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**CITY OF WAKEFIELD
EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL
MEDICINE

10, PARKS ROAD,
OXFORD

REPORT

OF THE

**SCHOOL MEDICAL
OFFICER**

FOR THE YEAR 1948



**CITY OF WAKEFIELD
EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

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Public Health Department,
Town Hall Chambers,
King Street,
Wakefield.

April, 1949.

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

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report on the School Health Service for the year ended 31st December, 1948.

It will be seen from the particulars of the School Health Staff for the year that there have been a number of changes. The Deputy School Medical Officer resigned in April and the Junior Assistant School Medical Officer resigned in May. A new Deputy School Medical Officer was appointed in June but no Junior Assistant School Medical Officer held appointment during the remainder of the year. The changes which occurred in the School Nursing Staff were four in number, namely one retirement, one resignation, and two appointments, one of which was temporary for four months. The School Nurse who retired was Miss M. Dearden, who had served the Committee for some twenty years, and who had been untiring in her efforts to supervise the health of the school children in the Lupset area.

I am happy to record that there were no changes in the Specialists who undertake part-time duty in the School Health Service. Whether it will be possible to make a like statement in the next Annual Report is still problematical, but it is hoped that those part-time Specialist Officers who have served the Committee so well and some of them for such a long period may by good fortune remain attached to the Wakefield area.

There was some increase in the number of children seen at periodic inspections during the year, compared with 1947, but even with this improvement, the statutory duty of periodic inspections of certain age groups was far from being complete.

The assessment of the condition of the teeth at periodic inspections appeared to indicate that a higher proportion of school children had good teeth than shown in the record for the preceding year, namely 55.2 per cent compared with 52.5 per cent.

In his School Dental Report the School Dental Officer states that "the condition of the teeth of the regular attenders gives cause for modest satisfaction."

With regard to the incidence of infectious diseases amongst school children there was considerably greater prevalence of Scarlet Fever, 215 cases compared with 98 in 1947. There is considerable satisfaction, however, in the fact that there was no case of Diphtheria amongst school children during the year.

The work of the School Clinics for Minor Ailments was considerable during the year, 14,648 attendances having been made at the Central School Clinic, King Street, and 1,852 divided between the two Branch Clinics. The gross attendances represent a total of 3,043 individual children. The Ophthalmic Clinic is also held at the Central Clinic premises and during the year 522 new cases were examined and the total attendances registered were 801.

The Orthopaedic and Ultra Violet Ray Clinics are held at the Principal Child Welfare Centre, Margaret Street, and at the former 869 attendances were made and at the latter 4,230. In both instances the numbers were greater than the corresponding figures for 1947.

The Consultant Clinic for diseases of the Ear, Nose and Throat, opened in April, 1947, continues to fill a most useful place in the School Health Service. The Consultant (Mr. Otty, F.R.C.S.) held 20 Clinics during the year and examined 325 children of whom 294 were new cases. The need for this Clinic will be appreciated when it is stated that 226 of the children examined were recommended for hospital treatment and of that number 142 actually had operative treatment. In addition 12 others from the previous year were admitted to hospital for surgical treatment.

In conclusion I wish to thank all the members of my staff for the way they have assisted me to carry out the work of the School Health Service during the year. Mr. H. W. Tate has been responsible for compiling the bulk of the body of this Report and for extracting a summary for my perusal in preparing this introductory letter. I am specially grateful to him.

My thanks are also due and freely given to the Director of Education (C. L. Berry, Esq., M.A.) for his valued co-operation

and interest in the work of the School Health Service and, to all those members of his staff, including teachers, school inquiry officers, and administrative and clerical personnel, whose several and combined efforts have made it possible to carry out the year's work.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

FRANK ALLARDICE,

School Medical Officer.

1.—STAFF.

The Staff employed in the School Health Service during 1948 was as follows :—

FRANK ALLARDICE, M.D., Ch.B. (Edin.), D.P.H. (Edin.),
School Medical Officer and Ophthalmologist.

IAN B. McMILLAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Deputy School
Medical Officer (Resigned April, 1948).

RICHARD J. DODDS, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., Deputy School
Medical Officer (Appointed June, 1948).

JESSIE EELES, M.D., Ch.B. (Edin.), Assistant School Med-
ical Officer

COLUMCILLE G. QUIGLEY, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.,
(N.U.I.), D.P.H., L.M., Junior Assistant School Medical
Officer (Resigned May, 1948).

GEORGE S. CUBITT, L.D.S., R.C.S., (Eng.), School Dental
Officer.

*HOWARD L. CROCKATT, M.B., Ch.B. (Leeds), Consultant
Orthopaedic Surgeon.

*SIDNEY K. SLEDGE, M.B., Ch.B., D.O.M.S. Refractionist.

*JOHN H. OTTY, F.R.C.S., Consultant for Diseases of the
Ear, Nose and Throat.

*IVOR T. LLOYD, F.R.C.S. Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon.

*BERNARD R. TOWNEND, F.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.). Con-
sultant Orthodontist.

Hilda Robertshaw

Maggie Dearden (Retired May, 1948).

Hannah Bell

Enid Oates

*Jennett Derbyshire (Temporary, Resigned
April, 1948).

Bessie Price (Appointed March, 1948).

Mary Kate Miskell (Temporary from June to
October).

} School
Nurses

Louie Milner, School Nurse at Central Clinic for Minor Ail-
ments

Olive I. Burton, Orthopaedic and Ultra Violet Ray Nurse.

Annie Wheeldon, Assistant to School Dental Officer (Resigned
February, 1948).

Joan R. Heaver, Assistant to School Dental Officer (Appointed
March, 1948).

H. Watson Tate, Clerk.

Doreen Blanshard, Assistant to Clerk.

*Part time.

2.—SCHOOL ACCOMMODATION.

There are 32 Primary Schools in Wakefield of which 3 contain senior pupils, 11 have junior pupils only, 5 have junior and infant pupils combined and 13 have infant pupils only. There are 5 Modern Secondary Schools and one Municipal Grammar School, whilst there are also secondary pupils in the Commercial, Technical and Art Departments of the Technical College.

3.—SCHOOL SANITATION.

Re-Decoration of Schools.

Internal decorations were carried out at the following Schools :—

Belle Vue Infants' School.
 St. Mary's Junior Mixed and Infants' School.
 Snapethorpe Junior School.
 Snapethorpe Infants' (including Nursery).
 Eastmoor Infants' School.
 Newstead Road Special Subjects Centre.
 Thornes House Grammar School (part).
 Technical College and School of Art and Crafts (part).

External Painting was also carried out at the following Schools :—

Snapethorpe Secondary, Junior, Infants' and Nursery Schools.
 Belle Vue Infants' School.
 Sandal County Junior and Infants' Schools.
 Newstead Road Special Subjects Centre.

4.—MEDICAL INSPECTION FINDINGS.

A. Periodic Medical Inspection.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN EXAMINED AT PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Group	Total	Boys	Girls
ENTRANTS	655	324	331
INTERMEDIATES	632	320	312
LEAVERS	223	99	124
Totals ..	1510	743	767

HEIGHT AND WEIGHT.

Age Group Years	BOYS				GIRLS			
	Average Height				Average Height			
	1948 Ft. Ins.		1947 Ft. Ins.		1948 Ft. Ins.		1947 Ft. Ins.	
3—4	3	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	3	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	3	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	3	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
4—5	3	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	3	3	3	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	3 $\frac{1}{4}$
5—6	3	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	3	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	5 $\frac{3}{4}$
10—11	4	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	4	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	4	3 $\frac{1}{4}$
11—12	4	6	4	6	4	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	5 $\frac{3}{4}$
13—14	4	7 $\frac{3}{4}$	4	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	8	4	8
14—15	4	10	4	10 $\frac{1}{4}$	4	11	4	11 $\frac{1}{2}$

In the case of the boys in the three-to-four years age group the height remained constant. Four other groups, two of the boys and two of the girls, showed some increase in height, but no less than seven groups comprising three of boys and four of girls showed a decrease. It is significant that the fourteen-to-fifteen years age group of the girls had actually decreased half an inch on the average compared with a quarter of an inch for boys of the same age. It may be that the causes are the same in both sexes but one cannot help wondering whether extra domestic duties may not be falling to be done by girls of this age as so many mothers of growing families are still engaged in industry.

Age Group Years	BOYS				GIRLS			
	Average Weight				Average Weight			
	1948 Lbs. Ozs.		1947 Lbs. Ozs.		1948 Lbs. Ozs.		1947 Lbs. Ozs.	
3—4	33	6	33	8	32	14	32	11
4—5	36	9	36	10	36	4	36	8
5—6	40	8	38	14	40	5	39	9
10—11	62	4	62	7	62	5	61	8
11—12	70	2	69	6	70	2	70	4
13—14	81	14	81	6	81	12	82	9
14—15	93	3	93	5	97	7	101	1

The above particulars show what appear to be anomalies. For example, the ten-to-eleven years age group of the girls shows an average increase of thirteen ounces whereas the same age group of boys shows an average decrease of three ounces; conversely the eleven-to-twelve years age group of boys shows an increase of twelve ounces on the average whereas the same age group of girls shows a decrease of two ounces. Leavers of both sexes show a decrease in weight, the average being six ounces in girls, and two ounces in boys. It may be that in the case of the girls the same cause is operating as was mentioned in the decrease in height.

CONDITION OF CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR.

Group	Total unsatisfactory Clothing		Poor Clothing		Bad Clothing	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Entrants ..	9	1.3	9	1.3	—	—
Intermediates	12	1.8	11	1.7	1	0.15
Leavers ..	4	1.8	3	1.3	1	0.44
Totals ..	25	1.6	23	1.5	2	0.13

Group	Total unsatisfactory Footwear		Poor Footwear		Bad Footwear	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Entrants ..	8	1.2	7	1.06	1	0.15
Intermediates	13	2.05	11	1.7	2	0.31
Leavers ..	5	2.2	5	2.2	—	—
Totals ..	26	1.7	23	1.5	3	0.19

GENERAL CONDITION.

Classification	Entrants		Intermediates		Leavers	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Good ..	90	13.4	61	9.65	19	8.52
Fair ..	549	83.81	553	87.50	198	88.78
Poor ..	16	2.45	18	2.85	6	2.70

Of the total number examined 170 had good general condition (11.25 per cent), 300 had fair general condition (86.10 per cent), and 40 were noted with poor general condition (2.65 per cent). None had bad general condition.

It is interesting to note that with the operation of the new system of estimating the so-called general condition of the child the figures in the above Table correspond very closely with those which used to appear in former Reports indicating the nutritional state. The term "general condition" cannot but give cause for serious reflection. The general care lavished on a child, the state of his or her clothing, the degree of cleanliness, and the general bearing of the child must all influence the medical officer greatly in forming an opinion of the general condition. There does not appear to be any satisfactory way of solving the problem of putting down on paper something to represent the real condition of the child as evidenced by his or her native ability to blend with environment, to enjoy life, and to resist infection. An experienced School Medical Officer forms impressions which must be called intuitive for want of a better term but which are no doubt the final estimates of elaborate deductive processes, partly subconscious, but which only prolonged observation and sound judgment can give.

CLEANLINESS.

A. Cleanliness of the Head.

Percentage of children found with Dirty Heads in 1948 and 1947.

GROUP	BOYS		GIRLS	
	1948	1947	1948	1947
Entrants	0.32	1.00	4.5	4.3
Intermediates ..	0.93	0.07	8.6	8.02
Leavers	—	—	5.9	6.04
Totals	0.53	0.70	6.9	5.5

These figures represent in actual numbers 57 children (4 boys and 53 girls).

2 girls (0.26 per cent) had lice in their heads at the time of inspection.

It is regretable that the cleanliness of the hair of the girls has deteriorated. This is particularly noticeable in the case of the intermediates and one cannot but conjecture that girls of this age group are left in some homes to care for their own hair. They have not reached the age when self-esteem is a material stimulus to care and cleanliness of the body and clothing, so they are quite naturally somewhat indifferent. Parents should see to it that girls up to the age of thirteen or thereabouts have proper supervision in the matter of cleanliness of the hair and skin and their clothing needs to be renovated for them. Children of both sexes have to be disciplined into care of the hair and body generally and until all parents accept responsibility for developing a proper regard for cleanliness in their children it will not be possible to show only a very small percentage of unclean children, coming from homes which no amount of assistance or advice will ever change.

B. Cleanliness of the Body.

There were 4 children (0.26 per cent) noted with dirty bodies compared with 0.39 per cent in 1947.

No child was found with verminous clothing.

RESULTS OF SYSTEMATIC INSPECTION BY SCHOOL NURSES OF CHILDREN IN SCHOOLS AS REGARDS CLEANLINESS, ETC.

Total number examined	17060 (9065 boys and 7995 girls).
Number with Dirty Head (Nits only and Nits and Vermin)	627 (3.67 per cent)
Number of Boys with Dirty Heads ..	58 (0.63 per cent)
Number of Girls with Dirty Heads ..	569 (7.11 per cent)
Number with Nits only	586 (3.43 per cent)
Number of Boys with Nits only ..	55 (0.60 per cent)
Number of Girls with Nits only ..	531 (6.64 per cent)
Number with Vermin in Head	41 (0.24 per cent)
Number of Boys with Vermin in Head ..	3 (0.03 per cent)
Number of Girls with Vermin in Head ..	38 (0.47 per cent)
Number with Verminous Clothing ..	3 (0.01 per cent)
Number with Dirty Bodies	69 (0.40 per cent)
Number with Dirty Clothing	61 (0.35 per cent)
Number with Dilapidated Clothing or Footwear	297 (1.7 per cent)

CONDITION OF THE TEETH.

	Total	Percentage
Number with Good Teeth	834	55.2
Number with Poor Teeth	455	30.1
Number with Bad Teeth	221	14.6
Number with Dirty Teeth	412	27.2

CONDITION OF THE THROAT AND NOSE.

289 children (129 boys and 160 girls) had defects of the throat and nose. 148 had enlarged tonsils, 98 had enlarged tonsils and adenoids, 16 adenoids, and 19 had other throat and nose defects. The total percentage was 18.6 as compared with 12.2 in 1947. The percentage with marked defect and definitely in need of surgical treatment was 5.2 compared with 3.6 in 1947.

ENLARGED GLANDS.

164 children (76 boys and 88 girls), 10.8 per cent, had enlarged cervical glands.

EXTERNAL EYE DISEASES.

34 children (2.2 per cent.) had external eye diseases as compared with 1.1 in 1947. 4 had Blepharitis, 11 conjunctivitis, and 19 Strabismus or Squint.

VISION.

Total with Defective Vision ..	159	(76 boys and 83 girls)
		18.5 per cent.
Number with Poor Vision ..	126	(58 boys and 68 girls)
		14.7 per cent.
Number with Bad Vision ..	33	(18 boys and 15 girls)
		3.7 per cent.

82 children were wearing spectacles and in 61 instances the spectacles were satisfactory and in 21 instances had become unsatisfactory.

EAR DISEASES AND HEARING.

48 children (2.5 per cent.) had defects or diseases of the ear, 31 being cases of Otorrhoea or running ears, and 6 cases of obstruction of external meatus by wax.

11 children were noted with defective hearing but the defect was not really severe.

SPEECH.

20 children (1.3 per cent.) had speech defects, 3 being stammerers, and 17 with defective articulation.

LUNGS.

85 children (5.6 per cent.) were affected with lung disease. 73 children (4.7 per cent.) were affected with bronchitis.

No case of definite but one case of suspected tuberculosis was noted.

NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

No case was noted.

EDUCATIONALLY SUB-NORMAL PUPILS.

11 educationally sub-normal children were noted, 7 intermediates and 4 leavers.

DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM.

1 case of Epilepsy was noted. 8 children (3 boys and 5 girls) were noted with other affections of the nervous system.

HEART AND CIRCULATION.

5 children (2 boys and 3 girls), 0.33 per cent. were affected with abnormal hearts, 2 organic and 3 functional.

7 children (0.46 per cent.) were reported as anaemic, as compared with 0.31 in 1947.

RICKETS AND OTHER DEFORMITIES.

37 children (2.4 per cent.) were affected with rickets and other deformities. Of these, 10 were affected with rickets but the signs were only slight.

There were 7 cases of flatfoot.

CONTAGIOUS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There were 3 children found with Impetigo.

The other skin diseases included Ichthyosis 5 cases, Dermatitis 5 cases, Scabies 2 cases, Eczema 2 cases and Seborrhoea 2 cases.

1 case of Chickenpox and 1 case of Mumps were noted.

OTHER DISEASES OR DEFECTS.

These included Enuresis 7 cases, Worms 4 cases, Undescended Testicles 3 cases, Hernia 2 cases, Rheumatism 2 cases, Obesity 2 cases, Fracture of arm 1 case, Defective palate 1 case, and Acidosis 1 case.

General Summary.

Number of children without defect ..	298 (19.7 per cent.)
Number of children with one defect ..	641 (42.4 per cent.)
Number of children with two defects	393 (26.02 per cent.)
Number of children with three defects	149 (9.8 per cent.)
Number of children with more than three defects	29 (1.9 per cent.)
Number of children referred for treat- ment (including cleanliness but not dental defects)	383 (25.3 per cent.)
Number of children referred for ob- servation	829 (54.9 per cent.)

B. SUPPLEMENTARY INSPECTION.

This includes children examined at the Inspection Clinics and in the Schools, apart from Periodic Inspections. During 1948 the number of new cases examined in this way was 4467 and the re-examinations amounted to 1887, a total of 6354 examinations compared with 3894 in 1947.

5.—INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 443 cases of Measles, 343 cases of Whooping Cough, 379 cases of Chickenpox, 267 cases of Mumps, 215 cases of Scarlet Fever were reported. No case of Diphtheria amongst school children was notified during the year. There were also 23 cases of Scabies. 1 case of Ringworm was reported during the year. No school was closed during the year on account of infectious diseases.

Scarlet Fever.

Excluding cases where the diagnosis was revised, the number notified during 1948 was 308 and of these cases 215 (69.8 per cent) were school children.

2 of the children attended Private Schools.

Scarlet Fever cases amongst school children were more prevalent in 1948 there having been 215 cases compared with 98 in 1947.

There was no death from Scarlet Fever during 1948.

The attack rate was 27.4 per 1000 of the school population as compared with 5.3 in the City generally.

Diphtheria.

Excluding cases where the diagnosis was revised there was only 1 case during 1948 and this was not a school child.

During 1948, 76 school children between the ages of 5 years and 15 years were immunised at the Anti-Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic.

A proportion of the 802 children dealt with under the age of 5 years also attended school.

6.—FOLLOWING-UP.

The following up of the children found to be defective or in need of attention either at Periodic or Supplementary Inspection is carried out by the School Nurses. The results of following up are given under section 7 of this Report. The following is a statistical summary of the work done by the School Nurses during 1948 in connection with the School Health Service :—

Number of visits to schools	313
Number of examinations in schools <i>re</i> Cleanliness, Condition of Clothing, Footwear and Treatment	18960
Number of Home Visits <i>re</i> Contagious Diseases ..	949
Number of Home Visits <i>re</i> Verminous and Neglected Children	27
Number of Home Visits for Other Purposes.. ..	589

7.—MEDICAL TREATMENT.

641 children were found at periodic or special inspection to require treatment and 75.6 per cent. received treatment. The corresponding percentage in 1947 was 77.7 per cent.

1 case of Ringworm (Scalp) was treated during the year.

There were 23 cases of Scabies or Itch, all treated at the Central Minor Ailments Clinic, King Street.

There were 259 cases of Otorrhoea and other ear diseases and 248 were treated at the Minor Ailments Clinics.

Of Ophthalmia and other external eye diseases there were 326 cases and 315 were treated at the Minor Ailments Clinics.

During the year 247 children with defective vision were referred for treatment. 526 of the children on the waiting list were submitted to refraction, 522 at the Ophthalmic Clinic, King Street, and 4 otherwise. Spectacles were prescribed in respect of 335 children and at the end of the year 190 (56.7 per cent.) had obtained spectacles.

301 children suffering from diseases of the Throat and Nose, chiefly enlarged tonsils and adenoids, were referred for treatment. During 1948, 166 received operative treatment and 15 medical treatment.

Tuberculosis.

During 1948, 13 school children were examined at or in connection with the Dispensary by the Medical Officers. 1 case of pulmonary and 1 case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were diagnosed, 10 cases were non-tuberculous and 1 case was undiagnosed at the end of the year.

At the end of 1948, 27 children of school age, 4 pulmonary and 23 non-pulmonary remained on the notification Register.

Crippling (other than Tuberculosis).

During 1948, 1 school child was admitted to the Adela Shaw Orthopaedic Hospital, Kirbymoorside, and 3 school children were discharged.

MINOR AILMENTS CLINICS.

(Central Clinic, King Street; Branch Clinics at Manygates Park and Snapethorpe School).

The following Table gives the number of Minor Ailments treated at the above Clinics during 1948.

Disease					Number of Defects Treated
Ringworm (Scalp)	..	..	..	..	1
Ringworm (Skin)	..	..	..	..	—
Eye Disease (External and other)	..	..	..	..	326
Ear Defects	..	..	..	..	259
Impetigo and other Skin Diseases	..	..	..	..	490
Scabies	..	..	..	..	23
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	1943
Total	..	..	..	..	3042

2543 cases were treated at the Central Clinic, King Street, with 14,648 attendances; 86 were treated at Manygates Park Clinic with 552 attendances, and at Snapethorpe Clinic 413 cases were treated with 1,300 attendances.

OPHTHALMIC CLINIC.

During 1948, 801 attendances were registered at the Ophthalmic Clinic. Of this total 522 were new cases and 279 were re-examinations.

Analysis of Eye Refractions and Defects (1044 eyes).

1. Emmetropia	..	..	..	..	13 eyes
2. Hypermetropia	..	..	..	..	281 eyes
3. Myopia	..	..	..	..	34 eyes
4. Simple Hypermetropic Astigmatism	..				13 eyes
5. Compound Hypermetropic Astigmatism	..				553 eyes
6. Simple Myopic Astigmatism	..	..			8 eyes
7. Compound Myopic Astigmatism	..				86 eyes
8. Mixed Astigmatism	..	..	..	..	46 eyes
9. Defects other than Refractive Error	..				10 eyes
					<hr/> 1044 eyes

Strabismus (classified as a separate defect) .. 119 eyes

(13 cases of Strabismus were of the alternating type.)

The following cases of defective vision were specially noted because of the presence of conditions complicating the refractive error :—

1. Marked Corneal Opacities	..	..	1 case
2. Defects of Retina and Choroid	..	..	4 cases

The number of prescriptions issued was 331.

163 children attended for verification of the correcting lenses.

ORTHOPAEDIC AND ULTRA VIOLET RAY CLINICS.

Orthopaedic Clinic.

During 1948, there were 869 attendances at this Clinic. The Orthopaedic Officer saw 123 cases. Dr. Crockatt, the Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, held 10 sessions during the year and saw 40 new and 75 old cases with a total attendance of 182 distributed as below :—

Summary of Attendances of Cases seen by D. Crockatt— 10 sessions.

Authority Responsible	Attendances
Wakefield Education Committee... ..	79
Wakefield Mental and Child Welfare Committee	89
Wakefield Health Committee	14
Total	182

The following is an analysis of the Wakefield cases treated at the Adela Shaw Orthopaedic Hospital, Kirbymoorside, in 1948.

Committee responsible	Cases remaining in Hospital at end of 1947	Admitted during 1948	Discharged during 1948	In Hospital at end of 1948
Education ..	3	1	3	1
Health	6	2	5	3
Mental and Child Welfare ..	2	1	2	1
Totals ..	11	4	10	5

Artificial Sunlight Clinic.

The Table below summarises the numbers of attendances and the amount of treatment for the various conditions. Cases are referred from all Clinics, from the Tuberculosis Dispensary and by private practitioners.

Defect	Total Attendances	Number of cases						Ceased to attend		Discharged	Remaining on Register	
		Total Cases	New			Old			After more than 10 exposures			After less than 10 exposures
			Education	Health	Mental and Child Welfare	Education	Health	Mental and Child Welfare				
Debility after Infectious Disease	660	25	11	—	5	8	—	1	—	1	13	11
Debility with Nervous Symptoms ..	121	8	4	—	1	3	—	—	2	—	4	2
Debility with Malnutrition	75	3	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	—	2	—
Debility with Catarrhal Symptoms ..	236	10	5	—	1	3	—	1	2	—	5	3
Debility with Cervical Adenitis	1133	42	26	—	5	10	1	—	5	2	18	17
Rickets ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Skin Diseases ..	57	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	2	1
Bronchitis and Asthma ..	1437	63	33	—	5	24	—	1	9	—	29	25
Chorea ..	32	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Rheumatism ..	75	3	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	—
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	20	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ..	383	20	7	—	1	10	—	2	4	1	14	1
Totals ..	4230	182	90	—	18	64	3	7	25	6	90	61

DENTAL CLINIC AND DENTAL INSPECTION. REPORT OF THE SCHOOL DENTAL OFFICER.

By G. S. Cubitt, L.D.S., R.C.S.

During a year which has seen the progressive disintegration of the School Dental Service throughout the country inspection

and treatment have been maintained on the annual basis which is so essential if teeth are not to be lost from advanced decay.

The condition of the teeth of the regular attenders gives cause for modest satisfaction. The number of unsaveable permanent teeth extracted is very low, 83, as is the percentage (50.24) found at routine inspections to require treatment.

The great bulk of the work done for the older children is in the nature of care and maintenance rather than the relief of pain or the eradication of sepsis ; the latter is still often required in the treatment of children under eight.

There is nothing spectacular about school dentistry. It is "back-room boy" work and gets little publicity ; but its effect on the health, happiness and appearance of the children is far reaching.

It must be remembered, however, that roughly 2,000 children of eight years or over have been excluded from the scheme by the wish of their parents, and that such examples as have been taken show that many of them have very bad teeth. No doubt some of these, having experienced the disadvantages of exclusion, would change their minds if approached again ; but any increase in the number requesting treatment would inevitably widen the gap between inspections.

The present arrangements provide a good skeleton service and make the best use of one pair of hands, but a complete scheme embracing and co-ordinating all the branches of priority dental service must await an increase in staff.

Mr. B. R. Townend, the orthodontic consultant, began treatment for eight new cases from Wakefield during the year. His work is much appreciated and it is inevitable that there should be a queue for his services.

There are a number of cases where judicious extractions alone will give a good arrangement of the teeth, others where both extraction and an appliance are required. The number of permanent teeth extracted for these reasons was 93.

In addition to the 2,228 pupils who were treated during the year 14 pre-school children received treatment, which required 22 attendances and included 7 fillings and 23 extractions. The arrangements by which these children are treated at the School Dental Clinic is, in view of the existing division of dental services, an illogical one.

I have so often acknowledged with gratitude the valuable co-operation of the teachers that perhaps I may be forgiven for asking even more. If all Head Teachers would do what some of them have always done, that is remind children of dental appointments and inform me if any on the list are absent from school time wasted through broken appointments would be minimised.

(1)	Number of pupils inspected :					
	(a)	Periodic age groups	..	..	..	6043
	(b)	Specials (Casuals)	..	..	..	88
	(c)	Total	..	..	..	6131
(2)	Number found to require treatment		..			3124
(3)	Number actually treated	..	..	..		2228
(4)	Attendances made by pupils for treatment					2847
(5)	Half-days devoted to					
	(a)	Inspection	..	..	..	63
	(b)	Treatment	..	..	..	445
	Total	..	..	..	..	508
(6)	Fillings :	Permanent Teeth	..	..		1556
		Temporary Teeth	..	..		250
	Total	..	..	..	..	1806
(7)	Extractions :	Permanent Teeth	..	..		176
		Temporary Teeth	..	..		1713
	Total	..	..	..	..	1889
(8)	Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction	..	..	..	..	77
(9)	Other operations :	Permanent Teeth	..			122
		Temporary Teeth	..			579
	Total	..	..	..	..	701

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT CLINIC.

This Clinic continued to be held during 1948 at the Central School Clinic, King Street. Mr. Otty, Consultant for diseases of the Ear, Nose and Throat, held 20 sessions during the year and examined 325 children (294 new cases and 31 re-examin-

ations). Of these 226 were recommended for Hospital treatment. 164 received Hospital treatment during 1948 including 12 children who had been examined by Mr. Otty during 1947.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION.

The Organiser of Physical Training, Miss E. M. Ellis, left Wakefield at the end of April, 1948, to take up a similar appointment at Brighton. For the remainder of the year the schools were left without an Organiser of Physical Training and, as a result, much of the good work could not be followed up. Lack of suitable playing fields has been an additional handicap on the games side.

Swimming has continued to be a popular subject and the following awards show the effort put into the Life Saving Examinations by those taking part.

Award of Merit..	..	1
Bronze Cross ..	..	9
Bronze Bar ..	..	19
Bronze Medallion ..	..	27
Intermediate Certificate		61
Elementary Certificate		75
Instructors ..	..	2
		<hr/>
		194
		<hr/>

MILK, MEALS AND CLOTHING.

Milk.

The average number of children who were supplied with milk at schools during 1948 was 6,762 daily.

Meals.

The number of children provided with school dinners during 1948 rose to an average of 4,830 a day of which approximately 400 were supplied free.

The total number of dinners provided during the year was approximately 960,631.

Clothing.

Under the provisions of Section 5 of the Education (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1948, the Authority assisted 29 children during the year to enable them to take full advantage of the education provided for them. This figure shows an increase of 18 over the previous year.

OPEN-AIR TREATMENT.

HORNSEA SEASIDE SCHOOL.

This School was open from the 12th April, 1948, until the 25th October, 1948, when the last batch of children returned home. During the period 668 children (330 boys and 338 girls) were in residence for a period of three weeks each, being sent in batches of approximately 80 of one sex at a time.

CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS.

During 1948, 71 per cent of the parents, generally the mother, attended at periodic medical inspection.

CO-OPERATION OF TEACHERS.

The teachers give, as they always have done, the greatest possible help and co-operation in the work of the School Health Service. It is impossible to speak too highly of their assistance without which the work would lose much of its efficiency.

CO-OPERATION OF SCHOOL INQUIRY OFFICERS.

The co-operation of the Inquiry Officers with the School Health Service is close, active and invaluable. They send many children to the School Clinics, and they also assist in securing medical or other treatment when other means have failed. Their help in securing the cleansing of verminous children has been particularly useful.

CO-OPERATION OF VOLUNTARY BODIES.

The two Societies that afford most help in connection with the School Medical Service are the Wakefield Social Service Council and the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. The former Society, which includes an active Guild of Help, undertakes much of the care work of the Corporation, and is of great assistance in supplying food and clothing in necessitous cases of a temporary character. Cases of apparently wilful neglect are referred to the latter Society for investigation and any necessary action and Inspector White has proved a most helpful and zealous coadjutor. The Mayor's Boot Fund has also done a most useful work during 1948 and supplied 176 pairs of boots or shoes to necessitous children.

CHILD GUIDANCE.

The Children's Special Clinic held on Tuesday mornings was continued throughout 1948. Dr. Wilson held 42 Clinic Sessions and saw 21 new cases. The total number of attendances made during the year was 151. A parent or guardian accompanies each child to the Clinic on each occasion whenever possible

HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

(a) **Blind Children.**

At the end of the year there were 4 children (boys) in Residential Special Schools.

(b) **Partially Sighted Children.**

There were 3 children (boys) in Residential Special Schools.

(c) **Deaf Children.**

There were 8 children (6 boys and 2 girls) in Residential Special Schools.

(d) **Partially Deaf Children.**

One child (a girl) was in a Residential Special School.

(e) **Diabetic Children.**

One child (a girl) was in a Residential Special School.

(f) **Educationally Sub-normal Children.**

At the end of the year there were 56 children (36 boys and 20 girls) on the Register, all in primary and secondary schools.

(g) **Delicate Children.**

One child (a boy) was in a Residential Special School.

THORNES HOUSE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Periodic and Special Inspections were carried out at the above schools during 1948.

237 children were examined, 95 at Periodic Inspections, and 142 at Inspections of Specials.

24 children were referred for treatment and 119 required to be kept under observation.



