

**Contributors**

Wakefield (England). City Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1919

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/qh42qmrđ>

**License and attribution**

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

Non-commercial use includes private study, academic research, teaching, and other activities that are not primarily intended for, or directed towards, commercial advantage or private monetary compensation. 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.

CITY OF WAKEFIELD  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

---

REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR 1919.

---

Wakefield :

R. P. DODGSON, CROWN PRESS, KIRKGATE.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

TOWN HALL,

WAKEFIELD,

26th May, 1920.

*To the Chairman and Members of  
The Wakefield Education Committee.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit for your information and consideration a Report on the Medical Inspection of School Children for the year 1919.

The Report has largely been compiled by Dr. Shand, who, since his return from Military Service in 1919, has been able to restart much of the work which had been suspended during the War.

There are many gratifying facts with regard to the physique of the children brought out in the Report, and there are also sundry suggested improvements which have been before you on previous occasions. I would like here to emphasise two much needed additions to the School Medical Service, namely, Dental Treatment and an Open-Air School. The proposed adaptation of the Town Hall Chambers for Public Health Clinics would provide accommodation for a Dental Clinic, and there is now an excellent site at Thornes House available for an Open-Air School. I might add a third requirement which is much needed and that is a School for Mental Defectives.

I am,

Yours obediently,

THOMAS GIBSON,

*School Medical Officer.*



## SECTION 1.

### STATUTORY MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Statutory medical inspection comprises the inspection of three groups of school children.

- (1) Group of Entrants, *i.e.*, children newly admitted to the Infant Department and generally comprising children between the ages of 3 and 7 years.
- (2) Group of Intermediates, *i.e.*, children between 8 and 9 years of age.
- (3) Group of Leavers, *i.e.*, children approaching the time of departure from school and comprising children between 12 and 14 years of age.

Statutory inspection, having been suspended since 1914 owing to the War, was resumed during the latter months of 1919, but for lack of time was confined to the groups of entrants and leavers. In this section are set out the arrangements for and method of inspection, as well as a detailed account of the results of inspection. It is also convenient under the several headings to deal with cognate matters which have been found in connection with supplementary inspection.

#### Arrangements for Medical Inspection.

The arrangements hitherto employed and fully described in previous reports were continued during the year. As to actual inspection, the children were first weighed and measured by the Health Visitor in attendance, who also prepared them for inspection. The Health Visitor also obtained from the mother, if present, the health history of the child. In many cases, this had been previously recorded by the teacher. The medical examination followed the lines prescribed by the Board of Education. On an average, 10 children were examined in the hour, which I find is the greatest number that can be satisfactorily dealt with in the time. Even this number can only be properly got through by a medical man experienced in the work and provided with every assistance. It is, however, impossible to write out the record cards fully at the time, and I content myself with making abbreviated notes of defects found. After the inspection the cards are fully written up, and the particulars of children requiring attention are entered on the



"following up" sheets. The cards of children requiring re-examination in the schools are stamped with a red letter "S," thus doing away with the necessity of supplementary cards for special cases. Registers of special cases, *e.g.*, defective vision, defective hearing, cripples, etc., are also kept.

### Schools, School Accommodation, etc.

There are 22 schools in Wakefield, comprising 39 departments and 28 separate buildings. Of the 22 schools, 8 are Provided and 14 Non-Provided Schools. The following list gives the accommodation and average number on roll, etc., in the month of July, 1919.

Accommodation	...	...	9344
Average Number on Roll	...	...	8380
Average Attendance	...	...	7339
Half-Timers	...	...	25

### NUMBER OF CHILDREN EXAMINED IN 1919.

Age Period.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.
3-3 years 11 months ... ..	62	31	31
4-4 years 11 months ... ..	163	86	77
5-5 years 11 months ... ..	275	128	147
6-7 years 11 months ... ..	40	10	30
At other ages ... ..	8	2	6
<b>TOTAL ENTRANTS</b> ...	<b>548</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>291</b>
12-12 years 11 months ... ..	330	139	191
13-13 years 11 months ... ..	171	68	103
14-14 years 11 months ... ..	17	10	7
At other ages ... ..	1	1	—
<b>TOTAL LEAVERS</b> ...	<b>519</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>301</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL EXAMINED</b> ...	<b>1067</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>592</b>

### Attendance of Parents.

The parents of all children examined at Routine Inspection were asked to attend at time of inspection, and 44 per cent. of the parents accepted the invitation. Mothers accompanied 480 of the children, and 33 other relatives accompanied other children. It is found that when a parent comes with the child the defect discovered is "seen to" much quicker than would otherwise be the case. As can be imagined a few minutes' talk with a parent is much more effective than printed notices.

**Health History.**

The health history of each child is ascertained, and any attack of infectious disease or other ailment of importance is entered on the card. This is done in the first place by the teachers, and the information is checked by the Medical Officer at the time of inspection in all cases when a parent attends. Whenever the family history presents any special feature (*e.g.*, a history of tuberculosis or epilepsy) this is also recorded.

The following table gives a summary of the facts ascertained with regard to attack of infectious disease. It will be noted that amongst the "leavers" 50·2 per cent. had escaped an attack of Measles, 71·4 per cent. had escaped Whooping Cough, 71·0 per cent. had escaped Chickenpox, 88·6 per cent. had escaped Scarlet Fever and 93·2 per cent. had escaped Diphtheria.



# NUMBER OF CHILDREN PREVIOUSLY AFFECTED WITH CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Group.	Measles.				Whooping Cough.				Chickenpox.				Scarlet Fever.				Diphtheria.			
	Before Admission.		After Admission.		Before Admission.		After Admission.		Before Admission.		After Admission.		Before Admission.		After Admission.		Before Admission.		After Admission.	
	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.
Entrants	212	38.8	8	1.4	121	22.0	1	0.18	93	18.7	3	0.54	7	1.2	1	0.18	4	0.72	1	0.18
Leavers	218	42.0	40	7.7	138	24.6	10	1.9	128	22.7	12	2.3	5	0.9	54	1.04	2	0.3	23	4.4

## CONDITION OF CLOTHING AND FOOTGEAR.

### Clothing.

The following table gives the percentage of children found with unsatisfactory clothing (poor and bad).

Groups.		Total Percentage.	Boys.	Girls.
Entrants	...	2'9	3'1	2'7
Leavers	...	4'8	4'1	5'3
Total	...	3'8	3'5	4'0

The percentages in actual figures represent 41 children, 17 boys (8 entrants and 9 leavers) and 24 girls (8 entrants and 16 leavers). In no case was the clothing very bad. The condition of the clothing is really better than the figures represent. In former years in very many cases the clothing was kept together by means of safety pins and tapes, but this year, pins, etc., were exceptional.

It is satisfactory to note the improvement in the clothing, this improvement being due in the main to the "following up" of cases by the Health Visitors for years and now the parents are at last beginning to realise the importance of clothing.

### Footgear.

The following table gives the percentage of children found with unsatisfactory footgear (poor and bad).

Group.		Total Percentage.	Boys.	Girls.
Entrants	...	3'1	0'3	5'4
Leavers	...	5'2	5'0	5'3
Total	...	4'1	2'5	5'4

These percentages represent in actual figures 44 children, 12 boys (1 entrant and 11 leavers) and 32 girls (16 entrants and 16 leavers).



The figures are practically half of what they were in 1914. If this great improvement continues it may not be long before it will be exceptional to find either unsatisfactory clothing or footgear. When this state of affairs is reached it will be most satisfactory, as bad footgear especially is undoubtedly detrimental to the health of the child. The improvement is being steadily maintained.

#### Percentage of Children with Unsatisfactory Footgear.

1919	...	4.1	1912	...	8.6
1914	...	6.1	1911	...	10.6
1913	...	7.9	1910	...	15.3

In the survey of all school children it was found that 286 children (3.53 per cent.) were wearing clogs.

In the systematic inspection of all the children in the schools, 85 children (1.05 per cent.) were noted as having defective clothing and footgear. This figure is less than half the corresponding figure in 1914 (2.67 per cent.). 286 children (3.5 per cent.) were found wearing clogs, which is higher than formerly. The price of boots at present is apparently causing parents to appreciate the value of clogs, which are infinitely superior to shoddy boots.

#### HEIGHT AND WEIGHT.

All children were as usual weighed and measured. The following tables give the average height in each age group, and for comparison the six years before the war are shown. It is interesting to note that in nearly every age group there is some increase in height during 1919, the increase being more marked amongst the boys. The figures also compare very favourably with previous tables. An explanatory word with regard to the table giving these standard figures may be necessary. The figures under "British Association" are those published by the Anthropometric Committee of the British Association in 1880, and refer to children belonging to all classes of the population. These figures have previously been given in my annual reports, but for reasons already stated cannot be regarded a satisfactory standard for public elementary school children of the present day. The figures in the other columns almost wholly refer to public elementary school children, and have been obtained during the past few years. The figures published by Mr. Greenwood are perhaps the most reliable of any, for they are based on a statistical investigation into the data afforded by the reports of School Medical Officers throughout England and Wales for the years 1908, 1909 and 1910, and refer to over 800,000 school children living both in rural and urban area. The figures are taken from Mr. Greenwood's book on "The Health and Physique of School Children."

# HEIGHTS OF WAKEFIELD SCHOOL CHILDREN, 1919.

Age.	BOYS.			GIRLS.		
Group.	Average Height.			Average Height		
Years.	English System.		Metric System.	English System.		Metric System.
	Ft.	Ins.	Cent.	Ft.	Ins.	Cent.
3-4	3	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	97'0	3	0 $\frac{3}{4}$	93'0
4-5	3	3	99'0	3	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	95'0
5-6	3	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	104'0	3	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	98'0
6-7	3	6	107'0	3	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	108'0
12-13	4	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	138'0	4	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	132'0
13-14	4	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	149'0	4	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	142'0



# AVERAGE HEIGHT OF WAKEFIELD CHILDREN IN 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914 AND 1919.

## Boys.

Age Groups.	1919.	1914.	1913.	1912.	1911.	1910.	1909.
Years.	ft. ins.	ft. ins.	ft. ins.	ft. ins.	ft. ins.	ft. ins.	ft. ins.
3-4	3 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 0	3 0	3 0	3 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
4-5	3 3	3 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 2	3 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
5-6	3 5 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 4 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 4 $\frac{1}{4}$
6-7	3 6	3 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 6	3 6	3 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 6
12-13	4 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	4 5 $\frac{3}{4}$	4 5 $\frac{3}{4}$	4 6	4 5 $\frac{3}{4}$	4 6	4 5 $\frac{3}{4}$
13-14	4 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	4 6	4 5	4 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 7 $\frac{3}{4}$

## GIRLS.

Age Groups.	1919.	1914.	1913.	1912.	1911.	1910.	1909.
Years.	ft. ins.	ft. ins.	ft. ins.	ft. ins.	ft. ins.	ft. ins.	ft. ins.
3-4	3 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 0	2 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 0	2 11 $\frac{3}{4}$
4-5	3 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 2	3 2	3 1 $\frac{3}{4}$
5-6	3 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 4	3 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 4	3 4	3 3 $\frac{3}{4}$
6-7	3 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 5	3 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 3
12-13	4 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	4 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	4 8	4 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	4 6 $\frac{1}{4}$
13-14	4 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	4 7 $\frac{3}{4}$	4 8	4 7	4 9	4 7 $\frac{3}{4}$	4 7 $\frac{3}{4}$

# HEIGHTS OF WAKEFIELD SCHOOL CHILDREN COMPARED WITH STANDARD HEIGHTS.

BOYS.													GIRLS.												
Age.	Wakefield, 1919	Wakefield, 1914	Greenwood.	British Association.	Tuxford and Glegg.	Glasgow (Chalmers, etc.).	Glasgow (Mackenzie).	Edinburgh C.O.S.	Edinburgh (Mackenzie).	Aberdeen.	Dundee.	United States.	Age.	Wakefield, 1919.	Wakefield, 1914.	Greenwood	British Association.	Tuxford and Glegg.	Glasgow (Chalmers, etc)	Glasgow (Mackenzie).	Edinburgh C.O.S.	Edinburgh (Mackenzie).	Aberdeen.	Dundee.	United States.
							INCHES.													INCHES.					
3	38-25	36-0	36-5	36-82	36-35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	36-75	35-5	36-0	36-23	36-05	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	39-0	38-75	38-6	38-46	38-65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	37-75	37-5	38-4	38-26	38-65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	41-25	40-5	40-7	41-03	40-55	—	40-0	40-43	—	—	39-37	41-7	5	38-75	39-25	40-4	40-55	40-4	—	39-9	39-57	—	—	39-58	41-3
6	42-0	42-25	42-8	44-00	42-5	41-63	41-9	42-55	43-36	44-3	41-78	43-9	6	42-75	42-5	42-5	42-88	42-36	41-97	41-6	41-33	42-82	43-7	41-34	43-3
12	54-25	53-75	54-9	54-99	55-05	53-27	53-0	52-71	53-91	55-8	52-90	55-4	12	52-25	54-75	55-5	55-66	54-68	54-11	52-9	52-03	53-58	54-9	53-25	56-1
13	58-50	54-5	56-1	56-91	56-1	55-67	54-6	54-02	55-88	56-6	54-53	57-5	13	56-25	55-75	56-8	57-77	56-9	55-86	55-1	54-69	56-29	57-0	55-32	58-5



## WEIGHTS OF WAKEFIELD SCHOOL CHILDREN, 1919.

Age Group.	BOYS.		GIRLS.	
	Average Weight.		Average Weight.	
	English System.	Metric System.	English System.	Metric System.
Years.	Lbs. Ozs.	Kilos.	Lbs. Ozs.	Kilos.
3-4	29 4	13'0	28 9	13'0
4-5	31 7	14'0	34 0	15'5
5-6	36 13	16'0	35 1	16'0
6-7	42 2	19'0	42 15	19'5
12-13	68 7	31'0	69 2	31'5
13-14	77 6	35'0	74 0	33'5

The average weight in each age group is less than in previous years and yet under nutrition there are more children of normal standard. I am inclined to think that the lower weight is due in some measure to the scales, which had not been used for nearly five years, and which required a considerable amount of repair before being approximately accurate.

# AVERAGE WEIGHTS OF WAKEFIELD CHILDREN IN 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914 and 1919.

BOYS.								GIRLS.							
Age Groups.	1919.	1914.	1913.	1912.	1911.	1910.	1909.	Age Groups.	1919.	1914.	1913.	1912.	1911.	1910.	1909.
Years.	lbs. ozs.	lbs. ozs.	lbs. ozs.	lbs. ozs.	lbs. ozs.	lbs. ozs.	lbs. ozs.	Years.	lbs. ozs.	lbs. ozs.	lbs. ozs.	lbs. ozs.	lbs. ozs.	lbs. ozs.	lbs. ozs.
3-4	29 432	131 932	632 1432	530 14				3-4	27 930	1231 132	432 529	1131 3			
4-5	31 734	535 335	435 935	735 4				4-5	34 032	1234 634	034 233	1233 5			
5-6	36 1337	438 038	238 1038	637 13				5-6	35 137	137 336	1537 937	236 13			
6-7	42 241	840 941	1441 340	1439 7				6-7	42 1540	139 338	740 638	1237 7			
12-13	68 771	570 970	1570 1470	14				12-13	69 272	670 171	371 468	1171 3			
13-14	77 673	1074 676	466 1072	476 7				13-14	74 080	478 072	1180 1376	576 13			



# WEIGHTS OF WAKEFIELD SCHOOL CHILDREN COMPARED WITH STANDARD WEIGHTS.

BOYS.												GIRLS.											
AGE.	Wakefield.	Greenwood.	British Association.	Tuxford and Glegg.	Glasgow (Chalmers, etc.).	Glasgow (Mackenzie).	Edinburgh C.O.S.	Edinburgh (Mackenzie).	Aberdeen.	Dundee.	United States.	AGE.	Wakefield.	Greenwood.	British Association.	Tuxford and Glegg.	Glasgow (Chalmers, etc.).	Glasgow (Mackenzie).	Edinburgh C.O.S.	Edinburgh (Mackenzie).	Aberdeen.	Dundee.	United States.
						POUNDS											POUNDS						
3	29.25	32.9	34.0	32.75	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	28.5	31.7	31.63	31.85	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	31.5	35.8	37.3	35.9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	34.0	35.0	36.13	34.88	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	36.75	38.7	39.9	38.7	—	38.6	37.74	—	—	37.50	—	5	35.0	37.7	39.23	37.6	—	37.8	36.40	—	—	37.00	—
6	42.0	42.2	44.4	42.6	39.19	41.8	42.54	43.63	46.9	41.75	45.2	6	42.75	41.2	41.74	40.98	37.84	40.6	39.87	42.38	45.4	41.00	43.4
12	68.5	72.7	76.7	72.85	65.33	68.1	67.71	69.52	77.3	68.62	76.9	12	69.0	73.9	76.47	73.98	65.55	67.2	66.52	70.03	72.7	67.5	78.7
13	77.5	77.4	82.6	77.5	74.41	73.5	71.61	75.61	80.6	74.25	84.8	13	74.0	80.4	87.28	80.0	75.78	75.1	74.77	78.56	82.9	75.0	88.7

## NUTRITION.

	EXCELLENT.				NORMAL.				BELOW NORMAL.				BAD.			
	Number		Percentage		Number		Percentage		Number		Percentage		Number		Percentage	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
Entrants...	—	—	—	—	245	281	95.3	96.5	11	9	4.2	3.09	1	1	0.38	0.34
Leavers ...	2	1	0.92	0.33	206	291	94.4	96.6	10	9	4.5	2.9	—	—	—	—
Total ...	2	1	0.42	0.16	451	572	94.7	96.6	21	18	4.4	3.04	1	1	0.21	0.16

The above table shews the state of nutrition amongst the Routine Examinations. There being no distinct line of demarcation between the different standards, *e.g.*, excellent, normal, etc., the figures can only be approximate. The normal standard is not only a relation between the height and weight, but practically every factor (mental and physical) is taken into consideration. The fact that less children are marked as "excellent" and more children "below normal" is due to a high "normal" standard. In spite of this, there are more children of normal standard than in any previous year. It would appear that the "war rations" has had no detrimental effect on the physique and development of the children.



**PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN FOUND WITH DEFECTIVE NUTRITION (BOTH NORMAL AND BAD) IN  
1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914 and 1919.**

GROUP.	1919			1914			1913			1912			1911			1910			1909		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
Entrants.	4.1	4.6	3.7	1.5	0.7	2.3	6.1	5.6	6.7	3.9	4.6	3.3	4.2	5.2	3.3	4.2	4.5	3.8	10.4	12.0	9.0
Leavers.	3.6	4.5	2.9	3.3	2.9	3.7	5.2	3.6	6.8	6.5	4.8	4.8	3.5	3.8	3.2	9.1	9.1	9.1	15.9	13.7	18.0
Total.	3.8	4.6	3.2	2.4	1.8	3.0	5.6	4.6	6.7	5.2	4.7	5.8	3.8	4.5	3.2	6.7	6.8	6.5	13.1	12.8	13.5

**CLEANLINESS.****A. Cleanliness of the Head.**

The heads of the children were examined for the presence of pediculi (lice) and for the ova (nits) of pediculi, and the following table gives the percentage found with either or both.

**PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN WITH DIRTY HEADS.**

Group.		Total Percentage.	Boys.	Girls.
Entrants	...	12'9	3'5	21'3
Leavers	...	12'1	0'0	20'9
Total	...	12'5	1'8	21'1

These figures represent in actual numbers 134 children (9 boys and 125 girls). Lice was obviously present in 10 children (3 boys and 7 girls) and in 1'03 per cent. of the girl entrants and 1'3 per cent. of the girl leavers.

**PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN FOUND WITH DIRTY HEADS  
IN 1914 and 1919.**

Group.		Boys.		Girls.	
		1919.	1914.	1919.	1914.
Entrants	...	3'5	3'1	21'3	27'1
Leavers	...	—	—	20'9	34'3
Total	...	1'8	1'6	21'1	31'1

**PERCENTAGE OF GIRLS FOUND WITH LIVING VERMIN IN  
THEIR HEADS IN 1914 and 1919.**

Group.		1919.	1914.
Entrants	...	1'03	2'0
Leavers	...	1'3	0'8
Total	...	1'1	1'5

The above figures again indicate a considerable improvement in the condition of the children's heads.



The number of children examined was necessarily smaller than previous years and make the figures (13 per cent.) of the leavers somewhat larger, but this is more apparent than real. In previous years it was common to find the heads literally swarming with vermin, but nowadays it is the exception, only a few isolated vermin being noticed, and if only one vermin is found the child is included as "verminous." During Systematic "Head to Head" Inspection the findings are even better. These inspections being made without any warning or notice, one would naturally expect to find a larger number of verminous children, but such is not the case. During the examination of 8,095 children in the schools by the Health Visitors only 19.3 per cent. of the girls had dirty heads (nits) and 1.8 per cent. vermin in their heads. This is a great improvement from 1914, when the numbers of dirty heads was 41 per cent. and 7 per cent. with vermin. Only 3 children were found with verminous clothing. It is customary to blame the war and the returned soldiers for everything ranging from "high prices" to "verminous condition," but in Wakefield we cannot complain as regards the verminous condition at any rate, and we have to thank the Health Visitors, who throughout the war kept a vigilant supervision over the cleanliness of the school children.

**CONDITION OF CHILDREN WITH REGARD TO CLEANLINESS, Etc., AS FOUND BY A SYSTEMATIC INSPECTION OF  
ALL CHILDREN IN THE SCHOOLS DURING 1919.**

DISTRICT.	Number of Children Examined.			Children with Nits only in the Head.				Children with Vermin and Nits in the Head.				Total Children with Dirty Heads. (Nits only and Nits and Vermin).				Children with Dirty Bodies.		Children with Dirty Clothing.		Children with Verminous Clothing.		Children with Defective Clothing or Boots.							
				Total.		Boys.		Girls.		Total.		Boys.		Girls.		Total.		Boys.		Girls.		Total.		Boys.		Girls.			
	Total.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Total.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Total.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Total.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Total.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Total.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.			
																											Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.
No. 1...	1784	972	812	232	13.0	6	0.61	226	27.8	12	0.67	2	0.20	10	1.2	244	13.6	8	0.82	236	29.0	1	0.05	4	0.22	1	0.05	1	0.55
No. 2...	2511	1235	1276	44	1.7	—	—	44	3.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	44	1.7	—	—	44	3.4	10	0.39	12	0.47	2	0.07	56	2.2
No. 3...	1716	870	846	253	14.7	1	0.11	252	29.6	32	1.8	1	0.11	31	3.6	285	16.6	2	0.22	283	3.3	49	2.7	39	2.2	—	—	13	0.75
No. 4...	2084	1050	1034	171	8.2	1	0.09	170	16.4	35	1.6	1	0.09	34	2.9	206	9.8	2	0.19	204	19.7	30	1.4	11	0.52	—	—	15	0.71
All the Schools	8095	4127	3968	700	8.6	8	0.1	692	17.4	79	0.9	4	0.09	75	1.8	779	9.6	12	0.2	767	19.3	90	1.1	66	0.8	3	0.03	85	1.05



## B. Cleanliness of the Skin.

There were 10 children (5 boys and 5 girls) (0·94 per cent.) noticed as having dirty bodies. The percentage in 1913 was 1·5 and in 1914 1·9. Amongst the entrants in 1919 it was 0·7 per cent. and amongst the leavers 1·1 per cent. During the systematic inspection of all the school children only 9 children (1·1 per cent.) were noted as having dirty bodies. In 1913 the percentage was 0·19 and in 1914 0·24.

## TEETH.

At the Routine Inspections a special examination was made as to the condition of the teeth. If the teeth at first sight appeared sound a dental mirror was used and this in itself revealed a large number of unsound teeth. There is no doubt that if time permitted of a more thorough examination by means of the probe and mirror a considerable number of those passed as sound at present would also be found to be decayed. If there is any doubt as to the prevalence of decayed or unsound teeth a glance at the tables will shew to what extent decayed teeth occur during the school period. In practically every item of medical inspection of school children there is a considerable improvement year after year, but in the case of teeth, if the condition is not actually worse it is certainly no better. Of all the defects which are found in medical inspection of school children and are referred for treatment, the one defect which gives rise either directly or indirectly to more ill health and subsequent greater "loss of attendance" than any other defect, is the condition of the teeth. Although some of the decay is of minor importance yet a good deal of it when not properly or adequately treated leads to subsequent disease. The immediate effects of dental decay such as toothache, pyorrhœa and oral sepsis are bad enough in themselves, but if not treated give rise to more serious illnesses, such as toxæmia, gastro-intestinal troubles, inflammation of bones, joints and glands, and on account of the continuous absorption of poison into the system from the teeth, the child becomes pale, pasty, puffy and puny, and tuberculosis is sooner or later superadded. While the teeth are in such a deplorable condition it is absolutely useless, as some parents will persist in doing, to give the child malt and patent medicines, etc., in the vain hope that the child will "pick up." When one suggests and advises that a visit to the dentist would put the child right again, it is the last thing that the average parent has any intention of doing. They generally make the excuse, "I cannot afford a dentist's bill," forgetting that the proverbial "bottle of medicine" and patent medicines are costing them far more and are not efficacious in dental disease. It is interesting and instructive to note that the only children who had any attention paid to their teeth were those coming from the Scattered Home of the Guardians. Here one can see at a glance the result of the daily use of the tooth



brush, and one (the only one) child had one tooth stopped. While not believing that we are even yet a C3 Nation, it is essential that the dental condition of the children should be improved. As dental decay is a directly preventable condition it is of the utmost importance that a dental service should be instituted. The older the child gets the worse the teeth become. The figures for the year shew that only one leaver (out of 519 children) had a complete sound set of teeth. In the age group 3-4 years, while one would expect that the majority at least would have "sound sets," there are only 20 per cent. children with complete sound sets. It is only exceptionally that a parent will admit that the child has no tooth brush. In all the other cases the child uses the tooth brush when "he or she remembers," which judging from the cleanliness of the teeth is evidently a "red letter" day in the life of the child. Some of the children brush their teeth on the morning of medical inspection, so even if medical inspection of school children did nothing else it at least causes some teeth to be brushed about three times during the child's school life! In only about 3 per cent. of children did the condition of the teeth shew that a tooth brush had been used regularly. It is practically an impossibility to get these children to use the tooth brush regularly at home, and it would mean a great saving in every way if tooth brush drill was instituted in every school. At any rate this is more important than parts of the present day curriculum. Not only would this drill be efficacious in preventing a considerable amount of decay, but it would be a practical lesson the children would learn and carry throughout life, and thus the future generation would have learnt in the best way possible the value of mouth hygiene.





N.B.—In the last three columns the first figure represents good sound teeth. The second, teeth which are decayed, but are capable of being stopped or otherwise repaired. The third, teeth that are in such a bad state that extraction is the only remedy.

The above table shews that of the 1067 children examined only 58 (5 per cent.) had sound sets of teeth, and that amongst the 519 "leavers," *i.e.*, children over 12 years, only one (0·2 per cent.) had a sound set of teeth. About 90 per cent. of the children had more or less dirty teeth.

### CONDITION OF THE TEETH.

GROUP.	Sound Sets				Dirty.				Using Tooth Brush.			
	Number		Per-centage.		Number.		Per-centage.		Number.		Per-centage.	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Entrants ...	27	30	10·5	9·9	235	238	91·4	81·6	—	—	—	—
Leavers ...	1	—	0·45	—	218	276	100	91·6	—	5	—	1·6
Total ...	28	30	5·8	5·06	453	514	95·3	86·8	—	5	—	0·84



PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN FOUND WITH SOUND SETS OF TEETH IN  
1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914 and 1919.

GROUP.	1919			1914			1913			1912			1911			1910		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
Entrants	10.2	10.5	9.9	18.8	15.9	21.6	18.3	21.4	15.2	26.7	25.9	27.6	26.8	25.8	27.8	24.6	25.1	24.2
Leavers	0.19	0.45	5.8	2.9	2.9	2.8	12.2	13.0	11.4	12.6	13.0	12.3	11.7	11.4	12.1	12.4	12.6	12.3
Total ...	5.3	5.8	4.8	11.5	9.8	13.2	15.2	17.2	13.3	19.6	19.4	19.9	19.2	18.6	19.9	18.5	18.8	18.2

# CONDITION OF THE THROAT AND NOSE.

The principal morbid affections of the throat and nose amongst school children are enlarged tonsils and adenoids. The following tables give the percentage of children found with these affections.

Group.	No Defect.				Tonsils Enlarged (Slight).				Tonsils Enlarged (Marked).				Adenoids Enlarged (Slight).				Adenoids Enlarged (Marked).			
	Number		Per-centage.		Number.	Per-centage.		Number.	Per-centage.		Number.	Per-centage.		Number.	Per-centage.		Number.	Per-centage.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
Entrants	168	202	65.3	69.4	40	42	15.5	15.01	11	7	4.2	2.4	27	32	10.5	10.9	11	8	4.2	2.7
Leavers	178	227	81.6	75.4	30	52	13.7	17.2	2	7	0.91	2.3	8	14	3.6	4.6	—	1	—	0.3
Total	346	429	72.8	72.4	70	94	14.7	15.8	13	14	2.7	2.3	35	46	7.3	7.7	11	9	2.3	1.5



TABLE B.

GROUP.	TOTAL.			BOYS.			GIRLS.		
	Percentage with enlarged tonsils (all degrees).	Percentage with markedly enlarged tonsils.	Percentage with adenoids.	Percentage with enlarged tonsils (all degrees).	Percentage with markedly enlarged tonsils.	Percentage with adenoids.	Percentage with enlarged tonsils (all degrees).	Percentage with markedly enlarged tonsils.	Percentage with adenoids.
Entrants ...	18'2	3'2	14'2	19'8	4'2	14'7	16'8	2'4	13'7
Leavers ...	17'5	1'7	4'4	14'6	0'91	3'6	19'6	2'3	4'9
Total ...	17'9	2'5	9'4	17'4	2'7	9'6	18'2	2'3	9'2

Most of the enlargement of tonsils and adenoids, although of slight degree, is sufficient to cause various degrees of ill health and require treatment. In many cases the parents cannot or will not see why an obstructed air passage by tonsils and adenoids cause contracted chests, backward or retarded physical and mental development. During the following up of these cases it is found that the parents in nearly every case postpone treatment in any form from Spring to Summer, Summer to Autumn, Autumn to Winter, and it is only by continually following up of these cases that anything is ever done.

### ENLARGED GLANDS.

Amongst entrants 36 children (21 boys and 15 girls), or 6'5 per cent. had enlarged cervical or submaxillary glands, and amongst leavers 34 children (10 boys and 24 girls), or 6'5 per cent. had enlarged glands. The number found with enlarged glands is somewhat less (about 1 per cent.) than in 1914, but as glands were only noted as enlarged when they were distinctly palpable one cannot say that there is any improvement. These glands may be enlarged from numerous causes but perhaps the chief cause in children at any rate is decayed teeth. It is important that the cause should be removed as some of these glands may as a result of the chronic irritation eventually become tubercular.

### EXTERNAL EYE DISEASES.

Amongst entrants 2 boys (0'4 per cent.) had conjunctivitis, 5 boys (0'9 per cent.) had blepharitis, and 6 children (4 boys and 2 girls) or 1 per cent. had strabismus or squint, while one boy had



another external eye disease. Amongst the leavers 2 boys (0·4 per cent.) had conjunctivitis, 7 (3 boys and 4 girls) or 1·1 per cent. had blepharitis, 15 (5 boys and 10 girls) or 2·7 per cent. had strabismus, whilst 2 children had other external eye affections. There is no material difference between the figures of 1914 and 1919. The percentage of squint cases is slightly higher in 1919. The actual number of external eye diseases found in Routine Examination is small, as the great majority of the cases are promptly treated at the Clinic and very few are allowed to go to school if the condition is at all severe. The children are sent to the Clinic whenever the eyes appear bad and this prevents any chance of the condition becoming chronic or giving rise to disfigurement.

### VISION.

As usual vision was tested by means of Snellen's types. Only the leavers' vision was tested. In the case of infants if there is any suspicion of defective vision (squint) they are noted for future examination. The following table gives the percentage of children suffering from defective vision.

Year.	Total.			Boys.			Girls.		
	Defective Vision (Poor, Bad).	Poor.	Bad.	Defective Vision (Poor, Bad).	Poor.	Bad.	Defective Vision (Poor, Bad).	Poor.	Bad.
1919	18·3	11·9	6·4	16·8	10·1	6·7	19·4	13·3	6·1
1914	20·0	7·6	12·4	18·2	6·1	12·1	22·0	9·3	12·7
1913	12·5	6·2	5·6	12·6	7·0	5·6	12·4	6·8	5·6
1912	24·6	14·8	9·8	18·4	11·1	7·3	30·8	18·5	12·3
1911	25·1	13·6	11·5	24·3	14·7	10·6	25·0	12·5	12·5
1910	22·8	13·1	9·7	15·9	7·3	8·6	29·8	19·0	10·8
1909	29·2	15·9	13·3	25·5	13·2	12·3	32·9	18·3	14·6

The actual number of children with defective vision in 1919 was as follows:—

Total with defective vision	...	196—(80 boys and 116 girls).
Number with poor vision	...	127—(48 boys and 79 girls).
Number with bad vision	...	69—(32 boys and 37 girls).

20 (7 boys and 13 girls) of the children were wearing glasses, and in 18 instances the glasses were satisfactory and in 2 unsatisfactory. Practically all the children with bad vision and many of the children with poor vision require glasses. The following table gives in detail the visual acuity of the children examined.





## EAR DISEASES AND HEARING.

GROUP				OBSTRUCTION				OTORRHOEA				TOTAL			
				Number		Percent- age		Number		Percent- age		Number		Percent- age	
				Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Entrants	...	...	...	21	13	8'1	4'4	8	7	3'1	2'4	29	20	11'2	6'8
Leavers	...	...	...	11	13	5'05	4'3	1	1	0'45	0'33	12	14	5'5	4'6
Total	...	...	..	32	26	6'7	4'3	9	8	1'8	1'3	41	34	8'6	5'7

The number of children suffering from otorrhœa is considerably more than in 1914, the increase being principally amongst the entrants. It is possible that owing to the delicate membranes in the child that influenza may have been the factor in causing discharging ears in many cases.





### **Hearing.**

It is only practicable to test the hearing of the leavers. The above table shews the number and percentage suffering from defective hearing. Thirteen children had defective hearing (6 boys and 7 girls) or 2·5 per cent.

### **SPEECH.**

Amongst the entrants 1 boy and amongst the leavers 2 boys were found to be stammerers (0·3 per cent.), and amongst the entrants 3 children (1 boy and 2 girls) had defects of articulation which probably would not be permanent.

### **MENTAL CONDITION.**

Amongst the leavers 8 children (5 boys and 3 girls), or 0·74 per cent. were noted as dull or backward, and 1 girl (0·2 per cent.) as mentally defective. It is very difficult to assess the mental condition of the entrants and doubtful cases have been put down for re-examination. A special survey of all the school children during 1919 revealed 62 children as being mentally defective, of whom 56 were classified as feeble-minded and 6 as imbeciles. Nearly all the children were attending the ordinary school but the majority were making little or no educational progress. At least 9 of the children require institutional treatment.

### **DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM.**

Two cases of epilepsy (0·2 per cent.) both boys, one an entrant and one a leaver were found. Both were cases of petit mal. There were no cases of chorea but 3 children (1 boy and 2 girls) had other affections of the nervous system.

### **HEART DISEASE.**

21 children (10 boys and 11 girls), or 2 per cent. were noted as being affected with abnormal hearts. 5 of these were entrants and 16 were leavers. Only 5 however appeared to be affected with organic disease the remainder being functional in character. 8 children (4 boys and 4 girls), 5 entrants and 3 leavers, were reported as anæmic.



## LUNGS.

GROUP	No DISEASE			BRONCHITIS			TUBERCULOSIS			SUSPECTED TUBERCULOSIS						
	Number		Percentage	Number		Percentage	Number		Percentage	Number		Percentage				
	Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls					
Entrants	232	270	90.2	92.7	22	16	8.5	5.4	—	—	3	5	1.1	1.7		
Leavers	206	287	94.4	95.1	2	5	0.91	1.6	5	1	1.9	0.33	5	8	1.9	2.7
Total	438	557	92.2	92.3	24	21	5.05	3.5	5	1	1.05	0.16	8	13	1.6	2.1

As expected, Bronchitis is more prevalent amongst the entrants. There were 45 cases (38 entrants and 7 leavers) or 4.2 per cent. The sex distribution is about equal (24 boys and 21 girls). As regards tuberculosis 27 children (13 boys and 14 girls), or 2.5 per cent. were noted as having it in an active form or suspected, but only 6 (0.6 per cent.) had definite disease. Practically every case either active or suspected is referred to the Dispensary for observation or treatment, and many of the suspected cases are also kept under observation at the Inspection Clinic. Altogether 47 new cases (25 boys and 22 girls) of either suspected or active pulmonary tuberculosis amongst school children came under our observation during the year.

### NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 6 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis (3 boys and 3 girls), or 0.6 per cent. noted amongst the children. 2 tuberculosis of glands, 1 of bones and joints, 2 of skin and 1 tabes menenterica.

### RICKETS AND OTHER DEFORMITIES.

GROUP			No DEFECTS				RICKETS				OTHER DEFORMITIES			
			Number		Per-centage		Number		Per-centage		Number		Per-centage	
			Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Entrants	...	...	244	277	94.5	98.6	13	14	5.05	4.8	1	—	0.38	—
Leavers	...	...	212	298	97.2	99.0	6	3	2.7	0.99	1	2	0.45	0.66
Total	...	...	456	575	95.9	97.1	19	17	4.0	2.8	2	2	0.42	0.33

As will be seen in the above table 36 children (27 entrants and 9 leavers), or 3.3 per cent. were affected with rickets. It is important that this condition should be recognised early, as appropriate treatment can obviate any marked deformity and thus save much trouble in after life. The four deformities were Scoliosis (2 cases), Talipes (1 case) and absence of uvula (1 case).



**CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.**

There were 39 children (20 boys and 19 girls) found with contagious diseases.

Ringworm (head)	...	8	(7 entrants and 1 leaver).
Impetigo	...	30	(25 " " 5 " ).
Scabies	...	1	(1 entrant).

The other skin disease found were:—

Eczema	...	...	16
Psoriasis	...	...	2
Alopecia	...	...	2
Herpes	...	...	2
Seborrhœa	...	...	4
(Marked)			

**VACCINATION.**

Notice was taken among the routine examinations as to the vaccinated condition of all the children, but nothing was said to the parents or children on the subject. The subjoined table shews that there is a greater percentage of unvaccinated children than in 1913.

	ENTRANTS			LEAVERS		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
Unvaccinated	38'5	36'7	37'7	4'5	9'6	7'5
One Scar	4'2	5'4	4'9	5'9	9'6	8'0
Two Scars	15'9	8'9	10'4	18'3	21'5	20'2
Three Scars	5'4	5'1	5'2	9'1	10'2	9'8
Four Scars	21'7	28'8	25'5	48'1	41'1	44'3

This table shews that there are 37'7 per cent. entrants unvaccinated, and 7'5 per cent. leavers unvaccinated. Sandal district shews the greatest number of unvaccinated children.

**OTHER DISEASES OR DEFECTS.**

These include Scars of Neck (14 cases), Nævus Chest (1 case), Goitre (5 cases), Coryza (4 cases), Submental Abscess (1 case), Preauricular Abscess (1 case), Macrocheilia (1 case), Oxyuris Vermiculasis (6 cases), Inflammation of Connective Tissue (8 cases), Copristasis (3 cases).

Scars in the neck are nearly always the result of abscesses resulting in the great majority of cases from decayed teeth. Some of course may have been tubercular but in the quiescent or healed stage it is impossible to make a definite diagnosis.

## SECTION 2.

### SUPPLEMENTARY MEDICAL INSPECTION.

This medical inspection was continued as usual. The children seen at this inspection are those sent up by the Health Visitors, Attendance Committee, Attendance Officers or Teachers, or may be brought by the parents themselves. Among these cases when treatment is indicated some are referred to their own doctor and some are taken on at the Treatment Clinic. During the year 1,380 new cases were examined at this inspection and the re-examinations amounted to 3,429. The figure which one would like to see very much reduced is in anæmia and debility, *e.g.*, 114 children (55 boys and 59 girls). These children are excluded from school for long or short periods, and eventually some of them become either suspected or definite tuberculosis, and we cannot rightly deal with tuberculosis apart from the proper treatment of the disease in infancy and childhood, which is possibly the chief age period of its infection and invasion. It is in this class of case that the open-air school would prove of the utmost value not only in building up the body and mind of the child, but also would be perhaps the chief means of prevention of tuberculosis. Without the open-air school there results a large number of people of all ages who are physically impaired and suffering from disease which is preventable, or dying prematurely.

DISEASE OR DEFECT.				NUMBER OF CHILDREN EXAMINED.			Number of Re-Examinations.
				BOYS.	GIRLS.	TOTAL.	
Malnutrition	...	...	...	4	—	4	9
Uncleanliness—							
Head	...	...	...	6	67	73	199
Body	...	...	...	12	4	16	29
Skin—							
Ringworm—							
Head	...	...	...	42	43	85	385
Body	...	...	...	23	17	40	89
Scabies	...	...	...	49	44	93	258
Impetigo	...	...	...	122	100	222	520
Other Diseases	...	...	...	55	43	98	241



DISEASE OR DEFECT.	NUMBER OF CHILDREN EXAMINED.			Number of Re-Examinations.
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	
Eye—				
Defective Vision and Squint ...	63	38	101	186
External Eye Diseases ...	30	46	76	254
Ear—				
Defective Hearing ...	4	11	15	39
Otitis Media ...	29	15	44	128
Ear Disease ...	3	3	6	12
Nose and Throat—				
Enlarged Tonsils ...	18	12	30	57
Adenoids ...	7	—	7	10
Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids ...	15	10	25	43
Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tubercular) ...	5	11	16	27
Defective Speech ...	—	—	—	—
Teeth—Dental Disease... ..	2	2	4	8
Heart and Circulation—				
Heart Disease—				
Organic ...	3	1	4	13
Functional ...	2	—	2	7
Anæmia and Debility... ..	55	59	114	243
Lungs—				
Bronchitis ...	14	10	24	46
Other Disease ...	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis—				
Pulmonary Tuberculosis—				
Definite ...	7	6	13	30
Suspected ...	17	12	29	86
Non-Pulmonary—				
Glands ...	2	2	4	12
Bones and Joints ...	3	—	3	7
Skin ...	1	4	5	21
Other Forms ...	1	1	2	4
Nervous System—				
Epilepsy ...	4	2	6	14
Chorea ...	1	2	3	17
Other Diseases ...	6	7	13	31
Deformities—				
Rickets ...	1	1	2	3
Other Forms ...	4	2	6	13
Infectious Disease ...	18	12	30	61
Other Disease or Defect ...	88	77	165	327



### SECTION 3.

#### ACTION TAKEN AS A RESULT OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The natural corollary of medical inspection is to give such advice to parents and teachers as may be necessary, and to take steps to ascertain how far the advice is complied with. At the time of inspection, whether statutory or supplementary, appropriate advice is given to parents when they are present, or sent by letter or through the Health Visitors when they are not present. The particulars of all cases requiring attention are entered on the "following up" sheets, which are handed to the Health Visitors who in due course make inquiries and report on the sheets as to what has been done. Table 4 at the end of the Report shews in statistical form what the results are. It shows that 77 per cent. of the defects noted were treated, and 73 per cent. were remedied. These figures, however, do not include dental disease, which seldom receives any treatment whatever. The treatment of conditions of the throat and nose such as enlarged tonsils and adenoids and of defective vision shew the worst results, only about one-third of both classes of defects having received treatment. As regards throat diseases most of the cases that receive surgical treatment go to the Clayton Hospital. As regards defective vision the Education Committee made arrangements with the County Council for certain of the very bad cases to be examined at the County Hall, and 26 cases were examined and glasses prescribed during 1919. The Education Department also issued 23 orders for glasses at contract prices. Arrangements have now been made to add the making of refraction examinations to our other treatment clinic work, and in future there should be no difficulty in children with bad eyesight getting the necessary prescriptions for glasses. The School Clinic has continued to prove a great boon in connection with the treatment of minor ailments and the Tuberculosis Dispensary has provided treatment for tubercular cases, 33 school children being treated during the year. 4 school children with active phthisis were treated in Mount Vernon Sanatorium. As mentioned elsewhere, however, an open-air school is what is needed for most of these cases.

During the year 3 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis (2 girls and 1 boy) all suffering from hip joint disease and who had been sent by the Education Committee to Leasowe Hospital, Cheshire, in 1918, remained under treatment there. 7 children were under training in deaf and dumb schools, but none were admitted during the year. There was also one child in a blind school, and none were admitted during the year.

#### SCHOOL CLINIC.

At the clinic are treated skin diseases, external eye diseases, otorrhœa, and other maladies of a minor character. As will be seen from the accompanying table the clinic is being taken advantage of to a considerable extent, with the result that the school attendance



is considerably better than it would be without the clinic. When the children attend the clinic for treatment they are allowed to attend school even before they are actually cured as long as they attend the clinic as well every morning. This means that there is a greater percentage of children attending school and there are no ill effects from allowing these children to attend. A glance at the number of attendances at the clinic shew the large number for different diseases. Every case is first seen by a medical officer and treatment prescribed. The same case is seen several times during the course of treatment and progress noted, and is again examined before a "clean bill of health" is given. Each case is treated 1, 2 or 3 times a day as may be necessary. Considering the utmost importance of the teeth, it only remains for the Dental Clinic to be started. As not only the immediate affects, but the resulting illnesses which may accrue from dental decay, are far reaching, but they cause a vast amount of preventable ill health.

### CLINIC.

DISEASE	Number of Children Treated			Number of Attendances at Clinic.
	Total	Boys	Girls	
Ringworm of Scalp ...	40	23	17	2938
Ringworm of Skin ...	42	27	15	
Ophthalmia and other External Eye Diseases ...	68	27	41	1425
Otorrhœa and other Ear Diseases ...	42	24	18	1539
Impetigo ...	222	139	83	3181
Scabies ...	61	34	27	751
Other Diseases ...	71	40	31	1005
Total ...	546	314	232	10,839

### Work done by the Health Visitors.

The following is a synopsis of the work done by the Health Visitors, in connection with school inspection.

No. of Visits to Schools (Routine) ...	577
No. of Special visits to Schools ...	426
No. of Examinations in Schools <i>re</i> Cleanliness, Condition of Clothing and Treatment ...	11,787
No. of Home Visits <i>re</i> Treatment ...	404
No. of Home Visits <i>re</i> Measles and Non-Notifiable Infectious Disease ...	432
No. of Home Visits <i>re</i> Contagious Disease ...	239
No. of Home Visits <i>re</i> Verminous and Neglected Children ...	181
No. of Home Visits for other purposes (including Supervision of Mental Defectives) ...	509

## SECTION 4.

## INFECTIOUS AND CONTAGIOUS DISEASE.

## Scarlet Fever.

Scarlet Fever was rather more prevalent in 1919 than during 1918. There were 145 cases notified, and of these 89 were children attending the following schools.

Sandal Council Infants' School	...	18 cases
Sandal Council Mixed	„ ...	13 „
St. Mary's Infants'	„ ...	7 „
Ings Road Council	„ ...	7 „
Clarendon Street Girls'	„ ...	5 „
Thornes Lane Mixed	„ ...	5 „
Trinity Junior	„ ...	4 „
Cathedral Girls' School	„ ...	4 „
St. Austin's Mixed	„ ...	4 „
St. Austin's Infants'	„ ...	3 „
Alverthorpe Church Infants' School...	„ ...	3 „
Clarendon Street Infants'	„ ...	2 „
Sandal Endowed Infants' School	„ ...	2 „
Cathedral Infants'	„ ...	2 „
Trinity Boys'	„ ...	2 „
St. Michael's Girls'	„ ...	2 „
St. Andrew's Infants'	„ ...	2 „
Eastmoor Council Junior	„ ...	1 „
St. Catherine's Mixed	„ ...	1 „
Wesleyan Mixed	„ ...	1 „
Sandal Endowed Senior	„ ...	1 „

It will be seen that 31 of the total cases occurred in the one school, Sandal Council. A special examination was made of the children especially in the Infant Department where all the children were examined as well as classes in the Mixed Department. Altogether 716 examinations were made in the School. Six children were excluded from school as a result of these examinations on account of suspicious history, of a previous illness, desquamation, and in 2 cases having a purulent discharge from the nose. The absentees were also visited and in one case a boy was found to be suffering from Scarlet Fever and was being kept at home as a case of Influenza. The other children from the house were attending school.



### Diphtheria.

Out of 45 cases of Diphtheria notified during the year 19 were attending the following schools. This is considerably less than in 1914, when there were 107 school children notified.

Eastmoor Council School (Senior) ...	4
Cathedral (Girls) School ...	3
Thornes Lane (Infants) School ...	2
Cathedral (Infants) School ...	2
Belle Vue Council (Infants) School ...	2
Alverthorpe Council (Infants) School...	1
Wesleyan (Mixed) School ...	1
St. Austin's (Infants) School ...	1
Westgate Council (Junior) School ...	1
St. John's (Mixed) School ...	1
St. Mary's (Mixed) School ...	1

### MEASLES.

The number of new cases reported from schools was 86. The average weekly number absent was 16 (13 cases and 3 contacts). When the schools opened in January there was only one child absent on account of measles and one contact and there were hardly any cases up to the Autumn. The numbers gradually increased up to November when 69 children (54 cases and 15 contacts) were absent.

### WHOOPING COUGH.

Whooping Cough was less prevalent during 1919 than in previous years. There were 90 cases reported as compared with 137 in 1918, 118 in 1914 and 295 in 1910. The average weekly number absent on account of whooping cough was 32 (29 cases and 3 contacts). At the beginning of the year there were 34 children (32 cases and 2 contacts) absent. The maximum was reached in May and June when 71 (61 cases and 10 contacts) were absent. The numbers then decreased and at the end of the year there were 11 children (10 cases and 1 contact) absent. The schools affected most were Thornes Lane Infants and Clarendon Street Infants.

### CHICKENPOX.

Chickenpox shewed about the same prevalence as 1918, 113 new cases being reported as compared with 108 in 1918. The average weekly number of children absent on account of chickenpox was 16 (12 cases and 4 contacts). At the beginning of the year there were 16 children absent on account of chickenpox (12 cases and 4 contacts). The numbers increased and reached a maximum of 74 (56 cases and 18 contacts) in December. At the end of the year 26 new cases were reported. The schools shewing the most number of cases were St. Michael's Infants and Cathedral Infants.

**MUMPS.**

Only 17 new cases of Mumps were reported during the year.

**RINGWORM.**

There were 101 new cases of ringworm reported during 1919, as compared with 130 cases in 1914 and 204 in 1913. The average daily number of children absent on account of ringworm was 11 as compared with 65 in 1913 before the Clinic was started, 72 in 1912, 66 in 1911, 70 in 1910 and 48 in 1909. In January when the schools opened there were 23 children absent on account of ringworm, and when the schools closed in December there were 19 absent. There is no doubt that the school clinic considerably reduced the number of absentees due to ringworm. Of the 101 cases, 35 were cases of skin ringworm and 66 were scalp ringworm (51 boys and 50 girls of all cases).

**SCABIES.**

There were 74 cases of scabies reported from the schools as compared with 148 in the previous year. 61 of these were treated at the Clinic.

**TABLE I.**

**NUMBER OF CHILDREN INSPECTED 1st JANUARY, 1919,  
TO 31st DECEMBER, 1919.**

**A. "CODE" GROUPS.**

			ENTRANTS					
Age	...	...	3	4	5	6	Other Ages	Total
Boys	...	...	31	86	128	10	2	257
Girls	...	...	31	77	147	30	6	291
Totals	...	...	62	163	275	40	8	548



## A. "CODE" GROUPS—continued.

			Intermediate Group	LEAVERS					Grand Total
			8	12	13	14	Other Ages	Total	
Boys	...	...	—	139	68	10	1	218	475
Girls	...	...	—	191	103	7	—	301	592
Totals...	...	...	—	330	171	17	1	519	1067

## B. GROUPS OTHER THAN "CODE."

			Intermediate Group (other than 8 years)	Special Cases		Re-examina- tions
				At Schools	At Inspection Clinic	
(1)			(2)	(3)		(4)
Boys	...	...		940	716	
Girls	...	...			664	
Total	...	...			2320	4369

Number of individual children examined ... 3,387.







Tuberculosis	...	Pulmonary—	...	3	3	...	2	8	5	3	11	...	7	...	5	...	2	...	5	...	3	...	2
Definite ...	...	Pulmonary—	...	3	3	...	2	8	5	3	11	...	7	...	5	...	2	...	5	...	3	...	2
Suspected	...	Suspected	...	8	6	...	1	18	7	11	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Non-Pulmonary—	...	Non-Pulmonary—	...	2	1	...	1	2	1	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Glands ...	...	Glands ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spine ...	...	Spine ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hip ...	...	Hip ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other bones and joints ...	...	Other bones and joints ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Skin ...	...	Skin ...	...	1	1	...	1	8	1	7	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other forms ...	...	Other forms ...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Epilepsy ...	...	Epilepsy ...	...	4	3	...	1	3	3	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chorea ...	...	Chorea ...	...	2	1	...	1	4	...	4	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other conditions ...	...	Other conditions ...	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rickets ...	...	Rickets ...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spinal curvature ...	...	Spinal curvature ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other forms ...	...	Other forms ...	...	1	1	...	...	2	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Defects and Diseases ...	...	Other Defects and Diseases ...	...	75	45	...	30	25	14	11	93	...	8	...	1	7	16	...	...	...	...	...	...
Defective Clothing and Footwear ...	...	Defective Clothing and Footwear ...	...	7	5	...	2	8	2	6	14	...	2	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total (not including uncleanliness or defective clothing and footwear) ...	...	Total (not including uncleanliness or defective clothing and footwear) ...	...	690	390	...	300	511	257	254	1033	...	77	...	42	35	112	...	...	...	...	...	...
Grand Total ...	...	Grand Total ...	...	763	411	...	352	579	261	318	1148	...	81	...	44	37	134	...	...	...	...	...	...



**TABLE III. NUMERICAL RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL  
CHILDREN IN THE AREA IN 1919.**

	Boys.	Girls.	TOTAL.
<b>BLIND (including partially blind)—</b>			
Attending Public Elementary Schools ...	1	—	1
Attending Certified Schools for the Blind	—	1	1
Not at School ...	1	—	1
<b>DEAF AND DUMB (including partially deaf)—</b>			
Attending Public Elementary Schools ...	6	8	14
Attending Certified Schools for the Deaf	4	3	7
Not at School ...	—	—	—
<b>MENTALLY DEFICIENT —</b>			
Feeble Minded—			
Attending Public Elementary Schools ...	34	15	49
Attending Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children ...	—	—	—
Notified to Local (Control) Authority during the year ...	2	—	2
Not at School ...	3	4	7
Imbeciles—			
At School ...	2	1	3
Not at School ...	3	—	3
Idiots ...	—	—	—
<b>EPILEPTICS—</b>			
Attending Public Elementary Schools ...	9	4	13
Attending Certified Schools for Epileptics	—	—	—
Not at School ...	2	—	2
<b>PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE—</b>			
*Pulmonary Tuberculosis—			
Attending Public Elementary Schools ...	29	31	60
Attending Certified Schools for Physically Defective Children ...	—	—	—
Not at School ...	10	14	24
Other Forms of Tuberculosis—			
Attending Public Elementary Schools ...	23	23	46
Attending Certified Schools for Physically Defective Children ...	2	2	4
Not at School ...	5	6	11
Cripples, other than Tubercular—			
Attending Public Elementary Schools ...	5	3	8
Attending Certified Schools for Physically Defective Children ...	—	—	—
Not at School ...	—	—	—

\* The numbers given under Tuberculosis are those of children who have been notified as suffering at some time from Tuberculosis. In many cases the disease is now cured or quiescent.

TABLE IV.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF CHILDREN DURING 1919.

CONDITION	No. of Defects found for which Treatment was considered necessary			Number of Defects for which no Report is available	Number of Defects Treated	Results of Treatment			Number of Defects not Treated	Percentage of Defects Treated
	From previous year	New	Total			Remedied	Improved	Unchanged		
Clothing ...	—	15	—	—	14	14	—	—	1	93.3
Footwear ...	—	117	—	—	95	95	—	—	22	81.1
Cleanliness of Head ...	—	9	—	—	6	6	—	—	3	66.6
Cleanliness of Body ...	—	4	—	—	4	—	4	—	—	100
Nutrition ...	—	158	—	—	54	54	—	—	104	34.1
Nose and Throat ...	—	67	—	—	65	65	—	—	2	97.0
External Eye Disease ...	—	64	—	—	56	56	—	—	8	87.5
Ear Disease ...	—	6	—	—	5	—	5	—	1	83.3
Heart and Circulation ...	—	36	—	—	34	23	11	—	2	94.4
Lungs ...	—	15	—	—	11	—	11	—	4	73.3
Nervous System ...	—	476	—	—	440	440	—	—	36	92.4
Skin ...	—	2	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	100
Rickets ...	—	3	—	—	2	—	2	—	1	66.6
Deformities ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis—Non-Pulmonary	—	17	—	—	17	—	17	—	—	100
Vision and Squint ...	—	135	—	—	43	43	—	—	92	31.8
Hearing ...	—	22	—	—	19	—	19	—	3	86.3
Miscellaneous ...	—	100	—	—	93	93	—	—	7	93.0
Total	—	1246	—	—	960	889	71	—	286	77.0



TABLE V. INSPECTION, TREATMENT, ETC., OF CHILDREN  
DURING 1919.

(1) The total number of children medically inspected (whether Code Group, special or ailing child) ... ..	3387
(2) 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) ... ..	189
(3) The number of children in (1) who were referred for treatment (excluding uncleanliness, defective clothing, etc.) ... ..	1201
(4) The number of children in (3) who received treatment of one or more defects (excluding uncleanliness, defective clothing, etc.) ... ..	1033