of providing football pitches are rapidly becoming insuperable, and it will be impossible to expand this valuable contribution to physical fitness unless additional playing fields become available.

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

Miss J. D. M. Cormack, Supervisor of School Meals, reports :—

“ The number of Main Meals now being provided daily is 8,100. Five new Sculleries have been opened this year—

One at Deptford Terrace School.

One at Pallion School.

Two at Diamond Hall School, one in the Boys' Department and one in the Girls' Department; although being in use, boilers have not yet been installed.

One scullery at St. Joseph's School was opened on December 8th; two galvanised sinks have yet to be fixed.

The sculleries although erected at Redby School, Monkmouth Central School and Grange Park School, have not yet been completed.

The Central Kitchen at Simpson Street School was opened on the 2nd September, and is supplying meals to—

Pallion School ... ..	... 128 daily.
Deptford Terrace School ...	... 166 „
High Southwick School ...	... 126 „
West Southwick School ...	... 260 „
Southwick Huts ... ..	... 44 „
Simpson Street School ...	... 180 „

Mrs. Green, late of British Restaurants, was appointed as Supervisor of Simpson Street Kitchen in October.

Since October about 44 children are being fed at the Hutment at West Southwick School. Mrs. Allison was appointed as Dining Attendant.



Another Centre at Chester Road School, in the Girls' Department will be opened after the Xmas holidays. There are now 137 children having dinners in classrooms in the Junior Department, the seats are small and the accommodation is not satisfactory for that number of children.

All school children received a Christmas Dinner consisting of—

Roast Beef, Yorkshire Pudding, turnip or peas and potatoes.

Plum pudding and custard.

Iced Mincemeat Tarts.

Trifle and Jellies and Fruit."

Mr. L. Armstrong, Superintendent Welfare Officer, reports :—

" All school children are now permitted one-third of a pint of milk daily, with the exception of delicate children in Special Schools, who are permitted two-thirds of a pint daily.

During June, 1947, 485,760 one-third pint bottles of milk were supplied to school children, and during January, 1948, 512,861 one-third pint bottles were supplied.

The Ministry intend increasing the permitted quantity to two-thirds of a pint daily to all school children when supplies are available.

The Education Committee decided to stop the issue of milk to school children during holiday periods owing to the very poor attendance."

### **Children under the Care of the Authority.**

Miss H. Gibson, Welfare Officer, reports that the following cases were referred for treatment during the year :—

School Clinic	...	...	70 visits made.
Child Guidance Clinic...			9 visits made.
Dental Clinic	...	...	6 children.
Ophthalmic Clinic	...		1 child.
Speech Therapy	...		1 child.
Ultra Violet Ray Clinic			1 child.
Aural Clinic	...	...	2 children.



SUMMARY OF WORK FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31st DECEMBER, 1947.

INSPECTION WORK IN SCHOOLS.

**Medical Officers.**

	1946	1947
Number of children examined at Grammar, Technical, Secondary Modern & Primary Schools, at Routine Medical Inspections	7,865 ...	9,246
Number of "Special" cases examined ...	1,399 ...	1,293
Number of children examined at Special Schools ... ..	466 ...	509

**School Dental Officers.**

Number of children examined at Grammar, Technical, Secondary Modern & Primary Schools ... ..	21,191 ...	22,026
--	------------	--------

**School Nurses.**

Number of examinations for Cleanliness...	29,508 ...	29,528
Percentage of children found unclean ...	11.6% ...	11.47%
Number of homes visited for "following- up" ... ..	2,456 ...	2,952
Number of visits to Schools re infectious disease ... ..	170 ...	204

WORK AT CLINICS.

**Treatment**

**Skin Department.**

Number of cases treated ... ..	3,002 ...	3,220
Central Clinic ... ..	745	749
Hylton Rd. Branch Clinic	755	891
Villette Rd. Branch Clinic	891	718
Southwick Branch Clinic	602	862



**Ophthalmic Department.**

Number of children with defective vision examined by the Ophthalmic Surgeon	1,182	...	1,201
Number re-examined by School Nurse...	383	...	678
Number of such children examined at the Clinics ... ..	241	...	228
Central Clinic ... ..	57	34	
Hylton Rd. Branch Clinic	48	56	
Villette Rd. Branch Clinic	96	39	
Southwick Branch Clinic	40	99	
Number of Eye Diseases treated ...	268	...	239
Central Clinic ... ..	53	56	
Hylton Rd. Branch Clinic	70	53	
Villette Rd. Branch Clinic	54	63	
Southwick Branch Clinic	91	67	

**Aural Department.**

Number of cases treated by the Aural Surgeon ... ..	1,035	...	891
Number of attendances ... ..	1,843	...	1,829
Number of operations performed ...	538	...	555
Number of minor ear defects seen at the Clinics ... ..	999	...	973
Central Clinic ... ..	207	236	
Hylton Rd. Branch Clinic	266	219	
Villette Rd. Branch Clinic	218	220	
Southwick Branch Clinic	308	298	

**Special Conditions.**

Number of cases treated ... ..	1,805	...	1,792
Central Clinic ... ..	326	430	
Hylton Rd. Branch Clinic	567	534	
Villette Rd. Branch Clinic	390	423	
Southwick Branch Clinic	522	405	

**Dental Treatment.**

Number of cases treated ... ..	7,899	...	8,084
Number of attendances ... ..	10,502	...	10,958

**Cleansing Clinics.**

Number of children attended for treatment of Scabies ... ..	536	...	324
Number of attendances ... ..	5,454	...	3,440



**Ultra Violet Ray Clinic.**

Number of cases treated	...	...	445	...	411
Number of attendances	...	...	6,376	...	5,840

**Immunisation against Diphtheria.**

Number of cases immunised, 1 dose ...	87	...	78
Number of cases immunised, 2 doses ...	617	...	333
Number of recurrent inoculations after 5 years ... ..	32	...	456
Number of attendances ... ..	1,434	...	1,200
Total number of attendances for treatment at the above-named Clinics ... ..	64,021	...	59,816

**Local Education Authority, Sunderland.**

TABLE I.

**Medical Inspection of Pupils attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools.****A.—Periodic Medical Inspections.**

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups :

Entrants	...	...	...	2,927
Second Age Group	...	...	...	2,775
Third Age Group	...	...	...	3,544

Total ... 9,246

Number of other Periodic Inspections ... 509

Grand Total ... 9,755

**B.—Other Inspections.**

Number of Special Inspections	...	1,293
Number of Re-Inspections	...	—

Total ... 1,293



TABLE I.

C.—Pupils found to require treatment.

Group.	For defective vision. (excluding squint).	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIa.	Total individual pupils.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Entrants ... ..	1	430	431
Second Age Group ...	133	282	400
Third Age Group ...	190	193	374
Total (prescribed groups)	324	905	1,205
Other Periodic Inspections	29	31	57
Grand Total ... ..	353	936	1,262



TABLE II.

A.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the year ended 31st December, 1947.

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease	PERIODIC INSPECTIONS		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS	
		No. of Defects		No. of Defects	
		Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment	Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
4	Skin ...	120	54	12	6
5	Eyes—				
	a. Vision...	361	263	80	71
	b. Squint	96	50	15	11
	c. Other ...	42	21	16	—
6	Ears—				
	a. Hearing	22	24	14	21
	b. Otitis				
	Media ...	31	25	10	8
	c. Other ...	29	21	8	2
7	Nose or Throat ...	284	240	66	67
8	Speech ...	15	32	20	8
9	Cervical Glands	8	5	3	7
10	Heart and Circulation ...	40	293	23	206
11	Lungs ...	57	79	30	119
12	Developmental—				
	a. Hernia ...	19	14	7	3
	b. Other ...	10	36	4	8
13	Orthopædic—				
	a. Posture ...	4	50	—	6
	b. Flat foot ...	27	52	5	2
	c. Other ...	34	84	12	57
14	Nervous system—				
	a. Epilepsy ...	1	3	7	6
	b. Other ...	7	21	3	20
15	Psychological—				
	a. Development	6	15	15	9
	b. Stability ...	17	19	9	23
16	Other ...	227	59	74	98



B.—Classification of the General Condition of Pupils inspected during the year in the Age Groups.

Age Groups.	No. of Pupils Inspected	A. (Good)		B. (Fair)		C. (Poor)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Entrants ... ..	2,927	2,259	77.18	595	20.33	73	2.49
Second Age Group	2,775	2,102	75.75	648	23.35	25	.901
Third Age Group ...	3,544	2,557	72.15	920	25.96	67	1.89
Other periodic Inspections ...	509	350	68.76	138	27.11	21	4.13
Total... ..	9,755	7,268	74.505	2,301	23.59	186	1.907

TABLE III.  
TREATMENT TABLES.

Group I.—MINOR AILMENTS (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table V.)

(a)						No. of defects treated or under treatment during the year.
SKIN—						
Ringworm—Scalp—						
(i) X-Ray treatment	...	...	...	...	—	
(ii) Other treatment	...	...	...	...	43	
Ringworm—Body	...	...	...	...	31	
Scabies	...	...	...	...	324	
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	297	
Other skin diseases	...	...	...	...	961	
EYE DISEASE	...	...	...	...	239	
(External and other, but excluding errors of refraction, squint and cases admitted to Hospital).						
EAR DEFECTS	...	...	...	...	1,009	
(Treatment for serious diseases of the ear are not recorded in this Group).						
MISCELLANEOUS	...	...	...	...	1,787	
(e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)						
Total					4,691	



(b) Total number of attendances at Authority's minor ailments clinics	...	...	...	...	...	45,397
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	--------

GROUP II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT (excluding Eye Disease treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).

					No. of defects dealt with
Errors of Refraction (including squint)	...	...	...	...	1,201
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.)	...	...	...	...	—
Total	...	...	...	...	1,201
No. of Pupils for whom spectacles were—					
(a) Prescribed	...	...	...	...	895
(b) Obtained	...	...	...	...	828

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

					Total number treated.
Received operative treatment—					
(a) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	...	...	...	...	555
(b) for other nose and throat conditions	...	...	...	...	—
Received other forms of treatment...	...	...	...	...	3
Total	...	...	...	...	558

GROUP IV.—ORTHOPÆDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

(a) No. treated as in-patients in hospitals or hospital schools	...	...	...	...	9
(b) No. treated otherwise, e.g., in clinics or out-patients departments	...	...	...	...	47

GROUP V.—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT AND SPEECH THERAPY.

No. of pupils treated—					
(a) under Child Guidance arrangements	...	...	...	...	262
(b) under Speech Therapy arrangements	...	...	...	...	12

TABLE IV.  
DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Officers—					
(a) Periodic age groups	...	...	...	...	20,449
(b) Specials	...	...	...	...	1,577
(c) Total (Periodic and Specials)	...	...	...	...	22,026
(2) Number found to require treatment	...	...	...	...	11,875
(3) Number actually treated	...	...	...	...	8,084
(4) Attendances made by pupils for treatment	...	...	...	...	10,958
(5) Half-days devoted to—					
(a) Inspection	...	...	...	...	101
(b) Treatment	...	...	...	...	1,671
	Total (a) and (b)	...	...	...	1,772
(6) Fillings—					
Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	2,969
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	—
	Total	...	...	...	2,969
(7) Extractions—					
Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	1,720
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	8,678
	Total	...	...	...	10,398
(8) Administration of general anæsthetics for extraction...					5,508
(9) Other Operations—					
(a) Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	395
(b) Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	425
	Total (a) and (b)	...	...	...	820

TABLE V.  
INFESTATION WITH VERMIN.

(i) Total number of examinations in the Schools by the School Nurses or other authorised persons	...	29,528
(ii) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	...	3,387
(iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944)	...	1,467
(iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944)	...	1



## COUNTY BOROUGH OF SUNDERLAND

## APPENDIX TO ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1947.

## PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICE.

The Psychological Service has two distinct departments :—

1. The Child Guidance Centre, which deals with children who are showing problems of personality, behaviour or learning.
2. The Educational Psychologist's work for dull and backward children in the Schools.

## 1. The Staff.

Pædiatrician :—Dr. Jessie Watson.

Psychiatrist :—Dr. W. Hinds, M.B., B.S., D.P.M., Specialist in Psychiatry to the Ministry of Pension, Specialist in Psychiatry to the War Office.

Dr. Hinds has attended four sessions weekly, and it is hoped that this will be increased in the near future. He has given much help outside his sessions, in the lunch-hour and in the evening, and thus enabled a much larger amount to be accomplished.

## EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST.

Vacant for two years. Every effort has been made to try and persuade one of the few trained people to come to the North-East. The work of the ascertainment of the subnormal intelligence has reverted to the Medical Department and the Psychologist's work in the Schools is in abeyance. The Psychiatric Social Worker has done the Psychologist's work in the Clinic and visited the Schools regarding Child Guidance cases.

Psychiatric Social Worker :—Miss I. R. Stirling, M.A., full-time.



Clerical Staff:—Miss L. M. Hammond and Mrs. M. Simpson. Miss Hutchinson resigned on leaving for London after four years' excellent service.

## 2. Child Guidance Centre.

### Numbers.

New cases dealt with...	...	...	...	303
Cases taken on for treatment from the Waiting List	...	...	...	78
			Total	381

### DIAGNOSTIC SERVICE.

This consists of full examination and advice. The work of the Centre is based on the assumption that in any individual case with which it deals it has to consider the whole person; not merely Mind but also Body, for a personality is an intricate and indissoluble Body-Mind Unity in action; the so-called psycho-somatic unity.

Charles Segal, in his "Pennorth o' Chips," has well shown up the lassitude and inattention of his pupils due to hunger: it is common experience that such mild afflictions as a common cold or Tonsils and Adenoids give a child, as he bends over his books, a thick, dull feeling that will hamper concentration considerably. The Centre is not, therefore, strongly biased psychologically, pædiatrically or educationally. Its aim is to give each child an all-round examination to discover major or minor faults in body, intellect, emotions and behaviour; although in treatment it may prove to be on one or other department of the Clinic's work, for example, psycho-therapy or remedial coaching may be required, or perhaps general medical treatment, hospital treatment, neurological survey, observation or active help. The aim has been to maintain a balanced view and consequently a balanced action with all the factors in full view that contribute to personality. In the early days of the Centre most of the cases thus seen were cases unsuitable for Clinic treatment—with growing understanding of the work these are much fewer. This year the Service has been much more widely used.

**Ministry of Education** require an examination by a Child Guidance Centre before accepting certain children as ineducable. Very often these children require a neurological examination. Mr. G. F. Rowbotham, the neurological surgeon at the General Hospital has given valuable and prompt help with these and other cases.



### **The Home Office.**

Before making important decisions regarding the many children—deprived of normal home life now in the care of the Home Office—an examination is required. Many such children have been seen. The lack of knowledge of things common in an ordinary home is a noticeable feature of the children brought up in Institutions rather than foster homes.

### **Juvenile Court.**

The Centre is widely used by the Courts and Probation Services of the North-East. Some Courts value the report for the scientific data, others for the practical recommendations it contains. Some help is thus given to the delinquent child, but much more could be done if a residential unit were available for observation, examination and treatment.

### **Voluntary Homes.**

Cases have come from many voluntary homes where children have failed to adjust to the Home's environment. A growing number of such children are found to be of the unstable low intelligence group, reflecting the urgent need of residential accommodation for the dull as well as the defective child, so that the Voluntary Home can be relieved of the case. The child does not receive benefit and its presence greatly handicaps the working of the Home.

### **Educational Advice and Vocational Guidance.**

Most children come to the Centre in some great crisis in their lives but some do not. Parents and schools send children for advice as to the best method of education, and the most suitable career, and it is to be hoped that in the not distant future, such guidance will be available for every child in Sunderland.

## **TREATMENT.**

After the lapse of a year and in spite of the shortage of staff, treatment has been started. Two new methods have been tried.

**The Mothers' Clinic** arose while the psychiatrist was on sick leave. The mothers of the 155 cases on Dr. Cuthbert's waiting list were called for interview after the School had been visited. A weekly session started with the mothers of the children where transferred anxiety from the parents seemed to be a large factor in the case. Gradually with experience other cases were found to respond to the Alteration of Maternal Attitudes. Enuretics, surprisingly



enough, seemed to improve more readily than when the child received direct treatment. The strain put on many homes through the difficulties of adjustment after the demobilisation of the father, a stranger to his children and almost to his wife, the difficulties of living with grandparents or the necessity of keeping the children quiet in shared houses, need for adjustment between parents and adolescents in the face of changing standards, are some of the common personal problems.

### **Group Play Therapy.**

This method has been reported from other Clinics as a means of dealing with larger numbers than under the orthodox individual method. At first it was tried merely as an observation group, trying to pick out the most needy children to fill the very few spaces for individual treatment. Gradually Dr. Hinds evolved a method of group treatment which has shown good results, in fact, seemed better suited to some cases than the individual way. Individual treatment is required in the more seriously disordered child. It is interesting to notice how many more children do not wish to grow up, and how frequently ghosts appear in children's fears, taking the place of war-time bombs.

### **Drug Therapy.**

The advance in knowledge of the "brain rhythm" received enormous stimulus, through the investigations of head injuries to soldiers. Many interesting features of abnormal rhythms are crystallising not relative to cause and effect. Acting on some auxiliary findings that were shown by adult psychopathic personalities tested at the Maudesley Hospital and which responded to drug therapy, it was decided to try a similar method on younger patients showing similar aggressive and violent behaviour; it has shown good results.

### **Education.**

Diagnosis and treatment are only one side of the Centre's work, and from the start the Centre has sought to propagate the ideals of Mental Health. The usual lectures have been given, to students in training at the university, training colleges, health visitors, nurses and to an ever increasing range of groups of all kinds. The value of this work is difficult to assess, but it may have helped to add to the greater knowledge of the type of case requiring treatment and generally to the emotional needs of the normal child. Throughout the year there have been many visitors from all parts of the country, some students or members of professional groups wishing to obtain knowledge of Clinical work, either as an auxiliary to their own work



or as a possible vocation. Demonstrations have also been given to groups of various kinds, teachers, social workers, nurses and the interested general public.

Durham, Northumberland and most of the surrounding Authorities have referred cases. It is impossible to see any but the most urgent of these so it is good to know that Gateshead has started a Clinic, and before long other areas will have their own. The time is coming when every maladjusted child will have the opportunity of getting rid of the emotional tangles which not only prevent his personal happiness and service, but which carry over to the next generation faulty methods of adaptation.

### New Cases.

Carried forward 1946 unexamined ... ..	34
Referred for Treatment in 1947 ... ..	332
	<hr/>
	366

Dealt with as follows:—

Diagnostic Service ... ..	183
Treatment ... ..	107
Otherwise dealt with ... ..	13
	<hr/>
	303
Carried forward 1948 unexamined ... ..	63
	<hr/>
	366

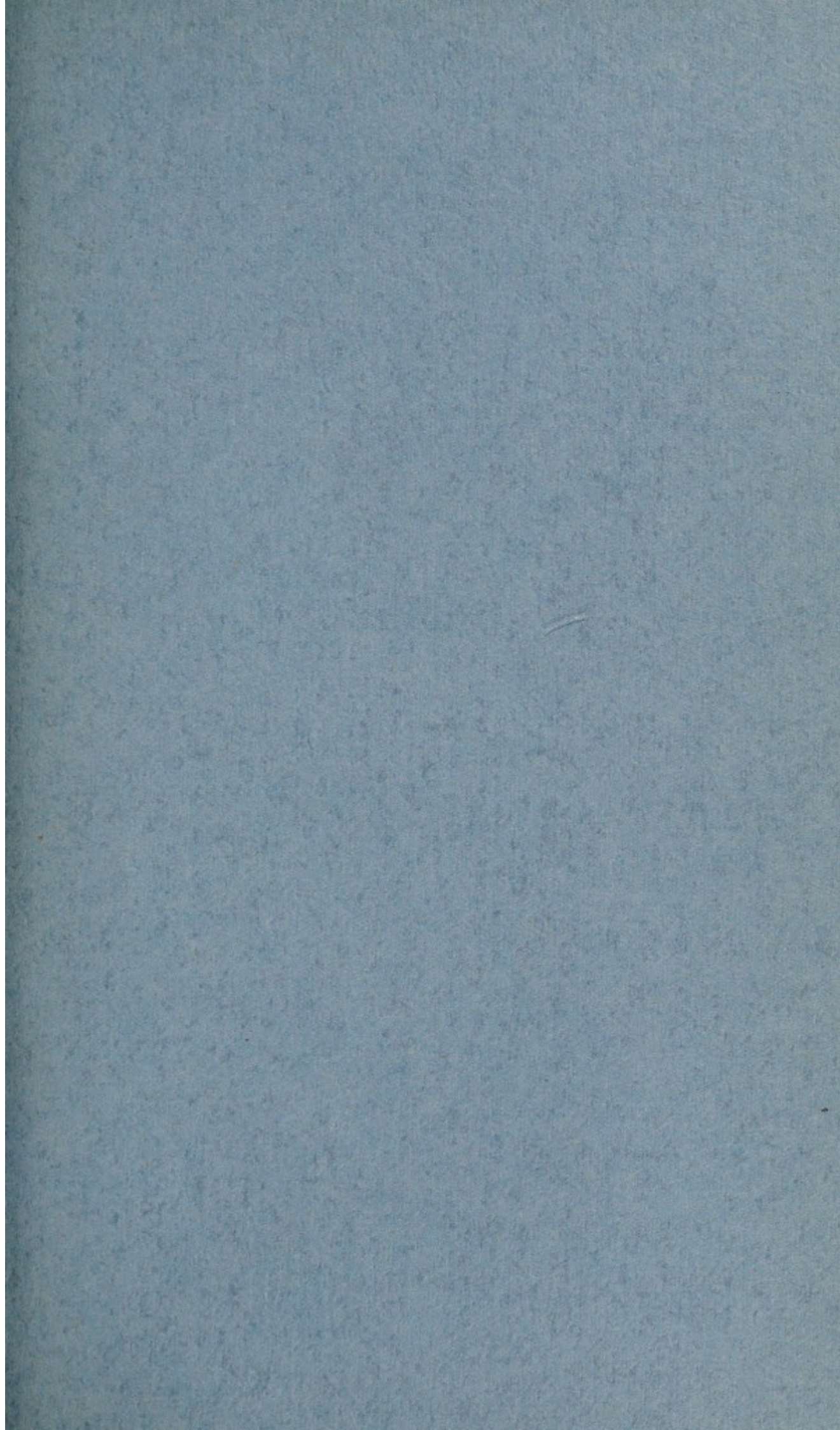
### Diagnostic Service.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Advice ... ..	43	36	79
Physical ... ..	10	7	17
Placement ... ..	15	10	25
Speech Therapy ... ..	8	3	11
Psychotic ... ..	—	1	1
Mental Defect ... ..	20	16	36
Removal from District ... ..	1	1	2
Incomplete Examination ... ..	3	5	8
Under Investigation ... ..	2	1	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	103	80	183

**Treatment.**

Carried forward on Treatment Waiting List for 1946 ...	155
Recommended for Treatment in 1947 ... ..	107
	<hr/>
	262
	<hr/>
	Boys. Girls. Total.
Closed after treatment ... ..	51 37 88
Removal from District ... ..	2 — 2
Unable to attend ... ..	8 10 18
Closed in other ways ... ..	10 2 12
Carried forward 1948 under treatment ...	41 24 65
On Treatment Waiting List ... ..	52 25 77
	<hr/>
	164 98 262
	<hr/>









THOMAS REED & CO<sup>LD</sup>  
PRINTERS.  SUNDERLAND