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COUNTY BOROUGH OF WALLASEY.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health**

AND

**School Medical Officer**

FOR THE YEAR

**1944.**

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**RONALD B. BERRY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,**

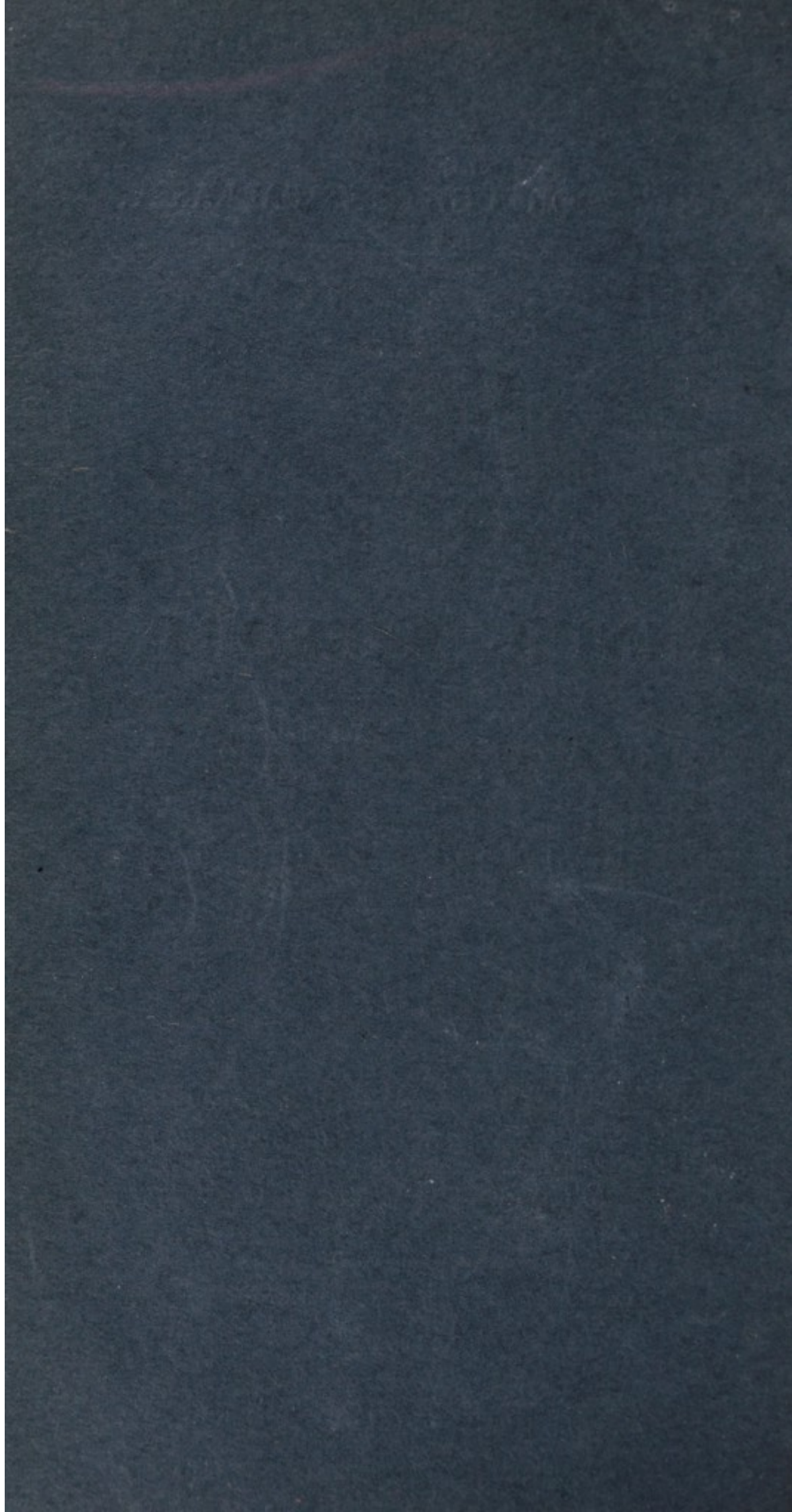
*Medical Officer of Health, Medical Superintendent  
of the Corporation Infectious Diseases Hospital,  
Administrative Tuberculosis Officer, School Medical  
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WILLMER BROS. & CO., LTD., BIRKENHEAD.

1945







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## PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

September 1945

The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
County Borough of Wallasey.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year 1944.

It is satisfactory, after so many years of war, to be able to report a reduction in the infantile mortality rate from 48.6 per 1,000 births to 43.0. This figure would have been much less but for the large number of illegitimate births—133, and the high infant mortality rate amongst them—97.7 per 1,000 births.

The number of live births again shows a considerable increase—1,790, compared with 1,561 in 1943—though, on account of the estimated increase in population the rate is only increased from 21.0 to 21.5 per 1,000 population, compared with a figure of 17.6 for England and Wales. The demand for Maternity Hospital accommodation has been very considerable, but with the continued use of the Annexe it was possible to deal with 719 cases at "Highfield," and a further 107 were admitted to the Maternity Wards of the Birkenhead Municipal Hospital.

It is interesting to record that of the 1,836 births (live and still), no less than 1,328 were dealt with by the Municipal Service, either in Institutions or by Municipal Midwives in the patients' homes.

Of the five maternal deaths, four occurred in cases of Abortion. There were no deaths at "Highfield" Maternity Hospital.

An Interim Scheme was approved during the year under the Cancer Act, 1939, by which Wallasey became a member of the Liverpool Cancer Control Organisation, and through that Organisation accepted responsibility for the treatment of all forms of Cancer in Approved Institutions. The scheme received the approval of the Ministry of Health.

There was a considerable fall in the incidence of both Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever, but a serious increase in the number of cases of Measles, and an increase, though not so marked, in cases of Whooping Cough.

The number of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified was over 30% less than in 1943, and there was also a reduction in non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis, though not so marked.

The increase in the population has added considerably to the work of the Sanitary Inspectors, whose difficulties have been greatly increased by the shortage of staff and supplies.

I should like to acknowledge the work done by the staff during the year, and to thank the Committee for the support they have given me.

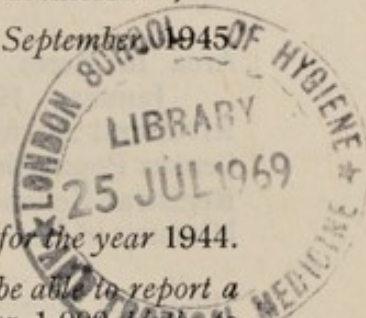
I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

RONALD B. BERRY,

Medical Officer of Health.





	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Live Births—Legitimate	859	798	1657
Illegitimate	69	64	133
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	928	862	1790

Deaths from Measles (all ages) .. .. .	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) .. .. .	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (including Enteritis), under 1 year	7
Under 2 years .. .. .	1
Diarrhoea and Enteritis Mortality Rate under 1 year, per	
1,000 live births .. .. .	4.4



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## STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF

CAUSES OF DEATH.	SEXES.		All Ages	DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT,						Total Deaths in Institutions in the Borough whether of residents or non-residents.
	M.	F.		Under 1	5	Under 15	45	Under 65	Over 65	
All causes { Certified .....	552	511	1063	76	10	18	103	275	581	204
{ Uncertified ..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2. Cerebro-spinal fever ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
3. Scarlet fever .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4. Whooping Cough ..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
5. Diphtheria .....	2	1	3	1	1	1	..	..	..	3
6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system .....	26	11	37	..	..	1	21	15	1	4
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis .....	8	5	13	..	2	3	5	3	..	7
8. Syphilitic diseases .....	5	..	5	..	..	..	..	2	3	1
9. Influenza .....	6	7	13	5	..	..	1	3	4	..
10. Measles .....	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
11. Acute polio myelitis & polio encephalitis ..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
12. Acute infective encephalitis .....	2	..	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..
13. Cancer of buc. cav. oesoph M. & uterus F	14	16	30	..	..	..	2	15	13	6
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum .....	15	7	22	..	..	..	2	9	11	3
15. Cancer of Breast .....	..	14	14	..	..	..	..	5	9	2
16. Cancer of all other sites	45	47	92	..	..	1	3	38	50	19
17. Diabetes .....	2	4	6	..	..	..	1	2	3	5
18. Intracranial vascular lesions .....	49	47	96	..	..	..	..	24	72	11
19. Heart disease .....	156	143	299	..	..	1	10	65	223	13
20. Other diseases of circulatory system ..	8	14	22	..	..	..	..	3	19	8
21. Bronchitis .....	20	17	37	3	..	..	3	10	21	6
22. Pneumonia .....	34	18	52	15	5	..	3	11	18	11
23. Other respiratory diseases .....	8	4	12	1	..	..	1	4	6	..
24. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .....	9	6	15	..	..	..	2	8	5	6
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 yrs.)	6	2	8	7	1	..	..	..	..	..
26. Appendicitis .....	3	3	6	..	..	2	..	2	2	4
27. Other digestive diseases	8	13	21	..	1	..	1	8	11	11
28. Nephritis .....	15	17	32	..	..	2	1	14	15	11
29. Puerperal and post abortive sepsis .....	..	3	3	..	..	..	3	..	..	1
30. Other maternal causes	..	2	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	1
31. Premature birth .....	10	10	20	20	..	..	..	..	..	2
32. Congenital malformations .....	9	15	24	21	..	..	1	2	..	9
33. Suicide .....	4	..	4	..	..	..	..	3	1	1
34. Road traffic accidents	2	1	3	..	..	..	1	1	1	..
35. Other violent causes ..	13	8	21	1	4	2	5	..	9	13
36. All other causes .....	35	36	71	2	2	3	8	10	46	18
TOTALS .....	516	472	988	77	18	16	78	257	542	176



DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.  
IN WALLASEY.

MILL LANE HOSPITAL—	
Residents .....	9
Non-Residents .....	—
HIGHFIELD MATERNITY HOSPITAL—	
Residents .....	4
Non-Residents .....	—
VICTORIA CENTRAL HOSPITAL—	
Residents .....	110
Non-Residents .....	11
MALLASEY COTTAGE HOSPITAL—	
Residents .....	36
Non-Residents .....	2
HASOWE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL—	
Residents .....	1
Non-Residents .....	2
OTHER PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS—	
Residents .....	1
Non-Residents .....	—
TOTAL .....	
	176

ELSEWHERE.

LIVERPOOL AND OTHER HOSPITALS—	
Excluding Sanatoria) . . . . .	53
BIRKENHEAD MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL	189
COUNTY MENTAL HOSPITAL . . . .	12
OTHER MENTAL HOSPITALS . . . . .	2
SANATORIA outside Wallasey . . . .	—
<hr/> TOTAL . . . . .	256

## DEATHS OUTSIDE WALLASEY—

Not in Public Institutions .....	19
INWARD TRANSFERS .....	19
TRANSFERABLE DEATHS—	
In Wallasey of Non-residents	
OUTWARD TRANSFERS .....	36

## INQUESTS.

Residents (all Ages) .....	22	} 33
Non-Residents (all ages) .....	11	
Legitimate Children—Under 1 year .....	—	
1 and Under 2 years ....	2	
2 years and over .....	—	
Illegitimate Children—under 1 year .....	—	
1 and under 2 years ....	—	
2 years and under 5 years .....	—	

DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER 1 YEAR BELONGING TO WALLASEY.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Total
3	4	2	3	7	4	4	11	11	6	4	6	2	1	3	6	..	77

DEATHS OF ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS BELONGING TO WALLASEY.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Total
—	—	—	1	2	3	—	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	13
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	1	2	3	—	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	13

CAUSES OF ILLEGITIMATE DEATHS UNDER 2 YEARS OF AGE.

No.	Cause of Death.	Age
1a.	Broncho-pneumonia. 11. Marasmus .. ..	4 months
1a.	Prematurity—6½ months .. ..	2 days
1a.	Prematurity .. ..	1 day
1a.	Marasmus. b. Premature birth .. ..	2 weeks
1a.	Broncho-pneumonia. b. Influenza .. ..	2 months
1a.	Neonatal asphyxia. b. Prolonged labour. c. Difficult forceps delivery	10 minutes
1a.	Broncho-pneumonia .. ..	5 months
1a.	Prematurity .. ..	1 hour
1a.	Prematurity .. ..	2 days
1a.	Asphyxia livida. b. Lived 4 minutes .. ..	4 minutes
	Cardiac Syncope due to Pneumonia .. ..	6 months
1a.	Convulsions. b. Broncho-pneumonia .. ..	11 months
1a.	Laryngeal Dipththeria. 2. Tracheotomy .. ..	11 months





Zymotic Death-rate per 1,000 of population (excluding Diarrhoea)	0.06
Phthisis Death-rate per 1,000 of population	0.44
Respiratory Death-rate per 1,000 of population (excluding Phthisis)	1.21

### PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH.

Heart Diseases.....	299	Intracranial Vascular Lesions .....	96
Other Circulatory Diseases	22	Congenital Debility, Premature Births etc....	44
Cancer .....	158	Violent Deaths (including suicides).....	28
Respiratory Diseases—		Acute and Chronic Nephritis .....	32
Pneumonia .....	52		
Bronchitis.....	37		
Other.....	12		
Phthisis.....	37		

### HOSPITAL SERVICES (within the Borough).

The following Hospitals and Institutions are PROVIDED by the LOCAL AUTHORITY within the Borough :—

1. Mill Lane Hospital : For Infectious Diseases (other than small pox).
2. Tuberculosis Sanatorium : One block, 22 beds, and one chalet with one bed, for advanced and observation cases.  
Mill Lane Hospital.
3. Highfield Maternity Hospital: 21 Beds. plus 12 in Annexe (from May, 1943).

In addition to the above there are the following Voluntary Hospitals within the Borough :—

4. VICTORIA CENTRAL HOSPITAL: General Hospital with 135 Beds (including 28 for children). There is an out-patient department. There is also a charitable Dispensary on the same premises.
5. WALLASEY COTTAGE HOSPITAL: General Hospital with 41 beds, which are used for men, women and children as necessity arises. This Hospital also has an out-patient department.
6. LIVERPOOL OPEN-AIR HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN LEASOWE: Orthopaedic Hospital with 230 beds (192 for children and 38 for adult females). Patients are admitted to this Hospital from various parts of the country. The Corporation has ten beds in this Hospital on terms.

### HOSPITAL SERVICES (Outside the Borough).

BIRKENHEAD MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL: 125 beds are available at this Institution for sick, maternity and mental cases.

### PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

Admissions to :—

B'head Municipal Instit'n	471	Eastham House	...	5
B'head Municipal Hospital	300	County Mental Hospital	...	40



### ECONOMIC CONDITIONS.

The number of unemployed persons in the Borough in January, 1944, was 223, and in December, 269 as compared with 295 and 231 respectively in January and December, 1943.

During, 1944, the following amounts were expended on Unemployment, etc. Benefit by the Wallasey Employment Exchange :—

Agricultural Benefit	...	...	...	...	£92	0	0
General Scheme Benefit	...	...	...	...	£8,156	0	0
Unemployment Assistance Allowances	...	...	...	...	£2,175	0	0

In addition the Public Assistance Committee expended £16,775 16s. 1d. on outdoor relief and £3 0s. 0d. to Unemployment cases.

### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

#### ANTE-NATAL.

The Clinics, at which a woman doctor is in attendance, are held on the following days :—

NEW STREET—Monday, 2-0—4-0 p.m.

„ „ —Tuesday and Thursday, 10-0—12 noon.

OAKENHOLT ROAD, MORETON—Wednesday, 10-30—12 noon.

Special cases are referred from these Clinics to the Consultant Obstetrician who visits Highfield Maternity Hospital and his services are available whenever required.

The following figures summarise the work done at the Antenatal and at the Post-natal Clinics during the year :—

#### ANTE-NATAL.

Expectant mothers on books at January 1st	...	...	...	...	219
New cases during the year	...	...	...	...	634
Names on books at December 31st	...	...	...	...	147
Attendances of Expectant Mothers	...	...	...	...	2213 ✓
No. of Expectant Mothers attending Consultative Ante-Natal Clinic	...	...	...	...	150
„ Attendances	...	...	...	...	189 ✓
First-visits to homes of Expectant Mothers	...	...	...	...	580
Revisits do. do. do.	...	...	...	...	302

#### MATERNITY EMERGENCY UNIT.

The Corporation has an arrangement with the Liverpool Maternity Hospital for the use in Wallasey of the Maternity Unit for dealing with difficult domiciliary obstetric emergencies.

It has not been necessary to call upon the services of the Maternity Unit.



### MIDWIVES ACT.

Ten Midwives notified their intention to practise in the Borough during the year (excluding those at the Corporation Maternity Hospital and seven Municipal Midwives).

During 1944 the seven Municipal Midwives attended 502 cases, of these, 164 were attended as maternity Nurses.

Midwives in private practice attended 130 cases of which 53 were attended as maternity nurses.

The following is a list of the causes for which Medical help was sought :—

#### CONDITION OF MOTHER.

			Private M'wives	M'cipal M'wives
Protracted labour	..	..	2	22
Retained placenta	..	..	1	5
„ membranes	..	..	—	1
Post-partum Haemorrhage	..	..	—	12
Ante-partum Haemorrhage	..	..	—	4
Laceration of Perineum	..	..	5	29
Uterine Shock	..	..	1	1
Miscarriage	..	..	—	1
Mal-presentation	..	..	—	5
Abnormal presentation	..	..	—	8
General weakness	..	..	1	—
Pyrexia	..	..	—	3
Various other causes	..	..	2	9

#### CONDITION OF CHILD.

Severe Jaundice .. ..	1	—
Feebleness of Infant .. ..	1	1
Prematurity .. ..	1	1
Discharging Eyes .. ..	—	8
Other Conditions .. ..	1	7
Septic spots .. ..	—	3

### EVACUATION.

In March, 1941, the Ministry of Health opened The Garth Maternity Home at Neston for expectant mothers from Wallasey and other evacuation areas.

Fourteen expectant mothers were evacuated under these arrangements, during 1944.

Early in the year, Wallasey was declared a reception area; having been up to that time an evacuation area.

The following figures with regard to the number of persons evacuated to Wallasey from Southern England have been supplied by the Chief Billeting Officer :—

The official evacuees arrived in Wallasey on 27th July, 1944, and consisted of :—

Mothers	..	..	..	..	136
Accompanied children	..	..	..	..	270
Unaccompanied children	..	..	..	..	12
Expectant Mothers	..	..	..	..	16
Aged person	..	..	..	..	1
					— 435

In addition billeting allowances were paid in respect of the following unofficial evacuees from Southern England :—

Mothers	..	..	..	..	866
Accompanied children	..	..	..	..	942
Unaccompanied children	..	..	..	..	248
Aged persons	..	..	..	..	70
Invalids..	..	..	..	..	7
					— 2,133

Total number of evacuees from Southern England ... 2,568

### HIGHFIELD MATERNITY HOSPITAL.

The accommodation at this hospital was again in great demand and many requests for admission had to be refused.

During the year 719 cases were admitted.

In order to deal with the very great demand for institution beds, arrangements were made in May, 1943, to open the repaired half of the damaged Ward at Mill Lane Hospital as a Maternity Ward with twelve beds. Patients are transferred to this Ward after confinement according to the accommodation in the Maternity Hospital. This extra provision has made it possible to book sixty cases per month. Dealing with this number has, however, made very heavy demands on the Labour Ward and the trained staff of the Hospital. Applications to the Ministry of Health for permission to provide more satisfactory accommodation, even if of a temporary nature, have not been successful.

	In Hosp. Jan. 1/44	No. of Admis- sions 1944	Confinement 1944	No. of Children	Dis- charged Undelivered	Admit- ted after C'ment	Maternal Deaths	Remain- ing Dec. 31st 1944
Doctors' cases	7*	469	463	472†	3	3	—	14‡
Midwives cases	5	250	245	246§	2	3	—	12

\* Confined 1944, 1 † Twins 9 § Twins 1 ‡ Discharged undelivered 1945, 1

	Doctors' cases.	Midwives' cases	Total
Stillbirths	10	6	16
Infant Deaths	2	2	4
Perineal Repairs	194	53	247
Episiotomies	37	2	39
Breech Presentations	14	7	21
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	2
Rise of Temperature	12	5	17
Toxaemia of Pregnancy	11	0	11
Forceps	32	6	38
Delayed Labour	12	6	18

#### Puerperal Pyrexia :—

Mastitis	..	..	..	1	Influenza	..	..	1
----------	----	----	----	---	-----------	----	----	---

#### Amongst Stillbirths :—

Hydrocephalus	..	..	1	1 of Twins	..	..	2
Spina Bifida	..	..	2				



**Operations by Consultant Obstetrician :—**

External Version* .. 2	Caesarian Sextion .. 1
External Version and leg brought down .. 1	External Version and Forceps 1
Manual Removal of Placenta 1	Perforation 2 (1 and Forceps)
Amputation of Hand and Attempted Delivery 1*	Rupture of Membranes .. 3

\* To Birkenhead Municipal Hospital for Caesarian.

Episiotomy and Delivery 1	Episiotomy and Delivery of Shoulders .. 1
Expression of Placenta .. 1	Manual Dilation of Cervix and Forceps .. 1

**Other Operations :**

Manual Removal of Placenta 7	Circumcisions .. .. 7
------------------------------	-----------------------

**Infant Deaths :—**

Atalectasis .. .. 1	Intercranial Haemorrhage Precipitate Labour and Prematurity .. .. 1
Atalectasis and Prematurity 1	Congenital Debility and Prematurity .. .. 1

**Maternal Deaths:** Nil.

**Complications :—**

*Ante-Natal* :—A.P.H. 1 ; Toxaemia 11.      Hyperthyroidism 1.

**Post-Natal :—**

<i>Mother</i>	
Puerperal Pyrexia .. 2	Rise of Temperature .. 17
P.P.H. .. .. 10	Bronchitis .. .. 4
Retained Products .. 11	Uterine Fibroid .. .. 1
Phlebitis .. .. 1	V.D.H. .. .. 1
Prolapsed Cervix .. 1	Rigid Cervix .. .. 1
Cystitis .. .. 1	

*Child*

Sticky Eyes .. .. 11	Pemphigus Neonatorum .. 1
Asphyxiated .. .. 18	Phenosis .. .. 7
Spina Bifida .. .. 5	Fractured Left Arm .. 1
Jaundice .. .. 1	Haemorrhage .. .. 1
Premature .. .. 10	Facial Paralysis .. .. 5
Harelip and Malformed Hand 1	Hydrocephalus .. .. 2

**Abnormal Presentations :—**

Breech .. .. 21	P.O.P. .. .. 3
Prolapsed Cord .. 3	Transverse .. .. 1
Cord around Neck .. 2	Incomplete Rotation and Short Cord .. 1
Prolapsed Hand .. 1	

In 250 Midwives' cases, Doctors were called for 83.

Torn Perineum .. .. 49	Sticky Eyes .. .. 5
Delayed Labour .. .. 6	Retained Products .. 4
Breech Delivery .. .. 3	Prematurity .. .. 2
P.P.H. .. .. 2	Rise of Temperature .. 1
Puerperal Pyrexia .. 1	Pemphigus .. .. 1

Other Conditions : Mother 5 ; Child 4.

Cases transferred to Annexe : 260.



### **MATERNITY CASES ADMITTED TO BIRKENHEAD MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL.**

The Corporation have made a declaration under Section 5 of the Local Government Act, 1929, to the effect that as and from 1st October, 1939, all assistance granted by the Council under the Maternity and Child Welfare Acts, as amended by the Public Health Act, 1936, be granted by virtue of those Acts and not by way of Poor Law Relief. During the year 107 cases were admitted to the Birkenhead Municipal Hospital under this arrangement.

### **PUERPERAL PYREXIA.**

There were four notifications of Puerperal Pyrexia during the year, none of which proved fatal.

### **MATERNAL MORTALITY.**

Five Maternal Deaths were registered during the year, the causes of which were :—

- (1) (a) Incomplete abortion.  
(b) Haemorrhage  
(c) Obstetrical shock
- (2) (a) Uterine haemorrhage  
(b) Obstetrical shock
- (3) 1 (a) Septicaemia  
(b) Spontaneous abortion  
2 Mitral Stenosis
- (4) 1 (a) Broncho-pneumonia  
(b) Localised Peritonitis  
(c) Abortion at 3rd month
- (5) (a) Gen. Peritonitis secondary to septic endometritis following an abortion.

Case Nos. 2 and 5 occurred at the Birkenhead Municipal Hospital, and Case Nos. 1 and 3 at the Victoria Central Hospital, Wallasey.

### **OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.**

Eight of the Health Visitors are qualified to treat, by douching, the eyes of children suffering from Ophthalmia Neonatorum. Two cases were notified during the year and were cured with no impairment of vision.

### **CHILD WELFARE.**

The Clinics at which a doctor attends on each occasion, are held in the afternoon of the following days :—

New Street Centre—Tuesdays.      Field Road—Thursdays.  
Wallasey Village—Wednesdays      Oakenholt Rd., Moreton—Tues.



The number of attendances during the year was:—

	New Street	Moreton	New Brighton	Wallasey Village	Totals
Children under one year of age ..	3,983	2,248	3,882	4,790	14,903
Children between one and five yrs.	89	241	400	604	1,334

#### SUMMARY OF VISITS PAID BY HEALTH VISITORS.

First visits and revisits to Infants under one year of age	...	6,761
Visits and revisits to Children one to five years of age	...	5,768
Total visits and revisits to children under one and up to five years of age for any purpose whatsoever, including 595 visits and revisits re Minor Infections	... ..	13,124
Visits re notified Infectious Diseases	... ..	1,573
.. Infant Life Protection	... ..	91
.. and re-visits to expectant mothers	... ..	882

#### PROMOTION OF CLEANLINESS AND GOOD HABITS

(Min. of Health Circular 2831)

Health Visitors impress on mothers and expectant mothers the importance of cleanliness and freedom from vermin, and concentrate largely on the homes which they know to be the least satisfactory in this respect.

Fine tooth combs are supplied on loan, and Lethane hair oil is available for cases needing treatment.

Posters dealing with vermin, issued by the Central Council for Health Education, are exhibited in various parts of the Borough.

#### NUTRITION.

##### NATIONAL DRIED MILK, FRUIT JUICES, Etc.

Particulars of National Dried Milk, Cod Liver Oil, and Fruit Juices distributed to expectant and nursing mothers and to children under five years of age during 1944 are as follows:—

##### NATIONAL DRIED MILK.

Number of packets given free	...	2,580
.. .. sold at reduced rates	...	17,515

##### COD LIVER OIL, FRUIT JUICES, ETC.

Number of bottles of Cod Liver Oil	...	15,608
.. .. Fruit Juices	...	122,238
.. .. Vitamin Capsules	...	3,469

##### DRIED MILK (OTHER THAN NATIONAL DRIED MILK).

Sold lb. Packets, 26,964 realising ... £2,409 10s. 2d.

In addition, 29 gallons of Cod Liver Oil and 1,574 bottles of Fruit Juices were issued for the use of children in local hospitals, war-time nurseries, etc.



# INFANT MORTALITY.

Nett Deaths from Stated Causes in weeks and months under one year of age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 month.	4 Weeks and under 3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.	Deaths in previous year.
All causes—Certified	24	5	4	1	34	15	18	8	2	77	76
Uncertified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Small-pox .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken-pox .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Diphtheria & Croup .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Influenza .....	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	5	3
Erysipelas .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tubercular Meningitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abdom'l Tuberculosis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions .....	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	3	3
Laryngitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	3	2
Pneumonia (all forms) .....	—	—	—	—	—	4	10	2	—	16	7
Diarrhoea .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	7
Enteritis .....	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	3	9
Gastritis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Rickets .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation, Overlying .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Injury at birth .....	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	6
Atelectasis .....	4	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4	4
Congenital Malformations .....	1	2	2	—	5	—	1	2	—	8	4
Premature Birth ..	13	1	2	1	17	—	1	—	—	18	11
Atrophy, Debility, ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	6
Marasmus .....	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	6
Other Causes .....	3	2	—	—	5	1	4	—	—	10	4
Totals .....	24	5	4	1	34	15	18	8	2	77	71



### CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

No. of persons who were receiving children for reward at Jan. 1st	11
do. on Register at December 31st ... ..	10
No. of children under 9 years on Register at Jan. 1st	14
do. Deaths of children during the year ... ..	—
do. Inquests on children dealt with under the Act	—
do. Children on Register at December 31st	16
do. Visits during the year ... ..	91
Health Visitors who are Infant Protection Visitors	9

### WAR TIME NURSERIES.

There are four War-time Day Nurseries for Children under five years of age in Wallasey.

All the Nurseries are one-storeyed, pre-cast buildings, but at the Eastway Nursery provision has been made to accommodate 25 of the 55 children in the Eastway School which adjoins the Nursery. The Nurseries are not open on Sundays.

The following table shows the number of places per Nursery and the average number of children attending in December, 1944 :—

Nursery	Number of Places	AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCES			
		Exc. Saturdays		For month as a whole	
		0—2's	2—5's	0—2's	2—5's
Somerville ... ..	40	11	28	10	26
Eastway ... ..	55	7	26	6	23
Central Park ... ..	50	12	35	12	32
Oakdale ... ..	50	11	36	11	33

With the exception of the Eastway Nursery all the Nurseries are full and have a waiting list.

### AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

On the formation of the National Fire Service the responsibility of maintaining an ambulance service for accidents, etc. was transferred from the Watch Committee to the Health Committee.

The number of cases dealt with during 1944 was as follows :—

Street, works and other accidents	...	...	650
Cases of sudden illness	...	...	143
Private cases	...	...	2254
Public Assistance cases	...	...	592
Service cases	...	...	22
Public Health Dept. cases	...	...	36

### CANCER ACT, 1939.

This Act places a duty on County Borough Councils to make arrangements to ensure that the facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of Cancer are adequate and available to all who are, or are suspected to be suffering from Cancer.

The arrangements must include facilities for expert diagnosis and for adequate and efficient treatment both by surgery and by radiotherapy, and a follow-up Scheme with the necessary statistical records.

Local Authorities are also asked to collaborate with such existing organisations already providing facilities, either wholly or partially.



The Council's Interim Proposals for the provision of these facilities were approved by the Ministry of Health on the 23rd October, 1944, and the arrangements came into operation on the 1st January, 1945. Under these proposals the Council became one of the constituent members of the Liverpool Cancer Control Organisation, and will contribute to the costs of the administration of the Scheme on a population basis. The Council will also be responsible for the cost of both in-patient and out-patient treatment in approved Hospitals. The new expenditure will, of course, rank for grant under Section 2 of the Cancer Act, 1939.

**CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (Including Tuberculosis) NOTIFIED IN WALLASEY DURING 1944.**

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Noti- fications.	Cases notified at ages											
		0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	Over 65
Small-pox .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria .....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Dysentery .....	33	—	1	1	4	4	14	7	1	1	—	—	—
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	109	1	—	4	8	7	28	18	8	28	6	1	—
Erysipelas .....	27	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	1	19	3
Scarlet Fever .....	173	—	3	13	14	13	77	26	14	10	1	1	—
Enteric Fever .....	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia .....	23	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	2	7	10	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	67	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	6	31	8	18	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis .....	13	1	—	—	—	1	2	4	1	2	1	1	—
Measles .....	862	25	56	99	86	91	440	14	3	12	3	1	—
Whooping Cough .....	259	29	27	34	24	28	105	3	1	4	2	1	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	3	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Polio-Encephalitis .....	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTALS.....</b>	<b>1582</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>673</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>7</b>

**IMMUNISATION.**

During the year, 1,257 children received the full course of Immunisation treatment against Diphtheria.

In addition 1,668 children who had been immunised were Schick-tested. Of these 207 children, or 12.41% proved positive and were re-immunised.

The following table shows the number of children immunised each year from 1935 :—

Age at date of inoculation	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	Total under 5 yrs. of age at 31/12/44: 2,257
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	21	56	30	
1 year +	8	6	3	21	5	18	101	357	290	478	
2 years +	9	22	12	17	13	23	111	309	251	78	
3 years +	10	38	11	24	10	27	115	295	169	58	
4 years +	11	125	65	31	12	30	101	306	144	51	
5 years +	90	313	160	206	29	45	136	308	152	82	
6 years +	60	221	114	230	10	44	85	243	223	68	
7 years +	35	110	65	120	15	20	76	220	118	37	
8 years +	9	25	13	6	3	2	47	247	120	51	
9 years +	2	13	6	—	—	4	41	238	96	74	
10 years +	4	4	—	1	2	3	45	228	115	44	
11 years +	2	3	1	1	1	4	27	188	107	60	
12 years +	—	3	1	—	—	4	22	203	110	39	
13 years +	—	4	—	—	4	1	22	237	135	64	
14 years +	1	2	—	—	2	—	9	57	101	20	
15 years +	—	—	—	—	3	—	4	21	45	17	
Over 16 years	4	—	—	—	1	5	1	12	31	6	
<i>Total</i>	245	889	451	657	110	230	951	3,490	2,263	1257	
											Total under 15 yrs. of age at 31/12/44: 7,370



## PUBLIC HEALTH (SMALL-POX PREVENTION) REGULATIONS, 1917.

No primary vaccinations or re-vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health during the year.

### VACCINATION.

Statement of Vaccination for year ending 31st December, 1943

Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,213
Successfully vaccinated	...	...	...	...	...	...	477
Insusceptible	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Had Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Died unvaccinated	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Postponed by Medical Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Certificates of Exemption (Conscientious objection)	...	...	...	...	...	...	204
Removals certified	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Removals not found and not accounted for	...	...	...	...	...	...	85

### MEASLES.

793 cases were notified and 69 reported during 1944. One of the cases proved fatal.

### WHOOPIING COUGH.

230 cases were notified and 29 reported during the year. One of the cases proved fatal.

### SCABIES.

Owing to the increase in the number of cases of Scabies, a treatment centre was opened in May, 1941 at the New Street Clinic, and has continued daily ever since. 397 cases were treated during the year, and 300 patients were re-examined. 44 of these were found to require further treatment. In addition a few cases who were unable to attend at the Clinic were given out-patient treatment at the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Mill Lane.

### DISINFECTION.

Visits to houses <i>re</i> disinfections	..	..	..	..	..	..	699
Rooms disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	..	399
Books from Public, Private, or School Libraries disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	..	421
Articles disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,467

## ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The accompanying table gives particulars of the cases admitted to Mill Lane Infectious Diseases Hospital during 1944 :—

	In Hospital 1st Jan. 1944	Ad- mitted	Recov- ered and Dis- charged	Died	In Hospital 31st Dec. 1944	
Scarlet Fever .. ..	8	130	126	—	12	1 Sent as Measles
Diphtheria .. ..	6	54	50	3	7	
Diphtheria Carriers .. ..	—	11	11	—	—	
Pemphigus .. ..	—	2	1	1	—	
Mothers with babies .. ..	—	2	2	—	—	
Dysentery (Sonne) .. ..	—	28	28	—	—	27 from Leasow Hospital.
Whooping Cough with Pneu- monia .. ..	—	5	5	—	—	
Whooping Cough .. ..	—	2	1	—	1	
Whooping Cough with Mastoiditis .. ..	—	1	1	—	—	
Erysipelas .. ..	—	5	5	—	—	
Measles .. ..	—	21	21	—	—	1 Sent in as S.F. 1 Sent as Mumps
Measles with Pneumonia .. ..	—	3	2	—	1	
Measles with Whooping Cough .. ..	—	1	—	—	1	
Chicken-pox .. ..	—	4	4	—	—	
Mumps .. ..	—	1	1	—	—	
Adenitis .. ..	—	1	1	—	—	
Impitigo .. ..	—	1	1	—	—	Sent in as Mumps
Tonsillitis .. ..	1	47	48	—	—	46 Sent in as Diph. 1 Sent in as S.F. Sent in as S.F. Sent in as S.F. Sent in as S.F. Sent in as S.F. Sent in as Diph. Sent in as Diph. Sent in as Diph. Sent in as Diph. Sent in as Diph. Sent in as Pemphigus Sent in as Measles 6 Sent in as S.F. 1 Sent in as Rubella 1 sent in as Measles
Rubella .. ..	—	1	1	—	—	
Urticaria .. ..	—	1	1	—	—	
Dry Rash .. ..	—	1	1	—	—	
Otorrhoea .. ..	—	1	1	—	—	
Dental Abscess .. ..	—	1	1	—	—	
Syph Pharyngitis .. ..	—	1	1	—	—	
Piri Tonsillar Abscess .. ..	—	1	1	—	—	
Spasmodic Laryngitis .. ..	—	1	1	—	—	
Septic Finger .. ..	—	1	1	—	—	
Bronchitis .. ..	—	1	1	—	—	
Nil Disease .. ..	—	8	8	—	—	
	15	337	326	4	22	

## TUBERCULOSIS.

There has been a decrease of new cases attending the Dispensary during 1944.

In addition, there were 34 cases referred by Civilian Medical Boards under National Services (Armed Forces) Act, 1939.

58 children were referred for X-ray examination by the School Medical Officer—10 of these were mouth breathers and were recommended breathing exercises.

## CONTACTS.

Number of contacts who attended the Dispensary, 142 (66 Adults, 76 children), compared with 198 in 1943.

## DEATHS.

<i>Pulmonary Tuberculosis :</i>	1944	1943	1942
Number of deaths .. ..	37	52	33
Cases dead within two years of notification .. ..	26 (62%)	38 (64%)	20 (66%)
Non-notified deaths .. ..	4	8	3

A considerable decrease in the number of deaths.



<i>Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis :</i>		1944	1943	1942
Number of deaths .. .. .		13	10	10
Cases dead within two years of notification		2	2	3
Non-notified deaths .. .. .		6	4	6

## NOTIFICATIONS (Pulmonary).

There were 67 notifications (37 male, 30 female, including 19 from His Majesty's Forces) plus 21 transfers from other areas and 5 from Death Returns—30 less than in 1943.

## NOTIFICATIONS (Non-Pulmonary).

There were 13 notifications (7 male, 6 female, including 1 case from H.M. Forces), plus 8 transfers from other areas and 6 from Death Returns—2 less than in 1943.

## CLASSIFICATION OF NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

Cervical Glands ..	3	Bones and Joints ..	3
Abdomen .. ..	4	Kidney .. ..	2
Meninges .. ..	1		

## MILL LANE HOSPITAL TUBERCULOSIS BLOCK.

	<i>Adults</i>	<i>Children</i>	<i>Total</i>
Remaining 1st January, 1944 ..	20	—	20
Admitted during 1944 .. ..	43	—	43
Discharged during 1944 .. ..	42	—	42
Fatal during 1944 .. ..	4	—	4
Remaining 31st December, 1944 ..	17	—	17

587 Artificial Pneumothorax refills (281 males, 306 females) were given during the year, slightly fewer refills for male patients than in 1943.

## CHESHIRE JOINT SANATORIUM.

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Remaining 1st January, 1944 .. ..	7	11	18
Admitted during 1944 .. ..	6	11	17
Discharged during 1944 .. ..	6	12	18
Fatal during 1944 .. ..	—	—	—
Remaining 31st December, 1944 ..	7	10	17

## LEASOWE OPEN-AIR HOSPITAL.

	<i>Female Adults</i>	<i>Children</i>	<i>Total</i>
Remaining 1st January, 1944 .. ..	1	9	10
Admitted during 1944 .. ..	—	6	6
Discharged during 1944 .. ..	1	5	6
Fatal during 1944 .. ..	—	2	2
Remaining 31st December, 1944 ..	—	8	8

## BIRKENHEAD MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL.

Remaining 1st January, 1944 .. ..	8
Admitted during 1944 .. ..	27
Discharged during 1944 .. ..	19
Fatal during 1944 .. ..	12
Remaining 31st December, 1944 ..	4

## HOUSING.

Of the 67 notification of Pulmonary Tuberculosis :—

- 44 slept in separate bed and room
- 2 slept in separate bed, but shared room
- 17 shared bed and room (chiefly married couples)
- 2 notified County Mental Hospital
- 2 admitted straight from Army and still in Sanatoria.

## AFTER CARE.

All patients after discharge from the Sanatorium are kept under observation and receive frequent visits from the Health Visitors with regard to sanatorium routine. They are also encouraged to attend the Dispensary for observation, where instruction and advice are given. Cod liver oil and one pint of milk daily are supplied in necessitous cases for varying periods.

In addition to this, a small Voluntary Care Committee was formed in January, 1944, for the benefit of patients on discharge from Sanatorium. By the kind consent of the Wallasey Committee of the Unemployed Welfare Council, their Club Room at 3 Elmswood Road, has been used by our patients for handicrafts; joinery for the men and leather work for the women. This has proved of great benefit to those who have participated in this scheme and there has been a marked improvement in their general health and spirits.

For those who like a more open-air life, land has been lent at "Darley Dene", Breck Road, by the Mersey Dock and Harbour Board, where the men can have a small allotment and also keep hens. A few hen houses have been erected. Three men have taken advantage of this scheme.

An invalid chair and rubber air rings have been lent out to cases too ill to take a share in the above mentioned handicrafts.

A small beginning has been made, and the Care Committee hope, as funds permit, to enlarge their activities.

## VISITS.

The number of visits paid in 1944 by the Dispensary Nurses and Health Visitors was 1,463, including 223 in the Moreton area.

## TUBERCULIN SKIN TESTS.

Of the 76 children tested, 31 were contacts of Tuberculosis; 9 of which gave a positive re-action. These cases will be kept under observation.

795 X-ray examinations were made compared with 815 in 1943, and 575 in 1942. 30 Orthopaedic cases were also X-rayed.

## MAINTENANCES ALLOWANCES UNDER MEMO 266/T.

In order to help men and women who need treatment for pulmonary tuberculosis, but for whom treatment will mean an interruption of earnings or other income, the Government make special allowances. The object of the allowances is to enable necessary treatment to be undertaken without financial anxiety about the support of the family or the upkeep of the home.

These allowances are paid by the Local Authority that is responsible for providing treatment for tuberculosis, and are



refunded by the Government. They are paid while the patient is undergoing treatment, provided that he follows a course of treatment advised by the Tuberculosis Officer of the Local Authority. This treatment may be in-patient treatment in a sanatorium or dispensary treatment while living at home, whichever the Tuberculosis Officer considers to be necessary on medical grounds.

There are three kinds of payments :—

(1) *Maintenance allowances* based on a standard scale and without any test of means.

(2) *Discretionary allowances*, on proof of need, towards meeting standing charges—such as high rent or rates, hire purchase instalments, insurance premiums and school fees—in cases where the patient would be unable to meet these liabilities.

(3) *Special Payments* to meet certain special circumstances.

The scheme was put into operation in the Borough on 4th July, 1943. During 1944, 48 applications for allowances were received, 25 being granted, and the remainder refused as they did not come within the provisions of the Scheme, being either advanced or chronic cases.

The amount disbursed during the year was £1089 5s. 8d.

Diagnosis.	Pulmonary.				Non-Pulmonary.				Total.		Grand Total.
	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		M.	F.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.			
A.—New Cases examined during the year (excluding contacts):—											
(a) Definitely tuberculous .. .. .	32	23	—	—	3	3	4	1	4	1	= 66
(b) Diagnosis not completed .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	= —
(c) Non-Tuberculous .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	41	39	= 408
B.—Contacts examined during the year:—											
(a) Definitely tuberculous .. .. .	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	= 4
(b) Diagnosis not completed .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	= —
(c) Non-tuberculous .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	34	42	= 142
C.—Cases written off the Dispensary Register as—											
(a) Recovered .. .. .	5	10	—	1	—	—	3	5	3	6	= 24
(b) Non-Tuberculous (including any such cases previously diagnosed and entered on the Dispensary Register as tuberculous) .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	= —
D.—Number of Cases on Dispensary Register on December 31st:—											
(a) Definitely tuberculous .. .. .	185	146	9	9	14	22	29	15	199	38	= 429
(b) Diagnosis not completed .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	= —
E.—Number of Cases on Dispensary Register on January 1st .. .. .											
7. Number of consultations with medical practitioners:—											
(a) Personal .. .. .											
(b) Other .. .. .											
8. Number of visits by Tuberculosis Officer to homes (including personal consultations) .. .. .											
9. Number of visits by Nurses or Health Visitors to homes for Dispensary purposes .. .. .											
10. Number of:—											
(a) Specimens of sputum, etc., examined											
(b) X-ray examinations made in connection with Dispensary work ..											
11. Number of "Recovered" cases restored to Dispensary Register, and included in A (a) and A (b) above .. .. .											
12. Number of "T.B. plus" cases on Dispensary Register on December 31st											
Not applicable during war-time											
1463											
230											
825											
—											
226											



### VENEREAL DISEASE

The number of new cases for 1944 was 100—an increase of one case over 1943 and 47 over 1942. After deducting the Non-Venereal cases, the number of definite cases was 35, which is one less than in 1943, seven more than in 1942, and fifteen more than 1941—which is the smallest number for any year on record.

*Attendances :—*

	1944	1943	1942
Males ..	272	384	405
Females ..	504	360	248

(A considerable increase of female attendances.)

The following are particulars of the 35 cases of V.D. :—

		<i>Syphilis</i>		<i>Gonorrhoea</i>	
		1944	1943	1944	1943
Males ..	..	7	7	2	13
Females	..	11	13	15	3

An increase in female cases of Gonorrhoea with a marked decrease of male Gonorrhoea.

62 specimens in connection with the Clinic were examined at the Laboratory, Mill Lane Dispensary. 85 specimens of blood were sent to Liverpool University Laboratories for Wassermann reaction and Meinicke Test. Information has always been sought and advice given to patients proceeding to other areas *re* hours and places of attendance.

*Regulation 33B Defence (General) Regulations, 1939.*

*Form 1 :—*

Fifteen "Form 1" were received, one of which gave the names of two patients as the source of infection.

Seven of the fifteen people attended for examination and no prosecution was necessary. It was not possible to trace the remainder.

*Contact Tracing :—*

- (1) Secured as a result of persuasion by original patients 13.
- (2) Persuaded to attend by Social Worker, though not named on Form 1, 19.

#### Return of Wallasey Residents treated in Liverpool and Birkenhead during the year.

		<i>Liverpool</i>			<i>Birkenhead</i>		
		1944	1943	1942	1944	1943	1942
Syphilis ..	..	10	9	9	8	8	8
Chancre ..	..	—	4	2	—	1	—
Gonorrhoea ..	..	23	16	17	10	15	7
Conditions other than Venereal ..	..	39	49	21	22	26	8
		—	—	—	—	—	—
		72	78	49	40	50	23
Total attendances of all cases ..	..	870	947	581	923	869	567

There appears to be very little increase, if any, of Venereal Disease among Wallasey residents. A large increase of cases attended with conditions other than Venereal—probably due to the propaganda in the Press and elsewhere.





Amount disbursed by way of allowances January to  
December ... .. £1,067 12s. 2d.

No. of cases assisted by this Authority and rechargeable to  
other Authorities at 1st January, 1944 ... .. 10

No. receiving assistance at 31st December, 1944 ... .. 17

Amount disbursed by way of Allowances January to  
December ... .. £957 6s. 10d.

#### MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

*During the twelve months ending 31st December, 1944, nineteen people were examined by Dr. H. R. Bickerton of whom twelve were found to be blind, while seven could not be certified.*

The average age of the twelve blind people was 68 years 5 months.

#### REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

This work is carried out under the direction of the Borough Surveyor. There are no ashpits in the Borough. Particulars as to the quantities of refuse and salvage disposed of in the past year are as under :—

House, &c. Refuse—	T.	C.	Q.
Delivered to Refuse Disposal Works ...	3,859	18	0
Quantity tipped away ... ..	12,643	0	0
	16,502	18	0
Salvage, &c. material... ..	2,951	6	0
	19,454	4	0

Wet refuse collected in added areas and delivered to farms, 106 loads.

#### HOUSING.

Two new houses were completed and certified, eighteen in course of erection, and eighteen houses were converted into flats during 1944.

No Demolition or Clearance Areas were scheduled during 1944.

#### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

During the year 298 samples were analysed, sixteen of which were found to be adulterated. Proceedings were taken in one instance.—milk containing 10% of added water. A fine of £5 plus 10s 6d. costs was imposed. No proceedings were taken in the remaining cases, the adulteration being slight.

#### PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT.

During the year the following applications were received

For registration .. ..	15
For re-registration .. ..	90

All applications were granted.

#### FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT.

Twenty-four samples of Fertilisers were submitted for analysis during the year, all but one of which complied with the requirements of the Act. A warning was given by the Inspector in this case.

### Control and Supervision of Milk Supplies (Biological Examination)

The following is a summary of the work carried out since 1941 :

	1944	1943	1942	1941
Number of Milk Samples taken	182	116	68	190
Number of positive results (T.B.)	15	8	7	18
Percentage .. .. .	8.24	6.89	10.29	9.47

The above table refers to supplies of raw milk only. The 15 samples which proved positive, resulted in 9 milk cows being dealt with under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938, by the Veterinary Inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

During the year 65 samples of pasteurised milk were submitted for biological testing, and in every instance a negative report was received. 143 samples of pasteurised milk were submitted to the Phosphatase Test, of which 20 failed, indicating that the milk had not been adequately heat treated, or that raw milk had been allowed to gain access thereto after processing.

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

The following milk samples were obtained during the year and submitted for Bacteriological examination.

	No. Taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Undesignated raw milk .. (from all sources)	12	6	6
Accredited milk ..	5	4	1
Tuberculin Tested Milk ..	7	2	5
Certified Milk ..	—	—	—
Pasteurised Milk ..	143	38	105

Samples of Pasteurised Milk are submitted to the following routine tests :

Plate count.  
Coliform Test.  
Phosphatase Test.

The 105 samples failed to comply with either one or more of these tests as shown in the following table :

Plate Count	Coliform Test	Phosphatase Test.	No. of Samples
F	F	F	11
F	F	S	39
F	S	S	28
S	F	S	18
S	F	F	2
F	S	F	6
S	S	F	1
			<hr/> 105 <hr/>

S indicates sample satisfactory.

F " " failed to pass test.

Considerable difficulty was experienced when submitting samples to the laboratories for the purpose of testing owing to staff shortages.



## DESIGNATED MILKS.

The following licences were issued by this Authority under the terms of the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936-42—

Farms licensed for the production of Accredited Milk ..	5
Dairies licensed to bottle and retail T.T. Milk .....	3
Dairies licensed to retail bottled T.T. Milk.....	11
Dairies licensed to produce Pasteurised Milk .....	4
Dairies licensed to bottle and retail Pasteurised Milk ....	2
Supplementary licence to retail Pasteurised Milk	1

## MILK PRODUCTION IN REGISTERED DAIRIES.

There are 14 registered cow-keepers in the Borough, 5 being licensed producers of Accredited Milk. There are 35 registered dairies, of which a number are licensed for the sale of designated milk under the terms of the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936-42. There are also 50 shops registered for the sale of milk in sealed bottles.

Number of visits to Dairy Farms .. .. .	64
Number of visits to Registered Dairy Premises ..	305

## Milk in Schools.

Pasteurised milk is supplied to school children in bottles containing one-third pint, together with drinking straws. During the year 2,258,606 bottles representing a total gallonage of 94,101, including 36,501 bottles which were supplied free by the Education Committee to necessitous children, were supplied by the 7 milk purveyors making deliveries to the schools in the Borough. Two-thirds of a pint of milk per day is available to every child desirous of partaking this quantity.

## Supervision of Meat Supplies.

The position remains unchanged with regard to home-killed meat entering the Borough which is received at the retail shops from the Ministry of Food slaughtering units situated in Birkenhead and Liverpool. Imported meat, including pork and offal, continues to form a substantial part of the allocation made to butchers and other persons engaged in the preparation of cooked meat and made-up products. These premises are visited and a strict supervision is exercised over both fresh and imported supplies of meat. The slaughter of bacon pigs has taken place at various farms under licence issued by the Ministry of Food, and post-mortem examinations of the carcasses and viscera were carried out.

Miscellaneous unwholesome foodstuffs were also dealt with during the year, and included fish, dairy produce, vegetables and tinned foods, and where it was possible, the unsound foodstuffs were diverted for animal feeding purposes or for conversion into non-edible by-products. Quantities of unsound butter, margarine, bacon, cheese, and cooking fats found to be unfit for human food were sent back to the suppliers in accordance with Ministry of Food arrangements.

Number of visits to butchers' and other shops—403.



### Wallasey and Alfred Lairages.

Landing Place for Irish and Isle of Man Animals and Foreign Animals Landing Wharf.

No emergency slaughterings were carried out during the year

### ADMINISTRATION OF DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS AND ORDERS.

Notice was served under the Swine Fever Order, 1938, with regard to a suspected case of Swine Fever. The report of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries was a negative one. A notice was also served under Article 2 of the Tuberculosis Order, 1938. Two suspected cases of Anthrax were reported to the Ministry. The animals involved were a bullock and a milk cow, and the veterinary investigation in both instances revealed a negative report.

Foot and Mouth Disease notifications and licences under the Foot and Mouth Disease Order, 1938, were issued during the year when outbreaks occurred which included the County Borough of Wallasey in the Infected Area. Licences were also granted under the Sheep Scab Order, 1938, authorising the movement of sheep and lambs in the Borough. Dipping Regulations made by this Authority under powers contained in the Sheep Scab Order, 1938, resulted in the compulsory dipping of 900 sheep and lambs, which was supervised by this Department.

The requirements of the Warble Fly (Dressing of Cattle) Order, 1938, remain suspended. Inspections were made of pig-keepers premises to ensure isolation and detention of store pigs, of which a total of 507 were brought to premises in the Borough on licences issued under the Movement of Swine Order, 1922, the pigs in question originating mainly from the various county markets.

Visits to farms, piggeries and other premises : 331.

### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

#### WORK OF THE DISTRICT INSPECTORS.

No. of houses visited	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,071
Special complaints investigated	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,516
No. of defects discovered	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,903
Interviews, appointments, supervisional visits and revisits	...	...	...	...	...	...	432
Matters dealt with from and to other departments	...	...	...	...	...	...	848
Informations laid...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Magistrates orders obtained	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Warrants to enter obtained	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Cases withdrawn on payment of costs or dismissed under the Probation of Offenders Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Fines, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	42/6

#### ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES.

No. of Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,253
Reinspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,384

### WATER SUPPLY.

There is an ample, constant supply of water of high quality for the needs of the Borough. The actual volume of water supplied



during 1943 was 1,206,398,260 gallons. The water supply is obtained from two sources—bulk supplies of soft, upland Lake Alwen water, and softened water from the Bore Holes at the Liscard Pumping Station, Wallasey.

Regular chemical and bacteriological examinations are carried out. In no case has evidence of poisonous metals or of lead been found. The bacteriological reports have always been satisfactory.

The water supplied to Wallasey is maintained at a hardness of about six degrees.

The water supplied to the Saughall Massie area of the Borough is supplied under arrangements with the West Cheshire Water Board, and is analysed regularly. All the reports have been satisfactory.

Only fifteen houses, accommodating about sixty people, are supplied with water from standpipes. The houses in question are situated in a low-lying area, and the majority were included in a Clearance Area in 1934 but were excluded by the Ministry of Health.

#### **Sewerage and Drainage.**

The water-carriage system is used throughout the Borough, the resulting crude sewage being discharged into the River Mersey at suitable points.

Where necessary certain of the main Watercourses in the Western part of the Borough have been cleaned out and where practicable their gradient has been improved.

The usual sewer flushing operations have been carried on during the year so far as prevailing circumstances permitted.

#### **Sewer Construction.**

Information with regard to Sewerage is kindly supplied by the Borough Engineer and Surveyor. During the year Sewer work has been restricted to maintenance and minor items of repair, including the relaying of some 30 yards of 12 inch G.S. pipe sewer, and 10 yards of 15 inch cast iron outfall sewer.

No new sewers have been constructed during 1944.

#### **DRAIN RECONSTRUCTION AND TESTS.**

Drains reconstructed or partially reconstructed	...	...	3
Drain tests by smoke or water	...	...	14

#### **FLUSHING.**

The Local Authority normally flush the drains of all houses in the Borough without charge. In addition, the drains at schools and public buildings, etc., were also flushed. Owing, however, to the extreme shortage of labour, it was not possible to carry out any flushing during 1944.

#### **BYELAWS WITH RESPECT TO NUISANCES, ETC.**

No. of inspections and reinspections of stable yards	...	1
Notices served	...	4
Visits to Marine Stores	...	—
„ encampments	...	103
Sub-let houses visited	...	—
Rooms inspected	...	—
Infringements	...	—



## CAMPING.

Two applications were received for licenses to permit camping, both being refused.

## PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

Visits to schools, theatres, picturedromes and Public conveniences 7.

## DISINFESTATION.

Houses infested with vermin	..	..	..	..	..	130
Number of rooms treated	..	..	..	..	..	349
Number of rooms treated free of charge	..	..	..	..	..	45
Income for services rendered	..	..	..	..	..	£110 11s. 3d.

## RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911-1928.

Premises visited where Rag Flock is used	...	...	...	—
--	-----	-----	-----	---

## FACTORY INSPECTION.

No. of visits to Factories and Workplaces	...	...	...	274
" notices served for contraventions	...	...	...	14
" Factories on register	...	...	...	290
" Workplaces	...	...	...	76
" Visits to Outworkers	...	...	...	—

## BAKEHOUSES.

No. of Bakehouses on register	...	...	...	...	50
Visits	...	...	...	...	48
Contraventions discovered	...	...	...	...	2
Notices served	...	...	...	...	2

## SHOP HOURS ACTS, 1912-1936.

No. of cases pending 1 January, 1944	...	...	...	—
Contraventions discovered	...	...	...	—
Convictions obtained	...	...	...	—
Cases dismissed under the Probation of Offenders Act	...	...	...	—
Cases pending, 31 December, 1944	...	...	...	—
Warnings issued	...	...	...	—
Fines and Costs	...	...	...	—

## RODENT CONTROL.

In order to safeguard the food supplies of the country, the Director of Infestation Control, of the Ministry of Food instructed all Local Authorities to treat the sewage systems in their respective areas. In order that the work should be done systematically, the whole of the country has been divided into what are known as Workable Areas, Wallasey being included in Area No. 22, which comprises practically the whole of the Wirral Peninsular. The Ministry of Food has agreed to defray one half of the cost of any additional labour engaged, plus the whole of the cost of poison bait and other necessary equipment.

Part of the sewers in the Borough have been treated on two occasions and the results tabulated.

The Ministry of Food has defined the various types of infestations as follows:—



Reservoir Type.—Huge colonies of rats with ample waste food and living quarters, giving rise to surplus population, tending to overflow and infest surrounding properties.

Major Type.—Large infestations of rats with definite limits on their population set by available living quarters and food supplies.

Minor Type.—Small infestations often intermittent in character with little real permanence.

The following infestations have been treated—

Reservoir Type	..	..	..	1
Major Type	..	..	..	5
Minor Type	..	..	..	34
				—
				40
				—
Infestations cleared	..	..	..	37

The estimated kill to the 31st December, 1944, based on the Ministry's formula was 1,380 rats, of which 326 carcasses were found, the remainder probably died in their holes.

#### RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT.

##### SUMMARY OF WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.

Complaints received	...	...	521	Baits consumed	...	...	200
Visits and re-visits	...	...	7760	Rats caught	...	...	467
Notices served	...	...	18	Mice found dead or caught	...	...	243
Traps set	...	...	482	Income for services of Rat-			
Baits laid	...	...	270	catcher	...	...	£27 17 6

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WALLASEY  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE.



Annual Report  
OF THE  
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER  
For the Year 1944.

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1945



## STAFF.

- RONALD B. BERRY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
*Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.*
- EGON LEWIT, M.D. (Prague), M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.)  
(To 15/9/44).
- MARGARET J. T. LEITCH, M.B., Ch.B., M.M.S.A., D.C.H.  
(*Assistant Medical Officers and Assistant School Medical Officers*).
- L. HELEN MORONEY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
*Temporary Assistant Medical Officer, and Assistant School Medical Officer*  
(from 1/11/44).
- W. LOUISA DEVLIN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.P.M.  
*Psychiatrist.*  
(*Part-time Assistant School Medical Officer from 6/3/44*).
- C. JOINSON LUYA, L.D.S.  
*School Dental Surgeon.*
- OLGA FERTIG, M.D. (Prague), L.D.S., (Prague).  
*Assistant School Dental Surgeon.*
- W. A. HENDERSON, L.D.S. (*joined Forces 30/9/41*).
- E. G. MASON, L.D.S. (*joined Forces 21/4/41*).  
*Assistant School Dental Surgeons.*
- Miss E. W. NICHOLLS, (*Certificate R.S.I.*).
- Mrs. B. CHAPPELLE (*Trained Nurse*).  
(To 30/9/44).  
*School Nurses.*

- 
- Mrs. A. PARKINSON, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. (*Cert.*) (*From 1/11/44*).  
*Superintendent School Nurse and Health Visitor.*
- Miss R. M. QUINTON (*Certificate R.S.I.*).
- Miss L. VANCE (S.R.N., S.C.M.).
- Miss B. JACKSON (S.R.N., S.C.M.).
- Miss E. A. TEGGINS (S.R.N., S.C.M.).
- Miss G. JOHNSON (S.R.N., S.C.M.).
- Miss A. J. EDGE (S.R.N., S.C.M.) (*From 1/3/44*).
- Miss H. DEAVALL (S.R.N., S.C.M.) (*From 1/10/44*).  
*Combined duties of School Nurse and Health Visitor.*

- 
- Miss M. OGLE (C.S.P.) (*Diploma Liverpool University in Massage, etc.*).  
(*Part-time only after 7/10/44*).
- Miss B. BARLEY (C.S.P.) (*From 1/4/44*).
- Miss V. C. HUNT (C.S.P.) (*Part-time to 31/3/44*).  
*Physiotherapists.*
- H. R. BICKERTON, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.  
(*Ophthalmic*).
- R. J. MARTIN, M.B., Ch.B., D.L.O.  
(*Ear, Nose and Throat*).
- T. HARTLEY MARTIN, M.B., Ch.B. (*To October, 1944*).
- HORACE DAVIES, M.B., Ch.M., F.R.C.S. (*From November, 1944*).  
(*Orthopaedic*).  
*Visiting Specialists.*
- G. E. HUGHES, Education Office (*Secondary Schools*).
- R. L. BASCOMBE, Education Office (*Elementary Schools*).  
*Clerical Assistants.*

Town Hall,  
Wallasey,  
31st July, 1945.

To the Chairman and Members of  
the Education Committee.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The work of the School Medical Service during 1944 is here outlined.

It includes, for the first time, a report of the work of a Child Guidance Clinic, made possible by the appointment of Dr. Devlin as Pyschiatrist.

Dr. E. Lewit left the Department in September, having been appointed to important work in the reconstruction of the Medical Services in his own country.

Further progress has been made in carrying out the recommendations of the Board (now Ministry) of Education. The opening of new Clinic premises in Liscard Crescent has assisted in this progress, but conditions can never be satisfactory until the School Medical Department is housed in much more suitable premises, in which can also be centralised the clerical and record work, which is such an essential part of the Service.

The appointment of a Superintendent Health Visitor and School Nurse has been of vital importance in assisting in this improvement, and the work of Mrs. Parkinson in this capacity has been of great value.

Generally speaking, the health of the school-children has been maintained, for which some credit must be given to the national policy in the supply of food substances for children.

The assistance of Inspector Powell, N.S.P.C.C., has been sought in a number of cases, but the existence of a number of what can be termed "Sub-normal Families" is a cause of serious concern. The usual "Welfare" provisions appear to have little influence in these cases, as they are quite indifferent to all educative efforts, and are content to exist in what can only be described as appalling conditions.

In the summer of 1944 Wallasey became a "Reception Area" on account of renewed enemy activity in the London area, and approximately 680 children of school age were received.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

RONALD B. BERRY,

School Medical Officer.



## **GENERAL.**

### **MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.**

The School Nurses have again this year carried out continuous examinations of the school children, and given the necessary attention to those whose condition was considered unsatisfactory. In this respect 217 visits were made to the schools in connection with Cleansing Surveys and 1,580 to the homes of the children.

The year has been one of much difficulty owing to the many changes in the personnel of the Medical Staff, the setting up of New Clinics, and the devising of new administrative arrangements.

To meet increasing demands on the services of Medical Officers, a part-time Assistant School Medical Officer was appointed. This made it possible, not only to maintain the normal routine medical inspections in the schools and largely dispense with substitute "Survey" inspections, but also to regain much of the ground lost in the previous year.

### **NUTRITION.**

Special attention was again directed to all cases of malnutrition or suspected malnutrition.

In this connection, recommendations in respect of free meals and/or milk totalled 256 cases. Of this number, 176 were recommended for free dinners, 8 for free milk, and 92 for both milk and dinners.

### **PROVISION OF MEALS AND SUPPLY OF MILK.**

The number of meals (dinners) supplied free of cost for the period 1st January to 31 December 1944, was 47,375. Similarly, for the corresponding period, 36,501 bottles of milk, containing one-third of a pint, were supplied free to children in the schools, excluding Elleray Park Special School.

### **EVACUATION.**

Evacuation during 1944 was again on a very small scale. 9 children were medically examined and sent to Reception Areas under the school registration scheme.

In the summer of this year, on account of renewed enemy activity in the London area, Wallasey became a "Reception Area."

Approximately 680 children of school age were received.

### **GENERAL REMARKS ON THE EFFECTS OF THE WAR ON THE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL WELFARE OF THE SCHOOLCHILDREN.**

The Medical Officers carrying out the School Inspections are agreed that generally the health and well-being of the children are well maintained, though one Medical Officer comments on a definite amount of anemia due largely, in her opinion, to dietetic errors.

A number of children have been noted who, though not definitely neurotic at present, are likely to become so either on account of neurosis in the parents or through general mismanagement. One Medical Officer would like to see the institution of "Make-up classes," routine in the U.S.A., in view of the many senior girls in the elementary schools with unkempt hair and uncared-for personal appearance. She also asks for more co-operation from the teaching staff with a view to making the children more "teeth conscious," thus helping to remove the stigma of the British peoples being considered amongst other nations as "the people with the worst teeth in the world."

# REPORT OF Mr. HORACE DAVIES, Orthopaedic Surgeon.

Number of clinics held at New Street and Ellera Park	...	...	...	22
New Cases	...	...	...	277
Re-examinations	...	...	...	358

A detailed analysis of these cases is set out below.

Clinic Liscard.

Date 1944 Annual Report.

	Disease Categories	New Cases				Re-examinations				Discharged				
		Age		School Age		Age		School Age		Cured	Relieved	Left District	Refused Treatment	Died
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.					
Congenital Deformities	Trunk ...								9					
	Upper Limb ...	2	2		2									
	Lower Limb ...	2		2	6	12		15	6	2	8			
Acquired Deformities	Flat Foot ...	2	8	40	34	6	3	42	18	35		3		
	Hallux Valgus ...			2	6				3					
	Postural Kyphosis and Scoliosis ...			44	38		3	45	37	28				
	Knock Knee ...	10	10		6	6	9		1	4	2			
	Bow Leg ...	2				3				1				
	Other Conditions ...	4	4	2	10	9	3	28	16	8				
Affections of Skeleton	Rickets ...			2	2	3	3			3	1			
	Other Conditions ...	2		2		1	2	9	3	1				
Affections of Nervous System	Spastic Paralysis ...	2				3	3		6		1			
	Infantile Paralysis ...				2				3	3				
	Peripheral Nerve Lesions ...	2			2				3	2				
	Other Conditions ...			2					3	6				
Affections of Bones	Osteomyelitis T.B. ...								4		1			
	Other Conditions ...			2		1			1					
Affections of Joints	T.B. ...							4	1	1	2			
	Non-T.B. ...				2				5					
Affections of Spine	T.B. ...							2	2	3	1			
	Non-T.B. ...								3					
Affections of Epiphyses								3						
Affections of soft tissues			2		2									
Complications of Trauma								3						
Cases referred to Clinic and found normal	12													

Total number of cases 632 Re-examinations 358  
New 274



Number of clinics held at the Oakenholt Road Clinic	...	...	...	8
New Cases	...	...	...	61
Re-examinations	...	...	...	178

A detailed analysis of these cases is set out below.

Clinic Moreton.

Date, 1944 Annual Report.

	Disease Categories	New Cases				Re-examinations				Discharged			
		Age		School Age		Age		School Age		Cured	Relieved	Left District	Refused Treatment
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.				
Congenital Deformities	Trunk ... ..			1									
	Upper Limb ... ..												
	Lower Limb ... ..	2				4	4	4	4	2			
Acquired Deformities	Flat Foot ... ..	3	2	7	6	8	5	38	24	14			
	Hallux Valgus ... ..				1								
	Postural Kyphosis and Scoliosis ... ..			9	7			16	18	12			
	Knock Knee ... ..	4				2	2	2	2	1			
	Bow Leg * ... ..	1				4							
	Other Conditions ... ..	1		1	1	2	2	8	5		1		
Affections of Skeleton	Rickets ... ..	1		2	1			1	3				
	Other Conditions ... ..			1		2	3		4				
Affections of Nervous System	Spastic Paralysis ... ..	1						2			1		
	Infantile Paralysis ... ..							1					
	Peripheral Nerve Lesions ... ..							3					
	Other Conditions ... ..	1											
Affections of Bones	Osteomyelitis ... ..							4			1		
	T.B. ... ..												
Affections of Joints	Other Conditions ... ..												
	T.B. ... ..												
Affections of Spine	Non-T.B. ... ..												
	T.B. ... ..												
Affections of Epiphyses	Non-T.B. ... ..												
	T.B. ... ..												
Affections of soft tissues	Non-T.B. ... ..												
	T.B. ... ..												
Complications of Trauma	Non-T.B. ... ..												
	T.B. ... ..												
Cases referred to Clinic and found normal	7												

Total number of cases 239 Re-examination 178  
New 61

### REPORT OF MR. HORACE DAVIES (Continued)

From a study of the classification of these cases it is obvious that most of the work is concerned with postural defects, in particular 'flat feet' and 'round shoulders.' These defects apparently appear in most children during school age, which is a significant point, as it stresses the value of regular medical inspection. As the majority of these cases are treated by remedial exercises of a relatively simple nature, it would appear that much benefit could be derived from the insertion or addition of these exercises into the ordinary school physical training curriculum. This opinion is endorsed by the loss of school lesson time which is incurred by these children receiving treatment out of school. It would also ease the strain upon the physio-therapists whose work continues to increase.

There would also appear to be a disturbing number of cases of Rickets, a totally preventable disease, for which a new actino-therapy apparatus has been installed at New Street.

### REMEDIAL SPEECH TRAINING CLASSES, 1944.

Owing the resignation of Miss B. C. Hopper, Speech Therapist, and the difficulty of finding a suitable successor, it became necessary to terminate these classes for the time being.

### ELLERAY PARK SPECIAL SCHOOL.

No. of children on the Register, January 1st, 1944—Boys, 32.  
Girls, 23. Total 55.

Removed from the Register during the year, 21. Admitted during the year, 40.

No. of children on the Register, December 31st, 1944. Boys, 47.  
Girls, 27. Total 74.

### MEDICAL RECORD CARDS.

No applications were received during 1944 from Medical Practitioners under the National Health Insurance (Juvenile Contributors and Young Persons) Act, 1937, for confidential information to be obtained from the School Medical Records.

Children medically examined for Employment Cards, 1944.

Delivering Newspapers 174

Delivering Milk .. 1

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Total 175

16 children were medically examined for Entertainment Licences.



### REPORT OF THE SENIOR SCHOOL DENTAL OFFICER.

There is little that can be added to what has been said in previous war-time reports, but the appointment of a Temporary Dental Officer, late in 1943, has made it possible to carry on once more the normal routine of inspection at the Schools, followed by treatment at the Clinics. It will be easier, as a result of this, to return to peace-time conditions when the two Dental Officers, now serving in the Forces, return to the Clinic.

It is interesting to notice the effect of war-time diet on the teeth of children born in 1938, 1939 and 1940, and who are now coming up for inspection. There is a very definite improvement in the teeth of these children. The inspection of similar age groups before the war was always a depressing experience—child after child passing the inspecting Dentist with a mouth full of carious teeth. This no longer happens—the proportion of perfect, or nearly perfect mouths has very largely increased.

The improvement is due probably to a combination of factors rather than to any particular one, but school meals of good quality, and balanced rations at home must have a good deal to do with it. The inability of parents to push sweet, sticky cakes, biscuits, chocolates and other odds and ends into a young child's mouth at all hours of the day, is also a very good thing. The temptation to do it can be easily understood by anyone who has had young children to look after, but if the immediate soothing effect is good, the end results on the teeth are disastrous.

It is to be hoped that this improvement in the baby teeth will continue, and help to do away with that plague of the children's dentist, too early extraction of baby teeth due to caries, with the resulting misplacement of permanent teeth years later.

It may here be remarked once again what an unsatisfactory tooth is the six year permanent molar in all children of all classes, and what a mistake it is to make efforts to preserve it when it decays at an early age. There must be few school dentists of experience who have not bitterly regretted the time spent on large, and not very satisfactory fillings, in this tooth, when they see children in later years with perfectly good bicuspid and canines crowded outside the arch by them; there is nothing more unpleasant than having to extract sound teeth to make space in such cases, when early removal of the 'sixes' would have made it unnecessary.

### REPORT ON PHYSICAL EDUCATION, 1944.

Miss E. A. Gee.

It cannot be denied that Physical Education has had many setbacks since the outbreak of hostilities and generally speaking the standard of work especially in the Junior Departments is not as high as those in charge of it would wish it to be. This is not due to lack of interest or lack of effort on the part of the teachers in the Borough for almost everywhere there is a real desire to teach the work well, but in the main it would seem due to the lack of continuity in the work caused by inadequate or no available indoor accommodation for the daily Physical Education lesson when

climatic conditions make outdoor lessons impracticable. The weather during 1944 was particularly bad and many schools had no Physical Activities for weeks on end in consequence, and while this difficulty remains it is impossible to get good, sound progressive work in the Junior Schools on the foundations of which the work in the future Secondary Schools must be based. In some Schools, halls will become available as blitz damage is repaired but in others the position has arisen because of lack of classroom space and the necessity of the hall being used as a classroom.

Games did not present a much happier picture, again due to limited playing field accommodation, but more schools did battle with the transport difficulties and consequently more of the older scholars enjoyed the privilege of games on a field. It can be justly stated that the Education Committee's fields at Leasowe Road and Withens Lane were used to capacity.

It was in Swimming that the greatest progress was made during the year, for after a lapse of two years due to war conditions, Swimming was once more resumed by all except Moreton Schools and both teachers and scholars shewed untiring effort and enthusiasm in their work and the Swimming seen by the Organiser of Physical Education was of a creditable standard.

An effort during the year was made to stimulate interest in Recreative Physical Training and for this purpose classes were organised for teachers and for members of Youth groups.

In summing up the year's work it would seem that devoted service has been given by those most concerned with the Physical Education of the children of Wallasey—the teachers—but through lack of facilities, apparatus and suitable footwear for outdoor as well as indoor work, most of these the result of war, the work cannot be said to have contributed what it should have done towards the production and maintenance of health in body and mind of the children of the Borough of Wallasey.

### **MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.**

During the year 28 cases were recommended by the Assistant School Medical Officer for Day or Residential Special Schools, and 9 cases were notified to the Local Mental Deficiency Authority under the Mental Deficiency (Notification of Children) Regulations, 1928

In March, 1944, a part-time Psychiatrist was appointed, and her report is given below.

### **CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC. PSYCHIATRIST'S REPORT.**

This report refers merely to the psychiatric work done at this Clinic during the period from March, 1944, until the end of December, 1944.

In addition to the cases scheduled here, many children when interviewed by the Educational Psychologist, are found to be dull or backward. These are, when possible, placed in special dull and backward classes, and this measure often results in such



marked improvement, that no psychiatric help is necessary. It should be noted in this connection, that such symptoms as truancy and stealing are in these children, usually due to the fact that in an ordinary class they cannot obtain normal satisfaction from their school work, which is much too difficult for them.

Mentally defective children are usually referred directly by the Educational Psychologist to the Certifying Officer, but, in certain selected cases, they are also given a psychiatric interview—for instance, when they show signs of marked instability or of severe anxiety, but, as a general rule, such children are not suitable for psychiatric treatment.

It should be remembered that psychiatric treatment is a slow and complex process, and though no average time limit can be given, many children need at least six months' treatment, and in severe cases a year or even two years is often necessary.

Children are referred mainly for such symptoms as stealing, truancy, enuresis, lying, night terrors, wandering, solitary tendencies and aggressive behaviour. The reason for referral gives in itself no clue to the cause of the child's trouble—stealing for instance may be due to such varied causes as mental defect, an anxiety state (often due to a bad relationship with one or other parent) or a psychopathic state (a serious personality disorder, in which the feeling of guilt after wrongdoing is much less than normal, and sometimes appears to be absent.)

#### **Examples of Cases.**

(a) A Secondary School Boy—aged 15 years—of superior intelligence—was referred for stealing. Investigation showed that this boy had a very bad background—his father died years ago, and his mother, though well-meaning, has a very inadequate personality, and was almost incapable of enforcing any discipline whatever. The boy himself was suffering from a psychopathic state, and showed scarcely any evidence of guilt feelings about his stealing. He has, however, responded very well to treatment, and it has been possible to secure the development of a much more marked feeling of guilt after wrong-doing. There has been no recurrence of stealing since treatment has begun, and we are hoping that this boy will continue to make good progress.

(b) A boy of 12 years of age was referred to the Special Clinic for stuttering. As he had various emotional problems as well, it was decided, after giving him a trial at the Speech Clinic, to transfer him to the Child Guidance Clinic. At that time he was so anxious, and so dependent on his mother, that it was difficult to induce him to attend the Clinic at all. He also has responded well, and has now much more self-confidence, coming to the Clinic quite cheerfully, and generally finding life less difficult. His speech defect, too, is much less marked, but, as he is now more co-operative, he will return to the Speech Clinic in order to complete his treatment there.

A keen interest is taken in the Clinic by the teaching Staff, Probation Officers, Education Officers, Health Visitors, etc., and we would like to thank them all very sincerely for their valued help and co-operation.

Thirty-three children have been seen by the Psychiatrist ; of these :—

8 were found unsuitable for treatment at this clinic (they were mental defectives, and also children whose home environments were so bad that removal from home was imperative.)

2 were found to be normal children, presenting no psychiatric problems, but the mothers were much in need of help. These were discharged to the Social Work Department, and are making good progress.

9 were treated, and discharged, with the following results :—

Adjusted .. ..	4	
Much Improved ..	1	
Improved ..	1	
No Improvement	3	(In these three cases the lack of improvement was largely due to the fact that the parents made little attempt to co-operate.)

1 refused treatment.

4 are awaiting treatment.

9 are at present having treatment.

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## WALLASEY EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

# MEDICAL INSPECTION, 1944.

## Elementary Schools.

TABLE I

RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.(A) ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups:

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1140
Intermediates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1027*
Leavers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	569
								Total
								... 2736

\*(An additional 42 given "Survey" inspection).

Number of other Routine Inspections ... .. —

**(B) OTHER INSPECTIONS.**

Number of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections ... .. \*1923

\* Does not include employment cases.

TABLE II.

(B) Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the year in the Routine Age Groups.

Number of Children Inspected	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly Subnormal)		D (Bad)	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
2736	175	6.4	1686	61.6	771	28.2	104	3.8

TABLE III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF CHILDREN  
DURING 1944.

**Group I.—TREATMENT OF MINOR AILMENTS.**

(Excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table V.)

Disease or Defect.	Number of Defects Treated.		
	Under Local Education Authority's Scheme	Otherwise	Total
<b>Skin—</b>			
Ringworm—Scalp ... ..	1 (*) (—)	(—)	1
Body ... ..	35	—	35
Scabies ... ..	79	—	79
Impetigo ... ..	238	—	238
Other Skin Diseases ... ..	162	—	162
<b>Minor Eye Defects</b> (External & other)	146	1	147
<b>Minor Ear Defects</b> (Otorrhoea) ...	143	2	145
<b>Miscellaneous</b> ... ..	1318	59	1377
Total ...	2122	62	2184

\* No X Ray cases as shewn in brackets.



**GROUP II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.**

(Excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).

Errors of Refraction (including squint)—

No. of Defects dealt with—						
Under the Authority's Scheme	...	...	...	...	...	296*
Otherwise	...	...	...	...	...	—
						296*
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I)—						
Under the Authority's Scheme	...	...	...	...	...	—
By Private Practitioner or at Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme	...	...	...	...	...	—
Otherwise	...	...	...	...	...	—
						296*

\* Includes 14 Secondary School cases.

No. of Children for whom spectacles were—

Prescribed—

Under the Authority's Scheme	...	...	...	...	...	228†
Otherwise	...	...	...	...	...	—

Obtained—

Under the Authority's Scheme	...	...	...	...	...	228†
Otherwise	...	...	...	...	...	—

† Includes 11 Secondary School cases.

**Group III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.**

Received Operative Treatment—

	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital ...	10	1	117	—
By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme ...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	10	1	117	—

Received other forms of Treatment	...	...	...	...	—
Total number treated	...	...	...	...	...128*

(i) Tonsils only. (ii) Adenoids only. (iii) Tonsils and Adenoids.  
(iv) Other defects of the Nose and Throat.

\* Includes 1 Secondary School Case.

TABLE IV.

## Group IV.—TREATMENT OF DENTAL DEFECTS.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN DEALT WITH DURING 1944.

Inspected by Dentist—

Routine Age Groups.	{						}	Total 3788
	Age 5 years	...	...	...	...	114		
	" 6 "	...	...	...	...	252		
	" 7 "	...	...	...	...	466		
	" 8 "	...	...	...	...	503		
	" 9 "	...	...	...	...	523		
	" 10 "	...	...	...	...	520		
	" 11 "	...	...	...	...	335		
	" 12 "	...	...	...	...	384		
	" 13 "	...	...	...	...	386		
	" 14 "	...	...	...	...	282		
	" 15 "	...	...	...	...	23		
	" 16 "	and over		...	...	—		
*Specials	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	986
Grand Total							...	4774
<hr/>								
Referred for Treatment	...	...	...	...	...	2632		
*Specials	...	...	...	...	...	986		
							—	3618
Actually Treated	...	...	...	...	...	2296		
*Specials	...	...	...	...	...	986		
							—	3282

\* Includes 264 cases from the Secondary Schools.



TABLE IV.—Continued.

**PARTICULARS OF TIME GIVEN AND OF OPERATIONS  
UNDERTAKEN.**

SCHOOL DENTIST'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1944.

Number of half-days devoted to Inspection	...	28	
Number of half-days devoted to Treatment...	...	925	
Total	...	953	
<hr/>			
Total number of attendances made by Children for treatment	... ..	5311	† (264)
Number of Permanent Teeth—			
Extracted	... ..	852	(89)
Filled	... ..	1216	(379)
Number of Temporary Teeth—			
Extracted	... ..	2616	(57)
Filled	... ..	48	(—)
Total number of Fillings	... ..	1264	(379)
Total number of Extractions	... ..	3468	(146)
*Number of administrations of general anaesthetics	...	1964	(74)
Number of Other Operations—			
Permanent	... ..	616	(108)
Temporary	... ..	—	(—)

\*Nitrous Oxide.

† Figures in brackets denote Secondary School Statistics included  
in first total.

TABLE V.

**UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.**

(1) Average number of Visits per School made during the year by the School Nurses	...	...	...	...	11.4
(2) Total number of Examinations of Children in the Schools by School Nurses	...	...	...	...	20,593
(3) Number of individual Children found unclean	...				908
(4) Number of Children cleansed under arrangements made by the Education Authority	...	...	...		—
(5) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken—					
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	...	...			—
(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	...	...			—

**MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.**

Total number of Children notified during the year ended 31st December, 1944, by the Local Education Authority to the Local Mental Deficiency Authority under the Mental Deficiency (Notification of Children) Regulations, 1928 - - - - - 9.



# MEDICAL INSPECTION, 1944.

## Secondary Schools.

TABLE I.

RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.(A) ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Age Groups.				Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Entrants	Under 12	...	...	116	184	300
Intermediates	{ 12	...	...	26	107	} 386*
	{ 13	...	...	19	126	
	{ 14	...	...	13	95	
Leavers	{ — 15	...	...	3	127	} 177
	{ Over 15	...	...	1	46	
Totals	...	...	...	178	685	863

\*(An additional 177 given "Survey" inspection).

Number of other Routine Inspections ... .. —

(B) OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections ... .. —

TABLE II.

(B) Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the year in the Routine Age Groups.

Number of Children Inspected	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly Subnormal)		D (Bad)	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
863	251	29.08	550	63.73	61	7.07	1	0.12