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Contributors

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Borough



Swindon.

OF

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1944

AND THE

Isolation Hospital Annual Report

From the 1st April, 1944, to the 31st March, 1945

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



**Report of the
Chief Sanitary Inspector
FOR THE YEAR 1944.**



**Annual Report
of the School Medical Officer
FOR THE YEAR 1944.**



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BOROUGH OF SWINDON.

COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEES AND STAFF.

HEALTH ETC. COMMITTEE.

The Mayor (Alderman C. S. MACPHERSON, J.P.)

Councillor G. H. SELMAN (Chairman) Councillor N. V. TOZE, (Vice-Chairman)

Alderman T. MANNING

Councillor F. E. AKERS

" L. J. NEWMAN

" A. J. L. TOMBS

" W. J. DAVIS

" Mrs. E. M. SIMPKINS

Councillor W. R. ROBINS

" T. GAY

" Mrs. E. CARTER

" Mrs. M. LOWE

" J. BOND

" P. KING

" T. H. MINCHIN

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE.

THE MAYOR (Alderman C. S. MACPHERSON, J.P.)

Councillor Mrs. E. M. SIMPKINS (Chairman)

Alderman T. MANNING

Councillor A. J. L. TOMBS

" L. J. NEWMAN

" G. H. SELMAN

" W. J. DAVIS

" Mrs. M. LOWE

Councillor W. R. ROBINS

" T. H. MINCHIN

" Mrs. E. CARTER

Miss K. J. STEPHENSON

" N. V. TOZE

Mrs. H. A. SCHMITZ

" J. BOND

Mrs. W. DRAPER

" T. GAY

Mrs. F. MORRIS

" P. KING

" F. E. AKERS

Town Clerk—D. MURRAY JOHN, Esq., O.B.E.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer—

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

*Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical Officer**(Temporary)*

ANGEL V. B. CRAWFORD, M.B., D.P.H. commenced 7/2/44.

*Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical Officer—**(Temporary)*

AUDREY DRIVER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. resigned 19/2/44.

ROSE M. DOMICAN, M.B., D.P.H. commenced 11/10/44.

*Consultant Staff.**Ophthalmic Surgeon:*

OLIVER B. PRATT, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.O., (Oxon), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Orthopaedic Surgeon:—

M. F. FORRESTER BROWN, M.D. (Lond.), M.S.

Pediatrician:

Dr. BERYL CORNER, M.D., M.R.C.P.

Consulting Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon:

A. LEIGH, Esq., F.R.C.S.

Speech Therapist:

MISS GLADYS A. JANSSON, Bath. Associate of the British Society of Speech Therapists.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

STAFF—Continued.

Chief Sanitary Inspector—
F. H. BEAVIS.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors—
H. A. BANWELL,
F. R. G. SELWOOD,
E. H. HOLROYD,
R. A. LAW.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector (Temporary)—
A. E. WARMINGER.

Dental Surgeons—
W. KENYON BERRIE, L.D.S., R.F.P.S.G.
KENNETH W. MASSEY, L.D.S.
G. BUIST WESTWATER, L.D.S., R.C.S.*

Senior Health Visitor and School Nurse—
Mrs. W. M. LUMLEY

Health Visitors and School Nurses.

Miss I. D. SAMPSON
Miss A. HAWKINS
Miss D. E. WAITE
Miss W. PARKINS
Miss E. M. PILCHER (left the Service 15/7/44).

Temporary Health Visiting and School Nursing Duties—
Mrs. L. M. DAY (Commenced duties 6/3/44).

Social Welfare Worker—
Miss A. J. ORR (commenced duties 1/11/44).

Municipal Midwives—
Miss O. M. TREDELL, Extern Service of Maternity Home.
Miss D. M. FOOKS, " "
Miss N. Neal, " " (commenced duties 27/12/44).
Mrs. I. GALE (deceased 21/10/44).
Mrs. A. V. INGRAM
Mrs. H. M. MORTIMORE
Miss W. I. SHEPPARD

Matron, Swindon Municipal Maternity Home and Training Centre—
Miss D. HANCOCK.

Matron, Swindon Isolation Hospital—
Miss F. A. SMITH.

Matrons, War-time Nurseries—

Upham Road,	Mrs. S. BARNES, State Registered Fever-trained.
Broad Street	Miss L. M. HODEY, S.R.N., (resigned 24/5/44).
	Miss E. W. CHIVERS.
Pinehurst	Miss F. R. H. CHAPPELL, S.R.N.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.**STAFF—Continued.***Clerical Staff—*

Head Clerk—S. MANSFIELD DEE

Senior Clerk Public Health Service—W. M. WATTS.

Assistant Clerks— W. H. PAUL*

A. M. R. JONES*

D. A. OWEN *

Temporary Staff— Mrs. M. P. H. DALE

Miss L. M. RAWLINGS

Mrs. M. E. SHARPE

Mrs. C. M. GAIN

Miss M. COLLINS

Senior Clerk School Medical Service—J. W. DAY *

Clinical Clerks

" " (Temporary)

" " "

" " "

" " "

Miss G. L. NORRIS

Mrs. E. M. STEPHENS

Miss E. H. BARNES

Miss A. HILLIER

Miss J. DRAPER

Dental Attendants

(Temporary)

Mrs. E. FURLEY

Mrs. H. JAMES

Needlework Demonstrator

Miss M. JOBSON

Disinfector

A. C. MOLE *

Rat Catcher

S. F. WAKEFIELD

* On Active Service.

BOROUGH OF SWINDON.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH for the Year 1944.

Public Health Department,
Civic Offices,
SWINDON.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Swindon.*

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1944 which has been prepared on the lines suggested in the Ministry of Health Circular 49/45. Although the report is presented in an abridged form it has been enlarged to include matters which are considered to be important regarding the health services of the borough. All records are carefully kept for reference in future years.

The following changes occurred in the medical staff during 1944. Dr. A. V. Crawford, temporary Deputy Medical Officer of Health, commenced duties on the 7th February, 1944.

Dr. A. Driver, temporary Assistant Medical Officer of Health, resigned on the 19th February, 1944 and her place was taken by Dr. R. M. Domican, who commenced duties on the 11th October, 1944.

Following the adoption of the Rushcliffe Report for the Isolation Hospital nursing staff and the Report of the Midwives Salaries Committee in 1943, the Swindon Town Council adopted the Second Report of the Nurses' Salaries Committee dealing with Public Health Nurses and State Registered Nurses in Nurseries, as from the 1st April, 1943.

The salary scales for domestic staff in Public Health Institutions recommended in the Hetherington Report were adopted for the Isolation Hospital, Maternity Home and Convalescent Home staff.

Note on the Vital Statistics.

The statistics for the year are on the whole very gratifying, although the maternal death rate is high. This figure is further discussed in the section on maternity and child welfare. It will be noticed, however, that the number of live births is higher than in any year since 1908 and that there is a continuing high demand for beds in the Maternity Home. The Infant Death Rate is low, but it will be noticed that we have a comparatively large number of stillbirths. The stillbirths and the deaths of children within the first month should be considered together, because a weakly child may die before or during parturition or if born, may succumb in the early days of extra-uterine life. Undoubtedly, proper care before and during child-birth can reduce the number of stillbirths and deaths in the first days of life because the most potent causes of these deaths are (1) toxæmia of the mother frequently resulting in premature delivery of a weakly child and (2) obstetric interference which may cause damage to the child. This matter is further discussed on page 28.

The illegitimate birth rate is high in Swindon as it has been in almost all areas of Great Britain.

It will be noticed that there have been three infant deaths due to diarrhoea, and there has been a high incidence of mild enteritis amongst the general public, but when this infection attacks a young and weakly child, there is cause for anxiety. When a case comes under our notice, every effort is made to find out whether any of the contacts are associated with the preparation of food. Many causes can be mentioned as affecting the epidemic of enteritis.

- (i) The mildness of the disease does not usually result in the calling in of the medical practitioner, with the result that many persons return to work who are still excreting the germ causing the disease.
- (ii) There must be at one time or another, many carriers engaged in the preparation of food.
- (iii) Many more people are feeding in restaurants or canteens, so that one carrier may infect many people.
- (iv) The shortage of catering staff may cause lack of proper care in the handling and preparation of food.
- (v) The shortage of equipment may lead to less stringent cleansing of materials.

It will be noticed that thirty eight cases of dysentery were notified but I am sure that there have been many more cases of mild infection with the dysentery organism.

There were five cases of ophthalmia neonatorum but in no case was the vision impaired as a result and it is gratifying to mention that a speedy cure was obtained in each case by the use of the sulphonamide drugs.

Although seventy-four cases of diphtheria were notified and removed to hospital it will be noted that a large number of cases occur at the age above ten years. This is a trend that is occurring all over the Country and is probably due to the protection afforded to younger children by immunisation, but a number of the protected children may be carriers, who may infect their older companions who have either not been immunised, or whose immunity has waned.

Scarlet fever, of which there were seventy-five cases, continued to be of a mild character, with very few complications. It is gratifying to state that no cases of enteric fever (typhoid and paratyphoid) occurred during the year.

The incidence of pneumonia is low although the death rate is comparatively high.

No cases of cerebro-spinal fever, poliomyelitis, polioencephalitis or encephalitis lethargica, were notified during the year.

Measles continued to be a serious cause of illness amongst young children, but it is gratifying that no death occurred from this cause.

There was one death amongst 119 cases of whooping cough, and this occurred in a child aged 3 months who died from pneumonia following whooping cough aggravated by neglect. This case was the subject of a coroner's inquest.

Tuberculosis.

The number of cases of tuberculosis notified shows a decrease on 1943, but the total number of deaths is slightly higher. It is of interest to record that the Borough of Swindon was one of the first supporters of the project for erecting a sanatorium at Winsley and that they contributed £500 in 1903 towards the cost of the building and have ever since supported two beds in this institution.

I have introduced a few new items into the report. The increase in the birth rate has resulted in an increased number of children under the age of five years in the Borough. The table and diagram on page 28 shows that there are approximately 57% more children under five years in Swindon in 1944 compared with 1938.

The wastage of young life in the first days of infancy and stillbirths merits attention and I have endeavoured to describe the position on page 28-32.

On pages 13 and 14 will be found in semidiagramic form the development of diphtheria immunisation in the Borough. It is possible, with the aid of this table, to know at a given time, with a fair degree of accuracy, the number of children at various ages who have been immunised.

I have also included in the Report to the Education Committee :-

- (1) A review of the cases of Juvenile Delinquency brought before the Juvenile Court,
- (2) A survey of the attainments of past students of Westcott Place Special School.

I would like to thank the Committee for their gracious assistance on all occasions and for their appreciation of the difficulties that have had to be met. I have had every assistance from the staff and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking them for their continued loyalty and co-operation.

LLYWELYN ROBERTS,
Medical Officer of Health.

Civic Offices,
Swindon.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Registrar-General's estimate of population for 1944	67,040
Census 1931	62,401

Tables of Comparison.

Births and Deaths—	Total				Rate			
	1944	1943	1942	1941	1944	1943	1942	1941
Live Births	1409	1187	1174	1107	21.02	17.56	17.03	15.75
Deaths	729	739	765	803	10.87	10.93	11.09	11.43
Maternal Deaths								
From Puerperal Sepsis	2	1	—	—	1.37	0.83	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes	3	2	3	1	2.06	1.65	2.48	0.88
Infant deaths								
under 1 year	49	60	44	64	34.78	50.55	37.48	55.75
Deaths within 10 days								
of birth	26	28	23	26	—	—	—	—
Stillbirths	48	23	36	27	—	—	—	—
Deaths from diarrhoea in								
children under 2 years	3	5	1	4	—	—	—	—
Deaths from cancer	121	110	114	120	—	—	—	—
„ „ measles	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
„ „ whooping								
cough	1	1	1	3	—	—	—	—
	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	
No. of births	1409	1187	1174	1107	958	848	791	
Birth Rate	21.02	17.56	17.03	15.75	14.77	14.04	13.06	
No. of illegitimate births	106	85	55	62	39	39	40	
Illegitimate birth rate	1.58	1.26	0.80	0.87	0.60	0.66	0.64	
(per 1,000 population)								
Illegitimate birth rate								
per 100 total births	7.52%	7.16%	4.68%	5.6%	4.07%	4.59%	5.06%	
No. of births in								
Maternity Home	566	489	563	636	675	581	417	
Death Rate	10.87	10.93	11.09	11.43	15.35	12.54	11.64	
Infant Mortality Rate	34.78	50.55	37.48	55.75	61.43	38.42	54.36	
Illegitimate death rate	75.47	94.12	90.90	112.90	102.56	25.0	76.92	

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	65%
Percentage of expectant mothers receiving pre-natal nursing care under Corporation scheme	46%
Diphtheria Immunisation.	
Percentage of children under 5 years immunised	36%
Percentage of immunisations performed on children 5-15	64%

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1944.

(Registrar-General's Official Returns).

CAUSES.	Males.	Females	Total
Typhoid and paratyphoid fever	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—	—
Scarlet fever	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	1	1
Diphtheria	1	1	2
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	17	7	24
Other forms of Tuberculosis	4	4	8
Syphilitic diseases	3	1	4
Influenza	6	4	10
Measles	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis	—	—	—
Acute infantile encephalitis	—	—	—
Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus	8	—	8
Cancer of uterus	—	7	7
Cancer of Stomach and duodenum	10	7	17
Cancer of breast	—	11	11
Cancer of all other sites	44	32	76
Diabetes	—	2	2
Intracranial vascular lesions	34	54	88
Heart disease	99	104	203
Other diseases of circulatory system	15	1	16
Bronchitis	12	11	23
Pneumonia	10	11	21
Other respiratory diseases	3	2	5
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	12	1	13
Diarrhoea under 2 years	1	2	3
Appendicitis	2	2	4
Other digestive diseases	8	9	17
Nephritis	12	14	26
Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	—	2	2
Other maternal causes	—	3	3
Premature birth	7	7	14
Congenital malformation, birth injury, infantile disease	9	9	18
Suicide	—	4	4
Road Traffic accidents	7	4	11
Other violent causes	7	5	12
All other causes	36	40	76
ALL CAUSES	367	362	729

**TABLE SHOWING MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND THE NUMBER OF DEATHS
DURING 1944.**

DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES.												Total	No. of Deaths.
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.		
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	3	6	7	5	8	7	5	7	2	8	13	4	75	...
Diphtheria	8	16	6	8	6	6	4	1	1	6	4	8	74	2
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(including paratyphoid)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	6	7	1	1	3	4	1	5	1	3	1	...	33	...
Pneumonia	7	7	10	1	10	5	2	1	4	6	7	5	65	21
Erysipelas	1	2	2	1	...	5	2	1	1	...	2	1	18	...
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Polio-encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	...	5	13	2	...	7	...	3	2	2	...	4	38	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	3	4	13	37	244	320	128	8	...	...	2	...	759	...
Whooping Cough	4	10	16	12	8	14	7	11	5	14	11	7	119	1
TOTALS	33	58	68	68	280	369	149	37	16	39	40	29	1186	24

TUBERCULOSIS.

	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940
Number of cases notified	84	94	84	96	79
Respiratory Tuberculosis	72	75	62	71	58
Deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis	24	23	29	27	30
Deaths from Tuberculous Meningitis	1	2	4	9	2
Total Deaths	32	26	34	40	36
General death rate from all forms of Tuberculosis	0.48	0.38	0.49	0.57	0.56
Death rate for Respiratory Tuberculosis	0.34	0.34	0.42	0.38	0.46

ANALYSIS OF DIPHTHERIA—CONFIRMED CASES.

	Under 1 yr.		1—3		3—5		5—10		10—15		15—25		25 and over		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Quarter ending 31/3/44	—	1	2	—	1	2	1	2	7	—	3	3	—	2	14	10
Quarter ending 30/6/44	1	1	1	—	1	—	1	2	1	—	1	2	—	—	6	5
Quarter ending 30/9/44	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2
Quarter ending 31/12/44	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	2	—	1	3	5
	2	2	3	1	2	3	3	5	10	—	4	8	—	3	24	22

Four of the confirmed cases had completed a course of immunisation, but the one death occurred in a child aged 3 yrs. 4 months who had not previously been immunised. The other death occurred in an adult and we have no knowledge as to whether he had been immunised.

BOBOLINK
DIPHTHERIA
NUMBER OF CHILDREN IMMUNIZED

Year	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
0-1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1-2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2-3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
3-4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
4-5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
5-6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
6-7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
7-8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
8-9	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
9-10	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
10-11	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
11-12	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
12-13	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
13-14	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
14-15	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
15-16	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
16-17	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
17-18	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
of Children	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Immunized	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

Diphtheria Immunisation.

This weekly clinic has continued to function and every effort continues to be made to have as many young children immunised as possible. A table is appended showing the progress of diphtheria immunisation in the Borough from which it will be easy to calculate the approximate number of children protected at any one time. The attendances at the immunisation clinic for the year were as follows:—

Total number of attendances	3383
Total number of children completely immunised—	
(a) Under 5 years of age	584
(b) Over 5 years	129
Total number of Schick tests performed—	661
Negative	544
Positive	2
Results not known	115

Facilities for the treatment of Scabies.

The First Aid Post at Faringdon Road which had been used for scabies cleansing was closed towards the end of the year and facilities for scabies treatment were provided at Savernake Street first-aid post.

The following are the number of cases and attendances during 1944.

	No. of cases.	No. of attendances.
Men	238	255
Women	477	500
Children—School Children	416	435
Infant welfare cases	167	179
Total	1298	1369

Ambulance facilities.

The ambulances were provided as in the previous years and a twenty-four hour service was continued. Towards the end of the year it became evident that we could not rely indefinitely upon the facilities provided by the Civil Defence Ambulance Service and the Health Committee appointed a third ambulance driver in order to be certain of maintaining this important service. I would like here to mention my sincere appreciation of all the assistance that was so generously provided by the Civil Defence Ambulance Service in the conveyance of sick and injured, the transport of midwives, of children to war-time nurseries, the conveyance of vitamins to the distributing centres and of meals to the war-time nurseries. The assistance given contributed very largely to the extension of the public health service at a time when no other means of transport were available.

The following journeys were made by the ambulances :—

	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940
Transport of Infectious cases	229	254	195	419	870
Transport of Non-Infectious cases	701	1202	1097	907	846
Transport of Bedding for Disinfection and Laundry articles	748	1127	1380	4072	1910
Civil Defence Ambulance Journeys for transport of Non-Infectious cases	543	437	332	293	—

Bacteriological Examinations.

The Ministry of Health laboratory at the Isolation Hospital has been of great service and is now an accepted part of the health services of the area. I would wish to mention my appreciation of the facilities for consultation which I have always received from Col. F. R. Coppinger, O.B.E., who is in charge of the laboratory.

The number of specimens examined during the year was as follows :—

Swindon and North Wilts Victoria Hospital	1584
St. Margarets Hospital, Stratton	270
G.W.R. Medical Fund Society	598
Isolation Hospital	1234
Swindon Maternity Home	255
Public Health Department	951
Military Units	140
Private practitioners	283
Cricklade and Wootton Bassett Rural District	2
Malmesbury General Hospital	11
23rd General Hospital	1
Wilts County Council	1
Total	5330

Most of the Public Health work carried out by the Laboratory is naturally concerned with the investigation of infectious diseases. Examinations of swabs for diphtheria, examinations of discharges for haemolytic streptococci at the Maternity Home and a large number of examinations of faeces to exclude bowel infection amongst young children, were carried out for children in attendance at the War-time Nurseries. Other important work is also carried out for the children; this includes investigations of the blood for anaemia, examinations of urine in young children and also estimates of blood sedimentation rates in possible cases of rheumatism.

Dermatitis of the skin has also been bacteriologically investigated. One of the schools was immunised for diphtheria and there were three abscesses resulting from this procedure. The laboratory examined the reagents or the next comparable sample, to find out whether they were sterile ; they were found to be so.

Insulin.

The facilities for providing insulin free or at a reduced rate have continued, but there has been no increase in the number of cases (4) who have been assisted under this scheme.

Examination of Staff.

The frequent changes in staff brought about by the war, have resulted in an increase in the number of superannuations and other examinations undertaken by the department. The junior nursing staff of the Maternity Home, Isolation Hospital and War-time Nurseries are very carefully examined in order to find out whether their physical health is satisfactory, and particularly to exclude tuberculosis. Blood counts are carried out in each case to exclude anaemia. A tuberculosis examination is carried out by Dr. J. S. Harper, the County Tuberculosis Officer and consists of a clinic examination and a skin test and an x-ray. Up to date, 14 nurses have been examined and have been considered to be satisfactory. The total number of medical examinations was 181.

Convalescent Home.

The intention of the Committee to establish a convalescent home, noted in my previous report, has unfortunately, not been implemented. A matron was appointed, but it was impossible to open owing to the lack of domestic staff. Equipment has been obtained and the necessary adaptations almost completed. It is very much hoped that it will be possible to provide this important service for the community in the near future.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Swindon Maternity Home.				Borough	County	Evacuees	Totals
No. of cases in the Home on 1st Jan., 1944				5	2	1	8 patients 9 infants
No. of maternity cases admitted during the year				447	132	3 county 12 borough	594
No. of expectant mothers admitted for hospital treatment during the year				72	39	2 county 1 borough	114
No. of cases remaining in the Home on 31st December, 1944				20	4	—	24 patients 19 infants
No. of cases delivered by—							
(a) Midwives				370	102	2 county 7 borough	481
(b) Doctors				63	19	1 county 2 borough	85
No. of cases in which no delivery took place				22	13	—	35

In 222 cases medical assistance was sought by midwives.

19 cases were notified as puerperal pyrexia under the Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations.

There was one case of pemphigus neonatorum and three cases notified as ophthalmia neonatorum. Of these latter cases two were admitted to the Isolation Hospital; all were treated with M. & B. 693 and vision was unimpaired in all cases.

There were four maternal deaths in the Maternity Home (one county and three borough). The cause of death in each case was as follows:—

1. (a) Pulmonary Embolus. (b) Eclampsia (c) Surgical induction to remove dead foetus (7 months).
2. Pulmonary Embolism.
3. (a) Shock. (b) Ante-partum Haemorrhage (c) Toxaemia of pregnancy.
4. Eclampsia.

It will be noted that no maternal death occurred due to puerperal sepsis.

There were twenty-three stillbirths, cause of death in each case as follows :—

Prematurity	2
Injury at birth	12
Congenital Malformation	5
Maternal Toxaemia	2
Macerated Foetus	1
Accidental haemorrhage	1

Number of infant deaths within ten days of birth, with cause of death :—

Prematurity	7
Congenital Malformation	1
Maternal Toxaemia	1
Injury at birth	2
Traumatic rupture of liver	1

The Committee became gravely concerned regarding the future provision for midwifery in the Borough, and as it was felt that the assistance obtained from the Emergency Maternity Homes set up by the Government might cease with the end of hostilities, it was decided that efforts should be made to extend the provision for institutional delivery. It was found that it would be impracticable to extend on the present site of the Maternity Home and it was decided to acquire and adapt 83 Bath Road in order to transfer mothers after delivery and so free beds at the present maternity home. It is hoped in this way, to provide an extra 8—10 beds and a nursery for a corresponding number of children. There was considerable difficulty in obtaining equipment and in arranging the adaptations, but it is hoped to open this annexe in the near future, so as to obviate the transfer of Swindon mothers out of the town.

Domiciliary Midwifery.

Difficulties were experienced throughout the year in this department. I regret to have to record the death of Mrs. I. Gale, who had been on the staff since the inception of the midwifery service. Other members suffered from periods of illhealth. The amount of domiciliary midwifery continues to increase and difficulty was experienced in providing transport, although valuable assistance was obtained from the Civil Defence Service. In order to overcome the difficulties the assistant midwife was given a district and towards the end of the year, another midwife was appointed to the staff of the Extern Department of the Maternity Home. The Extern service of the Maternity Home dealt with 309 cases and the four municipal midwives attended 393 deliveries.

Maternal Deaths.

There were five maternal deaths accredited to Swindon.

Three cases which occurred in the Maternity Home have already been noted—the following additional deaths occurred in the district:—

- (1) One died in a general hospital and the cause of death was given as:—

- (a) Pulmonary Embolism.
- (b) Right Lobar Pneumonia (atypical).
- (c) Delivery of child six weeks ago.

- (2) The second woman also died in a general hospital. The case was reported to the Coroner who after an inquest issued the following certificate:—

Septicaemia due to peritonitis from rupture of uterus in self induced attempted abortion.

Nursing Home.

There is one Home registered within the Borough of Swindon. This Home which provides for ten beds which can be used for either Maternity or other purposes, was inspected by the Assistant Medical Officer of Health and was satisfactory.

Home Help Service which was instituted in 1943 with two members, was increased to three full-time home helps and has been much appreciated. The home help is called to the home in time to prepare for the midwife and she may give either full-time or part-time service during the whole of the lying-in period. Altogether, the home helps undertook the care of forty-eight mothers. Their work consists of running the home, undertaking the shopping and the cooking and generally relieving the mother, and, incidentally, the father also, during this anxious period. The charges made for the home help service vary according to the income and circumstances of the family. The home help is booked in advance, thus permitting her to visit the home and make the acquaintance of the mother.

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics.

Five ante-natal sessions are provided by the Council.

The following is a list of the clinics—

37, Milton Road	Monday	2.0 p.m.	G.W.R. Med. Fund Doctor
		10-11 a.m.	Matron's Bookings
	Tuesday	2.0 p.m.	Assistant M.O.H.
	Thursday	2.0 p.m.	G.W.R. Med. Fund Doctor
41, Kent Road	Friday	10.0 a.m.	Matron
	Tuesday	10.0 a.m.	Matron

Post-Natal Care.

41, Kent Road Wednesday afternoon Dr. A. W. Bennett
(by appointment)

Two post-natal sessions are held, (i) Dr. A. W. Bennett holds a clinic approximately once a month at 41, Kent Road, and (ii) Dr. A. V. Crawford, holds a weekly clinic at 37, Milton Road.

Altogether, 104 post-natal cases were seen during the year.

The dental arrangements also provide for dental treatment for mothers up to and one year after the birth of a child.

Consulting Obstetric Specialist and Consulting Ophthalmological Surgeon.

It was possible to obtain the services of Mr. Wilfred Shaw, F.R.C.S., for consultative purposes during the year, and he visited Swindon on alternate weeks. His advice has also been obtained in regard to cases at the Maternity Home and this service has been of great value and has been much appreciated.

Cases of disease and inflammation of the eye occurring in newborn babies (ophthalmia neonatorum) will, if not adequately treated sometimes result in blindness; the mother also in certain cases of toxæmia of pregnancy will suffer from deterioration of vision. Mr. O. B. Pratt, M.A., M.B., was appointed as a consulting ophthalmologist to be available at the Maternity Home and to the general practitioners in any cases requiring consultation from these causes.

Health Visiting.

The health visiting staff consists of one senior health visitor and six health visitors, who are engaged as school nurses and as health visitors for children up to the age of five years. In this way the health visitor is able to supervise the child from birth until it leaves school and also to acquire very important information regarding the family conditions. Notice of the birth is always received in the Public Health Department within thirty-six hours of birth and the health visitor visits soon after the midwife ceases attendance; she makes regular visits afterwards and she is also available for any special visits which become necessary.

Miss E. M. Pilcher, Health Visitor and School Nurse, retired from the service on 15th July, 1944, after completing twenty-two years of service.

The following visits were undertaken by the Health Visitors :—

First visits to mothers and children	1729
Re-visits	4529
Visits to children aged 1—5	5280
Visits to expectant mothers	192
Infant death and stillbirth enquiries	55
Infectious disease visits	1317
Visits to cases of tuberculosis	92
Child life protection visits	229
Total Visits	13423

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

There are five Infant Welfare Centres provided in the Borough, as follows :—

61, Eastcott Hill, Swindon	Monday	2—5 p.m. **
	Wednesday	2—5 p.m. *
	Friday	2—5 p.m. *
Pinehurst Clinic, Beech Avenue	Tuesday	2—5 p.m. *
Trinity Methodist Schoolroom, Cricklade Road	Wednesday	2—4.30 p.m. **
Methodist Schoolroom Romsey Street, Rodbourne	Thursday	2—4.30 p.m. **
Moredon Community Centre	Thursday	2—4.30 p.m. **

* Doctor in attendance.

**Doctor in attendance alternate weeks.

These sessions are available for consultation and advice for mothers, and children up to the age of five years. In order to assist mothers, in the Moredon area, a clinic was opened at 252, Whitworth Road on 17.2.1944, but it was later transferred to the Community Centre on the Moredon Estate. This extension has been much appreciated by the mothers in the area.

The arrangements for the distribution of cod liver oil, fruit juices and National Dried Milk were continued as in previous years.

Services of Children's Specialist.

Dr. Beryl Corner continued to hold sessions at fortnightly intervals during the year and children were referred to her clinic from the assistant medical officers and from general practitioners. Twenty sessions were held during the year and there were sixty-seven consultations, (40 school children and 27 maternity and child welfare). It has also been of great service to be able to discuss the various problems affecting child welfare with Dr. Corner,

Dental Scheme.

The dental service facilities were available for ante-natal and post-natal cases and for children under school age. 211 women availed themselves of the service and made 391 attendances at the clinic. 55 artificial dentures were provided, 23 partial and 32 full upper and full lower. 109 children were referred for treatment and made 186 attendances.

No. of teeth extracted by general anaesthetic	178
No. of teeth extracted by local anaesthetic	161

Dental Inspections were made at the Broad Street and Upham Road War Time Nurseries and of the 48 children who were seen, eight were referred for treatment.

Orthopaedic Treatment.

Children under school age attend the Orthopaedic Clinic held at the Isolation Hospital and the following are the particulars relating to this service —

No. of cases seen by Orthopaedic Surgeon	27
No. of consultations and attendances	44
No. of attendances at Sister's Clinic	183
No. of cases seen at the Orthopaedic Observation Clinic	91
No. of consultations and attendances	124

A Summary of Orthopaedic cases seen.		
Total	Boys 20	Girls 7
Due to Congenital Defects	9	2
Developmental defects	9	3
Infections of Bone	—	1
Diseases of Nervous System	2	1

Ages at which congenital defects were first seen at the Orthopaedic Clinic varied between 1 month to 3 years. Those due to post natal developmental conditions were first seen at ages between 1 year and 4 years.

has occurred due to an outbreak of mild dysentery owing to the fact that there will be many healthy carriers when an epidemic occurs and it is often necessary to take many specimens in order to be certain that the disease is not liable to be further spread.

Every effort is made to provide the child with as much recreation in the open air as possible, together with proper provision for sleep and rest. As a general rule, the children improve in their health and spirits by associating with a number of children of their own age.

The war-time nurseries were instituted to provide care for children during the period when their mothers would be working in the factories or on other essential war duties. The nurseries are open week-days from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Saturdays 7 a.m. to 1.30 p.m., but the hours vary according to the requirements of the mothers. Assistance is also given to mothers who are only able to undertake part-time employment.

It has been difficult up to now to arrange for any training of junior staff in order that they may qualify for the Nursery Nurses Certificate. This has occurred owing to the distances between the nurseries and the shortage of staff, so that it has been impossible to arrange any systematic series of lectures for the junior staff at one time. It is hoped that this omission will be remedied in the future.

STATISTICS.		No. of children on register at the end of the year.	Total number of attendances. Six months	
			Jan.—June	July—Dec.
Upham Road Day Nursery	Under 2	8		
	2—5	29		
		—		
	Total	37	3625	4209
		—		
Broad Street Day Nursery	Under 2	12		
	2—5	34		
		—		
		46	5007	4699
		—		
Pinehurst Day Nursery	Under 2	12		
	2—5	21		
		—		
	Total	33	3590	3423

The following table shows the incidence of sickness and infection which occurred amongst the children :—

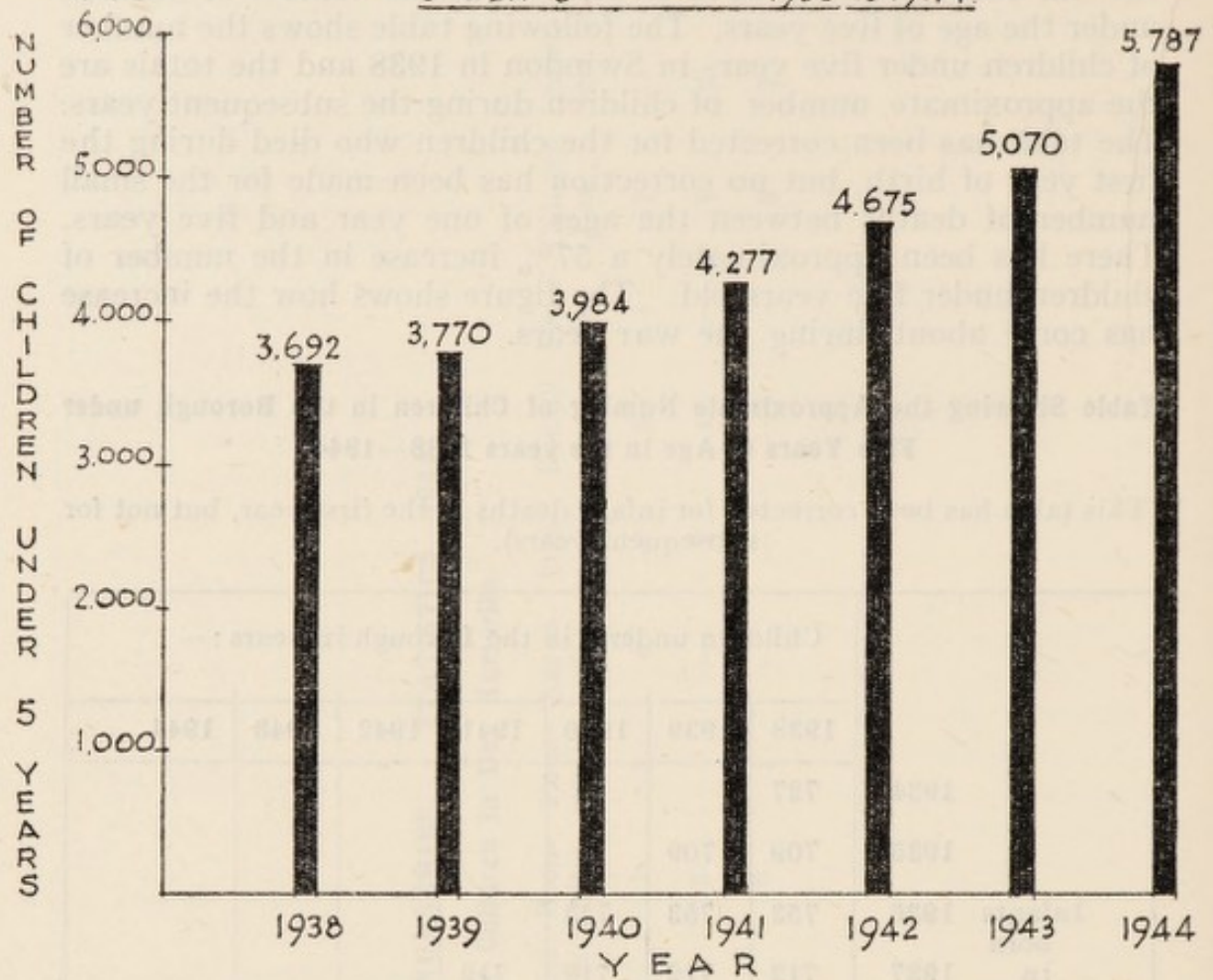
WAR-TIME NURSERIES. STATISTICS—1944.

Health of Children in Day Nurseries.

	Measles and/or Rubella	Whoop- ing Cough	Diph- theria	Scarlet Fever	Bron- chitis	Pneu- monia	Laryn- gitis	Dys- entery	Tonsill- ectomy	Pleur- isy	Chicken Pox	Impet- igo	Mumps
Upham Road Day Nursery	2	3	—	—	1	1	6	—	3	1	11	—	—
Broad Street Day Nursery	23	1	1	—	5	—	—	2	4	—	1	2	7
Pinehurst Day Nursery	—	—	1	—	6	1	—	—	—	—	9	7	—

BOROUGH OF SWINDON.

DIAGRAM SHOWING THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN
UNDER 5 . . . 1938 TO 1944.

**Infant Mortality.**

The Infant Mortality expressed as a rate covering the whole of the first year of a child's life does not give an accurate picture of the position. Infant deaths fall into two phases; one phase covering the period of the child's birth and the second period from the end of the first week to the end of the first year. The first phase should include the deaths occurring within the first week of life, during the birth and also the still-births, because the latter are really deaths of viable infants which have occurred due to some mischance. Stillbirths are not usually included in calculating infant mortality rates.

The causes of death in the two periods differ. The early deaths and stillbirths are often associated with ill-health in the mother, risks of the confinement and malformations of the child. The health of the mother is considered to be easily affected by her general nutrition during pregnancy and any toxemia which may occur, may result in a premature child with increasing risks to the young infant.

The causes of death in the later period largely result from infection either of the alimentary tract or lungs, together with the results of improper feeding.

The table gives an analysis of the infant deaths and stillbirths from 1913 to 1944 and the deaths have been sub-divided into column 5a which gives the number of deaths associated with, or closely following the birth, and column 5b showing the deaths which occur within the period from the end of the first week to the end of the first year.

The graph on page 32 shows the trend of these two mortalities. The figures have been grouped into approximately three yearly periods (p. 31). A few interesting points appear :—

- (1) The deaths of infants associated with child-birth, the stillbirths and the deaths within the first week of life are a greater cause of infant mortality than the deaths of infants in the period from the end of the first week to the end of the first year.
- (2) That in a broad survey the infant mortality of the birth period (stillbirths and deaths during the first week), has not shown a substantial reduction over a number of years, whereas the death rate after the first week shows a definite but small tendency to decline (p. 32). This decline is almost certainly associated with our improved hygiene—cleaner food, better houses and increased care for the growing infant.
- (3) It will be noted (p. 32) that there was a definite peak in the deaths associated with the actual birth at the latter part of the war 1914-1918, followed by a fall and then there was a rise which occurred in the period 1927-1930. It would be interesting to be able to say categorically that these peaks were associated :—
 - (a) With the malnutrition of the mother occurring at the end of the first world war, and
 - (b) that the second rise between 1927 and 1930 was due to the depression which occurred about 1930.

My opinion is that, although there may be some connection between malnutrition and the first peak, this was not the only cause because at that time there was a high birth rate associated with the number of first births which are notoriously associated with a high infant death rate.

As regards the second peak I think it is almost certainly fortuitous as the effect of any malnutrition would take at least a year to demonstrate itself and in any case Swindon escaped the worst ravages of the depression. I feel, however, that it might be of interest to publish these figures in the hope that a similar investigation might be carried out in other areas.

- (4) It will be noted that the neonatal deaths have shown a marked decline in the period 1939-1944. One would like to argue that this was due to the fact that the improved care for the nutrition of the mother, which has been a feature of our nutritional policy during the war years, has had some effect.

It will be seen from the tables that in the years 1913-1944, there were :—

- (1) 1,823 stillbirths and deaths within the first week.
- (2) 1,056 deaths during the period from the end of the first week to the end of the first year.

It seems to me that we can confidently expect a continuing fall in the mortality rates in the later period of the first year as we improve our methods of combating infectious diseases, as our standards of hygiene improve and as we acquire increasing knowledge of the physiology of children. The deaths at the beginning of life are, however, a bigger problem. Reducing the number of these infant deaths depends upon better nutrition of the mother, better antenatal care to prevent undue interference with the process of natural childbirth, better midwifery to obtain the best results should such interference be necessary and also better care for the immature child. These problems are very much interrelated—a mother with toxæmia is likely to require interference and is also likely to produce a premature weakly child whom she cannot feed herself. But as these stillbirths and deaths in the early days of life are such an important factor in infant mortality, the problem will have to be tackled.

Although the figures I have quoted are admittedly small, they show definite trends and while it would be unwise to draw definite and general conclusions from them, they are of interest and indicate, for Swindon at least, certain lines on which progress should be attempted.

BOROUGH OF SWINDON.
TABLE OF INFANT MORTALITIES.

Year	Live Births	Still-births	Total conceptions extending to viable foetus	Deaths under 1 year of infants born alive	Infant Mortality rate for infants born alive	Infant deaths under 7 days	Infants who died before birth or within first week of life	Deaths in infants between 1st week and end of 1st year	Mortality rate of viable children before or within 1 week of birth	Mortality rate for infants in period from end of one week to end of 1st year
	(1)	(2)	(1)+(2)=2a	(3)	(4)	(5)	(2)+(5)=5a.	(3)-(5)=5b.	(6)	(7)
1944	1409	48	1457	49	34.78	23	71	26	48.73	17.84
1943	1187	23	1210	60	50.55	26	49	34	40.49	26.57
1942	1174	36	1210	44	37.48	20	56	24	46.28	19.83
1941	1107	27	1134	64	55.75	18	45	46	38.99	40.56
1940	958	43	1001	61	61.43	22	65	39	64.93	38.96
1939	848	29	877	35	38.42	23	52	12	59.38	13.68
1938	791	28	819	43	54.36	19	47	24	57.39	28.59
1937	748	23	771	36	48.13	16	39	20	50.58	25.94
1936	790	25	815	37	46.84	19	44	18	53.99	22.08
1935	744	31	775	35	47.04	23	54	12	70.97	15.90
1934	770	27	797	43	55.84	26	53	17	66.49	22.58
1933	766	33	799	40	52.22	14	47	26	58.82	33.78
1932	887	36	923	47	52.99	17	53	30	57.42	32.50
1931	910	34	944	51	56.04	25	59	26	62.50	27.54
1930	971	42	1013	61	62.82	34	76	27	75.02	25.65
1929	867	44	911	41	47.29	14	58	27	63.66	26.35
1928	910	31	941	33	36.26	9	40	24	42.51	25.72
1927	830	34	864	39	46.98	17	51	22	59.03	25.46
1926	980	34	1014	49	47.95	19	53	30	52.27	29.33
1925	942	26	968	53	60.50	19	45	34	46.49	34.09
1924	968	24	992	58	63.01	20	44	38	44.36	38.21
1923	995	29	1024	53	53.2	21	50	32	48.82	31.25
1922	1057	35	1092	64	60.5	23	58	41	53.11	37.55
1921	1125	39	1164	76	67.5	26	65	50	55.84	42.96
1920	1246	49	1295	84	69	36	85	48	65.64	37.09
1919	905	63	968	76	83.9	32	85	44	98.21	45.45
1918	934	54	988	76	81.3	26	80	50	80.97	50.61
1917	891	57	948	79	88.6	25	82	54	86.49	56.96
1916	1035	44	1079	75	72.4	—	—	—	—	—
1915	1093	36	1129	74	67.7	21	59	53	50.49	46.06
1914	1193	35	1228	88	73.7	31	66	57	53.74	46.41
1913	1226	39	1265	105	86.4	35	74	70	58.49	55.30

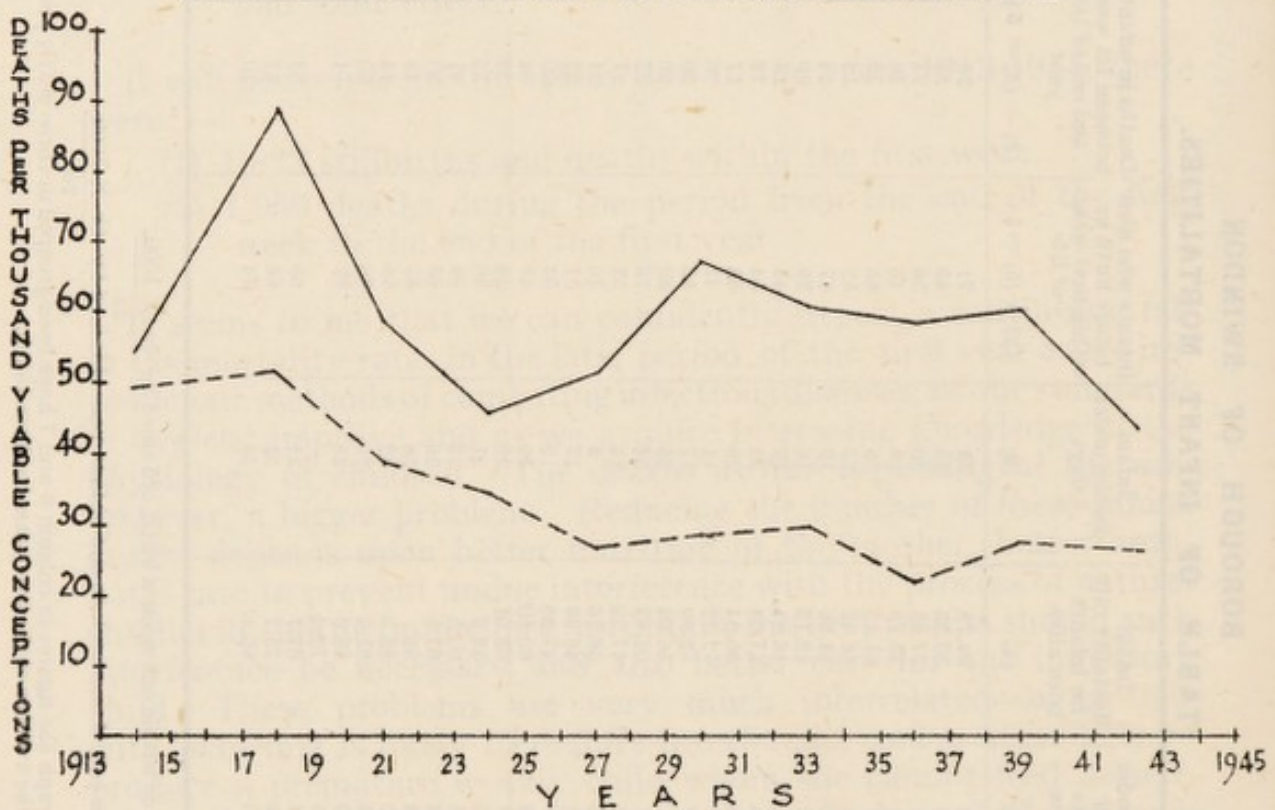
Mortality of viable children before, at birth or within one week of birth, obtained by $5a \times 1000$

Infant death rate for infants in period from end of one week to end of first year obtained by $\frac{2a}{5b} \times 1000$

For the figures utilised in preparing the graph the figures in column 6 and 7 have been grouped in three yearly periods and the average taken for the three years, but in the years 1941 to 1944 the average of the four years has been taken.

BOROUGH OF SWINDON.

GRAPH SHOWING TREND OF INFANT
· · · MORTALITY RATES 1913 TO 1944 · · ·



THE GRAPHS SHOW THE TREND OF MORTALITY RATES (THREE YEARLY PERIODS)
 THE TOP GRAPH FOR CHILDREN WHO ARE STILL-BORN OR DIED WITHIN THE FIRST WEEK OF LIFE
 THE BOTTOM GRAPH FOR CHILDREN WHO DIED FROM THE END OF THE FIRST WEEK OF
 LIFE TO THE END OF THE FIRST YEAR.

BOROUGH OF SWINDON.

INFANT MORTALITY.

1944. *Nett deaths from stated causes at various ages under
One Year of Age.*

COMPILED FROM THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATIONS.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 1 month.	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
All Causes—										
Certified	24	2	3	2	31	9	6	1	2	49
Uncertified										
Measles										
Whooping Cough							1			1
Diphtheria										
Influenza										
Tuberculosis of nervous system										
Tuberculosis of Intestines and Peritoneum										
Other Tuberculous Diseases										
Syphilis										
Meningitis										
Convulsions		1			1	1				2
Bronchitis						1				1
Pneumonia				1	1	2	2			5
Other Respiratory Diseases										
Inflammation of the Stomach										
Diarrhoea and Enteritis			1		1	1	1			3
Hernia, Intestinal Obstruction				1	1					1
Congenital Malformations	2	1			3	1	1		1	6
Congenital Debility and Sclerema	3		1		4					4
Icterus										
Premature Birth	14				14	1				15
Injury at Birth	3				3				1	4
Disease of Umbilicus										
Atelectasis			1		1					1
Suffocation—in bed (accidental)						2				
Ante-Natal Toxaemia	1				1					1
Encephalitis								1		1
Exposure and Inattention at Birth	1				1					1
TOTALS	24	2	3	2	31	9	6	1	2	49

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The Isolation Hospital year runs from the 1st April, 1944 to the 31st March, 1945. The number of new admissions during the year 1st April, 1944 to 31st March, 1945, was 386 against 365 and 250 in the two previous years. On the 1st April, 1944 there were 29 patients remaining in Hospital, so that, altogether, 415 cases were under treatment during the year. Of these, 388 cases were discharged cured, 7 died, 2 were transferred to Victoria Hospital, 3 transferred to Stratton Hospital, 1 transferred to Marlborough Hospital, and 14 remained in Hospital at the end of the year, 31st March, 1945.

The 386 cases admitted during the year were chargeable to the following local authorities :—

Public Health Acts.

Swindon Borough	164
Highworth Rural District	37
Cricklade and Wootton Bassett Rural District	75
Malmesbury Rural District	1

Maternity and Child Welfare (Puerperal Pyrexia Cases).

Swindon Borough	22 mothers 18 babies
Wilts County Council	7 mothers 2 babies

Three cases were admitted from the following districts and will be chargeable to the Ministry of Health under the Evacuation Scheme :—

Swindon Borough	2
Cricklade and Wootton Bassett Rural District	1

57 military cases were admitted during the year.

The 415 cases arranged according to the final diagnosis :—

Scarlet Fever	132
Septic Abdominal Wound and Scarlet Fever	1
Diphtheria	38
Diphtheria Carriers	32
Diphtheria Carrier and Scarlet Fever	1
Diphtheria Carrier and Vincents Angina	2
Diphtheria Carrier and Eczema	1
Diphtheria and Laryngeal Obstruction	2
Rubella	16
Measles	21
Pneumonia and Measles	1
Tonsillitis	39
Dysentery	18
Mumps (including one post-natal case)	17
Puerperal causes	30
Babies with mother (two babies had conjunctivitis)	24

Whooping Cough (one mother)	3
Baby with mother	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum —impetigo of skin of baby	3
Mother with baby	3
Pneumonia	2
Erysipelas	5
Bronchitis	2
Enteritis	4
Vincent's Angina	4
Polio-myelitis	1
Paratyphoid B (Military)	1
Tuberculous Meningitis	1
Chickenpox	2
Rheumatism	1
Dermatitis	1
Endocarditis and Septic Arthritis	1
Encephalitis	1
Polyneuritis and Non-Specific Meningitis	1
Urticaria	1
No Apparent disease	2

The six cases transferred to other Hospitals as follows:—

One puerperal pyrexia transferred to Victoria Hospital for further treatment. ;

One non-specific meningitis, admitted as cerebro-spinal meningitis, transferred to Stratton Military Hospital ;

One toxæmia of pregnancy, transferred to Marlborough Emergency Hospital ;

One septic abortion from Wootton Bassett transferred to Victoria Hospital for further treatment ;

One non-specific enteritis transferred to Stratton Military Hospital ;

One amoebic dysentery, transferred to Stratton Military Hospital.

Analysis of the 7 deaths as follows:—

One diphtheria in a man aged 33, two days in hospital ;

One case of prematurity in a baby aged one month—31 days in hospital ;

One case of gastro-enteritis in a baby aged two months, one day in hospital ;

One diphtheria in a man aged 28, eight days in hospital ;

One diphtheria in a baby aged five months, died from gastro-enteritis and bronchitis.

One poliomyelitis in a woman aged 23 years, one day in hospital.

One tuberculous meningitis in a boy aged 7 years, twelve days in hospital.

Staff.

I have to report the death of Miss J. McKinnon Smith, who has been Matron of the Isolation Hospital since January, 1917. She had worked unsparingly to keep up the standard of nursing in the Isolation Hospital despite the great difficulties that have been experienced since I came here in 1940. Miss F. A. Smith was appointed Matron 8th February, 1944.

Throughout the whole year the staffing position at the Isolation Hospital has been extremely difficult. We have been reduced to two trained nurses and a number of junior probationers, but fortunately the number of infectious disease cases has been small.

Difficulties have also been experienced in staffing the laundry, which caters for the Isolation Hospital, Maternity Home and the Wartime Nurseries. Arrangements are being made to provide up-to-date plant in order to assist the workers in this important but often forgotten department.

LLYWELYN ROBERTS.

Medical Superintendent Isolation Hospital.

Civic Offices,
Swindon.

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 Nineteenth Annual Report dealing with the work carried out by the Sanitary Department during the year ended December 31st, 1944.

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.

MILK SUPPLIES.

The milk supply of Swindon, in common with the rest of the country, was strictly rationed owing to the war. The quality however, was maintained at the usual standard by frequent sampling, both for analysis and for bacteriological examination. The number of samples taken and the results of the tests are given under the table appended hereto.

There was one prosecution during the year, when the offender was fined £5. 0s. 0d. and £2. 0s. 0d. costs.

FOOD SUPPLY.

The tables appended hereto, give a resume of the work carried out under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

There were 15,879 animals slaughtered for human consumption within the Borough during 1944, every one of which was seen by your Inspectors, before being allocated to the butchers' shops within the Borough or to the butchers' shops in the surrounding area, the slaughtering for which is done within the Borough.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

The Food and Drugs Act of 1938 is administered by the Committee, and during the year seventy-two samples of food were taken and sent to the Public Analyst; of the seventy-two samples, four on analysis proved to be unsatisfactory. The four unsatisfactory samples were of milk, three of which were slightly deficient in fat but not sufficiently so as to warrant any proceedings being taken. The fourth sample was found to contain 8% of added water and proceedings were taken in this case, the result of which is set out under the heading relating to milk supplies.

HOUSING.

The work under this heading was practically suspended owing to war conditions; repairs, etc., to houses being dealt with under the Public Health Act. Great difficulty however was experienced in getting repairs carried out owing to the scarcity of labour and materials. Despite these difficulties however, over 1000 houses were repaired during the year.

An influx of persons owing to war conditions, increased the population of the Borough and caused a certain amount of overcrowding. The problem of dealing with these cases was difficult to solve owing to the shortage of houses. Every effort, however, was made to abate the worst cases and although some overcrowding still exists, it is not a serious matter, because most of the cases are now only overcrowded to the extent of half a unit.

DISINFECTION OF VEHICLES, ETC., AT THE CATTLE MARKET.

This work is still being carried out and towards the end of the year, the Committee increased the charges per vehicle from 6d. to 1s. 3d. This is now working satisfactorily.

The number of vehicles disinfected was 1,007 and the receipts £26. 1s. 6d.

DRAINAGE WORK.

Supervision of drainage work carried out during the year was strictly maintained owing to its importance from a Public Health point of view. During the year in spite of difficulties, the drains of 150 houses were either overhauled or relaid.

SWIMMING POOLS AND BATHING FACILITIES.

The summer of 1944 was more or less conspicuous by its absence, consequently outdoor swimming pools were not patronised to any great extent. Supervision, however, was maintained as far as possible and samples of water were taken from each of the swimming pools and one of the samples taken was found to be unsatisfactory. Steps were immediately taken to remedy this and a subsequent sample showed on analysis that a great improvement had been made. This however was not considered to be satisfactory, and the pool was emptied and cleansed during the winter months. The owner is now installing a chlorinating plant which should prove satisfactory.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

A great amount of useful work was carried out under this heading during the year but owing to shortage of labour the Committee was obliged to employ a firm of contractors to deal with the infestations at the two tips. This work was carried out very satisfactorily.

The Infestations Order of 1943 came into force on May 16th and under this Order England and Wales were divided into so called "Workable Areas", Swindon thus became the centre of "Workable Area" No. 3, consisting of the Boroughs of Swindon, Marlborough and Malmesbury, together with the rural districts of Highworth, Cricklade and Wootton Bassett, Marlborough and Ramsbury, Malmesbury and Pewsey. Thus the "Workable Area" No. 3 reached from Tetbury in the north to Ludgershall in the south, and from Lambourne in the east, to Calne in the west.

Several meetings were held by the representatives of the various bodies concerned, and as a result, Area No. 3 was considered to be unwieldly and was sub-divided into the following groups:— (1) Swindon, Highworth and Wootton Bassett. (2) Marlborough, urban and rural with Pewsey. (3) Malmesbury, urban and rural; each sub-division to be responsible for the work in their own districts. This arrangement has worked out very satisfactorily and in Swindon the sewers of the Borough were baited on two occasions, when a very large number of rats were destroyed and several minor infestations have been eliminated.

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

Section 10 of this Act is administered by the Committee. There were no certificates of exemption granted in 1944. With regard to heating and ventilation, over 130 shops were visited by the inspectors and many improvements were effected, but owing to the restrictions on fuel, no proper standard of heating could be insisted upon.

FREE DISINFECTANTS.

Owing to labour shortage, the Committee decided that free disinfectants would only be issued at the King Street Depot, on the first Saturday in each month, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

This is now working quite satisfactorily.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

F. H. BEAVIS,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SANITARY STATISTICS, 1944.
TABLE OF NUISANCES RECORDED AND ABATED.

Nature of Complaint.	Not abated at end of 1943	Visited during 1944	Total	Abated during 1944	Not abated at end of 1944
Choked drains	—	236	236	229	7
Defective drains	42	176	218	195	23
traps	7	67	74	69	5
sinks	33	57	90	78	12
and dirty w.c.'s	32	116	148	142	6
flushing-cisterns	40	88	128	110	18
roofs	115	274	389	302	87
eaves-gutters & rainwater pipes	84	185	269	209	60
ceilings	85	269	354	279	75
walls	202	476	678	550	128
Damp walls	71	210	281	217	64
Dirty rooms	177	576	753	644	109
Defective floors	172	504	676	593	83
firegrates	55	111	166	134	32
coppers	31	51	82	65	17
yard paving	30	65	95	74	21
forecourt paving	10	28	38	27	11
Offensive accumulations	15	80	95	89	6
animals	2	18	20	19	1
Miscellaneous	378	966	1344	1126	218
TOTALS	1581	4553	6134	5151	983

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS, 1944.

Work in course of construction	....	....	....	2185
Infectious disease	....	....	....	357
Slaughterhouses	....	....	....	927
Butchers' shops	....	....	....	342
Markets	....	....	....	526
Bakehouses	....	....	....	72
Cow-sheds, milkshops and dairies	....	....	....	331
Fishshops	....	....	....	277
Food shops	....	....	....	945
Factories	....	....	....	569
Outworkers' premises	....	....	....	93
Common Lodging-house	....	....	....	15
Revisits	....	....	....	3348
Miscellaneous	....	....	....	3073
Overcrowding Survey	....	....	....	40
TOTAL	....	....	....	13100

BAKEHOUSES.

Number on Register	....	....	....	29
Nuisances Found and Abated	....	....	....	32

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

Dairies and Milkshops	37
Farms	19
Milk Purveyors from outside the Borough	12
Total	68
Nuisances found and abated	97

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

Licences in force within the Borough.

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

There is 1 producer of Tuberculin Tested milk, and 2 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	82
Premises registered for the sale, manufacture or storage of Ice-cream	78
Butchers' Shops	78
Wholesale Meat Stores	2
Fried Fish Shops	32
Other Food Shops	281

SAMPLES TAKEN.

Informal	44
Formal	28
Unsatisfactory....	4

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	4159	1866	511	232	9111	15879
Approximate average per week.	80	36	10	5	175	306

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED, 1944.

	Cattle		Calves	Pigs	Sheep and lambs
	Cows	Other cattle			
Killed and inspected	4159	1866	511	232	9111
DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS					
Whole carcasses condemned	41	11	3	3	31
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	792	306	3	43	546
Approximate percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	20%	17%	1.1%	20%	63%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.					
Whole carcasses condemned	139	16	2	8	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1826	477	6	67	—
Approximate percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	47%	26%	1.5%	32%	—

UN SOUND FOOD

141 Tons. 4 Cwts. 0 Qrs. 16 Lbs.

DISINFECTANTS.

Quantity given : Fluid 49 gals. 2 qts.
Powder 2 qrs. 5 lbs.

DISINFECTION.

Cases of Cancer	13
„ Tuberculosis	18
„ Scarlet Fever	54
„ Diphtheria	49
„ Pneumonia	—
Miscellaneous Cases	20
Vermineous Rooms	374
Library Books disinfected	66
Lots of Bedding disinfected	133
Miscellaneous Articles disinfected	34
Lots of Bedding destroyed	36
Miscellaneous Articles destroyed	4
Animals destroyed	1

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

On Register	1
Number of persons for whom accommodation is provided :—Adults, 109 ; Children 8.	
Inspections	15

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.
2,740	376	18	12

DISINFECTION OF VEHICLES ETC. AT THE CATTLE MARKET.

Number Disinfected.

Fees Received.

1007

£	s.	d.
26	1	6

HOUSING.

Houses Inspected	....	....	....	1300
„ found to be defective	....	....	....	1250
„ rendered fit by informal action	....	....	....	1130
„ rendered fit by formal action	....	....	....	4
„ overcrowded	....	....	....	26
Persons affected	....	....	....	250
Overcrowding abated	....	....	....	5
Persons affected	....	....	....	46

DISINFECTION

Disinfection of Vehicles etc. at the Cattle Market

DISINFECTION

Disinfection of Vehicles etc. at the Cattle Market

Number Disinfected	Disinfectant	Cost	Remarks
1007	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1008	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1009	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1010	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1011	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1012	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1013	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1014	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1015	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1016	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1017	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1018	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1019	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1020	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1021	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1022	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1023	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1024	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1025	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1026	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1027	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1028	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1029	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1030	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle

Disinfection of Vehicles etc. at the Cattle Market

Disinfection	Disinfectant	Cost	Remarks
1031	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1032	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1033	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1034	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1035	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1036	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1037	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1038	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1039	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle
1040	Formaldehyde	1.00	Disinfection of vehicle

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 1944.

BOROUGH OF SWINDON.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE.*Chairman*—*Councillor R. G. CRIPPS*Vice-Chairman*—*Councillor T. G. GAY.**Members.**

* THE MAYOR (Alderman C. S. MACPHERSON).

Alderman T. MANNING

*Councillor H. H. SELMAN

Alderman A. LEONARD

*Mrs. P. M. DARLING

Alderman L. J. NEWMAN

Mr. J. HASKINS

Councillor J. BELCHER

Mr. F. W. HAWKSWORTH

*Councillor A. M. BENNETT

*Miss G. SOLVEN

*Councillor J. L. CALDERWOOD

*Mr. T. MEDCALF

*†Councillor H. DIMENT

*Mr. F. SMITH

Councillor H. W. GARDNER

Mr. H. WHITING

*Councillor W. R. ROBINS

*Miss F. H. SHALLCROFT

Director of Education—Mr. STANLEY HIRST, B.Sc.

* Members of the Medical Inspection Sub-Committee.

† Chairman of the Medical Inspection Sub-Committee.

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

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my Report for the work of the School Medical Department during the year 1944. A list of the staff is inserted in the beginning of the general report.

It has been possible to expand the report slightly and to include further details of the nurses' survey, the "follow up" of students of Westcott Place Special School and a survey of the cases dealt with at the Juvenile Court.

The Education Committee agreed to the utilisation of the services of Dr. Beryl Corner as children's specialist, and she attends fortnightly and sees cases referred by the medical practitioner and the school medical officer. During the year she examined 40 school children.

The nutrition of the Swindon school children remains satisfactory. Table 4 (p. 57) shows how the child's nutrition on the whole continues to improve during its school life—the entrant of 1935 reaching the second age group in 1938-39 and becoming a leaver in 1944. The tables show generally a steady increase in the number of children in the nutrition 'A' group with their advance through school.

A census of children with defective speech was made in 1944, and it was decided to appoint Miss Jansson as Speech Therapist to hold one session a week. Miss Jansson interviews the parents and attempts to ascertain the cause of the trouble when it is functional. It is too early to assess the improvement obtained in these cases as it is always slow, but the class prospers and appears to be appreciated.

I would like to express my thanks to the Committee for their assistance and to express to the staff my appreciation of their loyalty and co-operation during the year.

LLYWELYN ROBERTS,
School Medical Officer.

Survey.

When the Nurse's Survey was commenced on 14.4.43 it was hoped to survey the whole of the school population within the space of a year. With the staff difficulties it was not possible to do this during the period 14.4.43 to 28.9.43 (as reported in last Annual Report) but during the year under consideration it has been possible to complete the Survey of all the school departments, and approximately all children who were not medically inspected either at Routine Medical Inspection or as "Leavers" were surveyed. The Tables 1 and 2 (p. 55) show the results for the current year.

I felt that it might be of interest to combine the above two Tables with the corresponding Tables of the previous year to show the result of the Survey covering the whole of the school population not subjected to School Medical Inspection.

Westcott Special School.

A 'follow up' of children who have been attending the Westcott Special School has been carried out with the assistance of the Head Mistress, Miss K. Knights. The introduction of the new Education Act with possible change in the supervision of this type of child adds interest to the findings.

The report covers 113 children who left the School between the years 1917 to 1944—16 of whom have died since leaving school. It is interesting to observe that a number have been able to work and fend for themselves although as would have been expected many of them are either not occupied or are in institutions; some have joined H.M. Forces. The intelligence quotient is inserted wherever possible but in many cases the information is not complete

The following Table sums up the details:—(See also pp. 52-53)

	TOTAL	Left Dist- rict	At home	In Insti- tutions	Em- ployed	At Occu- pation Centre	De- ceased	Un- known
Males	67	4	9	11	29	1	10	3
Females	46	5	16	4	10	4	6	1
Total	113	9	25	15	39	5	16	4

Juvenile Delinquents.

The records of all Juvenile Delinquents before the Court are scrutinized in order to provide the Court with any information relevant to the children. In many cases an intelligence test is performed and investigation of the home and social conditions is undertaken jointly by the School Medical Department and Education Department. A child sent to a Remand Home or an Approved

School is also examined for infectious diseases before being sent. Representatives of the Education Department and the Medical Officer occasionally, attend the Juvenile Court when it is necessary to explain more fully the condition of the child.

The following summary covers 97 children investigated during the year and shows the type of crime committed.

Table 1.

Total No. of Juveniles charged.	No. of joint charges.	Breaking and Entering	Minor thefts.	Major thefts.	Offensive conduct.	In need of care and protection.	On licensed premises.	Wilful damage.	Minor crimes e.g. no lights, etc.	Receiving.
97	25	11	8	18	2	1	1	2	14	3

Out of the 97 Juveniles charged 7 were females.

There were 25 joint charges—2 to 4 juveniles being involved in each case. As will be observed from the following Table, major thefts were the commonest crimes among the joint charges.

Table 2. Joint Charges.

Major thefts.	Breaking and entering.	Minor thefts.	Minor Crimes.	Wilful damage.	On licensed premises.	Offensive conduct.
9	5	4	3	2	1	1

Table 3. Cases as they occurred in different age periods.

	8—10 years.	10—14 years.	14—16 years.	Over 16 years.	Total
Breaking and entering	—	4	2	5	11
Major thefts	4	4	4	6	18
Minor thefts	1	5	2	—	8
Offensive conduct	—	—	1	1	2
In need of care and pro'n.	—	—	—	1	1
On licensed premises	—	—	—	1	1
Wilful damage	—	1	1	—	2
Minor crimes	—	1	5	8	14
Receiving	—	—	1	2	3

Amongst the 97 Juveniles charged 14 were sent to Remand Homes or Approved Schools, 31 were put on probation, 42 were fined and 7 cases were dismissed.

WESTCOTT SPECIAL SCHOOL.

Year of leaving		Left District	At home	In Institutions	Employed	At Occupation Centre	Deceased	Unknown
1917	1 M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	1 F.	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
1918	5 M.	—	—	—	2	—	1	2
	1 F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
1919	2 M.	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
1920	2 M.	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
	1 F.	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
1921	2 M.	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
	5 F.	1	3	—	—	—	1	—
1922	2 F.	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
1923	3 M.	1	1	1	—	—	1	—
	1 F.	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
1924	6 M.	—	1	2	1	—	2	—
	2 F.	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
1925	1 M.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1 F.	—	—	—	1	—	2	—
1926	2 F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1927	2 M.	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
	1 F.	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
1928	1 M.	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
	2 F.	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
1929	1 M.	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	1 F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1930	3 M.	—	1	3	—	1	—	—
	3 F.	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
1931	1 M.	—	1	—	—	—	—	—

WESTCOTT SPECIAL SCHOOL (Continued)

Year of leaving		Left District	At home	In Institutions	Employed	At Occupation Centre	Deceased	Unknown
1932	3 M.	—	—	—	3 (35.68.61)	—	—	—
1933	3 M.	—	—	1 (70)	1 (62)	—	1 (38)	—
1934	3 F. 7 M.	—	2 (69.62) 1 (54)	—	1 (66) 5 (56.56.57. 50.60)	—	1 (42)	—
1935	2 F. 2 M.	2 (55.66) 1 (53)	—	—	1 (58)	—	—	—
1936	1 F.	—	—	1 (51)	—	—	—	—
1937	1 F. 7 M.	—	—	1 (56)	—	—	—	—
1938	1 F. 3 M.	—	—	—	7 (58.58.63. 63.61.44. 62)	—	—	—
1939	1 F. 1 F. 1 M.	—	1 (47)	—	1 (64) 1 (54) 1 (57)	—	1 (44)	—
1940	4 F. 2 M.	—	2 (40.50)	—	1 (58)	2 (46.33)	—	—
1941	2 F.	—	2 (59.60)	—	2 (59.61)	—	—	—
1942	1 M.	—	—	—	1 (62)	—	—	—
1943	4 F. 3 M.	2 (52.60) —	—	1 (46)	—	—	—	—
1944	3 F. 4 M. 1 F.	—	1 (50) 3 (50.47.43) 1 (55)	—	2 (51.48) 2 (44.60) 1 (51) 1 (55)	1 (44) 1 (35)	—	—
Total in 27 years	67 M. 46 F.	4 5	9 16	11 4	29 10	1 4	10 6	3 1

Note—The figures shown above in italics is the I.Q.

NURSES' SURVEY, 1943				TABLE I.				CASES SEEN BY DOCTOR FROM NURSES' SURVEY.							TABLE 2	
	No. of Children seen by Health Visitors at the Survey	No. referred to Doctor	Per-cent- age Re-ferred	No. referred directly by Health Visitor for treatment	Total		Number seen	No. referred for Treatment		Refd. for Treatment				Orth obs.	Oth- er cons	
GIRLS' Depts.	(2)	110			13		10	10	8	5	1	2	10	10		
		245	27%	10	83		72	82	20							
BOYS' Depts.	(1)	249	28%	13	72		13	13	10	3	—	1	3	3		
MIXED Depts.	(5)	231		11	43		21	21	8							
		320		1	21		43	43	24							
		250		17	42		42	42	34							
		161		—	23		23	23	11							
		213	13%	22	32		30	159	25	29	12	4	28	29		
INFANTS' Depts.	(5)	68		—	9		8	8	2							
		68		—	16		16	16	11							
		122		—	23		21	21	3							
		73		—	20		19	19	14							
		32	23%	—	16		16	80	10	12	6	3	8	11		
TOTAL		(13)						74	391	180	49	19	10	49	53	

NURSES' SURVEY, 1944.

TABLE 1

CASES SEEN BY DOCTOR FROM NURSES' SURVEY.

TABLE 2

	No. of Children seen by Health Visitors at the Survey	No. referred to Doctor	Per cent- age Re-ferred	No. referred directly by Health Visitor for treatment		Number seen	No. Referred for Treat-ment		Refd. for Treatment			
									E. N. T.	Nut	Vis- ion	Orth Obs.
	Total	Total			Total	Total		Total				
Girls' Depts. (4)	128	5		4		5						
	154	43		12		41						
	156	38		10		34						
	220	37	18%	3	29	114		75	26	8	6	15 30
Boys' Depts. (3)	233	34		13		31						
	212	27		13		25						
	245	49	16%	13	39	98		69	18	8	4	12 27
Mixed Depts. (5)	219	45		14		45						
	154	24		11		18						
	355	69		27		68						
	209	41		22		36						
INFANTS' Depts. (6)	341	16	15%	6	80	181		108	48	3	10	24 27
	38	5		2		5						
	76	20		—		20						
	130	30		—		24						
	74	11		—		11						
	80	16		—		17						
	43	14	21%	—	2	90		51	15	5	4	10 20
TOTAL (18)	3067		17%		150	483		303	107	24	24	61 104

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	—	—
1944	606	188	31	392	64.7	580	95.7	26	4.3	—	—
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	—	—
1944	1599	506	31.6	1022	63.9	1528	95.5	71	4.4	—	—

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

Return of Medical Inspections 1944.

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Code Group Inspections :—

Entrants	*993
Third Age Group	606
	<u>1599</u>
Number of Other Routine Inspections	Nil.

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections and Re-inspections	7090
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NOTE—*including 442 "under 5's."

**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.	%
"Under 5's."	442	159	36 ·	275	62 ·2	8	1 ·8	—	—
"Entrants"	551	159	28 ·9	355	64 ·4	37	6 ·7	—	—
"Leavers"	606	188	31 ·	392	64 ·7	26	4 ·3	—	—
TOTAL	1599	506	31 ·7	1022	63 ·9	71	4 ·4	—	—

Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area.

BLIND CHILDREN.—There are 2 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.

DELICATE CHILDREN.—There is 1 child at an Open Air School (Asthma).

MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

FEEBLE-MINDED CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools	At Public Elementary Schools	At Other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total
19	—	2	—	21

RETURN OF DEFECTS TREATED.

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

2074 children suffered from Minor Ailments or Defects and received treatment. The Defects are classified as follows :—

Diseases of the skin	....	1768
Minor Eye Defects	....	251
Minor Ear Defects	....	177
Miscellaneous	....	508

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)	443	....	443
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I).	148	....	148
TOTAL	591	....	591

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed :

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme	....	251
(b) Otherwise	....	....

Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles :

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme	....	229
(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.		
50	—	193	243

Group IV.—Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.

(i)	Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses	7.3
(ii)	Total Number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	22657
(iii)	Number of individual children found unclean	410
(iv)	Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority	—
(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.
10	—	75	75

A SUMMARY OF ORTHOPAEDIC CASES SEEN

Total	Boys 33	Girls 42
Due to Congenital Defects	8	6
Developmental	11	17
Accidents	3	—
Diseases of Nervous System	10	19
Diseases of Joints	1	—

Congenital cases were first seen at Orthopaedic Clinic at ages varying between 1 month and 10 years of age.

Developmental defects were seen between 2 and 12 years of age.

Ages at which defects following diseases of the Nervous System came under observation varied from 2 to 13 years.

There were 10 children in the Children's Orthopaedic Hospital during the year, all pupils of the Elementary Schools. 6 of these cases were defects following diseases of the nervous system, chiefly poliomyelitis.

SPEECH THERAPY.

Clinic was commenced on 25.4.44.

Therapist—Miss Gladys A. Jansson, of Bath, Associate of the British Society of Speech Therapists.

Clinics held weekly.

Number of Clinics held	33
" " children seen	29
" " attendances made by above	295

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

Number of cases referred for treatment	232
Number of Consultations	364
Number of Attendances at Clinic	404
Number for whom operation for tonsils and adenoids was advised	26
Number who received operation for tonsils and adenoids	37
Number of other operations performed	13
Number of cases cured	70
Number of cases remaining under observation or treatment	115
Number of cases for whom no report is available	47

TREATMENT OF SCABIES AT THE CLEANSING STATION.

Number of Cases treated	346
Number of attendances	364

SCHOOL ACCIDENTS.

There were 223 cases, mostly of a minor character, making 523 attendances at the Clinic.

HIGHER EDUCATION.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN ATTENDING THE SWINDON SECONDARY SCHOOLS INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1944.

ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Boys	....	....	....	....	222
Girls	....	....	....	....	767
Total	....	....	....	....	989

Number of Special Inspections and
Re-inspections 886

(It was found possible to examine some of the Girls on more than one occasion, but difficulty was experienced in completing the total number of examinations of Boys at the Secondary Schools).

RETURN OF DEFECTS TREATED,

Group I.—Minor Ailments.

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

Diseases of the Skin	51
Minor Eye Defects	18
Minor Ear Defects	13
Miscellaneous	77

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)	128		128
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I).	23		23
TOTAL	151		151

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed :

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme	85
(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.		
5	—	10	15

Group IV.—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
—	—	28	28

SUMMARY OF ORTHOPAEDIC CASES SEEN.

Total	Boys 12	Girls 16
Due to Congenital Defects	1	—
Developmental	8	15
Diseases of Nervous System	3	1

The one Congenital case was referred from another Clinic at the age of 5 years.

Developmental defects came under observation at ages varying between 8 and 15 years.

Defects following on lesions of Nervous System were first seen at the Orthopaedic Clinic at ages varying between 9 and 15 years.

**TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE, THROAT AND EAR
at Special Clinic**

Number of cases referred for treatment	19
Number of consultations	31
Number of attendances at Clinic	46
Number for whom operation for tonsils and adenoids was advised	2
Number who received operation for tonsils and adenoids	2
Number of other operations performed	2
Number of cases cured	8
Number of cases remaining under observation or treatment	11
Number of cases for whom no report is available	—

SCHOOL ACCIDENTS.

There were 51 cases, mostly of a minor character, making 111 attendances at the Clinic.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL DENTAL SURGEON.

(W. KENYON BERRIE, L.D.C., R.F.P. S.G.)

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting a report of Dental Inspection and Treatment for the year 1944.

During the year work was carried out for the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Elementary Schools, Secondary Schools, and the Commercial Classes of the College. A course of Lectures was given to the pupils of the Commercial Classes. Towards the end of the year a visit was paid to the War Time Day Nurseries, and the children were inspected.

We have been short staffed throughout the year owing to war time conditions. Our two Dental Attendants have done good work. Their help is greatly appreciated by the dentist and patient alike.

In the ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS 8,738 children were inspected, 4,571 were referred for treatment (52.3%). 4,119 teeth were extracted, of which 379 were permanent teeth. 961 teeth were filled. Other operations, and advice were given to 2,754. 6,954 appointments were made, 6,075 were kept.

In the SECONDARY SCHOOLS and COMMERCIAL CLASSES 1,022 pupils were inspected, 475 were referred for treatment (46.4%). 213 teeth were extracted and 637 were filled. 2 partial dentures were made.

The work of the MATERNITY and CHILD WELFARE CENTRE goes steadily on. When things become normal this should greatly increase. 320 patients attended, making 577 visits. 55 dentures were completed, 2 Re-makes, and 4 repairs completed. 339 teeth were extracted and 40 filled.

At the DAY NURSERIES, the condition of the children was very satisfactory. No sepsis was noted, any who had septic teeth were treated, having been referred previously from Medical Inspection.

Appended are the Statistical Tables.

I thank all the Health Staff and teachers for their co-operation and help.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

Elementary Education.

(1) Number of children inspected by the Dentist :—

(a) Routine age-groups :

Age	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
No.	157	481	782	903	815	985	848	921	751	847	819	406	5

TOTAL 8720

(b) Specials 18

(c) Total (Routine and Specials) 8738

(2) Number found to require treatment 4571

(3) Number actually treated 3321

(4) Attendances made by children for treatment 6075

(5) Half-days devoted to—Inspection 92
Treatment 724

Total 816

(6) Fillings—Permanent Teeth 951
Temporary Teeth 10

Total 961

(7) Extractions—Permanent Teeth 379
Temporary Teeth 3740

Total 4119

(8) Administration of general anaesthetics for
extraction 891(9) Other Operations—Permanent Teeth 479
Temporary Teeth 2275

Total 2754

Sealings 34

Regulation Appliances 2

Crowns 1

Dentures 3

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.
Higher Education.

(1) Number of children inspected by the Dentist :—

(a) Routine age-groups :

Age 11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
3	118	200	179	139	188	87	30	1

TOTAL 945

(b) Specials 1

(c) Total (Routine and Specials) 946

(2) Number found to require treatment 447

(3) Number actually treated 439

(4) Attendances made by children for treatment 853

(5) Half-days devoted to—Inspection 8
Treatment 70

Total 78

(6) Fillings—Permanent Teeth 632
Temporary Teeth —

Total 632

(7) Extractions—Permanent Teeth 132
Temporary Teeth 62

Total 194

(8) Administration of general anaesthetics for
extraction 63

(9) Other Operations—Permanent Teeth 64
Temporary Teeth 26

Total 90

Sealings 13
Dentures 2
Crowns 1

SUMMARY OF RESULTS OF DENTAL INSPECTION AT THE SECONDARY SCHOOLS, YEAR 1944.

Secondary School.	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			
The Commonweal	22	19	402	199	424	218	206
The Headlands	31	19	490	210	521	229	292
TOTALS	53	38	892	409	945	447	498

Percentage of Entrants requiring treatment

Percentage of children Re-inspected requiring treatment

Percentage of Total number of children inspected requiring treatment

.....	71.7%
.....	44.7%
.....	47.3%

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.
Day Commercial School.

(1) Number of children inspected by the Dentist—

(a) Routine age-groups :

Age	14	15	16	17
	30	39	7	—
TOTAL	76
(b) Specials	—
(c) TOTAL (Routine and Specials)	76
(2) Number found to require treatment	28
(3) Number actually treated	14
(4) Attendances made by children for treatment	19
(5) Half-days devoted to—	Inspection 1 + 4 Lectures			5
	Treatment			4
TOTAL	9
(6) Fillings—Permanent Teeth	5
Temporary Teeth	—
TOTAL	5
(7) Extractions—Permanent Teeth	17
Temporary Teeth	2
TOTAL	19
(8) Administrations of general anaesthetics for extractions	9
(9) Other Operations—Permanent Teeth	3
Temporary Teeth	2
TOTAL	5

SUMMARY OF RESULTS OF DENTAL INSPECTION AT THE DAY COMMERCIAL SCHOOL, YEAR 1944.

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			
38	12	38	16	76	28	48

