

**[Report 1961] / School Medical Officer of Health, Tynemouth County Borough.**

**Contributors**

Tynemouth (England). County Borough Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1961

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/anz2pumz>

**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>



County Borough of Tynemouth

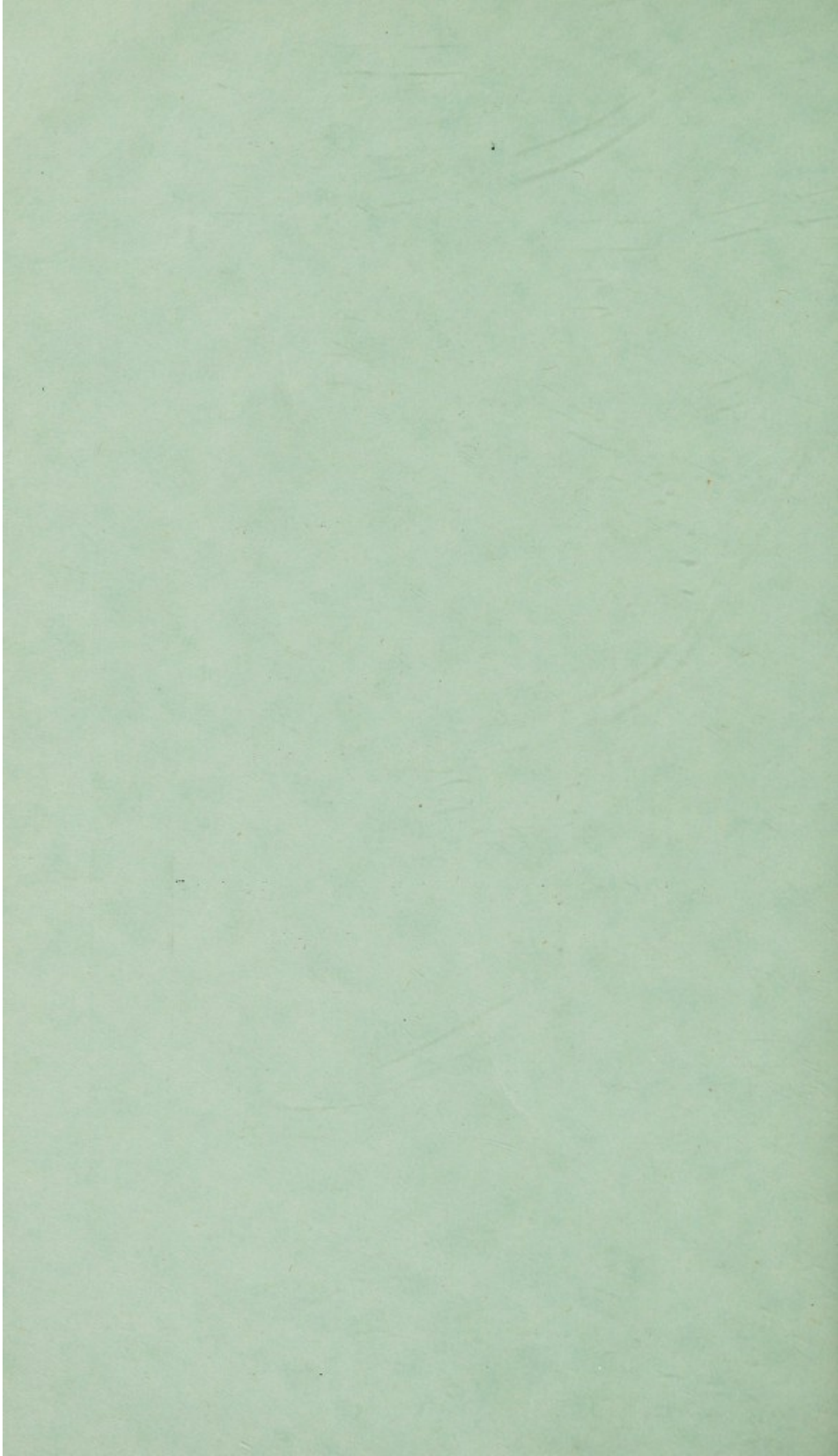
---

FIFTY-THIRD  
ANNUAL REPORT

on the

MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT  
OF SCHOOL CHILDREN

1961





County Borough of Tynemouth

---

FIFTY-THIRD  
ANNUAL REPORT

on the  
MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT  
OF SCHOOL CHILDREN

1961

## S T A F F

Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer ... ..	Roderick H. Dawson, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
Assistant Medical Officers of Health ... ..	Margaret A. Loraine, B.SC., M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., D.C.H.  G. MacAlister Dowson, M.B., B.S.
Principal Dental Officer ...	Richard W. Essenhigh, L.D.S.
Assistant Dental Officer ...	Mrs. L. M. Steele, B.D.S.
Dental Surgery Assistants ...	Miss H. Gray.  Mrs. W. G. Frier.
Orthoptist (part time) ...	Mrs. F. Taylor, D.B.O.
Speech Therapist ... ..	Miss M. Gordon, L.C.S.T., I.P.A.
Physiotherapist (part-time) ...	Miss M. E. Wake, M.C.S.P.
Clerical Staff ... ..	Miss E. Harrison.  Miss P. K. Coventry.

I N D E X	PAGE
Accidents among School Children ... ..	11
Average Heights and Weights ... ..	8
B.C.G. Vaccination ... ..	7
Co-ordination ... ..	6
Deaths of School Children ... ..	18
Defective Vision and Squint ... ..	9
Diphtheria Immunisation ... ..	6
Diseases of the Skin ... ..	9
Educationally Sub-Normal Children... ..	14
Eye Testing Clinic ... ..	9
Findings of Medical Inspections ... ..	8
Follow-up Investigations ... ..	9
Foot Survey ... ..	12
Handicapped Pupils ... ..	14
Infectious Diseases ... ..	11
Lovaine House Special School— Report of Head Mistress ... ..	17
Medical Inspections ... ..	7
Minor Ailments ... ..	9
Miscellaneous Medical Examinations ... ..	18
Nursery Schools ... ..	18
Orthopaedic and Postural Defects ... ..	10
Orthoptic Clinic ... ..	9
Other Defects Treated ... ..	11
Poliomyelitis Vaccination ... ..	7
Report of the Principal School Dental Officer ... ..	12
School Clinics ... ..	5
School Meals and Milk ... ..	6
Schools in the Borough ... ..	5
Speech Therapy ... ..	10
Staff ... ..	2
Statistical Tables ... ..	19
Surprise Cleanliness Surveys ... ..	8
Tonsillectomy ... ..	10
Tynemouth High (Grammar) School ... ..	18
Tynemouth Open-Air Day School and Lovaine House Special Day School ... ..	14
Tynemouth Open-Air Day School— Report of the Head Mistress ... ..	15
Ultra Violet Ray Therapy ... ..	11
Uncleanliness—Head ... ..	8

**ANNUAL REPORT OF  
THE PRINCIPAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER  
FOR THE YEAR 1961**

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE,  
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
ALBION ROAD,  
NORTH SHIELDS.  
APRIL, 1962.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE  
COUNTY BOROUGH OF TYNEMOUTH.

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that I present to you the Fifty-third Annual Report upon the work of the School Health Service for the year 1961, in the form required under Regulation 13 of the School Health Service and Handicapped Pupils Regulations 1953.

Work on the new Public Health Department was completed early in January, and the building was opened to the public for the first time on Monday, January 16th. All branches of the School Health Service are now concentrated in one building; there are two dental clinics, and separate rooms for eye-testing, orthoptic treatment and speech therapy, while minor ailments are treated every morning from Monday to Friday in the School Clinic. This makes possible closer co-operation in the treatment of children attending the clinic for more than one defect, as records are more readily available to all members of the staff, and information regarding problem families can be pooled.

Dr. Loraine was responsible for the medical inspections in the Tynemouth Open-Air Day School and Lovaine House Special School, while Dr. Dowson carried out periodic inspections and re-inspections in the Primary and Secondary Schools. Special cases, referred by a doctor, Head Teacher, or Health Visitor, were seen at the School Clinic by Dr. D. B. Walls, part-time School Medical Officer, who also carried out periodic inspections on two sessions per week, during the absence of Dr. Dowson who was attending a D.P.H. Course in Newcastle for 2½ days a week.

Fortnightly visits were paid to the School Clinic by a Consultant Ophthalmologist, Mr. J. S. Arkle, in order to carry out refraction and consultant work. Children in need of orthoptic treatment were referred by him to Mrs. Taylor, who was appointed in February, to take charge of the Orthoptic Clinic which is held every Thursday, morning and afternoon. Many of the children who were previously transferred to the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle, for treatment after Miss Brown's resignation, are now attending the Orthoptic Clinic at North Shields, as well as new patients who are referred from Mr. Arkle's fortnightly refraction clinic.

A Speech Therapist, Miss M. Gordon, was appointed in September. She began by visiting all the schools in the Borough, and selecting the worst cases for immediate treatment. As the area has been without a speech therapist for about 18 months, there is a long waiting list, and it will be some time before she is able to accept for treatment those children who have only minor defects.

Lectures on Health Education were given by the Health Visitors to senior girls in their last year of attendance at Secondary Modern

Schools, and it is hoped that these talks will be extended to cover a wider range of subjects in 1962.

At the end of October, we lost the services of Miss H. March, who retired after 32½ years as School Nurse, and who was well-known in the Borough to children and parents alike. I should like to take this opportunity of wishing her a long and happy retirement.

In conclusion, I would like to express my indebtedness to the Chairman and Members of the School Health Services Sub-Committee, to the Chief Education Officer, and to the staff of this Department for their willing help and co-operation in the interests of the School Health Service throughout the year.

R. H. DAWSON

*Medical Officer of Health and  
Principal School Medical Officer.*

### Schools in the Borough

<i>Type of School</i>	<i>Average No. on Register in January 1962</i>
County Primary ... ..	6,428
Voluntary Primary ... ..	862
Secondary Modern ... ..	3,185
Open-Air Day School for Delicate Children ... ..	87
Special School for Educationally Sub-Normal Children ... ..	78
Tynemouth High (Grammar) School ... ..	808
Tynemouth Technical School ... ..	596
Total School Population ... ..	12,044

### School Clinics

These are all held in the Public Health Department, and a list of times is given below.

#### DENTAL

There are two full-time dentists in attendance daily.

#### MEDICAL

Wednesday afternoon, and by special appointment on Monday and Wednesday morning.

#### MINOR AILMENTS

Monday to Friday mornings.

#### ORTHOPTIC

Thursday, morning and afternoon.

#### PHYSIOTHERAPY

Tuesday morning.

#### REFRACTION

Thursday morning, alternate weeks.

#### SPEECH THERAPY

Daily, since the appointment of a full-time speech therapist on 1st September.

#### ULTRA VIOLET LIGHT

Tuesday and Friday afternoons.



### **Co-ordination**

Arrangements in this area provide for continuity of supervision of the health of children from infancy to the end of school life, Maternal and Child Welfare Service records of pre-school children who had defects being transferred to the School Health Service when children reach the age of 5 years.

Co-ordination between the school health service, the Council's other services, the hospital services and general medical practitioners has been maintained.

### **School Meals and Milk**

During 1961, one-day returns showing the number of children having school dinners were taken on 27th September.

The number of children taking meals was 3,544 of whom 494 had free meals, the former figure being 31.5% of the school roll.

The percentage taking school milk was 78.06, which showed a slight drop.

The price of school meals remained at 1/- per meal although the unit cost of the meal increased as a result of the fruit shortage.

Very little fresh fruit has been served since October owing to the scarcity and subsequent high price of apples. Supplies of tinned fruits such as rhubarb and gooseberries were soon exhausted and consequently the fruit available rose to a prohibitive price. Substitutes such as dehydrated apple, apricots, prunes, bananas and oranges were used, and proved quite satisfactory.

Permission was obtained to purchase stainless steel cutlery. This proved a great improvement on the nickel silver type, which becomes discoloured and pitted, and therefore needs to be replaced more frequently if it is not to become unhygienic.

In April, two new 30 cwt. vans were delivered. Their better performance has cut down the running costs of transport.

Much needed dining furniture was purchased for several schools this year and it is hoped that more furniture will be renewed in the near future.

During the Christmas holidays, dining halls, serveries and kitchens were painted. Altogether about £750 was spent on painting this year.

In April a training class was started for full-time school meals staff. Lectures were given by the School Meals Organiser on the theory and practice of cookery and on hygiene. Attendance at these classes was voluntary and while the initial high attendance was not maintained at the end of the year, they fulfilled a very useful purpose and deserve every encouragement.

As usual chutney was made, but soft fruits were too expensive to be bottled.

Preparations were being made at the end of the year for the new Marden Secondary School Kitchens to be opened at Easter 1962.

### **Diphtheria Immunisation**

Facilities were again made available for diphtheria immunisation at the various Maternal and Child Welfare Centres of the

Public Health Department, or at the surgeries of general medical practitioners.

During the year, 1,203 children received a complete course of injections, 101 being school children and 1,102 pre-school children. In addition, 636 children of all ages were given reinforcing injections.

It is estimated that at 31st December 1961, 75.83 per cent. of the child population (i.e., children under 15 years of age) had been immunised, as compared with 76.00 per cent. in 1960.

### **Poliomyelitis Vaccination**

During the year under review, 942 children born between 1st January, 1944 and 31st December 1961, completed a course of three injections. Approximately 70% of this figure was related to school children.

### **B.C.G. Vaccination**

Protection against Tuberculosis was again offered to all school children in the thirteen year old age group.

During the year under review, 464 children were skin tested, and all the children with a negative reaction were vaccinated. The rather smaller number involved during 1961, was at least in part due to the temporary cessation of clinics during the period of entry into the new premises of the Public Health Department.

Year	Total Skin Tested	Positive Reaction	Negative Reaction	% requiring B.C.G. Protection
1958	70	13	57	81.43
1959	562	64	498	88.61
1960	506	51	455	89.92
1961	464	17	447	96.33

### **Medical Inspections**

A periodic medical inspection of children in the following age groups was carried out in each school.

- (a) ENTRANTS—children in their first year of attendance at a maintained primary infant school.
- (b) INTERMEDIATES—children in the last year of attendance at a maintained primary junior school.
- (c) LEAVERS—children in the last year of attendance at a maintained secondary school.
- (d) OTHERS—children of all ages in attendance at the Special school for educationally sub-normal children.

Prior to the periodic medical inspection of the children in these age groups, the schools were visited by a School Nurse/Health Visitor, who weighed and measured the children and tested the visual acuity of those in groups (b), (c) and (d). At the actual inspection the Medical Officer was accompanied by a Nurse. Parents were invited to be present at these inspections.

The percentage of parents who were present at periodic inspections was 67.21 as compared with 69.49 in 1960, and 76.4 in 1957.

Special inspections and re-inspections were also conducted in each school department once during the year.

### Findings of Medical Inspections

Periodic Medical inspection of 3,214 children was carried out in school, and the general physical condition of all but 3 of the children inspected was recorded as satisfactory. The defects found at periodic and special inspections can be seen in Table A on Page 21 of this report, which shows separately the number of pupils found to require treatment (T), and the number of pupils found to require observation (O).

The following table shows the average heights and weights of boy and girl entrants selected at intervals, over a period of years, since periodic medical inspection commenced.

**AVERAGE HEIGHTS AND WEIGHTS OF  
BOY AND GIRL ENTRANTS  
(5 year old age group)**

Year	BOY ENTRANTS		GIRL ENTRANTS	
	Average Heights	Average Weights	Average Heights	Average Weights
	ft. ins.	lbs.	ft. ins.	lbs.
1909	3 3·7	37·9	3 3·5	37·5
1918	3 4·7	39·1	3 4·0	38·5
1927	3 5·2	40·1	3 5·0	38·5
1936	3 6·2	41·1	3 6·1	39·3
1945	3 7·0	40·2	3 7·0	41·3
1950	3 7·0	43·1	3 6·5	42·1
1955	3 7·5	43·3	3 7·2	41·7
1960	3 7·0	43·3	3 6·5	41·5
1961	3 7·0	43·0	3 6·5	41·5

### Uncleanliness—Head

- (i) GIRLS. Of the 1,567 girls examined at periodic inspection, 107 or 6·8 per cent. were recorded as having nits ; 5 or 0·7 per cent. of these had a minor infestation only. 1 child was found to be verminous.
- (ii) BOYS. Of the 1,647 boys examined at periodic inspection, 23 or 1·4 per cent. were recorded as having nits.

### Surprise Cleanliness Surveys

In 1961, 15,839 examinations for uncleanliness were made in the schools by the nursing staff. 924 pupils were found to be infested ; 826 of these pupils were issued with cleansing notices. The supervision and treatment of certain children, found to have dirty heads and referred to the School Clinic, was again carried out by the School Nurse at the Minor Ailment Clinic.

### **Follow Up Investigations**

During the year the Health Visitors followed up 26 cases which were under observation or treatment. In this connection 84 home visits were made and 52 inspections were carried out in the schools.

### **Minor Ailments**

Minor Ailment Clinics were conducted by a School Nurse on five sessions per week for the treatment of children referred by a Head Teacher or a Medical Officer with minor injuries, skin conditions, etc. 453 cases attended the Clinic, and made 1,396 attendances. This compares with 199 cases and 696 attendances in 1960, and 1,143 cases and 8,042 attendances in 1948.

### **Diseases of the Skin**

60 children were receiving treatment for diseases of the skin. Included in this total were 34 children suffering from scabies, who were treated at the School Clinic, 13 cases of impetigo, who were referred to their own doctors or treated at the School Clinic, and 13 other cases who were receiving hospital treatment for dermatitis, eczema and miscellaneous infections.

### **Defective Vision and Squint**

The vision of first year entrants to Primary Junior Schools was tested by a Health Visitor or School Nurse, and any child suspected of having a visual defect was referred to a Medical Officer for further investigation.

During the year 294 Forms O.S.C. 10—as compared with 225 in 1960, and 129 in 1953—authorising the repair or replacement of spectacles were issued by the School Medical Officers. Of these, 103 were charged to the Local Education Authority as being related to cases where lack of care on the part of the pupils had been the cause of loss or damage.

### **Eye Testing Clinic**

320 school children had their eyes tested by an Ophthalmic Surgeon at the School Clinic. Spectacles were prescribed for 267 of these children, and 82 were referred for orthoptic treatment.

We also have a record that 277 children had their eyes tested by opticians. Spectacles were prescribed for 224 of these.

### **Orthoptic Clinic**

The following is a report by the Orthoptist, Mrs. F. Taylor, on the work carried out at this clinic during the year 1961 :—

The Orthoptic Clinic re-opened on February 1961 for two sessions per week.

72 new cases were registered. 12 children had operations at the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Fleming Memorial and Walker Gate Hospitals. There was no waiting list at the end of the year.

A total of 129 children, including 43 pre-school children, received treatment during the year.

The total attendances of all cases during 1961 amounted to 570.

### Speech Therapy

In September, a speech therapist, Miss M. Gordon, was appointed. She began by visiting all the schools in the Borough, and selecting cases with the most severe speech defects for immediate treatment. The parents of the children concerned were interviewed, and where consent was obtained, they were enrolled for speech therapy.

Initially, 65 children were sent for, and of these 15 have now been discharged. The total number attending for speech therapy during 1961 was 80, 53 boys and 27 girls, and the total number of attendances was 392. This includes 2 boys of pre-school age, who made 12 attendances.

The children treated were suffering from the following defects :

Dyslalia	...	...	...	...	...	33
Stammer	...	...	...	...	...	21
Lateral or interdental sigmatism	...	...	...	...	...	17
Retarded speech or language development	...	...	...	...	...	4
Dysarthria	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dyspraxia	...	...	...	...	...	1
Receptive disorder	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cleft Palate	...	...	...	...	...	1
						—
						80
						==

6 audiometric tests were made, and in 5 cases some deficiency of hearing was discovered.

### Tonsillectomy

Below is shown the percentage of children who were examined as periodic medical inspections and who were recorded as having been subjected to tonsillectomy previous to the time of inspection.

Age Group	Number of Pupils Inspected		Number found to have had Tonsillectomy		Percentage found to have had Tonsillectomy	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Entrants ...	654	637	53	54	8.10	8.48
Intermediates ...	481	468	134	134	27.86	28.63
Leavers ...	455	428	138	127	30.33	29.67
Others ...	57	34	11	8	19.30	23.53
Totals ...	1647	1567	336	323	20.40	20.61

### Orthopaedic and Postural Defects

71 children were recorded as having received treatment for orthopaedic and postural defects, 28 as in-patients at Sanderson Orthopaedic Hospital, and 5 as out-patients.

The in-patients received treatment as follows :—

For defects of spine	...	4
hips	...	4
legs	...	8
feet	...	4
Miscellaneous defects	...	8

The remaining 38 children were treated by Miss Wake, physio-therapist, who held a clinic on 45 half-day sessions during the year. The total of attendances made at these clinics was 317, and this included a number of Open-Air School children who were treated by Miss Wake on the school premises to save them a journey out of school.

#### Accidents among school children

During the year, 21 children had accidents which necessitated their admission to hospital for treatment, 6 as the result of road accidents. Two children were suffering from burns and scalds, and 2 had riding accidents. The remainder received injuries as the result of falls or accidents while playing, either in the playground or the street.

#### Other Defects Treated

Other defects treated, not falling into classification mentioned in Tables A to F may be seen by referring to Page 24, Table G. The 105 minor ailments treated included 5 burns, 13 boils, 31 minor injuries, 47 septic sores and 9 miscellaneous ailments.

#### Infectious Diseases

An extract from the Head Teachers' weekly returns of Infectious and Other Diseases for the past ten years is as follows :—

DISEASE	YEAR									
	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Scarlet Fever	22	35	20	25	31	9	6	15	12	7
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	301	359	17	481	207	458	16	685	41	439
German Measles ...	500	36	22	21	1219	26	49	19	13	15
Whooping Cough ...	84	213	71	157	170	93	21	97	105	91
Chicken Pox	503	320	493	150	455	268	368	430	680	176
Mumps ...	181	336	123	342	256	40	544	168	218	340
Ringworm ...	11	6	10	10	9	7	4	1	2	6
Impetigo ...	21	19	87	223	130	53	44	34	19	20
Scabies ...	4	2	1	7	17	13	24	15	22	24
Verminous Conditions	9	10	9	12	3	8	11	13	1	20

#### Ultra Violet Ray Therapy

A course of Ultra violet ray therapy was recommended for 76 children during 1961, 23 of these being school children and 53 pre-school children.

The school children were treated for the following defects :—

Alopecia ... ..	1
Frequent colds and catarrh	3
General debility ... ..	11
Repeated skin infections	2
Respiratory infections ...	6

### Foot Survey

The following report, based on a survey of girls due to leave school this year, has been submitted by Dr. D. B. Walls, part-time School Medical Officer :—

Among 355 fourteen to fifteen year old girls questioned the sizes of shoes worn were as follows :—

Size of Shoe	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
No. %	1-127	12-12	33-24	32-16	15-56	3-098	0-845	0-2818

The following foot defects were noted and where these were found the feet are described as Unsatisfactory.

Corns ... ..	18-57%
Hallux Valgus ... ..	13-24%
Pes Planus ... ..	4-507%
Bunion formation ...	3-662%
Hammer toes ... ..	1-409%

Girls with satisfactory feet	66-48%
Girls with unsatisfactory feet	33-52%

Many of these defects are attributable to badly designed and ill-fitting shoes. 7-615% of the girls examined had difficulty in getting shoes to fit, most of these girls having broad feet.

#### Recommendations

- (1) That a new and foolproof method of measuring feet is urgently needed.
- (2) That this should be geared to a range of teenage shoes in different width fittings and in adult sizes. Here Education would need to play its part.
- (3) Ideally that the Medical Profession should agree with the Shoe Manufacturers on certain minimum standards acceptable for school children's shoes.

### School Dental Inspection and Treatment

The following report on the dental inspection and treatment of school children has been submitted by Mr. R. W. Essenhigh, Principal School Dental Officer :—

REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL SCHOOL DENTAL  
OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1961

I have pleasure in presenting my twenty-fourth Annual Report on the School Dental Inspections and Treatment for the year ending 31st December, 1961, this being the Thirty-seventh Annual Report.

A summary of the various treatments undertaken by the School Dental Department can be found elsewhere in this publication and the following is a brief account of the various aspects of the work.

At the annual routine inspections of the children attending Primary and Secondary Schools a total of 8,656 children were examined. The children who attended the Clinic for examination and emergency treatment numbered 810, making a grand total of 9,466.

The removal of the Dental Clinics from the Education Office building and from the Jubilee School to the new Public Health Department in Albion Road was satisfactorily accomplished in January. One surgery was completely re-modelled with the most modern dental equipment and an X-ray unit installed. All this new apparatus has greatly assisted the work of the Dental Officers, and general public approval has been expressed at the vastly improved facilities offered for complete dental treatment.

The work at the Clinic was carried out on the same lines as in previous years, emphasis being laid on the importance of maintaining dental health among the school children. Unfortunately, many carious teeth still have to be extracted to avoid dental sepsis, but wherever possible conservation work is undertaken.

The supply of Calcium tablets to the younger children was continued throughout the year in an endeavour to augment the decreasing amount of natural salts in the modern diet.

Orthodontic treatment for the correction of misplaced teeth and the supply of artificial dentures where required was undertaken principally by the Assistant School Dental Officer with considerable success. A total of 24 Orthodontic cases were completed and 57 dentures were supplied during the year.

A total of 153 children were examined at the Open-Air Day School and Lovaine House Special School during the annual inspection in June. The attendances at the Clinic from both of these schools numbered 75.

Pupils from Tynemouth High (Grammar) School and Tynemouth Technical School attended on 85 occasions. The dental treatment for these patients included 56 fillings, 23 extractions, 13 general anaesthetics and 10 other operations.

Other forms of treatment at the Clinic included radiography, scaling and cleaning of teeth and various forms of gum treatment.

Thanks are again due to the Anaesthetist, Dr. J. R. Steadman, who administered 868 anaesthetics for the removal of carious teeth and to all the members of the Medical, Dental and School Staffs for their valuable co-operation and assistance throughout the year.

(Signed) RICHARD W. ESSENHIGH,  
*Principal School Dental Officer.*



### Handicapped Pupils

Below is shown the number of children in the various categories of "Handicapped Pupils" normally residing in the area of this Authority, who were receiving their education in special schools at the end of the year 1961.

Blind Pupils	...	...	3 in a residential school.
Partially sighted Pupils	...	...	2 in a special day school.
Deaf Pupils	...	...	1 in a residential school for the Deaf. 6 as day pupils in a special school for the Deaf.
Physically Handicapped Pupils	...	...	20 in the Tynemouth Open-Air Day school. 1 in a residential school for Spastic children. 2 as day pupils in a special school for spastic children.
Delicate Pupils	...	...	50 in the Tynemouth Open-Air Day school.
Maladjusted Pupils	...	...	3 in a residential school. 6 in the Tynemouth Open-Air Day school.
Educationally Sub-Normal Pupils	...	...	73 in the Lovaine House Special Day School.
Epileptic Pupils	...	...	1 in a residential school. 7 in the Tynemouth Open-Air Day School.

At the end of the year under review, 1 child was awaiting a place in a special school for partially-sighted children, and 1 boy was on the waiting list for a residential school for maladjusted.

### Educationally Sub-normal Children

During the year 15 children were referred by Head Teachers for mental testing by a School Medical Officer. Of these, 9 were assessed as being educationally sub-normal and recommended for admission to Lovaine House Special School, while 6 continued to attend ordinary schools, but were kept under observation by the School Medical Officer, who received progress reports upon their work from the Head Teachers concerned. In addition, 3 children from Whitley Bay were admitted to Lovaine House Special School at the request of Northumberland County Council.

7 children were reported under Section 57 of the Education Act 1944, and of these, 3 were admitted to a residential Training Centre and 4 were recommended for a day Junior Training Centre.

### Tynemouth Open-Air Day School and Lovaine House Special Day School

Regular visits were again made to the Open-Air Day School and to Lovaine House Special Day School by the Assistant Medical

Officer of Health and a Health Visitor. 204 re-examinations were carried out by the Medical Officer, to check on children's progress and to ascertain if they were fit to return to an ordinary school.

I have pleasure in submitting the Reports of the Headmistress, Miss E. McRitchie, giving details of the work of the two Special Schools.

## TYNEMOUTH OPEN-AIR DAY SCHOOL

### REPORT FOR 1961

It is with pleasure that I submit my report for the year 1961.

At the beginning of the year there were 88 names—43 boys and 45 girls on the roll. The average number on the roll for the year was 89 and the average attendance 77 or 86·5%.

During the year a total of 16 children, 11 boys and 5 girls, were admitted, and 3 children, 1 boy and 2 girls, who had spent a period in hospital, were re-admitted.

20 children, 10 boys and 10 girls, were discharged during the course of the year.

The ailments of children who were admitted may be classified :

Undiagnosed Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	1
Apraxia and Asthma	...	...	...	...	1
Perthes Hip	...	...	...	...	3
Nervous and Emotional Disturbances	...	...	...	...	3
Congenital Torticollis	...	...	...	...	1
Epilepsy	...	...	...	...	3
Pseudo hypertrophic muscular paralysis	...	...	...	...	1
Post whooping cough debility	...	...	...	...	1
Repeated respiratory infection	...	...	...	...	1
Involucrum of shaft of Fibula	...	...	...	...	1
Poliomyelitis	}	...	...	...	1
Asthma		Re-admissions	...	...	1
Osteogenesis imperfecta		...	...	...	1
Total	...	...	...	...	<u>19</u>

Children discharged during the year may be divided into the following groups :—

Transferred to Primary or Secondary Modern Schools as fit after medical examination	...	...	...	14
Admitted to Monkseaton Grammar School	...	...	...	1
Left at age 15 after being pronounced fit by Assistant Medical Officer	...	...	...	5
Total	...	...	...	<u>20</u>

The duration of their stay in the Open-Air School was :—

<i>Length of stay</i>					<i>Number of children</i>
9 to 10 years	...	...	...	...	1
8 to 9 years	...	...	...	...	1
6 to 7 years	...	...	...	...	1
4 to 5 years	...	...	...	...	4
3 to 4 years	...	...	...	...	5
2 to 3 years	...	...	...	...	3
1 to 2 years	...	...	...	...	5
					—
			Total ...	...	20
					==

Medical supervision of the children was again very well maintained by Dr. M. Loraine.

Children who required postural drainage treatment received it daily under the supervision of various health visitors.

Physiotherapy, for a few of the children, was administered weekly by Miss Wake.

Minor ailments were treated by the school Health Visitor who attended school three times each week.

The annual routine dental inspection was carried out by Mr. R. Essenhigh, School Dental Officer. Throughout the year children who required emergency dental treatment speedily received it.

Miss Gordon, recently appointed Speech Therapist, has spent one afternoon of each week in school, and has treated several children who are in need of speech therapy.

Routine arrangements regarding conveyance of children by bus, provision of meals, weekly bathing of some of the children, and fortnightly weighing of all the pupils with the exception of a few of the more severely handicapped ones, were unchanged.

Approximately 15-20 of the more delicate children received Virol twice a day after meals.

The work of the school has progressed satisfactorily, and we have been fortunate in having no changes in teaching staff.

A very successful "Open Day" for parents and friends was held in June.

Congratulations go to one of our former boys who was a pupil with us from the age of six until he passed the Grading Examination, and was admitted to the High School. This year he was successful in 9 subjects of the General Certificate of Education at ordinary level. In August he went to spend a year at the Conservatorium in Berne, Switzerland, where he is studying music.

Several of the older pupils received swimming instruction during the Summer term, and some of them gained certificates. As this was a new venture, very careful selection was necessary for health reasons; in selecting suitable pupils we had the co-operation of Dr. Loraine and the parents.

In conclusion, I wish to express sincere thanks for the loyalty and co-operation received from all connected with the school.

E. McRITCHIE,

*Headmistress.*

## LOVAINE HOUSE SPECIAL DAY SCHOOL

## REPORT FOR 1961

The year began with 81 children, 50 boys and 31 girls, on the roll.

During the year, 7 boys and 7 girls were admitted, and 1 boy was re-admitted.

The average number on the roll was 81, and the average attendance 72 or 88.8%.

18 children, 10 boys and 8 girls, were discharged for the following reasons :—

Aged 16 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Left district	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Transferred to Ralph Gardner Secondary Modern School							3
Transferred to Northumberland County Secondary School							1
Granted exemption—Employment obtained	...	...					1
Unable to benefit from further education	...	...					2
In Remand Home	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							—
							18
							==

The following table shows the mental grades of the children who were on the roll at the end of the year :—

Intellig'ce Quotients	80 or over		70 to 79		60 to 69		50 to 59		Below 50		Unable to assess	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
No. of children in each grade	6	2	19	9	10	11	13	8	0	1	0	2
	8		28		21		21		1		2	

Another year of steady progress can be reported.

Miss M. Bell, Domestic Science teacher, joined the staff after Easter and has become very interested in working with educationally sub-normal girls.

The majority of the senior girls are becoming very efficient in Domestic Science subjects.

In September, Mr. R. Smith, was appointed Acting Deputy Head Teacher in place of Mr. J. Collingwood who was granted a year's leave of absence to enable him to attend a Course for teachers of educationally sub-normal children.

Once again during the Summer term several of the older pupils enjoyed swimming instruction, and some gained certificates.

In conjunction with the Open-Air School, a most enjoyable "Open Day" was held in June, when the work done by the children was much admired by many parents and friends.

Referring to 3 boys who gained transfers to Ralph Gardner Secondary Modern School, I am pleased to report that they are working quite well in one of the lower "streams" of the school.

Routine medical and dental inspections were carried out as usual and minor ailments were treated in the Open-Air School medical room by the School Health Visitor.

There were no changes in the routine arrangements of mid-day meals, milk under the milk in schools scheme, and conveyance of children by bus.

How welcome are the signs that a Training Centre will be opened in the Spring of 1962! This will prove of great value in the Borough.

It is gratifying to watch the good work being done by the recently formed local Society for the care of the mentally handicapped. At last, a greater number of members of the community are realising that the problem of mental retardation must be faced, and that it is imperative that children born with this handicap should be given every possible opportunity to be educated for living and for livelihood.

After care and further education of children leaving Special Schools is also a problem which must be solved very soon, for on leaving the stability of school life, unless the young, mentally retarded worker has a good home background, he or she can very soon become a square peg in a round hole, or even a delinquent.

In concluding this report, I wish to place on record my grateful appreciation of the willing help and co-operation which I have had from all connected with the school.

E. McRITCHIE,  
*Headmistress.*

### **Deaths of School Children**

During the year, 6 deaths occurred among children of school age ; of these, 3 were due to road accidents. Of the others, 1 died as the result of a malignant disease, one from acute encephalitis, and one from epilepsy.

### **Tynemouth High (Grammar) School**

Periodic inspections were carried out in respect of 222 pupils in attendance at the Tynemouth High (Grammar) School, 95 pupils were also re-examined at the time of the School Medical Officer's visit to the school.

### **Nursery Schools**

Arrangements for the medical inspection of children attending the Sir James Knott Nursery School at Tynemouth, and the Howdon Road Nursery School at North Shields, continued as in past years.

The schools were again visited regularly by the Honorary Medical Officer accompanied by a Health Visitor, every child being seen once ; special cases were seen more frequently.

### **Miscellaneous Medical Examinations**

167 children were medically examined in accordance with the Children and Young Persons Act, 1933 ; all were granted employment certificates.

TABLE B.—PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT AT PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS (including Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin)

### STATISTICAL TABLES

#### MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT RETURNS

Number of pupils on registers of maintained primary and secondary schools (including nursery and special schools) in January, as in Form 7, 7M. and 11 Schools ... .. 12,050

#### Part I.—Medical Inspection of Pupils attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools (including Nursery and Special Schools)

TABLE A.—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Age Groups Inspected (By year of birth)	No. of Pupils Inspected	Physical Condition of Pupils Inspected			
		SATISFACTORY		UNSATISFACTORY	
		No.	% of Col. 2	No.	% of Col. 2
		(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1957 and later	—	—	—	—	—
1956	1,003	1,001	99·80	2	·20
1955	288	287	99·65	1	·35
1954	15	15	100	—	—
1953	12	12	100	—	—
1952	10	10	100	—	—
1951	9	9	100	—	—
1950	637	637	100	—	—
1949	312	312	100	—	—
1948	7	7	100	—	—
1947	38	38	100	—	—
1946 and earlier	883	883	100	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,214</b>	<b>3,211</b>	<b>99·91</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>·09</b>

TABLE B.—PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT AT PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS  
(excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin)

Age Groups Inspected (By year of birth) (1)	For defective vision (excluding squint) (2)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Part II (3)	Total individual pupils (4)
1957 and later	1	3	3
1956	17	187	192
1955	5	38	40
1954	—	5	5
1953	1	—	1
1952	—	1	1
1951	—	—	—
1950	31	64	91
1949	24	37	54
1948	—	1	1
1947	1	—	1
1946 and earlier	79	58	134
TOTAL	159	394	523

TABLE C.—OTHER INSPECTIONS

Number of Special Inspections ...	467
Number of Re-inspections ...	1,346
Total ...	<u>1,813</u>

TABLE D.—INFESTATION WITH VERMIN

(a) Total number of individual examinations of pupils in schools by school nurses or other authorised persons ...	15,839
(b) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested ...	924
(c) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54(2), Education Act 1944)	826
(d) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54(3), Education Act 1944) ...	—

## Part II.—Defects found by Medical Inspection during the Year

TABLE A.—PERIODIC INSPECTIONS

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease	PERIODIC INSPECTIONS							
		Entrants		Leavers		Others		Total	
		(T) (3)	(O) (4)	(T) (5)	(O) (6)	(T) (7)	(O) (8)	(T) (9)	(O) (10)
(1)	(2)								
4	Skin ... ..	8	7	8	—	8	2	24	9
5	Eyes : a. Vision ...	14	4	78	—	51	3	143	7
	b. Squint ...	27	1	—	—	2	—	29	1
	c. Other... ..	5	—	1	1	4	—	10	1
6	Ears : a. Hearing ...	2	—	3	1	1	—	6	1
	b. Otitis Media ...	4	3	2	—	1	—	7	3
	c. Other... ..	4	3	2	3	6	—	12	6
7	Nose and Throat ...	35	12	3	1	7	1	45	14
8	Speech ... ..	25	—	1	—	2	—	28	—
9	Lymphatic Glands ...	4	4	—	—	—	—	4	4
10	Heart ... ..	2	7	—	6	—	1	2	14
11	Lungs ... ..	14	5	1	1	2	1	17	7
12	Developmental :								
	a. Hernia ... ..	2	—	—	—	1	—	3	—
	b. Other... ..	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
13	Orthopaedic :								
	a. Posture ... ..	2	—	2	—	10	1	14	1
	b. Feet ... ..	27	12	10	3	18	1	55	16
	c. Other ... ..	1	4	5	1	9	1	15	6
14	Nervous System :								
	a. Epilepsy ... ..	5	1	—	1	1	—	6	2
	b. Other... ..	8	—	—	—	5	—	13	—
15	Psychological :								
	a. Development ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
	b. Stability ... ..	1	—	1	—	4	2	6	2
16	Abdomen ... ..	1	1	1	—	1	—	3	1
17	Other ... ..	1	—	5	—	7	—	13	—



TABLE B.—SPECIAL INSPECTIONS

Defect Code No. (1)	Defect or Disease (2)	SPECIAL INSPECTIONS	
		Pupils requiring Treatment (3)	Pupils requiring Observation (4)
4	Skin ... ..	41	—
5	Eyes : <i>a.</i> Vision ... ..	112	20
	<i>b.</i> Squint ... ..	7	—
	<i>c.</i> Other ... ..	7	—
6	Ears : <i>a.</i> Hearing ... ..	4	3
	<i>b.</i> Otitis Media ... ..	4	—
	<i>c.</i> Other ... ..	6	—
7	Nose and Throat ... ..	11	1
8	Speech ... ..	4	—
9	Lymphatic Glands ... ..	1	—
10	Heart ... ..	2	—
11	Lungs ... ..	5	—
12	Developmental :		
	<i>a.</i> Hernia ... ..	—	—
13	<i>b.</i> Other ... ..	1	—
	Orthopaedic :		
	<i>a.</i> Posture ... ..	1	—
14	<i>b.</i> Feet ... ..	9	—
	<i>c.</i> Other ... ..	14	—
	Nervous System :		
15	<i>a.</i> Epilepsy ... ..	1	—
	<i>b.</i> Other ... ..	7	—
16	Psychological :		
	<i>a.</i> Development ... ..	12	6
17	<i>b.</i> Stability ... ..	4	2
	Abdomen ... ..	—	—
	Other ... ..	18	2

**Part III.—Treatment of Pupils attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools (including Nursery and Special Schools)**

TABLE A.—EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint ... ..	18
Errors of refraction (including squint) ... ..	638
Total ... ..	<u>656</u>
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were prescribed ... ..	503

TABLE B.—DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
Received operative treatment—	
(a) for diseases of the ear ...	—
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis ...	202
(c) for other nose and throat conditions ...	10
Received other forms of treatment ...	34
Total ...	<u>246</u>
Total number of pupils in schools who are known to have been provided with hearing aids :	
(a) in 1961	3
(b) in previous years	12

TABLE C.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

	Number of cases known to have been treated
(a) Pupils treated at clinics or out-patients departments ...	71
(b) Pupils treated at school for postural defects ...	—
Total ...	<u>71</u>

TABLE D.—DISEASES OF THE SKIN  
(excluding uncleanliness, for which see Table D of Part I)

	Number of cases known to have been treated
Ringworm : (a) Scalp ...	—
(b) Body ...	—
Scabies ...	34
Impetigo ...	13
Other skin diseases ...	13
Total ...	<u>60</u>

TABLE E.—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT

	Number of cases known to have been treated
Pupils treated at Child Guidance clinics ... ..	10

TABLE F.—SPEECH THERAPY

	Number of cases known to have been treated
Pupils treated by speech therapists	80

TABLE G.—OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
(a) Pupils with minor ailments	105
(b) Pupils who received convalescent treatment under School Health Service arrangements ... ..	—
(c) Pupils who received B.C.G. vaccination ... ..	447
(d) Other than (a), (b) and (c) above: Please specify:	
Abdominal Conditions ... ..	41
Cardio Vascular and Blood Cdns. ... ..	5
Respiratory Conditions ... ..	14
Nervous System ... ..	9
Miscellaneous ... ..	14
Total (a)—(d) ... ..	635

## Part IV.—Dental Inspection and Treatment carried out by the Authority

(1)	Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers :—						
	(a) At Periodic Inspections	...	...	...	...	8,656	
	(b) As Specials	...	...	...	...	810	
					Total (1)	9,466	<hr/>
(2)	Number found to require treatment	...	...	...	...	3,913	
(3)	Number offered treatment	...	...	...	...	3,469	
(4)	Number actually treated	...	...	...	...	2,299	
(5)	Number of attendances made by pupils for treatment, including those recorded at 11 (h)	...	...	...	...	4,825	
(6)	Half days devoted to :—						
	(a) Periodic (School) Inspection	...	...	...	...	37	
	(b) Treatment	...	...	...	...	913	
					Total (6)	950	<hr/>
(7)	Fillings :						
	(a) Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	1,892	
	(b) Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	107	
					Total (7)	1,999	<hr/>
(8)	Number of Teeth filled :						
	(a) Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	1,552	
	(b) Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	87	
					Total (8)	1,639	<hr/>
(9)	Extractions :						
	(a) Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	635	
	(b) Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	1,955	
					Total (9)	2,590	<hr/>
(10)	Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction	...	...	...	...	868	
(11)	Orthodontics :						
	(a) Cases commenced during the year	...	...	...	...	21	
	(b) Cases brought forward from previous year	...	...	...	...	25	
	(c) Cases completed during the year	...	...	...	...	24	
	(d) Cases discontinued during the year	...	...	...	...	3	
	(e) Pupils treated by means of appliances	...	...	...	...	40	
	(f) Removable appliances fitted	...	...	...	...	40	
	(g) Fixed appliances fitted	...	...	...	...	—	
	(h) Total attendances	...	...	...	...	278	
(12)	Number of pupils supplied with artificial teeth	...	...	...	...	57	
(13)	Other operations :						
	(a) Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	746	
	(b) Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	432	
					Total (13)	1,178	<hr/>

Part II - [Illegible Title]

No.	Description	Amount
1	[Illegible]	100
2	[Illegible]	200
3	[Illegible]	300
4	[Illegible]	400
5	[Illegible]	500
6	[Illegible]	600
7	[Illegible]	700
8	[Illegible]	800
9	[Illegible]	900
10	[Illegible]	1000
11	[Illegible]	1100
12	[Illegible]	1200
13	[Illegible]	1300
14	[Illegible]	1400
15	[Illegible]	1500
16	[Illegible]	1600
17	[Illegible]	1700
18	[Illegible]	1800
19	[Illegible]	1900
20	[Illegible]	2000
21	[Illegible]	2100
22	[Illegible]	2200
23	[Illegible]	2300
24	[Illegible]	2400
25	[Illegible]	2500
26	[Illegible]	2600
27	[Illegible]	2700
28	[Illegible]	2800
29	[Illegible]	2900
30	[Illegible]	3000
31	[Illegible]	3100
32	[Illegible]	3200
33	[Illegible]	3300
34	[Illegible]	3400
35	[Illegible]	3500
36	[Illegible]	3600
37	[Illegible]	3700
38	[Illegible]	3800
39	[Illegible]	3900
40	[Illegible]	4000
41	[Illegible]	4100
42	[Illegible]	4200
43	[Illegible]	4300
44	[Illegible]	4400
45	[Illegible]	4500
46	[Illegible]	4600
47	[Illegible]	4700
48	[Illegible]	4800
49	[Illegible]	4900
50	[Illegible]	5000
51	[Illegible]	5100
52	[Illegible]	5200
53	[Illegible]	5300
54	[Illegible]	5400
55	[Illegible]	5500
56	[Illegible]	5600
57	[Illegible]	5700
58	[Illegible]	5800
59	[Illegible]	5900
60	[Illegible]	6000
61	[Illegible]	6100
62	[Illegible]	6200
63	[Illegible]	6300
64	[Illegible]	6400
65	[Illegible]	6500
66	[Illegible]	6600
67	[Illegible]	6700
68	[Illegible]	6800
69	[Illegible]	6900
70	[Illegible]	7000
71	[Illegible]	7100
72	[Illegible]	7200
73	[Illegible]	7300
74	[Illegible]	7400
75	[Illegible]	7500
76	[Illegible]	7600
77	[Illegible]	7700
78	[Illegible]	7800
79	[Illegible]	7900
80	[Illegible]	8000
81	[Illegible]	8100
82	[Illegible]	8200
83	[Illegible]	8300
84	[Illegible]	8400
85	[Illegible]	8500
86	[Illegible]	8600
87	[Illegible]	8700
88	[Illegible]	8800
89	[Illegible]	8900
90	[Illegible]	9000
91	[Illegible]	9100
92	[Illegible]	9200
93	[Illegible]	9300
94	[Illegible]	9400
95	[Illegible]	9500
96	[Illegible]	9600
97	[Illegible]	9700
98	[Illegible]	9800
99	[Illegible]	9900
100	[Illegible]	10000