

**[Report 1921] / Medical Officer of Health, Royal Tunbridge Wells Borough.**

**Contributors**

Tunbridge Wells (England). Borough Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1921

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/a6dqqz xu>

**License and attribution**

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

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

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



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



BOROUGH OF ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

---

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

For the Year 1921.

---

F. C. LINTON, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

---

Tunbridge Wells—  
BALDWIN, GROSVENOR WORKS.  
1195/22.

# BOROUGH OF ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS

---

## Health Committee:\*

Mr. Alderman CARPENTER (Chairman)

THE MAYOR (Mr. Councillor S. Parsonage).

Mr. Alderman CALEY.

Alderman Sir ROBERT GOWER,  
O.B.E.

Mr. Councillor T. EDWARDS.

Councillor Miss POWER.

Councillor Dr. REYNOLDS.

Mr. Councillor THORPE.

## Maternity and Child Welfare Committee:\*

THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Councillor Miss SCOTT.

Mr. Councillor LUCK.

Miss BARKER.

Mrs. GOWER.

## Staff:

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

JAMES CAVE, A.R.S.I., A.R.I.P.H.

Inspectors:

E. J. WELLS, A.R.S.I.

W. P. CAVE, A.R.S.I.

Clerk:

F. HICKS.

Junior Clerk:

Miss M. FERMER.

Maternity and Child Welfare Nurse:

Miss E. RICE OXLEY.†

Health Visitors:

Miss F. CLARK.

Miss H. M. STEVENS.

Matron of the Isolation Hospital:

Miss E. BROCKLEHURST.

Public Analyst:

A. H. M. MUTER, F.I.C.

Medical Officer of Health and Bacteriologist:

F. C. LINTON, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

\* The present constitution of Committees is given above.

† Replacing Miss English, resigned June, 1921.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of  
Royal Tunbridge Wells.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report upon the work of the Health Department and of the School Medical and Maternity and Child Welfare Services for the year 1921.

Circular 168 and the Memorandum accompanying it detailing the contents of the report have been modified by circular 269 of the Ministry of Health dated 21st December, 1921. This circular permits of the issue of an abbreviated report, varied by the publishing of a full health survey of the district every fifth year. This permission has been taken advantage of to reduce the report for 1921 to a statement of data with brief comment where called for.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

F. C. LINTON.



## INDEX.

*HEALTH REPORT.*

	PAGE
1. GENERAL STATISTICS ... ..	6
2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS ... ..	6
NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT ...	7
Population ... ..	7
Physical Features and General Character ... ..	7
Meteorological Notes ... ..	7
Births ... ..	10
Deaths ... ..	10
Infant Mortality ... ..	10
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES ... ..	13
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	15
Promotion of Public Interest in Hygiene ... ..	15
SUMMARY OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS ... ..	15
Professional Nursing in the Home ... ..	15
Midwives ... ..	15
Clinics and Treatment Centres ... ..	15
Hospitals provided or subsidised ... ..	17
AMBULANCE FACILITIES ... ..	18
For Infectious Cases ... ..	18
For Non-infectious and Accident Cases ... ..	18
LABORATORY WORK ... ..	18
Chemical Analysis ... ..	19
Bacteriological Analysis ... ..	20
SANITARY ADMINISTRATION ... ..	20
Slaughter Houses ... ..	22
Dairies and Cowsheds ... ..	22
Disinfection and Disinfestation ... ..	22
Sale of Food and Drugs Acts and Food Inspection ...	23
PUBLIC HEALTH (MILK AND CREAM) REGULATIONS ...	25
PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF ... ..	26
HOUSING ... ..	28

## SCHOOL REPORT.

---

	PAGE
STAFF ... ..	31.
CO-ORDINATION ... ..	31
THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE IN RELATION TO PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS ... ..	31
FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS ... ..	32
INFECTIOUS DISEASES ... ..	33
FOLLOWING UP ... ..	34
MEDICAL TREATMENT ... ..	35
OPEN AIR EDUCATION ... ..	36
PHYSICAL TRAINING ... ..	36
PROVISION OF MEALS ... ..	36
SCHOOL BATHS ... ..	36
CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS ... ..	37
CO-OPERATION OF THE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICER ... ..	38
CO-OPERATION OF VOLUNTARY BODIES ... ..	38
BLIND, DEAF, DEFECTIVE AND EPILEPTIC CHILDREN ... ..	38
NURSERY, SECONDARY, AND CONTINUATION SCHOOLS ... ..	38
EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS ... ..	38
PHYSICAL CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYED CHILDREN ... ..	39
STATISTICAL TABLES ... ..	39
TABLE I. ... ..	40
ABBREVIATED FORM OF TABLE II. ... ..	41
TABLE III. ... ..	42
TABLE IV. ... ..	43
TABLE IV.—Continued ... ..	44
TABLE IV.—Continued ... ..	45
TABLE V. ... ..	46
TABLE VI. ... ..	47
NUMBER OF CHILDREN MEDICALLY INSPECTED AT EACH SCHOOL ... ..	48

## 1.—General Statistics.

CENSUS 1921.	{	Area (acres), 3,991.
		Population, 35,568 (preliminary figure).
		„ 34,270, corrected for holiday population by Registrar-General.
		Number of structurally separate sets of premises intended or used for habitation, 8,178.
		Number of separate occupiers, 8,774.

Number of inhabited houses (1921), 7,933.

Rateable value, £308,474.

Sum represented by a penny rate :—

On Borough Rate	...	...	£1,212.
On General District Rate	...	...	£1,194.

Mean annual temperature, 51.8°F.

Total rainfall, 16.45 inches.\*

Hours of bright sunshine, 1,795 hours, 6 minutes.†

\* The lowest on record.

† The highest amount recorded amongst inland health resorts keeping records for the Meteorological Office.

## 2.—Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

	Total.	Males.	Females.
Births—Legitimate	482	241	241
„ Illegitimate	31	16	15
Still births	20	13	7

Birth rate. (Registrar-General).

15.0 per thousand.

Deaths	453	171	282
--------	-----	-----	-----

Crude death rate. (Registrar General). 13.2.

Death rate corrected for age and sex constitution, 11.5 per thousand.

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, child birth—from sepsis, 1 ; from other causes, 3.

Deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 births :—

Legitimate, 43.6 ; illegitimate, 129.0. Total, 48.7



	Total.	Males.	Females.
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	—	—	—
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	3	1	2
„ „ Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	2	1	1

## A.—NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

### (1.) *Population.*

The Census population of 1921 is 34,270 corrected by the Registrar-General from a preliminary figure of 35,568.

### (2.) *Physical Features and General Character.*

These have been described fully in past reports.

**Meteorological Notes.**—Records for the Meteorological Office, of which a summary follows, are kept by the staff of the Health Department and have been so kept since 1st July, 1914.

The annual inspection of the station by an inspector of the Meteorological Office took place on 19th August, and the report on the station was satisfactory.

The total amount of sunshine recorded was 1,795 hours 6 minutes. The mean is 1,616. The most sunny days were June 29th and July 11th, when 14 hours 36 minutes were recorded. There were 64 sunless days, 61 being the average.

The highest temperature in the sun was 146 degrees, on July 17th and 20th.

The mean temperature in the shade for the year was 51.8 degrees, the average being 49.1.

The mean daily range was 16.5, 14.7 being the average.

The temperature in the shade, four feet above the ground, was highest, 91 degrees, on July 11th, and lowest, 24 degrees, on November 13th.



The temperature in the shade first reached :—

60 degrees	on	March	24th.
70	„	„	April 28th.
80	„	„	May 25th.
90	„	„	July 11th.

last reached—

90 degrees	on	July	20th.
80	„	„	October 6th.
70	„	„	„ 18th.
60	„	„	„ 30th.

The hottest night was July 24th, when the temperature did not go below 62.4.

The last frost in the air in spring was on April 20th and the first in the autumn was on October 25th. The last on the grass in spring was on June 19th and the first in the autumn was on August 31st.

The rainfall amounted to 16.45 inches, the average being 29.34 inches. It fell on 111 days, the average being 172.

The most rain that fell on one day was 0.74 inches on October 20th.

The wind at 9 a.m. was N. 39 days, N.E. 35 days, E. 21 days, S.E. 31 days, S. 25 days, S.W. 82 days, W. 62 days, N.W. 67 days, and variable on 3 days.

The mean amount of cloud at 9 a.m. was 5.8, 6.8 being the average ; 10 representing overcast.

There was thunder and lightning on 11 days.

There were four fogs, and it was misty on 46 other mornings.

# METEOROLOGICAL NOTES.

Months.	Sunshine.		Rainfall.		Mean Temperature. In shade, 4ft. above ground.		Temperature Underground.			
	1921.		1921.		1921.		One Foot.		Four Feet.	
	Hrs.	Mins.	Hrs.	Mins.	°F	°F	°F	°F	°F	°F
January	33	36	51	54	2.94	2.55	44.4	39.3	45.8	44.1
February	73	42	75	42	0.70	2.22	41.7	38.9	44.4	42.8
March	136	36	123	24	1.84	2.27	45.1	41.6	45.3	43.3
April	208	42	161	54	1.35	1.96	49.4	46.3	48.3	45.5
May	224	12	215	12	1.66	1.86	55.5	54.0	52.2	50.8
June	223	12	201	42	0.02	2.08	60.3	60.1	56.6	55.9
July	260	42	209	42	0.65	2.31	65.0	63.2	60.3	58.3
August	173	30	198	24	1.23	2.50	62.9	62.8	61.4	59.9
September	181	36	161	30	0.79	2.32	60.3	58.4	60.2	59.1
October	153	42	108	24	1.38	2.74	56.6	52.4	58.2	55.8
November	92	0	68	24	1.65	3.29	46.1	45.0	51.8	50.4
December	28	36	39	48	2.14	3.24	44.1	41.6	47.6	46.4
WHOLE YEAR	1,795	6	1,616	0	16.45	29.34	52.6	50.3	52.7	51.0



**BIRTHS.**—From figures supplied by the Registrar-General the total number of births registered as properly belonging to Tunbridge Wells is 513 (257 males, 256 females). This corresponds to a rate of 15.0 per thousand, as compared with 18.3 per thousand in 1920. It is equal to that of 1913, the last pre-war year. Sixteen males and 15 females were born out of wedlock, giving an illegitimate rate of 6.0 per cent., as compared with 7.1 per cent. in 1920.

The births notified during the year as occurring in the borough number 554, and consisted of 284 males and 270 females ; of these, 13 males and 7 females were stillborn.

**DEATHS.**—475 deaths were registered in the borough during 1921, and there were 87 outwardly transferable deaths and 65 inward transfers, thus making the total number of deaths belonging to the district 453. Applying the figure for correction for age and sex constitution, the death-rate for the year is 11.5 per thousand.

Showing the Mortality at Several Ages for a period of Five Years.

	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921
Deaths at under 1 year	31	44	32	41	25
„ 1 and under 2	6	9	5	4	3
„ 2 and under 5	3	21	8	7	6
„ 5 and under 15	18	22	10	9	3
„ 15 and under 25	16	32	17	21	12
„ 25 and under 45	33	83	43	39	44
„ 45 and under 65	117	117	106	89	108
„ 65 and upwards	241	216	258	239	252
Totals ...	465	544	479	449	453

**INFANT MORTALITY.**—25 deaths of infants below one year of age occurred, being 48.7 per thousand born, as compared with an infant mortality of 83 per thousand in England and Wales generally. The average infant mortality in Tunbridge



Wells during the previous ten years was 74.2. Sixty per cent. of these deaths of infants occurred during the first week of life ; there were also twenty infants born dead. I can give no more cogent reason than these figures supply for the early provision of premises in which expectant mothers may have consultations and advice upon their health.

### Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the Year 1921.

(Provisional figures. Populations as enumerated in 1921 have been used for the purposes of this Table. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.)

	BIRTH-RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULATION.	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.								RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS.		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.				
		All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping-cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 5 Years).	Total Deaths under One Year.	Deaths in Public Institution.	Certified Causes of Death.	Unquest Cases.	Uncertified Causes of Death.
England and Wales ...	22.4	12.1	0.02	0.00	0.06	0.03	0.12	0.12	0.23	0.44	15.5	83	25.5	92.5	6.4	1.1
96 Great Towns, including London (1911 Census Populations exceeding 50,000) ...	23.3	12.3	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.04	0.13	0.15	0.23	0.40	19.3	87	33.2	92.5	6.8	0.7
148 Smaller Towns (1911 Census Populations 20,000—50,000). ...	22.7	11.3	0.01	0.00	0.05	0.03	0.11	0.11	0.26	0.35	15.6	84	17.7	93.5	5.1	1.4
London ...	22.3	12.4	0.01	...	0.05	0.06	0.12	0.25	0.23	0.42	21.3	80	49.2	91.6	8.2	0.2
Tunbridge Wells ...	15.0	11.5	...	...	...	...	0.09	0.03	0.32	0.32	3.9	49	36.0	95.5	4.5	0.0







Of the 32 deaths from Tuberculosis, 10 had not been previously notified. In each case the practitioner notifying the death was written to, the omission to notify being pointed out, and a request made for the notification to be sent.

**Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**—Three cases of this disease were notified, all were treated at home, and all made complete recovery.

**Promotion of Public Interest in Hygiene.**—A fresh step in the way of spreading knowledge of health measures amongst the general public was taken during National Health Week in October, 1921. A Health Exhibition was arranged, and took place in the Town Hall, and in connection with it a Baby Show was held at which there were 81 entries, prizes being given in the different age-groups. Lectures were also delivered on Personal Hygiene.

The week proved a great success; large numbers of persons attended, and displayed great interest in the exhibition.

#### **SUMMARY (FOR REFERENCE) OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.**

**Professional Nursing in the Home.**—There is a Tunbridge Wells District Nursing Association supported by voluntary funds. This Association has on its staff a nurse who attends maternity cases. So far as the Corporation is concerned, the only arrangement made for the services of the Association's nurses is that in return for a small retaining fee paid annually, a nurse's services are obtainable for attending in the home of cases such as Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Measles, Whooping Cough, etc., under the Maternity and Child Welfare Act, 1918.

**Midwives.**—Midwives are under the control of the County Council. The number practising in Tunbridge Wells is 14.

**Clinics and Treatment Centres.**—There are two Maternity



and Child Welfare Centres in the borough, one being held at the Public Health Offices every Thursday afternoon, and the other at Rusthall St. John Ambulance Brigade room each Friday afternoon.

The former is wholly provided and staffed by the Corporation ; to the latter a subsidy is paid annually and it is staffed by the Corporation's Medical Officer and Maternity and Child Welfare Nurse, assisted by ladies of the Rusthall detachment of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

The total number of attendances on Thursday afternoons at the Public Health Office Centre during 1921 was 3,163. It can readily be understood that in the small basement premises used for this centre, bearing in mind that each mother, who has her baby weighed and consults the doctor and has tea, spends at least an hour in the room, the crowding and heat are trying to all concerned. I emphasize this point again so that the immediate need for considering the acquisition of premises that may be suitable for this work may not be lost sight of, even during the time when the great need of economising has induced the Council to postpone taking action.

With regard to the outlying centre at Rusthall, the total number of attendances during 1921 was 703, and considering that this centre was started in October, 1920, the progress it has made is gratifying.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Nurse, in addition to arranging the work of these centres, paid the following home visits during the year :—

First visits to infants	...	...	...	401
Subsequent visits to infants	...	...	...	1,559
Visits to children 1 to 5 years	...	...	...	2,003
Visits to expectant mothers	...	...	...	103
				<hr/>
				4,066
				<hr/>



The School Clinic meets at the Health Offices, where treatment is carried out daily from Monday to Saturday, and the School Medical Officer sees cases referred to him on Tuesday and Friday mornings, and urgent cases at other times. The premises and staff are provided by the local authority. The accommodation is restricted for the numbers which attend, and it is hoped that in the course of time, larger premises may be obtained, preferably within the same building as the proposed Maternity and Child Welfare Centre. Details of work done are given under the School Medical Services in the latter portion of this report. There are no day nurseries in the borough.

With regard to other clinics in the borough, there is a Tuberculosis Dispensary under the control of the County Council. Consultations are held by the Medical Officer on Mondays and Thursdays at specified hours. There is also at the General Hospital a centre for the treatment of venereal disease with clinics twice a week.

**Hospitals provided or subsidised by the local authority or by the County Council.**—The Tunbridge Wells Isolation Hospital is situated near the southern boundary of the borough and is 500 feet above sea level. This hospital has 57 beds; scarlet fever, diphtheria, and enteric fever are treated, also other infectious diseases as occasion requires.

The hospital is an excellent one, and all that is needed to complete it is the extension of the administrative block, sanctioned by the Local Government Board in 1914, but not yet carried out.

Smallpox and plague are provided for at the Dislingbury Hospital, Capel, which has 20 beds, and is a joint hospital for Tunbridge Wells, Tonbridge and Southborough.

These are the only hospitals directly supported by the Borough Council. The County Council provides various institutions for the treatment of Tuberculosis but none of these are situated in the Borough of Tunbridge Wells.

There are in addition, three voluntary hospitals, viz :—  
The General, Eye and Ear, and Homœopathic, all of which  
cater for a wide area surrounding Tunbridge Wells.

### **AMBULANCE FACILITIES.**

#### *(a) For infectious cases.*

At present there are two ambulances, one used for scarlet fever and one for diphtheria and other cases ; horses are hired in the town to take these to the houses of cases as they occur and to bring the patients back to the Fever Hospital where the ambulances are kept. This procedure, as can easily be imagined, is somewhat slow and there is no doubt that the provision of a motor ambulance would be of great advantage to the patients who are being removed, sometimes in a dangerously ill condition. Apart from the initial cost of fitting up such an ambulance, there would be little difference in the annual cost of transport.

#### *(b) For non-infectious and accident cases.*

The local branch of the St. John Ambulance Brigade possesses two motor ambulances and one stretcher on a carriage for such cases. There are also four stretchers on carriages under the charge of the Chief Constable belonging to the Corporation.

### **LABORATORY WORK.**

There is a well-equipped laboratory at the Health Offices. Examinations are made of specimens for the detection of Diphtheria and also in connection with school medical work for Ringworm of the head and various other conditions as they arise. There is also at Maidstone a County Laboratory, where examinations for Tuberculosis are made, and in which specimens are tested for virulence in the case of Diphtheria carriers ; other special work which may arise can also be carried out at this laboratory.

The following is a record of work done in the Tunbridge Wells laboratory during 1921 :—



Specimens from Isolation Hospital patients	...	362
Outside specimens from suspected Diphtheria cases and contacts	... ..	423
Hairs for Ringworm	... ..	73
Hairs from nit-infested heads after treatment	...	22
Other specimens	... ..	2
Total number of specimens examined	...	882

Diphtheria anti-toxin is issued free of cost for use of doctors in the borough, a supply being kept at the Public Health Offices and being immediately available upon request from the doctor. Anti-influenza vaccine was also kept and some use was made of it during the slight outbreak of Influenza which occurred in February and March, 1921. It appeared of use as a prophylactic but of very little avail as a curative agent.

Chemical tests of water and foodstuffs were made by the public analyst. The work done is reviewed under the Foods and Drugs Act, and a recent chemical and bacteriological analysis of the Tunbridge Wells water supply which is obtained from deep wells and springs, is appended herewith:—

### Chemical Analysis.

<i>Description.</i>	<i>Parts per 100,000.</i>
Free and Saline Ammonia	... .. 0.0050
Albuminoid Ammonia	... .. 0.0030
Oxygen absorbed { in 15 minutes	... 0.0114
at 80° F. { in 4 hours	... 0.0237
Nitric Nitrogen	... .. 0.09
Chlorine	... .. 2.85
Equivalent to Sodium Chloride	4.7
Total Solid Matter (dried at 180° C.)	33.0
Temporary Hardness	... .. 2.7
Permanent Hardness	... .. None.
Appearance in two foot tube	... Turbid and colourless.
Metals (Lead, Copper, Zinc, Iron)	... Minute trace of Iron.



BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS.					
Description of Sample.	No. of organisms per cubic centimetre capable of growing.		B. Coli Communis Presumptive Test.		
	On standard gelatin in 4 days at 22° C.	On standard Agar-Agar in 24 hours at 37°—38° C.	100. c.c.	10. c.c.	1. c.c.
From 15in. Main in Pembury Road on 17 Oct., 1921 ...	100	4	—	—	—

**The Tunbridge Wells Improvement Act, 1890.**—This Act has been in force since 1890, and of this Act parts 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 12 relate to Public Health, dealing with water supply, sanitary provision of buildings and streets, common lodging houses, infectious diseases, slaughter houses, and public baths.

**The Public Health Amendment Act, 1907.**—Of this Act the following sections have been adopted :—Sections 1-14, part 2 ; sections 17, 21-24, 26-30 and 31-33.

### SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

A tabular summary of the work of the Sanitary Department during the year, and action taken under the Public Health Acts or byelaws, etc., mentioned above, is set out below :—

- 105 Complaints received and investigated.
- 17 Premises in respect of which statutory notices have been served.
- 52 Premises in respect of which informal notices have been served.
- 236 Houses, drains and sanitary fittings inspected.
- 627 Visits of re-inspection or to work in course of progress.
- 5 Drains re-constructed.
- 16 Drains repaired.
- 44 Choked drains cleared and cleansed.
- 20 Inspection chambers constructed.
- 6 Inspection chambers repaired.

- 7 Drain ventilation shafts erected or repaired.
- 7 Soil pipes erected.
- 4 Soil pipes repaired.
- 23 W.C.'s re-constructed and provided with flushing apparatus.
- 14 Flushing apparatus repaired.
- 33 Efficient traps substituted for inefficient ones.
- 21 Rain-water and waste pipes disconnected from drains or repaired  
and made to discharge over properly trapped gullies.
- 15 Yards and areas paved or paving repaired.
  - 1 New w.c. buildings and apparatus constructed.
  - 5 W.C.'s cleansed and repaired.
  - 9 New sinks provided.
  - 6 New lavatory basins provided.
- 14 Old sinks provided with new waste pipes.
- 11 Eaves gutters repaired.
- 24 Windows repaired.
- 23 Floors repaired.
- 20 Air inlets under floors provided.
- 14 Roofs repaired.
  - Rooms ventilated to the outer air.
  - Food cupboards ventilated to the outer air.
  - New food cupboard provided.
- 37 Houses provided with sufficient supply of water.
- 27 Samples of water submitted for analysis.
- 140 Rooms cleansed and limewashed.
- 30 Dustbins provided or repaired.
- 39 Various improvements.
- 69 Hours' observation work.
- 131 Special inspections of back yards and premises.
- 83 Inspections of stable yards and manure pits.
- 10 Offensive accumulations removed.
  - Pigs removed.
  - Stables paved and drained.
- 70 Visits *re* destruction of rats.
- 89 Inspections of slaughter houses.
- 121 Inspections of cowsheds, dairies, and milkshops.
- 28 Inspections of common lodging houses.
- 229 Inspections of food shops.
- 105 Parcels of food examined.
- 3181 lbs. food unfit for human consumption seized and destroyed.
- 290 Visits, interviews, etc., *re* work to be carried out.
- 49 Special inspections of urinals at licensed premises.
- 21 Workrooms limewashed.
  - Workrooms measured up for air space.
- 196 Visits to workshops.
  - 8 Visits *re* overcrowding.



**Works carried out under the Infectious Diseases Acts during 1921.**

- 243 Visits to infected houses.
- 256 Rooms disinfected.
- 6022 Articles of clothing disinfected.
- 5 Loads of bedding removed to the steam disinfector and returned to the respective owners.
- Visit to disinfect public buildings.
- 1 Visit to disinfect St. John Ambulance and private vehicles.
- 8 Visits to disinfect wards at Sanatorium, General Hospital, etc.
- Loads of bedding destroyed.
- Visit to Sanatorium to disinfect clothing, etc.
- 11 Visits to flush W.C.'s and drains.

**SLAUGHTER HOUSES.**—There are six private slaughter houses in the town, five registered and one licensed annually. Frequent inspections (89) have been made of these premises both by day and night, in order to inspect so far as possible the carcasses of animals slaughtered, to see that offal was promptly removed and cleansing and limewashing carried out in accordance with the byelaws.

The five registered slaughter houses are old buildings and in three instances in close proximity to dwellings, and for this reason are somewhat objectionable, but, however this may be, the owners must be given credit for having kept them in a cleanly condition.

**DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.**—At the end of 1921 there were 61 persons on the register, namely, 17 owners of cowsheds, 12 of dairies and 32 of milkshops or as purveyors. 121 inspections have been made in order to see that the byelaws are complied with.

**DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.**—In all cases of infectious disease and in many cases of vermin infestation, the disinfection of rooms, bedding and clothing is carried out either by or under the supervision of the sanitary staff. There are two disinfectors, one large and one small, at the Sanatorium, and an additional one has recently been provided and is situate near the Public Health Offices. Formalin, Bacterol, Steam and Sulphur Gas are used according to circumstances. Bedding, etc., is removed to the disinfectors



and returned to the owners in specially constructed vans, separate vans being used for collection and return.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, ETC., AND FOOD INSPECTION.—Ninety-six samples of food were submitted to the Public Analyst and reported upon as follows :—

Description of Samples.	No. of Samples.	Analyst Report.	Proceedings.
Milk ... ..	40	Genuine ...	Summons issued and withdrawn. See note in text.
	1 No. 1	11% deficient in fat ...	
	1 „ 5	7% „	
	1 „ 6	20% „	
	1 „ 12	17% „	
	48		
	1 No. 52	51% Extraneous water.	
	1 „ 55	3% „	
	1 „ 58	10½% „	
	1 „ 59	2% „	
Butter ... ..	24	Genuine.	See note in text.
Margarine ... ..	5	„	
Cheese ... ..	5	„	
Jam ... ..	5	„	
Sugar ... ..	3	„	
Mustard ... ..	1	„	
Peaflour ... ..	1	„	
Sago ... ..	1	„	
Tapioca ... ..	1	„	
Arrowroot ... ..	1	„	
Butter on bread ... ..	1	„	See note in text.
Citric Acid ... ..	1	„	
Cream of Tartar ... ..	1	„	
Tartaric Acid ... ..	1	„	
Tincture of Iodine ... ..	2	„	
	3	„	
Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine ... ..	4 { 1 No. 70	10% deficient in Quinine Sulphate	

The average solids of the 48 milks analysed (including the eight returned as adulterated) were as follows :—

Milk fat, 3.75 ; Non-fatty solids, 8.88 (a good average).

With regard to No. 1 sample, a summons was taken out

against the person whose name was given as the vendor at the time of the purchase. When the police officer went to serve the summons, he found the shop closed and that the business had been transferred to another person before the sample was purchased, a circumstance unknown to the person who served the inspector. The actual vendor came forward and stated that he would take all responsibility, but produced a warranty for the milk.

As there were other complications connected with the case it was decided to withdraw the summons.

Samples Nos. 5 and 6 were informal. Sample No. 12 was a formal sample procured from the same vendor as Nos. 5 and 6 informal; the vendor was summoned (see result in table). The vendors of Nos. 55 and 59 (informal samples) were cautioned; subsequent samples obtained formally proved genuine.

Sample No. 58 was analysed at the request of the consignee, who was receiving warranties with the supplies. A formal sample (obtained at the railway station) from the same farm proved genuine; from enquiries made and information obtained it was evident that an employee of the consigner had, at times, been tampering with the milk while in transit; the employee was discharged and further samples obtained from the same source proved genuine.

The sample of Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine (No. 70) was informal; a formal sample obtained under similar circumstances proved genuine.

Thirty of the samples were formal, 75 informal, 29 samples were obtained in the public street and series sampling by the service of deputies was frequently employed. No action was taken under the Margarine Act, 1887, or the Butter and Margarine Act, 1907.

All the samples were submitted to the public analyst by the Chief Sanitary Inspector, who is the officer specially appointed to carry out the provisions of the Acts.



In addition to the above, one sample of milk was examined bacteriologically for the presence of Tubercle, with negative results.

**PUBLIC HEALTH (MILK AND CREAM) REGULATIONS,  
1912—1917.**

Report for the year ended 31st December, 1921.

(1.) *Milk ; and Cream not sold as preserved cream.*

	(a) Number of Samples examined for the pre- sence of a preservative.	(b) Number in which a preservative was re- ported to be present and percentage of preserva- tive found in each sam- ple.
Milk ...	48	Nil.
Cream	5	Nil.

(2.) *Cream sold as preserved cream.*

- (a) Instances in which samples have been submitted for analysis to ascertain if the statements on the label as to preservatives were correct :—

(i.) Correct statement made	...	...	3
(ii.) Statement incorrect	...	...	1

iii.	Percentage of Pre- servative found in each Sample.	Percentage stated on Statutory Label.
A	37 %	0.4
C.	38 %	0.4
D.	64 %	0.4
G.	Nil.	0.4



- (b) Determinations made of milk fat in cream sold as preserved cream :—
- |       |                    |     |     |     |      |
|-------|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| (i.)  | Above 35 per cent. | ... | ... | ... | 4    |
| (ii.) | Below 35 per cent. | ... | ... | ... | Nil. |
- (c) Instances where (apart from analysis) the requirements as to labelling or declaration of preserved cream in article 5 (1) and the proviso in article 5 (2) of the regulations have not been observed ... Nil
- (d) Particulars of each case in which the regulations have not been complied with and the action taken :—

Under provisions of article 6, the vendor of sample " D " was asked for and furnished an explanation in regard to the excess of preservative and the explanation was accepted as correct because a further sample obtained before the explanation was given contained no preservative although labelled in a similar manner to the former sample.

(3.) *Thickening Substances.*

Any evidence of their addition to cream or to preserved cream	...	...	...	...	Nil
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

(4.) *Other observations.*

All the cream samples were procured by a deputy informally.

TOTAL...	...	4
----------	-----	---

OTHER FOODS.—One ton eight hundredweights one quarter and twenty-three pounds of food were seized and dealt with. No action was taken beyond seizure, no attempt having been made to sell the goods for human consumption.

### PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

A statement of the staff of the Public Health Department is given at the beginning of this report. The two health

nurses are also school nurses, one-fifth of their time being devoted to health work and four-fifths to school medical services. In addition to the regular members of the Public Health Department mentioned on the front page of the report, Dr. C. Elliott, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., is appointed to take holiday duty during the Medical Officer's annual leave.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector, Mr. J. Cave, is also Inspector under the Food and Drugs Act, and the two health visitors and school nurses, in addition to being fully trained nurses, hold certificates of proficiency in school nurses' and health visitors' work, from approved bodies. The Maternity and Child Welfare nurse, who was appointed in July, 1921, possesses the Royal Sanitary Institute's certificate for health visitor, school nurse, and tuberculosis nurse. She also has the Central Midwives Board certificate, the York Road Hospital certificate of training, and some training at a General Hospital besides four years' previous experience as a health visitor and maternity and child welfare nurse.

Contributions are made :—

- (a) Under the Public Health Act towards the salaries of the Medical Officer of Health and Chief Sanitary Inspector.
- (b) By Exchequer grants towards the salaries of the School Medical Officer, Ophthalmic Surgeon, Dental Surgeon, School Nurses, and Chief Clerk of the Health Offices, whose time is equally divided between health and school medical duties. There is also a contribution towards the part-time services of Dr. C. Elliott, who assists with school medical inspections up to the number of one thousand routine inspections annually.
- (c) By Exchequer grant towards the salaries of the Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare and of the Maternity and Child Welfare nurse.
- (d) By Exchequer grant towards the fees of the Analyst under the Food and Drugs Act.



## HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
(b) As part of a municipal housing scheme	...	...	...	...	...	...	30

### I.—UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES.

#### I.—Inspection.

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	136
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	...	32
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	Nil.
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	Nil.

#### II.—Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	...	28
---	-----	----

#### III.—Action under Statutory Powers.

A. <i>Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919.</i>		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs...	...	Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit—		
(a) by owners	...	Nil.
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	...	Nil.
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	...	Nil.
B. <i>Proceedings under Public Health Acts.</i>		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	104
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied—		
(a) by owners	...	209
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	...	Nil.
C. <i>Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909.</i>		
(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	...	Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	Nil.
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	...	Nil.
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made...	...	Nil.
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	Nil.



# BOROUGH OF ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

---

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE :

The Ven. Archdeacon A. T. SCOTT, M.A. (Chairman).

Mr. Alderman ELWIG.	Mr. Councillor WESLEY SMITH.
Mr. Alderman SILCOCK.	Mr. Councillor THORPE.
Mr. Councillor BERWICK.	Mr. Councillor WILLMOT.
Mr. Councillor GILBERT.	Miss ROBERTS.
Councillor Miss POWER.	The Rev. Canon A. W. OLIVER,
Councillor Miss SCOTT.	M.A.
Mr. Councillor STAMFORD.	The Rev. W. USHER, M.D.
Mr. Councillor SAUNDERS.	Mr. A. I. KING.
Councillor Brig.-Gen. SUART,	Mrs. WHITROW.
C.M.G.	Mr. C. A. PRESTON.

## STAFF OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL DEPARTMENT :

**Clerk** (*part time*) :

F. HICKS.

**Junior Clerk** (*part time*) :

Miss M. FERMER.

**School Nurses** (*fourth-fifths time*) :

Miss F. CLARK.

Miss H. M. STEVENS.

**School Dentist :**

J. PRICE EVANS, L.D.S., R.C.S.I.

**Ophthalmic Surgeon :**

D. DAVIES, M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

**Assistant to School Medical Officer** (*part time*) :

C. ELLIOTT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

**School Medical Officer :**

F. C. LINTON, M.A., M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

# Report to the Education Committee

BY

F. C. LINTON, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

*School Medical Officer.*

---

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Report upon the work of the School Medical Department during the year 1921.

On December 31st, 1921, there were within the area of the Borough no provided schools and 18 non-provided schools, including 26 departments, with recognised accommodation for 5,100 children. The average attendance during the year was 3,693.

The arrangement of the Report follows the lines of the suggestions made in the Board of Education's Memorandum accompanying Form 6M. of December, 1920.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. C. LINTON.

### STAFF.

Dr. C. Elliott continued to assist in the work of the School Medical Inspections, his appointment being limited to the inspection of not more than 1,000 children per annum.

Inspections and directions for treatment at the School Medical Centre were undertaken, as hitherto, by myself, as were also the remaining inspections under the Code Groups and all re-inspections in Schools.

The other members of the staff were the same during 1921 as in 1920, with the exception of the two School Nurses, Miss Clark and Miss Stevens, who commenced work in January, 1921.

### CO-ORDINATION.

(a.) **Infant and Child Welfare.**—The School Medical Officer is also the Medical Officer responsible for Child Welfare under the Maternity and Child Welfare Act. The Maternity and Child Welfare Nurse and the two School Nurses are under the School Medical Officer's direct control, and co-ordination of the work is therefore good.

The acquirement of suitable premises for the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre and for the School Medical Centre has been postponed for another year.

(b.) **Nursery Schools.**—There are no Nursery Schools in the Borough.

(c.) **The Care of Debilitated Children under School Age.**—Debilitated children under school age were assisted under the Milk (Mothers' and Children's) Orders, 1918 and 1921, and by giving certificates for relief from the Guardians where medical grounds necessitated additional nourishment.

The Invalid Children's Aid Society assisted with children of school age or under, requiring change of air.

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

**School Hygiene.**—The sanitation of the Schools is good, but many of the buildings are poorly lighted, lacking in



play space, and inadequately equipped with cloak-room accommodation, or with suitable screens upon which to hang the children's clothes. Arrangements for drying clothes and boots in most schools in Tunbridge Wells are non-existent.

**Medical Inspections.**—Three age groups were inspected, viz. :—Entrants, Intermediates (8 to 9 years of age), and Leavers (12 years of age and upwards). (See Table I. at end of Report.)

The Board's Schedule of Medical Inspection was completely followed.

Crippling defects were ascertained, either through the School teachers, at Medical inspections, or at the School Medical Centre.

Inspections were invariably made in the afternoons, 25 children being arranged for at each session.

It was found that in some Schools a number of children were missing medical inspection at the appropriate ages. A circular letter was therefore drawn up and approved by the Education Committee, to ensure the presentation of all children, either at the suitable age group or immediately after, if the child had passed that age. A copy was sent to each Head Teacher.

### FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

**Uncleanliness.**—A great deal of time and trouble have been taken in the effort to stamp out uncleanliness—chiefly in the form of head vermin. Miss Clark and Miss Stevens, the two School Nurses, have worked in a most praiseworthy manner to reduce the number of infested children in the Schools. 9,447 children were inspected on 88 special visits to the Schools by the Nurses for this purpose. 1838 were found to have the eggs of vermin attached to the hair; 134 had live head vermin, and 6 children were found with body vermin, and 1 with Scabies, or Itch.

These figures form an urgent reminder of the need for the establishment of a Cleansing Station, for which plans were approved by the Committees concerned, but deferred owing to the urgent necessity for economy at the present juncture.

**Tonsils and Adenoids.**—Arrangements came into force in April, 1921, by which treatment of Tonsils and Adenoids could be obtained at the General and Eye and Ear Hospitals, a subsidy being paid for each operation done. Parents are in every case asked to contribute towards the cost of the operation, five shillings being fixed as the routine sum, but varied according to the relative means of the parents. It is gratifying to know that the average sum paid throughout the year was slightly in excess of five shillings per head.

The actual percentage of cases treated rose from 38 per cent. in 1920, to 56 per cent. in 1921.

**Dental Treatment.**—In 1921, three-hour sessions on two afternoons a week were held during School terms. At the beginning of the year 1922, Mr. J. Stuart Smith, in succession to Mr. Price Evans, has commenced work as School Dentist, the sessions being arranged for three afternoons per week, lasting for two and a half hours each.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following Closures of Class or Departments were made during 1921 :—

SCHOOL.	CLASS OR DEPARTMENT.	REASON.	PERIOD OF CLOSURE.	
			FROM	TO
Down Lane ...	Class I. ..	Measles ..	4/5/21	11/ 5/21
St. James' Girls..	Standard II.	„ ...	18/ 6/21	25/ 6/21
St. James' Infants	Whole Dept.	„ ...	28/ 6/21	15/ 7/21
Grosvenor ...	Whole School	Drain subsidence	25/ 7/21	7/ 8/21
St. Peter's Infants	Whole Dept.	Whooping Cough	28/11/21	19/12/21
St. Peter's Boys...	Whole Dept.	Heating apparatus broke down	2/12/21	3/12/21
St. Peter's Girls...	„	„ „	2/12/21	3/12/21
St. James' Infants	„	Whooping Cough	19/12/21	End of Year.



### FOLLOWING UP.

The two School Nurses are present at Medical Inspections and at the Medical Inspection Centre, and follow up at the homes all cases referred for treatment or for other purpose by the Medical Officer. The following table specifies the work done in 1921 :—

Visits to Houses where the following Diseases have occurred.	1st Visits.	2nd Visits.	TOTAL.
Scarlet Fever ... ..	4	1	5
Diphtheria ... ..	20	14	34
Measles ... ..	69	132	201
German Measles ... ..	6	2	8
Mumps ... ..	10	23	33
Whooping Cough ... ..	70	104	174
Chicken Pox ... ..	146	220	366
Sore Throat ... ..	46	42	88
Ringworm (scalp) ... ..	11	29	40
„ (body) ... ..	1	1	2
Verminous Heads ... ..	52	37	89
Verminous Bodies ... ..	11	—	11
Impetigo Contagiosa ... ..	22	20	42
Scabies ... ..	9	6	15
Infectious Eye Disease ... ..	4	3	7
Other Diseases ... ..	134	119	253
<b>Totals ... ..</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>753</b>	<b>1368</b>

Visits paid to Elementary Schools for Medical Inspections ...	49
Number of Children prepared for Medical Inspections ...	1191
Number of Children prepared for Ophthalmic Surgeon ...	724
Visits paid to Elementary Schools for Dental Inspections ...	37
Other Visits to Elementary Schools ... ..	97
„ „ „ for Head Inspections ... ..	88
Home visits arising out of Medical Inspections and for other information ... ..	1480
Cultures taken ... ..	238
Number of Heads Inspected ... ..	9447
„ „ found with Nits ... ..	1838
„ „ „ Vermin ... ..	134
Number of Children found with Body Vermin ... ..	6
„ „ „ Scabies ... ..	1

In addition, the School Nurses attend the School Medical Officer, Ophthalmic Surgeon and the Dental Surgeon, during their sessions at the School Medical Centre, and carry out the daily treatment of minor ailments.



### MEDICAL TREATMENT.

(a.) **Minor Ailments.**—3,669 attendances were made, for treatment by the School Nurses, the number of children attending being 180.

(b.) **Tonsils and Adenoids.**—46 cases were operated upon under the Local Education Authority's Scheme which came into force in April, 1921. Of 176 cases recommended to have medical treatment, 99, or 56 per cent., received treatment.

(c.) **Tuberculosis.**—When a child suffering or suspected to be suffering from a tuberculous complaint is discovered, a note is given to the parent to take to the Medical Officer at the Tuberculosis Dispensary, where the child is kept under observation for treatment, and attends also at the School Medical Centre at intervals, varied according to the duration and severity of the tuberculous condition.

(d.) **Skin Disease.**—This is treated at the School Medical Centre when the condition is a minor one. Severe skin disease usually is treated at the General Hospital.

(e.) **External Eye Disease.**—Directions for treatment are given to the parent and cases are kept under observation at the School Medical Centre, being generally seen by the Ophthalmic Surgeon.

(f.) **Vision.**—All children showing defective vision are brought under the care of the Ophthalmic Surgeon at the School Medical Centre. It should be noted that, in 1921, glasses were prescribed for 102 children, and of these 92 obtained the glasses. In a few instances assistance was given to the parents for the purchase of the glasses.

(g.) **Ear Disease and Hearing.**—These defects, if due to conditions such as wax, are treated at the School Medical Centre; major defects are referred to the Eye and Ear Hospital.

(h.) **Dental Defects.**—A Table setting these out and the results obtained is attached (Table IV.d.).

Fresh arrangements involving a slight extension of the time devoted to treatment of the children's teeth came into force at the beginning of 1922. These arrangements enable all children from five to nine years of age to be inspected by the School Dentist, and treatment to be given for such as require it.

(i.) **Crippling Defects and Orthopædics.**—There is no special treatment in connection with the Schools for these conditions. They are usually referred to the General Hospital if treatment is required.

### **OPEN-AIR EDUCATION.**

There is no open-air school at present in Tunbridge Wells.

### **PHYSICAL TRAINING.**

This is undertaken at individual Schools ; there is no General Organiser for the district.

### **PROVISION OF MEALS.**

Meals are not provided at the Schools.

### **SCHOOL BATHS.**

The following are the arrangements made by the Baths Committee for School children at the Tunbridge Wells Corporation Baths and at the Open-Air Bath during the summer months :—

**Open-Air Bath.**—The Baths Committee of the Town Council provide for free instruction in swimming to scholars from Elementary Schools in the Borough attending the Open-Air Bath.

Each scholar is charged  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for admission to the Bath.

The Elementary School Teachers accompanying the scholars are admitted to the Bath free of charge.



The Borough Education Committee makes a payment to the Baths Committee at the rate of 10s. per week for the services of a Swimming Instructor.

The following Table gives Head Teachers' reports for the 1921 season.

Public Elementary School.	Number of Scholars instructed in Swimming.	Number of Scholars who are able to swim as a result of such instruction.
Royal Victoria, Boys' ...	—	—
Holy Trinity, Girls' ...	—	—
St. James', Boys' ...	70	18
St. James', Girls' ...	—	—
St. John's, Boys' ...	Over 30	Approx. 12
St. John's, Girls' ...	—	—
Christ Church ...	—	—
Rusthall, Boys' ...	—	—
Rusthall, Girls' ...	—	—
St. Mark's, Mixed ...	—	—
King Charles', Boys' ...	—	—
Murray House ...	—	—
St. Peter's, Boys' ...	—	—
St. Peter's, Girls' ...	—	—
St. Barnabas', Boys' ...	80	30
St. Barnabas', Girls' ...	33	5
St. Augustine's ...	—	—
Grosvenor ...	40	21
	253	86

Many other scholars also attended the Open-Air Bath, without receiving instruction by the Swimming Instructor.

**Indoor Swimming Bath.**—Many also attended these Baths throughout the year, specially reduced charges being made for Public Elementary School children.

#### CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS.

Postcards are prepared in the Health Offices and are sent to the Head Teacher prior to the holding of a Medical Inspection, for address and distribution to the parents, requesting their attendance. The percentage of parents attending at the inspections are as follows:—67 per cent. attended at the inspections of infants; 46 per cent. at the



inspections of senior boys ; and 56 per cent. at the inspections of senior girls.

### **CO-OPERATION OF THE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICER.**

The School Attendance Officer is in close touch with the School Medical Department, and, in addition to almost daily attendance at the Office, his Office is situated one hundred yards from the School Medical Centre, and thus for any special case he can be communicated with immediately.

### **CO-OPERATION OF VOLUNTARY BODIES.**

Children's Care Committees were established at St. Barnabas' School (1920), and Christ Church School (1921). These are of great assistance in following up School medical work. A School Nurse is a member of each Committee and reports to the Committee all cases in which its services are considered likely to be of use.

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

These children come to notice through the Health Visitors and School Teachers ; at the same time it is probable that further advertisement might bring some to light, particularly such as are idiots or imbeciles. No Special Schools for such children exist in the Tunbridge Wells area.

### **NURSERY, SECONDARY, AND CONTINUATION SCHOOLS.**

There are no Nursery Schools in the Borough and the arrangements for Medical Service in the Secondary and Continuation Schools are undertaken by the County Council.

### **EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS.**

The total number of Elementary School Children employed during the year 1921 was in the neighbourhood of 400, and the chief employments were milk and paper rounds and house duties.

Fresh regulations are shortly coming into force under which only School children of the age of 12 years and upwards may be employed, the period of employment being not more than two hours per School day. These regulations place the additional duty upon the School Medical Department of examining each employed child at least once in six months and certifying his fitness for the work which he undertakes. Certain provisos are made as to adequate clothing and protection from the weather.

#### **PHYSICAL CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYED CHILDREN.**

Sometimes in the course of routine Medical Inspections detrimental effects have been noticed to occur in employed children, and in all such cases representations were made to the parents with a view to the child stopping these extra duties.

#### **STATISTICAL TABLES.**

The six Statistical Tables required by the Board of Education are appended, and these give detailed information of the work done in the various branches of the School Medical Service.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. C. LINTON.



TABLE I.—Number of Children inspected 1st January, 1921, to 31st December, 1921.

## A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION.\*

Age.	Entrants.						Intermediate Group. 8.	Leavers.					Grand Total.
	3.	4.	5.	6.	Other Ages.	Total.		12.	13.	14.	Other Ages.	Total.	
Boys ...	8	50	79	41	26	204	120	158	39	4	94	295	619
Girls ...	7	39	66	56	35	203	151	143	30	2	43	218	572
Totals ...	15	89	145	97	61	407	271	301	69	6	137	513	1191

## B.—SPECIAL INSPECTIONS

	Special Cases.†	Re-Examinations (i.e. No. of Children Re-Examined).
Boys ...	414	298
Girls ...	483	348
Totals ...	897	646

C.—TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN  
INSPECTED BY THE MEDICAL OFFICER, WHETHER  
AS ROUTINE OR SPECIAL CASES (no Child being  
counted more than once in one Year).

No. of Individual Children inspected.
1866

\* *Routine Medical Inspection* is medical inspection carried out on the lines of the approved Schedule at the time when routine medical inspection is due and made on the school premises or other place sanctioned by the Board of Education under the Code.

† "*Special Cases*" are those children specifically referred to the Medical Officer and not due for routine medical inspection under the Code at the time when specially referred. Such children may or may not be of Code-group age and may be referred to the Medical Officer at the school or the clinic by the Committee, Medical Officers, School Nurses, Teachers, Attendance Officers, Parents or otherwise.



TABLE II.

Return of Defects found in the course of Medical Inspection  
in 1921.

DEFECT OR DISEASE.	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.		SPECIALS.*	
	Number referred for treatment.	Number requiring to be kept under observation, but not referred for treatment.	Number referred for treatment.	Number requiring to be kept under observation, but not referred for treatment.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Malnutrition ... ..	—	63	47	2
Uncleanliness :				
Head ... ..	113	—	170	17
Body ... ..	4	—	14	1
SKIN—				
Ringworm :				
Head ... ..	—	—	37	—
Body ... ..	2	—	22	—
Scabies ... ..	—	1	20	—
Impetigo ... ..	2	3	90	5
Other Diseases (non-Tubercular)	1	4	53	42
EYE—				
Blepharitis ... ..	2	10	2	7
Conjunctivitis ... ..	2	3	3	13
Keratitis ... ..	—	—	—	—
Corneal Ulcer ... ..	—	—	1	—
Corneal Opacities ... ..	—	—	—	—
Defective Vision ... ..	108	176	9	—
Squint ... ..	3	2	9	—
Other Conditions ... ..	—	—	14	—
EAR—				
Defective Hearing ... ..	7	15	5	1
Otitis Media ... ..	8	12	5	6
Other Ear Diseases ... ..	—	—	4	—
NOSE AND THROAT—				
Enlarged Tonsils ... ..	71	132	48	10
Adenoids ... ..	16	24	22	2
Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids	39	8	35	1
Other Conditions ... ..	—	—	44	31
Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tubercular) ... ..	4	151	15	7
Defective Speech ... ..	—	—	2	—
Teeth—Dental Diseases, <i>see above</i>	55	730	49	4
	(Medical Inspection figures)			
HEART AND CIRCULATION—				
Heart Disease :				
Organic ... ..	1	11	—	—
Functional ... ..	—	63	2	—
Anaemia ... ..	—	8	6	2
LUNGS—				
Bronchitis ... ..	3	5	13	3
Other Non-Tubercular Diseases	6	20	7	1
TUBERCULOSIS—				
Pulmonary :				
Definite ... ..	—	1	1	—
Suspected ... ..	—	1	9	—
Non-Pulmonary :				
Glands ... ..	—	2	3	—
Spine ... ..	—	—	—	—
Hip ... ..	—	—	—	—
Other Bones and Joints ... ..	—	—	1	—
Skin ... ..	—	—	1	—
Other Forms ... ..	—	1	3	—
NERVOUS SYSTEM—				
Epilepsy ... ..	—	1	—	1
Chorea ... ..	—	3	8	1
Other Conditions ... ..	—	2	4	3
DEFORMITIES—				
Rickets ... ..	—	12	—	—
Spinal Curvature ... ..	—	14	—	1
Other Forms ... ..	—	28	1	—
Other Defects and Diseases ...	23	98	115	37

NUMBER OF Individual Children HAVING DEFECTS WHICH REQUIRED TREATMENT OR TO BE KEPT UNDER OBSERVATION ... .. 1,809

\* "Special Cases" are those children specifically referred to the Medical Officer and not due for routine medical inspection under the Code at the time when specially referred. Such children may or may not be of Code-group age and may be referred to the Medical Officer at the school or the clinic by the Committee, Medical Officers, School Nurses, Teachers, Attendance Officers, Parents or otherwise.

**TABLE III.—Numerical Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area in 1921.**

		BOYS.	GIRLS.	TOTAL
<b>BLIND</b> (including partially blind), within the meaning of the Elementary Education (Blind and Deaf Children) Act, 1893.				
Attending Public Elementary Schools...		4	7	11
Attending Certified Schools for the Blind		1	—	1
Not at School ... ..		—	—	—
<b>DEAF AND DUMB</b> (including partially deaf), within the meaning of the Elementary Education (Blind and Deaf Children) Act, 1893.				
Attending Public Elementary Schools...		5	10	15
Attending Certified Schools for the Deaf		—	2	2
Not at School ... ..		—	1	1
<b>MENTALLY DEFICIENT</b>	Attending Public Elementary Schools	3	—	3
	Attending Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children ... ..	—	1	1
	Notified to the Local Control Authority by Local Education Authority during the Year ... ..	—	—	—
	Not at School ... ..	5	1	6
	Imbeciles ... ..	—	—	—
	Not at School ... ..	3	—	3
	Idiots ... ..	—	—	—
	Not at School ... ..	—	—	—
<b>EPILEPTICS.</b>				
Attending Public Elementary Schools...		2	3	5
Attending Certified Schools for Epileptics		—	—	—
In Institutions other than Certified Schools ... ..		1	—	1
Not at School ... ..		—	—	—
<b>PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE</b>	Pulmonary ... ..	—	—	—
	Tuberculosis ... ..	—	—	—
	In Institutions other than Certified Schools ... ..	—	—	—
	Not at School ... ..	2	—	2
	Crippling due to Tuberculosis ... ..	—	1	1
	Attending Public Elementary Schools...	—	—	—
	Attending Certified Schools for Physically Defective Children ... ..	—	—	—
	In Institutions other than Certified Schools ... ..	—	—	—
	Not at School ... ..	4	2	6
	Crippling due to causes other than Tuberculosis, i.e., Paralysis, Rickets, Traumatism ... ..	8	7	15
	Attending Public Elementary Schools...	—	—	—
	Attending Certified Schools for Physically Defective Children ... ..	—	—	—
	In Institutions other than Certified Schools ... ..	—	—	—
	Not at School ... ..	—	1	1
	Other Physical Defectives, e.g., delicate and other children suitable for admission to Open-Air Schools; children suffering from severe heart disease	3	1	4
	Attending Public Elementary Schools...	—	—	—
	Attending Open-Air Schools ... ..	—	—	—
	Attending Certified Schools for Physically Defective Children, other than Open-Air Schools ... ..	—	—	—
	Not at Schools ... ..	2	—	2
<b>DULL OR BACKWARD* †</b>				
Retarded 2 years ... ..		57	44	101
Retarded 3 years ... ..		23	20	43

\* Judged according to age and standard. No case retarded more than three years to be included in this category unless it has been decided after examination by the Medical Officer that the child is not mentally defective.

† Information obtained from Head Teachers.



TABLE IV.—Treatment of Defects of Children during 1921.

## A.—TREATMENT OF MINOR AILMENTS.

Disease or Defect.	NUMBER OF CHILDREN.			
	Referred for Treatment.	TREATED.		Total.
		Under Local Education Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	
<i>Skin—</i>				
Ringworm-Head	37	25	17	42†
Ringworm-Body	24	21	3	24
Scabies	21	—	21	21*
Impetigo	92	78	6	84
Minor Injuries	20	17	3	20
Other skin diseases	54	29	5	34
<i>Ear Disease</i>	29	3	3	6
<i>Eye Disease (external and other)</i>	12	3	7	10
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	85	4	41	45

† Includes a number from 1920. \* Mostly treated by Parents according to instructions given.

## B.—TREATMENT OF VISUAL DEFECT.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN.									
Referred for Refrac- tion.	Submitted to Refraction.				For whom Glasses were Prescribed.	For whom Glasses were Provided.	Recom- mended for Treatment other than by Glasses.	Received other Forms of Treatment.	For whom no Treatment was considered necessary.
	Under Local Education Authority's Scheme— Clinic or Hospital.	By Private Practitioner or Hospital.	Otherwise.	Total.					
202	202	—	—	202	102	92	56	56	44

For whom no Treatment was considered necessary.



**TABLE IV.—continued.**  
C.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

Referred for Treatment.	NUMBER OF CHILDREN.			
	RECEIVED OPERATIVE TREATMENT.			Received other Forms of Treatment.
	Under Local Education Authority's Scheme—Clinic or Hospital.	By Private Practitioner or Hospital.	Total.	
176	46	37	83	16

D.—TREATMENT OF DENTAL DEFECTS.  
1. Number of Children dealt with.

	AGE GROUPS.											"Specials."	Total.
	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.			
	121	268	227	294	253	213	213	227	107	16	11	1950	
(a) Inspected by dentist	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	964	
(b) Referred for treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	615	
(c) Actually treated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	392	
(d) Re-treated* (result of periodical examination)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		

\* It is understood that cases under this head are also included under (c) above.

TABLE IV.—continued.

2. Particulars of Time given and of Operations undertaken.

No. of Half Days devoted to Inspection.	No. of Half Days devoted to Treatment.	Total No. of Attend- ances made by the Children at the Clinic	No. of Permanent Teeth.		No. of Temporary Teeth.		Total No. of Fillings.		No. of Admini- strations of General Anæsthetics included in (4) and (6)	No. of other Operations.	
			Extracted.	Filled.	Extracted.	Filled.				Permanent Teeth.	Temporary Teeth.
(1.)	(2.)	(3.)	(4.)	(5.)	(6.)	(7.)	(8.)	(9.)		(10.)	(11.)
42	34	658	57	103	860	1	104	79		13	—



TABLE V.—Summary of Treatment of Defects as shown in Table IV. (A, B, C, D and F, but excluding E).

DISEASE OR DEFECT.	NUMBER OF CHILDREN.			
	Referred for Treatment.	TREATED.		Total.
		Under Local Education Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	
Minor Ailments ... ..	374	180	106	286
Visual Defects ... ..	158	148	—	148
Defects of Nose and Throat ... ..	176	46	53	99
Dental Defects ... ..	964	615	—	615
Other Defects ... ..	72	—	60	60
Total ... ..	1744	989	219	1208

**TABLE VI.—Summary Relating to Children Medically Inspected at the Routine Inspections during the Year 1921.**

(1.) The total number of children medically inspected at the routine inspections* ... ..	1191
(2.) The number of children in (1) suffering from :—	
Malnutrition ... ..	63
Skin Disease ... ..	13
Defective Vision (including Squint) (6/9 and worse) ...	293
Eye Disease ... ..	15
Defective Hearing ... ..	22
Ear Disease ... ..	20
Nose and Throat Disease ... ..	296
Enlarged Cervical Glands (non-tubercular) ... ..	151
Defective Speech ... ..	—
Dental Disease ... ..	785
Heart Disease :—	
Organic ... ..	12
Functional ... ..	63
Anæmia ... ..	8
Lung Disease (non-tubercular) ... ..	34
Tuberculosis :—	
Pulmonary { Definite ... ..	1
Suspected ... ..	1
Non-pulmonary ... ..	3
Disease of the Nervous System ... ..	6
Deformities... ..	54
Other defects and diseases ... ..	117
(3.) The number of children in (1) suffering from defects (other than uncleanliness or defective clothing or footgear) who require to be kept under observation (but not referred for treatment) <sup>†</sup> ... ..	584
(4.) The number of children in (1) who were referred for treatment (excluding uncleanliness, defective clothing, etc.)	345
(5.) The number of children in (4) who received treatment for one or more defects (excluding uncleanliness, defective clothing, etc.) ... ..	265

\* "Specials" should not be included in this table.



### Number of Children Medically Inspected at each School.

SCHOOL.	GRADE.	BOYS.	GIRLS.
Basinghall ... ..	Infants ...	36	14
Rusthall ... ..	"	26	33
" ... ..	Boys ...	53	—
" ... ..	Girls ...	—	54
St. Mark's ... ..	Infants ...	—	—
" ... ..	Mixed ...	24	26
Christ Church ... ..	"	6	17
Murray House ... ..	"	8	68
King Charles ... ..	Boys ...	23	—
Royal Victoria ... ..	"	80	—
Holy Trinity ... ..	Girls ...	—	25
St. Peter's ... ..	Boys ...	22	—
" ... ..	Girls ...	—	25
" ... ..	Infants ...	16	17
St. James' ... ..	Boys ...	48	—
" ... ..	Girls ...	—	57
" ... ..	Infants ...	36	40
St. John's ... ..	Boys ...	56	—
" ... ..	Girls ...	—	44
Down Lane ... ..	Infants ...	26	20
Grosvenor ... ..	Mixed ...	46	36
St. Augustine's ... ..	"	27	22
St. Barnabas' ... ..	Boys ...	48	—
" ... ..	Girls ...	—	25
" ... ..	Infants ...	8	16
St. Luke's ... ..	"	30	33
		619	572

Total ... .. 1191

#### RE-INSPECTIONS—

Improved ...	13
Stationary ...	10
Cured ...	16
	39
TOTAL	1230