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HEALTH
22 MAR 1945
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Borough



Swindon.

OF

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1943.

AND THE

Isolation Hospital Annual Report

From the 1st April, 1943, to the 31st March, 1944.

By LLYWELYN ROBERTS, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Report of the
Chief Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1943.

Annual Report
of the School Medical Officer

FOR THE YEAR 1943.



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BOROUGH OF SWINDON.

CIVIC OFFICES,
SWINDON.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health etc. Committee.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present an interim Annual Report for the year, 1943. In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health this report is presented in an abridged form. The records which it has been the custom to provide are all kept and will be available for comparison in future and happier years.

Staff. Dr. R. G. Smithson, Deputy Medical Officer of Health, resigned on the 30th September, 1943.

Maternity Home and Midwives. The Rushcliffe Committee Report dealing with state certified midwives employed on maternity work in the maternity home or in the domiciliary midwifery service and pupil midwives, was adopted and applied by the Swindon Town Council, as from 1st April, 1943.

Miss M. H. Morris, Sister, was designated as Assistant Matron.

Isolation Hospital. The First Report of the Nurses' Salaries Committee (the Rushcliffe Report), dealing with the nursing staff at the Isolation Hospital was adopted and applied by the Swindon Town Council as from 1st April, 1943.

VITAL STATISTICS.

| | |
|---|-------|
| Registrar-General's estimate of population for 1943 | 67600 |
| Census 1931 | 62401 |

Births and Deaths—

| | Total | | | Rate | | |
|----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 1943 | 1942 | 1941 | 1943 | 1942 | 1941 |
| Live Births | 1187 | 1174 | 1107 | 17.56 | 17.03 | 15.75 |
| Deaths | 739 | 765 | 803 | 10.93 | 11.09 | 11.43 |
| Maternal Deaths | | | | | | |
| From Puerperal Sepsis | 1 | — | — | 0.83 | — | — |
| Other Puerperal Causes | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1.65 | 2.48 | 0.88 |
| Infant deaths | | | | | | |
| under 1 year | 60 | 44 | 64 | 50.55 | 37.48 | 55.75 |
| Deaths within 10 days | | | | | | |
| of birth | 28 | 23 | 26 | — | — | — |
| Stillbirths | 23 | 36 | 27 | — | — | — |
| Deaths from diarrhoea in | | | | | | |
| children under 2 years | 5 | 1 | 4 | — | — | — |
| Deaths from cancer | 110 | 114 | 120 | — | — | — |
| | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 |
| No. of births | 791 | 848 | 958 | 1107 | 1174 | 1187 |
| Birth Rate | 13.06 | 14.04 | 14.77 | 15.75 | 17.03 | 17.56 |
| No. of illegitimate births | 40 | 39 | 39 | 62 | 55 | 85 |
| Illegitimate birth rate | 0.64 | 0.66 | 0.60 | 0.87 | 0.80 | 1.26 |
| No. of births in Maternity | | | | | | |
| Home | 417 | 581 | 675 | 636 | 563 | 489 |
| Death Rate | 11.64 | 12.54 | 15.35 | 11.43 | 11.09 | 10.93 |
| Infant Mortality Rate | 54.36 | 38.42 | 61.43 | 55.75 | 37.48 | 50.55 |

HEALTH INDICES.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Physicians available per 10,000 population | 3 |
| Public Health nurses per 10,000 population | 1 |
| Percentage of infants under 1 year attending clinics | 63% |
| Percentage of expectant mothers receiving pre-natal nursing care under Corporation scheme | 47% |
| Diphtheria Immunisation. | |
| Percentage of children under 5 years immunised | 40% |
| Percentage of immunisations performed on children 5-15 | 65% |

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

| | No. of cases notified | | | No. of deaths | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|------|------|---------------|------|------|
| | 1943 | 1942 | 1941 | 1943 | 1942 | 1941 |
| Smallpox | — | 3 | — | — | — | — |
| Chickenpox | — | 132 | — | — | — | — |
| Scarlet fever | 108 | 75 | 269 | — | — | 1 |
| Diphtheria | 39 | 25 | 105 | 1 | — | 6 |
| Paratyphoid | — | — | 5 | — | — | — |
| Typhoid Fever | 2 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | 37 | 50 | 75 | — | — | — |
| Pneumonia | 124 | 77 | 111 | 27 | 21 | 22 |
| Erysipelas | 23 | 17 | 27 | — | — | — |
| Cerebro-spinal Fever | 4 | 5 | 19 | 2 | 2 | 7 |
| Polioymelitis | 2 | 1 | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| Polioencephalitis | — | 2 | — | — | — | — |
| Encephalitis Lethargica | — | 2 | — | — | 1 | — |
| Dysentery | 53 | 4 | — | — | — | — |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | 3 | 7 | 6 | — | — | 2 |
| Measles | 941 | 36 | 1027 | — | — | 2 |
| Whooping Cough | 260 | 79 | 330 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Totals | 1596 | 515 | 1975 | 31 | 25 | 44 |

EPIDEMIOLOGY.

It is gratifying to find that the death rate from diphtheria is low; the single death occurring in a child aged 5, who was only partially immunised three years ago.

The two cases of typhoid fever were mild and no source of infection was discovered. The figure of incidence of puerperal pyrexia is not strictly comparable to the figures for previous years, when notifications were recorded under the N.S.W. Convention, whereas now the Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations form the basis of notification.

The epidemic of influenza at the end of the year led to a high incidence of respiratory disease, and was to a large extent responsible for the high incidence of and mortality from pneumonia. The number of deaths attributable to influenza was twelve. Arrangements were made as recommended by the Ministry of Health for the provision of additional medical and nursing assistance, but there was no demand for this extra service. It is gratifying to find that despite the high incidence of measles in the Borough, no deaths were attributed to this disease.

Tuberculosis.—The number of notified cases was high, although the death rate is low. It must be remembered that the disease progresses slowly, and the death rate reflects the notifications of previous years.

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1943.

(Registrar-General's Official Returns).

| CAUSES. | Males. | Females | Total |
|---|------------|------------|------------|
| Typhoid and paratyphoid fever | — | — | — |
| Cerebro-spinal fever | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Scarlet fever | — | — | — |
| Whooping Cough | — | 1 | 1 |
| Diphtheria | 1 | — | 1 |
| Tuberculosis of Respiratory System | 15 | 8 | 23 |
| Other forms of Tuberculosis | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Syphilitic diseases | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Influenza | 7 | 8 | 15 |
| Measles | — | — | — |
| Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis | — | — | — |
| Acute infantile encephalitis | — | — | — |
| Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus | 7 | — | 7 |
| Cancer of uterus | — | 8 | 8 |
| Cancer of Stomach and duodenum | 23 | 10 | 33 |
| Cancer of breast | — | 9 | 9 |
| Cancer of all other sites | 29 | 24 | 53 |
| Diabetes | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Intracranial vascular lesions | 35 | 43 | 78 |
| Heart disease | 93 | 109 | 202 |
| Other diseases of circulatory system | 14 | 6 | 20 |
| Bronchitis | 22 | 26 | 48 |
| Pneumonia | 13 | 14 | 27 |
| Other respiratory diseases | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| Ulcer of stomach or duodenum | 9 | — | 9 |
| Diarrhoea under 2 years | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| Appendicitis | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Other digestive diseases | 12 | 11 | 23 |
| Nephritis | 6 | 11 | 17 |
| Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis | — | 1 | 1 |
| Other maternal causes | — | 2 | 2 |
| Premature birth | 12 | 10 | 22 |
| Congenital malformation, birth injury, infantile disease | 4 | 12 | 16 |
| Suicide | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| Road Traffic accidents | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| Other violent causes | 11 | 4 | 15 |
| All other causes | 31 | 36 | 67 |
| ALL CAUSES | 367 | 372 | 739 |

| Tuberculosis. | 1943 | 1942 | 1941 | 1940 |
|--|------|------|------|------|
| No. of cases notified | 94 | 84 | 96 | 79 |
| Respiratory Tuberculosis | 75 | 62 | 71 | 58 |
| Deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis | 23 | 29 | 27 | 30 |
| Deaths from Tuberculous Meningitis | 2 | 4 | 9 | 2 |
| Total Deaths | 26 | 34 | 40 | 36 |
| General death rate for all forms of Tuberculosis | 0.38 | 0.49 | 0.57 | 0.56 |
| Death rate for Respiratory Tuberculosis | 0.34 | 0.42 | 0.38 | 0.46 |

The Corporation of Swindon provides two beds at Winsley Sanatorium.

Scabies.—Facilities were available for the treatment of Scabies at the Faringdon Road Cleansing Station and the following cases attended during the year 1943 :—

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| Men | 315 |
| Women | 597 |
| Children—School Children | 717 |
| Infant Welfare cases | 193 |
| Total | 1822 |

Diphtheria Immunisation.—This Clinic is held weekly and every effort is made by means of birthday letters, visits by health visitors to homes, pamphlets to parents when their children first attend school, to encourage immunisation at as early an age as possible.

| | |
|--|------|
| Total number of attendances at the Immunisation Clinic during the year | 3904 |
| Total number of children completely immunised— | |
| (a) Under 5 years of age | 682 |
| (b) Over 5 years | 106 |
| Total number of Schick tests performed— | 1033 |
| of whom 940 were negative and 93 positive. | |

Ambulance facilities—for infectious disease, non-infectious and accident cases were maintained on a 24-hour service. A new Austin ambulance was purchased during the year, bringing the total number of ambulances available for all purposes to four (2 converted private cars).

The following journeys were made by the ambulances—

| | 1943 | 1942 | 1941 | 1940 |
|--|------|------|------|------|
| Transport of Infectious cases | 254 | 195 | 419 | 870 |
| Transport of Non-Infectious cases | 1202 | 1097 | 907 | 846 |
| Transport of Bedding for Disinfection and Laundry Articles | 1127 | 1380 | 4072 | 1910 |
| Civil Defence Ambulance Journeys for transport of Non-Infectious cases | 437 | 332 | 293 | — |

During 1943 the following mileage was covered by the ambulances19,407.

Bacteriological Examinations.—The Pathological Laboratory which was established by the Ministry of Health at the Isolation Hospital, continued to give good service, and it is becoming an accepted part of the Health Services. The number of specimens examined during the year was as follows :—

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| Swindon and North Wilts Hospital | 987 |
| Stratton St. Margaret... | 224 |
| G.W.R. Medical Fund Society | 394 |
| Isolation Hospital | 277 |
| Maternity Home | 411 |
| Public Health Department | 1066 |
| Eastcott Hill Clinic | 91 |
| Private Practitioners | 139 |
| Military Units | 64 |
| Highworth R.D.C. | 1 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 3654 |
| | <hr/> |

INSULIN.

In January, 1943, a Ministry of Health circular 2734 was issued allowing Local Authorities to supply insulin either free of charge, or at a reduced price, to persons suffering from diabetes. It is, of course, already provided free to National Health Insurance patients and under the Poor Law Acts, but this circular permitted it to be supplied to persons who do not come within the scope of the above provisions, for example, school-children, and such persons as widows and spinsters engaged in household duties, and dependants of insured persons.

An enquiry was made of the medical practitioners regarding the number of diabetics requiring insulin, and the following information was obtained :—

| | |
|---|----|
| Approximate number of diabetics requiring insulin | 46 |
| Approximate number of National Health Insurance patients included above | 29 |
| Approximate number of patients, apart from patients obtaining insulin under National Health Insurance or Poor Law Acts, who may be experiencing financial difficulty in obtaining insulin | 4 |

In view of this circular, the Committee accepted the responsibility of paying for insulin in cases where there was financial difficulty, and during 1943 four such applications were granted.

CONVALESCENT HOME.

Towards the end of December, 1943, a substantial residence at Common Hill, Cricklade, was purchased by the Swindon Corporation for use as a Convalescent Home. The object of the Convalescent Home is to facilitate the return to full working capacity of patients who have recovered from the acute stage of illness. The proper use of a Convalescent Home would facilitate the freeing of beds in the hospitals in Swindon.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

| Swindon Maternity Home. | Borough County | | Evac- uees | Totals |
|--|----------------|-----|---------------|--------|
| No. of cases admitted during 1943 | 363 | 122 | 16 | 501 |
| No. of cases delivered by—Midwives | 314 | 95 | 14 | 423 |
| Doctors | 45 | 19 | 2 | 66 |
| No. of cases in which no delivery took place | 18 | 10 | — | 28 |

In 201 cases medical assistance was sought by midwives. 19 cases were notified as puerperal pyrexia under the Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations. There were no maternal deaths. There were 19 still-births, cause of death in each case as follows:—

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Prematurity | 4 |
| Injury at birth | 6 |
| Congenital malformation | 7 |
| Macerated foetus | 2 |

There were 10 infant deaths within 10 days of birth, the cause of death being as follows:—

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Prematurity | 5 |
| Congenital malformation | 2 |
| Congenital debility | 1 |
| Atelectasis | 1 |
| Pneumonia | 1 |

During the first three weeks of March, 1943, seven cases of pyrexia occurred in the Maternity Home, six of which occurred between the 19th and 21st March. As the result of investigations, it was found that there was a germ common to many of them. This germ was also found in the noses of a number of the staff. It therefore appeared that we might be faced with a serious outbreak of puerperal fever, and after consulting with the County Medical Officer and the Ministry of Health, it was decided to close the Home on the 25th March. The position became more urgent by the fact that the accommodation at the Isolation Hospital was limited, and also because the staff at the Maternity Home was becoming depleted.

Steps were immediately taken to offer cases who were due to have their babies in a short time, the facilities at the Emergency Maternity Home at Bradford-on-Avon, and 17 mothers accepted this offer. I would like to record my gratitude to the County Medical Officer and to Mr. Wilfred Shaw for the ready assistance they gave me at a very difficult period. Mothers who could have their babies at home were given every assistance.

The Maternity Home was re-opened on the 19th April, 1943.

It has been necessary to limit the average number of bookings for the Maternity Home at about 40 per month, and as a result admission can only be granted to cases who have no facilities for a confinement at home, or who require hospital treatment for obstetrical reasons. It was necessary, even with this selection of cases, to continue to send mothers to the Emergency Maternity Homes in the County. 69 women (18 evacuees and 51 Swindon residents) were sent to Woolley Grange Maternity Hostel, Bradford-on-Avon, and afterwards transferred to either Berryfield House, Bradford-on-Avon, or the Old Cottage Hospital, Melksham, by arrangement with the Wilts County Council.

Maternal Deaths.—There were two maternal deaths, one died at home from pulmonary embolism (confirmed by post mortem). Death occurred on the eleventh day of the puerperium. Everything appeared normal during the ante-natal period, and other than a ruptured perineum, the puerperium was uneventful. In this case death was unpreventable.

The second death occurred in the local hospital where the patient was removed on the seventh day of the puerperium. The woman died on the eighth day. The woman was ill during pregnancy, and the pregnancy was a contributory cause of the death.

Domiciliary Midwifery.—The Extern Midwifery Service attached to the Maternity Home, consisting of one Sister and an Assistant dealt with 269 cases, and the four municipal midwives attended 356 deliveries.

Home Helps—Ministry of Health Circular 2729.—Formal approval was obtained from the Ministry for the institution of a Home Help Service, whereby the Local Authority was authorised to engage two full-time home helps, and if found necessary, part time home helps, to assist mothers after their confinements. One home help was appointed on the 15th February, 1943, and the second commenced duties at the end of 1943. 20 mothers were attended during 1943.

Ante-Natal and Post-natal Clinics.—Five ante-natal clinics and one post-natal clinic are provided by the Council.

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| No. of women who attended | 599 ante-natal clinic |
| | 85 post-natal clinic. |

| | |
|-------|-----|
| Total | 684 |
|-------|-----|

| | |
|---|------|
| No. of attendances at Asst. M.O.H's. Clinic | 588 |
| " " " " G.W.R. Med. Fund Clinic | 1528 |
| " " " " Matron's Clinic | 1363 |
| " " " " Specialist's Clinic | 874 |

Health Visiting.—During 1943, 12,967 visits were paid to mothers and children by the health visitors. Miss E. H. Beattie resigned her appointment as Senior Health Visitor, and Mrs. W. M. Lumley was appointed in her place, and commenced duties on the 1st November, 1943. Miss O. Marker, Health Visitor, resigned on the 27th December, 1943.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.—1837 separate infants attended the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

Arrangements were continued for the distribution of Cod Liver Oil, Fruit Juices, and National Dried Milk, at the Centres.

Appointment of a Specialist in the Diseases of Children.—It has been felt for some time that there was no person of consultant standard in this branch of pediatrics in the district, and therefore, arrangements were made for the appointment of Dr. Beryl Corner, M.D., M.R.C.P., to give a fortnightly session in Swindon, and to see any sick children for whom an opinion was desired. The first clinic was held on the 5th July, 1943, and there were ten sessions held during the year, during which 38 cases were seen. Dr. Corner also attended the Isolation Hospital in consultation.

DENTAL SCHEME FOR PREGNANT AND NURSING MOTHERS.

The care of teeth of pregnant women is important owing to the rapid deterioration of the teeth during this period, and because septic teeth may cause infection during the lying in period. The number of women availing themselves of the dental services during the past years is as follows:—

| | | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 |
| 35 | 44 | 33 | 54 | 68 | 74 | 102 | 217 |

A scheme was inaugurated during the year in order to provide as full a dental service as possible for mothers during pregnancy and for a year after the birth of the child.

The care of Illegitimate Children.—An investigation was made into the question of illegitimate births and the care of these children.

Total number of Illegitimate Live Births.

| | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|----|
| 1938 | .... | .... | .... | .... | 40 |
| 1939 | .... | .... | .... | .... | 39 |
| 1940 | .... | .... | .... | .... | 39 |
| 1941 | .... | .... | .... | .... | 62 |
| 1942 | .... | .... | .... | .... | 55 |
| 1943 | .... | .... | .... | .... | 85 |

Deaths of Illegitimate Children in the first year.

| | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|---|
| 1938 | .... | .... | .... | .... | 3 |
| 1939 | .... | .... | .... | .... | 1 |
| 1940 | .... | .... | .... | .... | 4 |
| 1941 | .... | .... | .... | .... | 7 |
| 1942 | .... | .... | .... | .... | 5 |

An investigation was made into the circumstances of 90 such children, and it was found that—

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|----|
| Children living at mother's home | .... | .... | .... | .... | 71 |
| " " with aunt | .... | .... | .... | .... | 4 |
| " " " foster parents | .... | .... | .... | .... | 2 |
| Adopted | .... | .... | .... | .... | 13 |
| | | | | | — |
| | | | | | 90 |
| | | | | | — |

Other particulars found are as follows :—

| | | | | | |
|--|------|------|------|------|---------|
| In care of grandmother | .... | .... | .... | .... | 29 |
| Mother suffering from ill-health | .... | .... | .... | .... | 1 |
| Mother in service (with child) | .... | .... | .... | .... | 2 |
| Mother and child in lodgings | .... | .... | .... | .... | 2 |
| Mother married or about to be married | .... | .... | .... | .... | 3 |
| Child legitimatised | .... | .... | .... | .... | 1 |
| Mother living with man not her husband | .... | .... | .... | .... | 3 |
| Mother absconded | .... | .... | .... | .... | 1 |
| Mother at work | .... | .... | .... | .... | 18 |
| Child not making satisfactory progress | .... | .... | .... | .... | 3 |
| Home not entirely satisfactory | .... | .... | .... | .... | 14 |
| Mother of poor mentality | .... | .... | .... | .... | 4 |
| Child at nursery | .... | .... | .... | .... | 4 |
| More than one illegitimate child | .... | .... | .... | .... | 3 cases |

Ministry of Health Circular 2866 was received and was carefully considered by the Committee, who decided to implement it in every possible way—to assist the mother and to rehabilitate her, and to attempt to provide the child with the best possible upbringing.

Foster Mother Scheme.—As a form of fostering is an important feature of any scheme for the care of illegitimate children, attempts were made to improve the status of foster mothers and to induce more women of the right kind to enrol as foster mothers. In November, 1943, the following scheme for a foster mother service in respect of children up to the age of 9 years was introduced :—

(a) Suitable women who are willing to act as foster mothers to be registered with the Corporation.

(b) Application for the finding of foster mothers to be made to the Corporation who will endeavour to meet requirements from their register of women willing to act as foster mothers.

(c) On a child being placed by the Corporation with a foster mother the Corporation to pay to the foster mother the sum of 17/6d. per week in respect of the maintenance of the child, inclusive of the cost of medical attention, and the Corporation to recover from the mother of the child such sum as may be decided in each case.

This scheme was eventually modified by direction of the Minister of Health to apply to foster mothers with children who have not attained the age of 5 years. The scheme is hampered by the continued dearth of foster-mothers.

Adoption of Children.—This Act was brought into force on the 1st June, 1943, making safeguards in cases of adoption and preventing indiscriminate adoptions. Adoptions can only now be arranged through local supervising authorities and registered adoption societies. A Case Committee was appointed during the year. The health visitors have done much of the work for the adoption societies, and the following reports were submitted to the various societies. National Adoption Society 29. National Children's Adoption Association 3. National Children's Home and Orphanage 1.

War-Time Nurseries.—The three war-time nurseries at Upham Road, Broad Street and Pinehurst remained open during the year.

Arrangements remained in force as in the previous year.

Each nursery is in charge of a Matron, who is a State Registered Nurse, and the staff has been trained in the care of small children.

Children between the ages of one and five years, whose mothers are in work which helps the War effort, are admitted. It is not considered advisable, as a general rule, to admit children under one year of age into the nursery, though occasionally an exception is made.

Each nursery is divided into two parts—one for the smaller babies and the other for the children who are able to run about, and some of the older children attend the nursery classes in neighbouring schools, to which they are conducted and collected by members of the nursery staff.

Arrangements were made for the children to be regularly medically examined, and with the parents' consent, diphtheria immunisation was carried out.

There were two outbreaks of dysentery during the year and special precautions were taken.

The Senior Matron, Miss H. Viney, resigned, and Mrs. S. Barnes was appointed as Matron, Upham Road War-time Nursery, with effect from the 23rd August, 1943.

STATISTICS.

No. of children on register at the end of the year.

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------|--------------|-----------|-------|
| Upham Road War-Time Nursery | Under 2 | 13 | | |
| | 2—5 | 17 | | |
| | | — | 30 | |
| Broad Street War-Time Nursery | Under 2 | 17 | | |
| | 2—5 | 31 | | |
| | | — | 48 | |
| Pinehurst War-Time Nursery | Under 2 | 11 | | |
| | 2—5 | 17 | | |
| | | — | 28 | |
| Total number of attendances. | Upham Road | Broad Street | Pinehurst | Total |
| Six months—January—June | 2041 | 3358 | 2813 | 8212 |
| Six months—July—December | 2942 | 4161 | 2986 | 10089 |

It is very gratifying to be able to present a report, which, despite a time of stress and anxiety, shows no deterioration in the health of the Community and which also records some advances in our care for the more unfortunate members.

I would like to express my gratitude to all the members of the staff of the Health Department for their loyal co-operation through a difficult year. I take this occasion to thank the Health Committee for their unfailing help and encouragement, and remain,

Your Servant,

LLYWELYN ROBERTS.

Public Health Department,
Civic Offices,
Swindon.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The Isolation Hospital year runs from the 1st April, 1943, to the 31st March, 1944. The number of new admissions during the year 1st April, 1943 to 31st March, 1944, was 365 against 250 and 419 in the two previous years. On the 1st April, 1943, there were 20 patients remaining in Hospital, so that altogether 385 cases were under treatment during the year. Of these, 353 cases were discharged cured, 2 died, 1 was transferred to Stratton and 29 remained in Hospital at the end of the year, 31st March, 1944.

The 365 cases admitted during the year were chargeable to the following local authorities :—

Public Health Acts.

| | |
|--|-----|
| Swindon Borough | 204 |
| Highworth Rural District | 64 |
| Cricklade and Wootton Bassett Rural District | 16 |

Maternity and Child Welfare (Puerperal Pyrexia Cases).

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Swindon Borough | 22 mothers 20 babies |
| Wilts County Council | 5 mothers 3 babies |

One case was admitted from the Swindon Borough district and will be chargeable to the Ministry of Health under the Evacuation Scheme.

30 military cases were admitted during the year.

The 385 cases arranged according to the final diagnosis :—

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| Measles | 7 |
| Rubella | 7 |
| Encephalitis following measles | 1 |
| Encephalitis | 2 |
| Scarlet Fever | 166 |
| Diphtheria | 53 |
| Diphtheria Carrier | 10 |
| Diphtheria Carrier with Scarlet Fever | 1 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | 30 |
| Babies with Mothers | 26 |
| Tonsillitis | 39 |
| Vincent's Angina | 4 |
| Chicken Pox | 2 |
| Laryngeal Obstruction | 1 |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | 3 |
| Mother with baby | 1 |
| Pneumonia | 8 |
| Whooping Cough | 6 |

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---|
| Marasmus | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 |
| Gastro-Enteritis | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 |
| Cerebro-spinal Meningitis | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 |
| Dysentery | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 5 |
| Endocarditis | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 |
| Erysipelas | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 |
| Infective Hepatitis | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 |
| Poliomyelitis | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 |
| Food Poisoning | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 |
| Mumps | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 |
| Typhoid | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 |
| Typhoid investigation | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 |

There were two deaths from diphtheria of Swindon children during the Hospital year :—

- (1) a child aged 5 who was only partially immunised.
- (2) a child aged 3½ who had not been immunised.

LLYWELYN ROBERTS,

Medical Superintendent Isolation Hospital.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Etc. Committee.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting my Eighteenth Annual Report dealing with the work carried out by the Sanitary Department during the year ended December 31st, 1943.

Appended hereto will be found the tables giving full particulars of the inspections made during the year in conformity with the requirements of the Ministry of Health. Owing to war conditions, the remarks usually added have been dispensed with.

F. H. BEAVIS,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SANITARY STATISTICS, 1943.
TABLE OF NUISANCES RECORDED AND ABATED.

| Nature of Complaint. | Not abated at end of 1942 | Visited during 1943 | Total | Abated during 1943 | Not abated at end of 1943 |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|-------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Choked drains | 8 | 287 | 295 | 288 | 7 |
| Defective drains | 18 | 178 | 196 | 156 | 40 |
| traps | 20 | 68 | 88 | 80 | 8 |
| sinks | 18 | 70 | 88 | 60 | 28 |
| and dirty w.c.'s | 15 | 164 | 179 | 141 | 38 |
| flushing-cisterns | 24 | 110 | 134 | 97 | 37 |
| roofs | 70 | 335 | 405 | 292 | 113 |
| eaves-gutters & rainwater pipes | 41 | 224 | 265 | 185 | 80 |
| ceilings | 44 | 260 | 304 | 210 | 94 |
| walls | 104 | 564 | 668 | 469 | 199 |
| Damp walls | 49 | 242 | 291 | 202 | 89 |
| Dirty rooms | 120 | 613 | 733 | 529 | 204 |
| Defective floors | 116 | 492 | 608 | 435 | 173 |
| firegrates | 22 | 130 | 152 | 98 | 54 |
| coppers | 17 | 44 | 61 | 30 | 31 |
| yard paving | 18 | 77 | 95 | 65 | 30 |
| forecourt paving | 2 | 85 | 87 | 71 | 16 |
| Offensive accumulations | 4 | 15 | 19 | 18 | 1 |
| animals | 2 | 18 | 20 | 10 | 10 |
| Miscellaneous | 180 | 1091 | 1271 | 915 | 356 |
| TOTALS | 892 | 6067 | 5959 | 4351 | 1608 |

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS, 1943.

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|--------------|
| Work in course of construction | .... | .... | .... | 1670 |
| Infectious disease | .... | .... | .... | 864 |
| Slaughterhouses | .... | .... | .... | 1176 |
| Butchers' shops | .... | .... | .... | 586 |
| Markets | .... | .... | .... | 703 |
| Bakehouses | .... | .... | .... | 81 |
| Cow-sheds, milkshops and dairies | .... | .... | .... | 490 |
| Fishshops | .... | .... | .... | 322 |
| Food shops | .... | .... | .... | 1426 |
| Factories | .... | .... | .... | 230 |
| Outworkers' premises | .... | .... | .... | 5 |
| Common Lodging-house | .... | .... | .... | 11 |
| Revisits | .... | .... | .... | 2563 |
| Miscellaneous | .... | .... | .... | 3274 |
| Overcrowding Survey | .... | .... | .... | 174 |
| TOTAL | .... | .... | .... | 13575 |

BAKEHOUSES.

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|----|
| Number on Register | .... | .... | .... | 29 |
| Nuisances Found and Abated | .... | .... | .... | 48 |

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

| | | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|------|----|
| Dairies and Milkshops | .... | .... | .... | .... | 35 |
| Farms | .... | .... | .... | .... | 19 |
| Milk Purveyors from outside the Borough | .... |  |  |  | 12 |
| | | | | | 66 |
| Nuisances found and abated | .... | .... | .... |  | 76 |

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

Licences in force within the Borough.

| Designation. | Producers. | Bottlers. | Dealers. |
|-------------------|------------|-----------|----------|
| Tuberculin Tested | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| Accredited | 8 | — | — |

There are 4 producers of Tuberculin Tested milk, and 5 producers of Accredited milk from outside the Borough retailing milk within the Borough.

| Designation. | Pasteurisers. | Dealers. |
|--------------|---------------|----------|
| Pasteurised | 2 | 5 |

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

There are on the registers of the Department :—

| | |
|--|-----|
| Premises registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food | 81 |
| Premises registered for the sale, manufacture or storage of Ice-cream | 78 |
| Butchers' Shops | 80 |
| Wholesale Meat Stores | 2 |
| Fried Fish Shops | 32 |
| Other Food Shops | 274 |

SAMPLES TAKEN.

| | |
|----------------|----|
| Informal | 37 |
| Formal | 45 |
| Unsatisfactory | 7 |

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

The following table shows the number of carcasses inspected during the year, together with the approximate average per week.

| | Cattle | | Calves | Pigs | Sheep | Total. |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------------|--------|------|-------|--------|
| | Cows | Other Cattle | | | | |
| Total inspected | 3691 | 2402 | 1845 | 573 | 12876 | 21387 |
| Approximate average per week. | 71 | 46 | 35 | 11 | 247 | 410 |

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED, 1943.

| | Cattle | | Calves | Pigs | Sheep and lambs |
|--|--------|--------------|--------|------|-----------------|
| | Cows | Other cattle | | | |
| Killed and inspected | 3691 | 2402 | 1845 | 573 | 12876 |
| DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | 62 | 12 | 7 | 2 | 37 |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | 632 | 312 | 12 | 89 | 2706 |
| Approximate percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis | 19 | 14 | .97 | 14 | 21 |
| TUBERCULOSIS ONLY. | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | 143 | 10 | 2 | 2 | — |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | 1582 | 400 | 2 | 108 | — |
| Approximate percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis | 46 | 16 | .21 | 19 | — |

UN SOUND FOOD

131 Tons. 10 Cwts. 2 Qrs. 14 Lbs.

DISINFECTANTS.

| | | | | | |
|------------------|--------|------|----------|--------|---------|
| Quantity given : | Fluid | .... | 46 gals. | 1 qt. | 1 pt. |
| | Powder | .... |  | 3 qrs. | 27 lbs. |

DISINFECTION.

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|-----|
| Cases of Cancer | .... | .... | .... | .... | 5 |
| „ Tuberculosis | .... | .... | .... | .... | 12 |
| „ Scarlet Fever | .... | .... | .... | .... | 109 |
| „ Diphtheria | .... | .... | .... | .... | 30 |
| „ Pneumonia | .... | .... | .... | .... | — |
| Miscellaneous Cases | .... | .... | .... | .... | 68 |
| Verminous Rooms | .... | .... | .... | .... | 380 |
| Library Books disinfected | .... | .... | .... | .... | 102 |
| Lots of Bedding disinfected | .... | .... | .... | .... | 214 |
| Miscellaneous Articles disinfected | .... | .... | .... | .... | 102 |
| Lots of Bedding destroyed | .... | .... | .... | .... | 16 |
| Miscellaneous Articles destroyed | .... | .... | .... | .... | 11 |
| Animals destroyed | .... | .... | .... | .... | — |

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

| | | | | | |
|--|------|------|------|------|----|
| On Register | .... | .... | .... | .... | 1 |
| Number of persons for whom accommodation is provided :—Adults, 109 ; Children 8. | | | | | |
| Inspections | .... | .... | .... | .... | 11 |

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

The following is a table showing the work carried out by your officer under the above Act during the year under review :—

| Rats Caught | Complaints Received | Due to Defects of Drains or Sewers. | Due to Structural Defects. |
|-------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1,264 | 118 | 6 | 5 |

A very severe infestation of Rodents occurred at the Rodbourne Tip during the year, and owing to the shortage of labour it was impossible to keep the rodents under control. Consequently a firm of contractors was employed to carry out the wholesale destruction of these pests. This Work was carried out very efficiently, most of the rodents being exterminated.

DISINFECTION OF VEHICLES ETC. AT THE
CATTLE MARKET.

| <i>Number Disinfected.</i> | <i>Fees Received.</i> | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | <i>£</i> | <i>s.</i> | <i>d.</i> |
| 999 | 24 | 19 | 6 |

HOUSING.

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Houses Inspected | .... | .... | .... | .... | 1127 |
| „ found to be defective | .... | .... | .... | .... | 1074 |
| „ rendered fit by informal action | .... | .... | .... | .... | 921 |
| „ rendered fit by formal action | .... | .... | .... | .... | 13 |
| „ overcrowded | .... | .... | .... | .... | 26 |
| Persons affected | .... | .... | .... | .... | 249 |
| Overcrowding abated | .... | .... | .... | .... | 2 |
| Persons affected | .... | .... | .... | .... | 23 |

BOROUGH OF SWINDON.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

School Medical Officer

(LLYWELYN ROBERTS, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.)

For the Year 1943.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee of the
Borough of Swindon.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting a report of the School Medical work for the Borough of Swindon for the year 1943.

As during the other war years the report is an abridged one, many details of the usual Tables being omitted, but the Tables are kept and will be available for future reference.

STAFF CHANGES, Etc.

Dr. R. G. Smithson, Deputy Medical Officer of Health, resigned on 30.9.43.

Miss E. H. Beattie, Senior Health Visitor, resigned on 21.8.43, and her place was filled by the appointment of Mrs. M. Lumley who commenced on 1.11.43.

Miss O. Marker, Heath Visitor, resigned on 27.12.43.

Mr. B. S. Birkhahn, Temporary Assistant Dental Surgeon, resigned on 15.10.43.

One important alteration in the method of medical examinations occurred during the year. The Board of Education Circular 1604 requested that the following changes should be made in medical inspection owing to the shortage of medical officers. These changes suggested are—

1. that the examination of the 8 year old group should be omitted and
2. that the leavers be examined at the age of 12½ years instead of 13 as was the custom.

This meant that the children who entered school at the age of 5 years might only be examined twice during their school life, and it was felt that some effort should be made to compensate this. The Education Committee decided to try out the following plan—

1. Routine Medical Inspections at 5 and 12½ years of age as requested by the Board of Education.
2. A "Survey" on the following lines:—the Health Visitor to inspect every child who would not fall into the two age groups above.

The Nurses Survey to consist of the following examinations and investigations:—

Height.

Weight.

Vision.

Hearing

Cleanliness.

Illnesses.

Progress in school.

Any other information obtained as a result of a consultation with the Head Teacher.

The Nurse as a result of her examination would refer any child found to be unsatisfactory in any of the above categories for a further examination by the Medical Officer. It will be seen as a result of the Survey (Table 1) that 2142 children were surveyed and that 413 were referred to the doctor out of which number 226 children were referred for treatment. These children would not otherwise have been seen until they reached school leaving age and some defects now discovered might have resulted in some serious condition by the time the child reached the age of 12½ years.

Owing to shortage of Staff this Survey was only carried out for about three months but it is hoped it will be possible to see many more children during the year 1944.

Table 2 shows the classification of defects which were discovered as a result of this Survey.

UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

The mass movements of the population which has occurred during the war has given rise to some concern regarding the state of cleanliness of the child population and I feel it might be advisable to review the position as shown in the results of the visits to schools to discover whether there has been an increase in uncleanness.

The following Table 3, shows the state of cleanliness of the school population from 1921 to the year under review. The average has been taken of 5 yearly periods between 1921 and 1936, but after 1936, the yearly results have been shown. The Table shows that there has not been any decrease in the number of examinations carried out despite war conditions, and that the number of unclean children has not decreased. I think that it can also be claimed that the amount of severe lousiness has decreased and the number of children whom it has been necessary to cleanse has steadily decreased. Uncleanness is ultimately a reflection upon the social system and the state of education of the general

public and as the main purpose of the school medical service is educational it is a confession of failure to have to recourse to judicial proceedings although one is strongly tempted to do so on occasions. No legal proceedings have been taken in Swindon for this purpose since 1920.

NUTRITION.

The nutrition of the school child is receiving increased attention. It is a far cry from the beginning of this century when it was necessary to take steps to improve the nutrition of the children in order that they could be physically capable of assimilating the free education which was then being provided for the first time. Our conception of education has widened and it now involves the taking of all possible steps to prepare the child as adequately as possible to take his or her place as a citizen. Comparisons between different years are often fallacious because the assessment of nutrition depends so much upon the personal views of the medical officers responsible for the assessments. I have felt however that the Table (4) might be of interest. It shows the classification of children in the three "age groups" from 1935 to 1943. It shows that there is a fairly steady improvement in the nutrition of children as they proceed through school life. The "entrant" in 1935 becomes the "eight year old" about 1939, and the "eight year old" in 1935 becomes the "leaver" about 1941. If the Table is followed in this way it will be seen that there is on the whole a steady increase in the nutritional standard during school life, although the "A" group in 1943 compares unfavourably with the other years but if the sum of the "A" and "B" groups is considered it will be seen that there has been no great deviation from the general rule.

LLYWELYN ROBERTS,
School Medical Officer.

NURSES' SURVEY, (14.4.43 to 28.9.43)

TABLE 1.

| | | No. of Children seen by health Visitors at the Survey | | No. referred to Doctor | | Per-centage Re-ferred | *No. referred directly by Health Visitor for treatment | |
|---------------------|-----|---|-------|------------------------|-------|-----------------------|--|-------|
| | | | Total | | Total | | | Total |
| GIRLS' Depts. (2) | 110 | | 13 | | | — | | |
| | 245 | 355 | 83 | 96 | 27% | 10 | 10 | |
| Boys' Depts. (1) | 249 | 249 | 72 | 72 | 28% | 13 | 13 | |
| MIXED Depts. (5) | 231 | | 43 | | | 11 | | |
| | 320 | | 21 | | | 1 | | |
| | 250 | | 42 | | | 17 | | |
| | 161 | | 23 | | | — | | |
| | 213 | 1175 | 32 | 161 | 13% | 22 | 51 | |
| INFANTS' Depts. (5) | 68 | | 9 | | | — | | |
| | 68 | | 16 | | | — | | |
| | 122 | | 23 | | | — | | |
| | 73 | | 20 | | | — | | |
| | 32 | 363 | 16 | 84 | 23% | — | — | |
| | | 2142 | | 413 | 19% | | 74 | |

* These were cases requiring urgent attention—*e.g.* septic conditions, urgent eye examination, etc.

CASES SEEN BY DOCTOR FROM NURSES' SURVEY
(14.5.43 to 28.9.43)

TABLE 2

| | | Number seen | | No. referred for Treatment | | Refd. for Treatment | | | | |
|---------------------|----|-------------|-------|----------------------------|-------|---------------------|-----|---------|-----------|-------------|
| | | | Total | | Total | E.N.T. | Nut | Vis-ion | Orth-obs. | Oth-er cons |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| GIRLS' Depts. (2) | 10 | | 8 | | | | | | | |
| | 72 | 82 | 20 | 28 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 10 | 10 | |
| Boys' Depts. (1) | 70 | 70 | 10 | 10 | 3 | — | 1 | 3 | 3 | |
| MIXED Depts. (5) | 21 | | 8 | | | | | | | |
| | 43 | | 24 | | | | | | | |
| | 42 | | 34 | | | | | | | |
| | 23 | | 11 | | | | | | | |
| | 30 | 159 | 25 | 102 | 29 | 12 | 4 | 28 | 29 | |
| INFANTS' Depts. (5) | 8 | | 2 | | | | | | | |
| | 16 | | 11 | | | | | | | |
| | 21 | | 3 | | | | | | | |
| | 19 | | 14 | | | | | | | |
| | 16 | 80 | 10 | 40 | 12 | 6 | 3 | 8 | 11 | |
| TOTAL. (13) | | 391 | | 180 | 49 | 19 | 10 | 49 | 53 | |

TABLE 3.

UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

| | 1921-25 | 1926-30 | 1931-35 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses | — | 8 | 9 | 7 | 7 | 6.4 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 8.5 | 8.5 |
| 2. Total number of examinations of children in the schools by the School Nurses | 21764 | 28353 | 28538 | 22320 | 26254 | 25361 | 24569 | 21755 | 20900 | 26573 | 30488 |
| 3. Number of individual children found unclean | 1491 | 1707 | 1018 | 471 | 567 | 338 | 591 | 543 | 632 | 678 | 499 |
| 4. Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority | 541 | 799 | 519 | 282 | 4 | 12 | 37 | 130 | 4 | 11 | 5 |
| 5. Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :— | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (a) Under the Education Act, 1921 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| (b) Under the School Attendance Byelaws | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |

TABLE 4.

CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN.

| AGE GROUPS | No. of children examined | A (Excellent) | | B (Normal) | | A + B | | C (Slightly sub-normal) | | D (Bad) | |
|------------------|--------------------------|---------------|------|------------|------|-------|------|-------------------------|------|---------|-----|
| | | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| ENTRANTS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1935 | 813 | 108 | 13 | 627 | 77 | 735 | 90.4 | 78 | 10 | — | — |
| 1936 | 1074 | 182 | 17 | 801 | 75 | 983 | 91.5 | 89 | 8 | 2 | — |
| 1937 | 711 | 153 | 21.5 | 497 | 69.9 | 650 | 91.4 | 58 | 8.2 | 3 | .4 |
| 1938 | 787 | 161 | 21 | 557 | 71 | 718 | 91.2 | 66 | 8 | 3 | .4 |
| 1939 | 556 | 136 | 24.5 | 381 | 68.5 | 517 | 93 | 39 | 7 | — | — |
| 1940 | 471 | 98 | 20.8 | 339 | 72 | 437 | 92.8 | 34 | 7.2 | — | — |
| Evacs : | 125 | 24 | 19.2 | 89 | 71.2 | 113 | 90.4 | 12 | 9.6 | — | — |
| 1941 | 1265 | 341 | 27 | 845 | 66.8 | 1186 | 93.7 | 75 | 5.9 | 4 | .3 |
| Evacs : | 271 | 71 | 26.2 | 183 | 67.5 | 254 | 93.7 | 17 | 6.3 | — | — |
| 1942 | 958 | 294 | 30.7 | 609 | 63.6 | 903 | 94.2 | 54 | 5.6 | 1 | .1 |
| Evacs : | 26 | 8 | 30.8 | 18 | 69.2 | 26 | 100 | — | — | — | — |
| 1943 | 676 | 50 | 7.4 | 585 | 86.5 | 635 | 93.9 | 41 | 6.1 | — | — |
| Evacs. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| SECOND AGE GROUP | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1935 | 893 | 132 | 15 | 647 | 72 | 779 | 87.3 | 113 | 13 | 1 | — |
| 1936 | 933 | 158 | 17 | 672 | 72 | 830 | 88.9 | 94 | 10 | 9 | .1 |
| 1937 | 687 | 171 | 24.9 | 459 | 66.8 | 630 | 91.7 | 55 | 8 | 2 | .3 |
| 1938 | 747 | 169 | 23 | 518 | 69 | 687 | 92 | 60 | 8 | — | — |
| 1939 | 705 | 193 | 27.4 | 469 | 66.5 | 662 | 93.9 | 43 | 6.1 | — | — |
| 1940 | 578 | 118 | 20.4 | 410 | 70.9 | 528 | 91.3 | 50 | 8.7 | — | — |
| Evacs.: | 177 | 34 | 19.2 | 124 | 70.1 | 158 | 89.2 | 19 | 10.7 | — | — |
| 1941 | 918 | 236 | 25.8 | 618 | 67.3 | 854 | 93 | 60 | 6.5 | 4 | .4 |
| Evacs.: | 145 | 32 | 22 | 107 | 73.8 | 139 | 95.8 | 5 | 3.5 | 1 | .7 |
| 1942 | 882 | 226 | 25.6 | 600 | 68 | 826 | 93.6 | 47 | 5.3 | 9 | 1.1 |
| Evacs.: | 47 | 12 | 25.6 | 33 | 70.2 | 45 | 95.7 | 1 | 2.1 | 1 | 2.1 |
| 1943 | 283 | 62 | 21.9 | 201 | 71 | 263 | 92.9 | 20 | 7.1 | — | — |
| Evacs.: | 2 | — | — | 2 | 100 | 2 | 100 | — | — | — | — |

TABLE 4.—(Continued)

CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN.

| AGE GROUPS | No. of children examined | A (Excellent) | | B (Normal) | | A ÷ B | | C (Slightly sub-normal) | | D (Bad) | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------|------|------------|------|-------|------|-------------------------|-----|---------|-----|
| | | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| THIRD AGE GROUP | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1935 | 888 | 152 | 17 | 670 | 76 | 822 | 92.6 | 65 | 7 | 1 | — |
| 1936 | 930 | 184 | 20 | 680 | 73 | 864 | 92.7 | 63 | 7 | 3 | — |
| 1937 | 641 | 171 | 26.7 | 434 | 67.7 | 605 | 94.4 | 35 | 5.5 | 1 | .1 |
| 1938 | 762 | 198 | 26 | 536 | 70 | 734 | 96.3 | 28 | 4 | — | — |
| 1939 | 697 | 237 | 34 | 434 | 62.2 | 671 | 96.3 | 26 | 3.7 | — | — |
| 1940 | 695 | 237 | 34.1 | 429 | 61.7 | 666 | 95.8 | 29 | 4.2 | — | — |
| Evacs : | 236 | 79 | 33.5 | 142 | 60.2 | 221 | 93.6 | 15 | 6.4 | — | — |
| 1941 | 1077 | 310 | 28.8 | 695 | 64.5 | 1005 | 93.2 | 63 | 5.9 | 9 | .8 |
| Evacs : | 271 | 92 | 33.9 | 168 | 62 | 260 | 95.9 | 11 | 4.1 | — | — |
| 1942 | 646 | 168 | 26 | 422 | 65.3 | 590 | 91.3 | 51 | 7.9 | 5 | .8 |
| Evacs : | 42 | 12 | 28.6 | 25 | 59.5 | 37 | 88 | 4 | 9.5 | 1 | 2.4 |
| 1943 | 626 | 198 | 31.6 | 398 | 63.6 | 596 | 95.2 | 30 | 4.8 | — | — |
| Evacs : | 17 | 5 | 29.4 | 11 | 64.7 | 16 | 94.1 | 1 | 5.9 | — | — |
| TOTALS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1935 | 2594 | 392 | 15 | 1944 | 75 | 2336 | 90 | 256 | 10 | 2 | — |
| 1936 | 2937 | 524 | 17.8 | 2153 | 73.3 | 2677 | 91.1 | 246 | 8.4 | 14 | .5 |
| 1937 | 2039 | 495 | 24.3 | 1390 | 68.1 | 1885 | 92.4 | 148 | 7.3 | 6 | .3 |
| 1938 | 2296 | 528 | 23 | 1611 | 70 | 2139 | 93.1 | 154 | 7 | 3 | — |
| 1939 | 1958 | 566 | 28.9 | 1284 | 65.6 | 1850 | 94.5 | 108 | 5.5 | — | — |
| 1940 | 1744 | 453 | 26 | 1178 | 67.5 | 1631 | 93.5 | 113 | 6.5 | — | — |
| Evacs : | 538 | 137 | 25.5 | 355 | 66 | 492 | 91.4 | 46 | 8.6 | — | — |
| 1941 | 3260 | 887 | 27.2 | 2158 | 66.2 | 3045 | 93.4 | 198 | 6.1 | 17 | .5 |
| Evacs : | 687 | 195 | 28.4 | 458 | 66.7 | 653 | 95 | 33 | 4.8 | 1 | .1 |
| 1942 | 2486 | 688 | 27.7 | 1631 | 65.6 | 2319 | 93.2 | 152 | 6.1 | 15 | .6 |
| Evacs : | 115 | 32 | 27.8 | 76 | 66.1 | 108 | 93.9 | 5 | 4.3 | 2 | 1.8 |
| 1943 | 1585 | 310 | 19.6 | 1184 | 74.7 | 1494 | 94.2 | 91 | 5.7 | — | — |
| Evacs : | 19 | 5 | 26.3 | 13 | 68.4 | 18 | 94.7 | 1 | 5.3 | — | — |

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

Return of Medical Inspections 1943.

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Code Group Inspections:—

| | | | | |
|------------------|------|------|---------|----|
| Entrants | .... | .... | 676 | — |
| Second Age Group | .... | .... | (2) 283 | 2 |
| Third Age Group | .... | .... | 626 | 17 |
| | | | 1585 | 19 |
| | | | 1585 | 19 |

Number of Other Routine Inspections

.... (3) Nil.

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections

and Re-inspections

.... (4) 9343 241

- NOTES—(1) Figures in italics denote Evacuees—but are included in the first figure.
- (2) The small number of children examined in the second age group is due to the cessation of examinations carried out in this age group on the instruction of the Board of Education.
- (3) The children examined by the Nurses Survey are reported upon on page 27.
- (4) This number includes the children referred for treatment as a result of the Nurses Survey.

**Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the year in the
Routine Age Groups.**

| Age Groups | Number of Children Examined. | A (Excellent) | | B (Normal) | | C (Slightly Sub-Normal) | | D (Bad) | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|------|------------|------|-------------------------|-----|---------|---|
| | | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Entrants | 676 | 50 | 7.4 | 585 | 86.5 | 41 | 6.1 | — | — |
| | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Second Age Group | 283 | 62 | 21.9 | 201 | 71.1 | 20 | 7.1 | — | — |
| | 2 | — | — | 2 | 100 | — | — | — | — |
| Third Age Group | 626 | 198 | 31.6 | 398 | 63.6 | 30 | 4.8 | — | — |
| | 17 | 5 | 29.4 | 11 | 64.7 | 1 | 5.9 | — | — |
| Other Routine Inspections | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| TOTAL | 1585 | 310 | 19.6 | 1184 | 74.7 | 91 | 5.7 | — | — |
| | 19 | 5 | 26.3 | 13 | 68.4 | 1 | 5.3 | — | — |

Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area.

BLIND CHILDREN.—There are 3 children at Certified Schools for the Blind,

DEAF CHILDREN.—There is 1 child at a Certified School for the Deaf,

DIABETIC CHILDREN.—There is 1 child at a special school for Diabetics.

MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

FEEBLE-MINDED CHILDREN.

| At Certified Schools | At Public Elementary Schools | At Other Institutions | At no School or Institution | Total |
|----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-------|
| 19 — | 9 1 | 2 — | — — | 30 1 |

CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM MULTIPLE DEFECTS..

There is 1 child suffering from Blindness and Deafness who is accommodated at a Residential School.

RETURN OF DEFECTS TREATED.

Group I.—Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Group IV).

3103 (72) children suffered from Minor Ailments or Defects and received treatment. The Defects are classified as follows:—

| | | | |
|----------------------|-------|------|----|
| Diseases of the skin | ..... | 1939 | 54 |
| Minor Eye Defects | ..... | 245 | 2 |
| Minor Ear Defects | ..... | 239 | 6 |
| Miscellaneous | ..... | 680 | 10 |

Group II.—Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).

| DEFECT OR DISEASE | No. of Defects dealt with | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|----|-----------|--------|
| | Under the Authority's Scheme. | | Otherwise | Total. |
| Errors of Refraction (including Squint) | 517 | 17 | ..... | 517 17 |
| Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes | 116 | — | ..... | 116 — |
| (excluding those recorded in Group I). | | | | |
| TOTAL | 633 | 17 | ..... | 633 17 |

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed :

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| (a) Under the Authority's Scheme | ..... | ..... | 281 | 4 |
| (b) Otherwise | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |

Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles :

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| (a) Under the Authority's Scheme | ..... | ..... | 243 | 3 |
| (b) Otherwise | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat

NUMBER OF DEFECTS.

| Received Operative Treatment | | Received other forms of Treatment. | Total Number Treated. |
|-------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Under the Authority's Scheme. | By Private Practitioner or Hospital apart from the Authority's Scheme. | | |
| 98 | 1 | 159 | 257 |
| | — | — | 1 |

Group IV.—Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.

| | | |
|-------|--|-------|
| (i) | Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses | 8.5 |
| (ii) | Total Number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses | 30488 |
| (iii) | Number of individual children found unclean | 499 |
| (iv) | Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority | 5 |
| (v) | Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :— | |
| | (a) Under the Education Act, 1921 | Nil |
| | (b) Under School Attendance Byelaws | Nil |

Group V.—Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.

UNDER THE AUTHORITY'S SCHEME.

| Residential treatment with education. | Residential treatment without education. | Non-residential treatment at an orthopaedic clinic. | Total number treated. |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|-----------------------|
| 5 1 | — — | 59 1 | 59 1 |

TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE, THROAT AND EAR AT SPECIAL CLINIC.

| | | |
|--|-----|---|
| Number of cases referred for treatment | 237 | 2 |
| Number of Consultations | 360 | 5 |
| Number of Attendances at Clinic | 384 | 5 |
| Number for whom operation for tonsils and adenoids was advised | 82 | — |
| Number who received operation for tonsils and adenoids | 80 | 1 |
| Number of other operations performed | 18 | — |
| Number of cases cured | 104 | 2 |
| Number of cases remaining under observation or treatment | 58 | — |
| Number of cases for whom no report is available | 75 | — |

TREATMENT OF SCABIES AT THE CLEANSING STATION.

| | | |
|-------------------------|-----|----|
| Number of Cases treated | 392 | 5 |
| Number of attendances | 795 | 10 |

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY.

26 children were examined prior to their appearance at the Juvenile Court.

SCHOOL ACCIDENTS.

There were 214 (2) cases, mostly of a minor character, making 319 (3) attendances at the Clinic.

HIGHER EDUCATION.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN ATTENDING THE SWINDON
SECONDARY SCHOOLS INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR
ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1943.

ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

| | | | | | | |
|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------------|
| Boys | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 474 |
| Girls | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 382 |
| Total | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | <u>856</u> |

| | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|----|
| Number of Special Inspections and Re-inspections | | | 1102 | 22 |
|---|------|------|------|----|

RETURN OF DEFECTS TREATED.

Group I.—Minor Ailments.

165 5 children suffered from Minor Ailments or Defects and received treatment. The Defects are classified as follows:—

| | | | |
|----------------------|------|----|---|
| Diseases of the Skin | .... | 77 | 4 |
| Minor Eye Defects | .... | 21 | 1 |
| Minor Ear Defects | .... | 16 | — |
| Miscellaneous | .... | 51 | — |

Group II.—Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).

| DEFECT OR DISEASE | No. of Defects dealt with. | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|----------|-----------|--------------|
| | Under the Authority's Scheme. | | Otherwise | Total |
| Errors of Refraction (including Squint) | 132 | 1 | — | 132 1 |
| Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I). | 25 | — | — | 25 — |
| TOTAL | 157 | 1 | — | 157 1 |

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed :

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|------|----|---|
| (a) Under the Authority's Scheme | .... | 85 | 1 |
| (b) Otherwise | .... | — | — |

Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles :

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|------|----|---|
| (a) Under the Authority's Scheme | .... | 84 | — |
| (b) Otherwise | .... | — | — |

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

NUMBER OF DEFECTS.

| Received Operative Treatment. | | Received other forms of Treatment | Total Number Treated. |
|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Under the Authority's Scheme. | By Private Practitioner or Hospital apart from the Authority's Scheme. | | |
| 3 — | — — | 7 — | 10 — |

Group IV.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

There were 21 (—) cases treated under the Authority's Scheme.

SCHOOL ACCIDENTS.

There were 44 (—) cases, mostly of a minor character, making 117 (—) attendances at the Clinic.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL DENTAL SURGEON.
(W. KENYON BERRIE, L.D.S., F.R.P.S.G.)

All the Schools (Elementary and Secondary) have been dentally inspected.

Elementary Schools.

9,924 children were inspected and it was found that 50% required treatment.

5,029 were referred for treatment. 3,565 were actually treated, making 6,778 attendances.

Secondary Schools.

959 children were inspected, and 52.3% required treatment.

502 children were referred for treatment, 458 were actually treated, making 1105 attendances.

Day Commercial Classes.

The pupils attending the Day Commercial Classes were included in the Scheme this year for the first time.

59 children were inspected, 41 required treatment.
28 attended, making 83 attendances.

Mr. B. S. Birkhahn, B.D.S., left the Staff in October. Unfortunately up to the present time we have been unable to replace him.

The two Dental Attendants have put in a very full year's work and their attendance and help has been greatly appreciated.

The Statistical Returns are appended.

I wish to thank all the Members of the Health Department for the willing help and co-operation they have given us throughout the year.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS OF DENTAL INSPECTION AT THE SECONDARY SCHOOLS, YEAR 1943.

| Secondary School. | ENTRANTS | | RE-INSPECTIONS | | Total Number Inspected | Total Number referred for treatment | Total Number referred for treatment | Number free from caries |
|---------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Number Inspected | Number referred for treatment | Number Inspected | Number referred for treatment | | | | |
| The College | 30 | 12 | 305 | 167 | 335 | 179 | 179 | 156 |
| Euclid Street | 21 | 12 | 271 | 161 | 292 | 173 | 173 | 119 |
| The Commonweal | 12 | 4 | 317 | 146 | 329 | 150 | 150 | 179 |
| TOTALS | 63 | 28 | 893 | 474 | 956 | 502 | 502 | 454 |

Percentage of Entrants requiring treatment 44.4%

Percentage of children Re-inspected requiring treatment 53.07%

Percentage of Total number of children inspected requiring treatment 52.5%

SUMMARY OF RESULTS OF DENTAL INSPECTION AT THE DAY COMMERCIAL SCHOOL, YEAR 1943.

| ENTRANTS | | RE-INSPECTIONS | | Total Number Inspected | Total Number referred for treatment | Number free from caries |
|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Number Inspected | Number referred for treatment | Number Inspected | Number referred for treatment | | | |
| 23 | 14 | 36 | 27 | 59 | 41 | 18 |



