

[Report 1954] / School Medical Officer of Health, York City.

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York (England). City Council.

Publication/Creation

1954

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City of York Education Committee

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

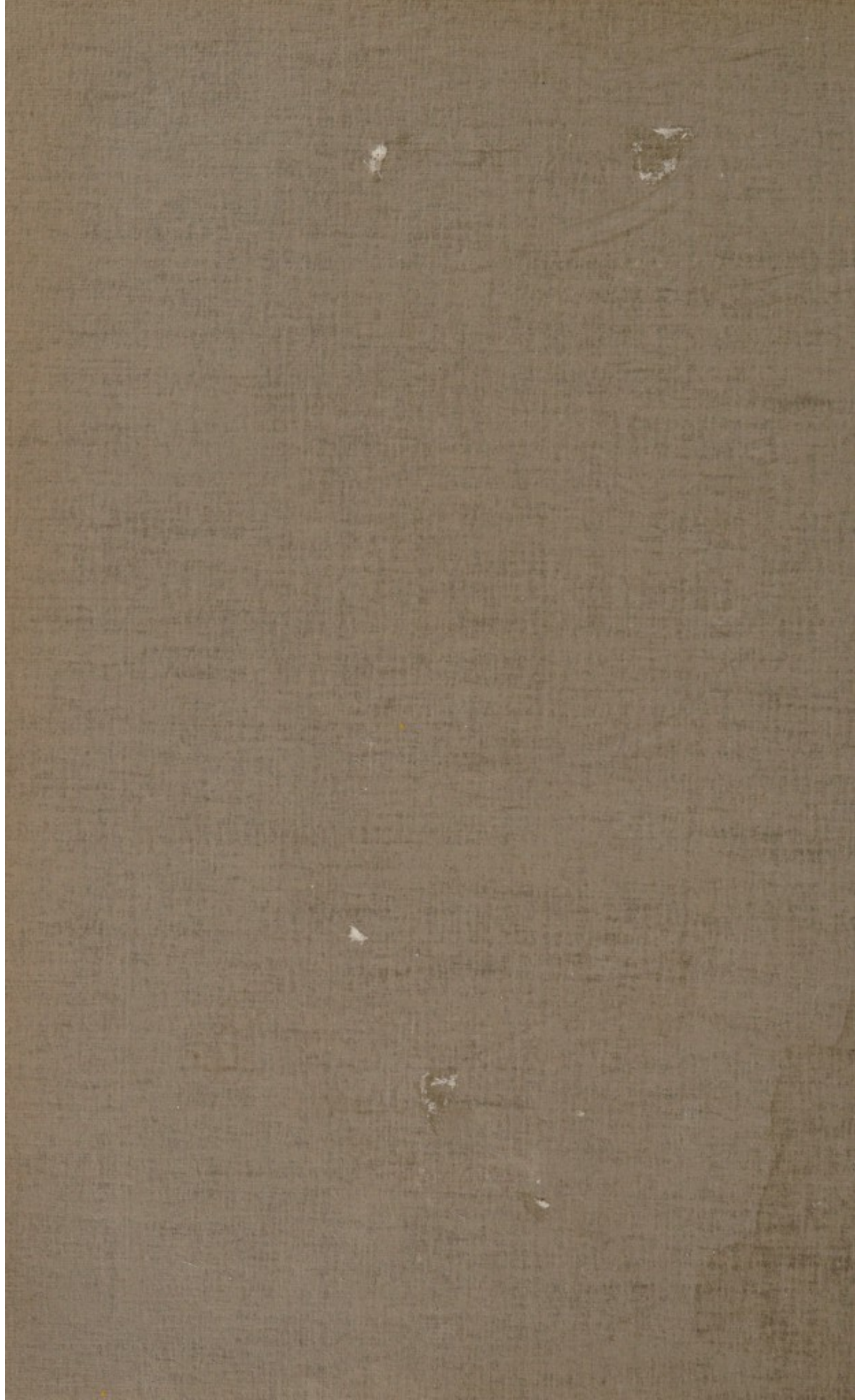
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

For the Year Ended 31st December, 1954

Councillor G. T. ROGERS,
Chairman

H. OLDMAN,
Chief Education Officer

School Clinic,
Rougier Street,
York





City of York Education Committee

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

For the Year Ended 31st December, 1954

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report on the Health of the School Child during 1954.

The high standard of health among our York schoolchildren was maintained, and there was no major epidemic during the year.

There were 3 deaths among children of school age, none of which were due to infectious disease or preventible causes such as road accidents. This, when compared with 61 deaths half a century ago in a considerably smaller population, and 25 deaths a quarter of a century ago is evidence of the dramatic improvement in the health of the school child during the past 50 years. The Infant Mortality Rate is commonly quoted as an index of the improved standard of the health of a community. The corresponding figures for deaths of children of school age however, show a relatively greater improvement. The fact that there were no deaths due to road accidents during the year is particularly pleasing. Members of the teaching profession are to be congratulated on a result which is largely due to road safety propaganda in our schools.

The incidence of accidents in the home, is higher than the incidence of road accidents, and as part of its Safety First Campaign the Health Committee organised a Home Safety Week during November. Schools co-operated by organising a display of children's home safety posters, and by arranging for parties of children to visit the central exhibition.

There was no major outbreak of infectious disease, and the incidence of poliomyelitis was negligible. No cases occurred amongst children of school age.

An epidemic of so called "4 day influenza" during late November and early December affected 30% of our schoolchildren. The type of illness was mild however, and the numbers affected in York schools considerably lower than in many other districts of Yorkshire and the North.

The fight against tuberculosis continued, plans for offering B.C.G. vaccination to the school leaving age group being approved by the Minister of Health. Representatives of the medical and nursing staff were sent for special training in B.C.G. vaccination during December. Notification of the Minister's arrangements for medical examination, including X-ray examination of the chest of entrants to the teaching profession was welcomed. The Education Committee extended this to include X-ray examination of the chest as part of the medical examination of all teachers taking up an appointment for the first time in the City, and for other Education Committee employees who come into direct contact with children in schools. The death rate from tuberculosis has fallen markedly during the last decade, but the notification rate has not fallen proportionally. The greatest need today is a concentrated search for unknown cases and a renewed effort to prevent the disease spreading. Tuberculosis could be controlled as diphtheria and smallpox have been controlled if equal effort were expanded to this end and public opinion sufficiently aroused.

The first steps toward an integrated Health Visiting/School Nursing service were taken during the year. A Superintendent Nursing Officer was appointed with responsibility for the Health Visiting, School Nursing and Home Nursing Services, and two Health Visitor/School Nurses who would undertake combined duties in the Acomb area.

The work of the School Dental Service has been maintained. The shortage of staff has not been so acute in York as it has been in some parts of the country. We were fortunate to have 3 full-time dentists in the dental service and a part-time officer for the Maternity and Child Welfare work.

The body of this report has been compiled by Dr. F. B. Shevlin, Senior School Medical Officer. To him, to the staff of the School Health and Dental Departments, the Chairman and members of the Education Committee, the Chief Education Officer and to all who have contributed to the work for the health of the school child, I tender my sincere thanks.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. B. CRANE,

Principal School Medical Officer.

THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Chairman :

Mr. Councillor G. T. Rogers, J.P.

Vice-Chairman and Chairman of Special and Social Services Sub-Committee :

Mr. Councillor A. L. Philipson.

Committee :

The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor
(Alderman Frank Wright, J.P.)

Mr. Alderman G. S. Bellerby.

Mr. Alderman R. Scruton, J.P.

Mr. Councillor W. Ward.

Mr. Councillor A. E. Hopper.

Mr. Councillor L. Daley.

Mr. Councillor E. T. Pugh.

Mr. Councillor R. Scobey.

Mr. Councillor J. W. Ward.

Mr. Councillor F. W. Fawcett.

Mr. Councillor S. Palphramand.

Miss Councillor L. M. A. Lacamp.

Mrs. Councillor M. M. Armitage.

Miss E. Netherwood, B.A.

The Rev. P. J. Lamb, M.A.

Mr. H. B. Marston, B.Sc., A.R.I.C.

Mr. J. E. Coleclough, M.A., LL.B.

Mrs. I. Faulkner.

Alderman The Rev. R. V. Bainton,
M.A.

Rev. Fr. P. McAniff.

Chief Education Officer :

H. Oldman, M.A.

Deputy Education Officer :

E. E. Sharpe, M.A.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

PRINCIPAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

for the

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1954.

STAFF OF THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE DURING 1954

Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer:

Miss C. B. Crane, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. (London).

Senior Assistant School Medical Officer:

F. B. Shevlin, M.B., Ch.B.

School Medical Officers:

J. S. Robertson, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Miss N. M. Durcan, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O. (resigned 30.9.54).

Miss I. D. M. Forster, M.B., Ch.B. (commenced 11.10.54).

Ophthalmic Consultant:

J. Magnus, M.D., F.R.C.S. (Ed.), D.O.M.S.

Orthopaedic Consultant:

H. L. Crockatt, M.B., Ch.B. (Surgical Superintendent, The Adela Shaw Orthopaedic Hospital, Kirbymoorside).

Principal School Dental Officer:

G. Turner, L.D.S.

School Dental Officers:

Mrs. M. B. Barnitt, L.D.S. (ceased part-time duty 2.2.54).

C. H. Thomas, B.D.S. (commenced 11.1.54).

J. K. Thornham, L.D.S. (commenced 29.11.54).

Superintendent Nursing Officer:

Miss M. Preston, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Certificate (commenced 27.9.54).

School Nursing Sisters:

Mrs. S. Dalton, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Miss E. Stoddart, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Miss M. Chetwynd, S.R.N.

Miss D. A. Nairn, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Certificate.

Mrs. L. Reynolds, S.R.N.

School Nursing Sister in charge of Orthopædics:

Miss B. M. Hall, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Orthopædic certificate).

School Nurse/Health Visitors:

Miss G. I. Callon, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Certificate (commenced 4.10.54).

Miss M. C. Kelly, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Certificate (commenced 4.10.54).

Dental Surgery Assistants:—

Miss R. E. Glew (Dental Nurses' Certificate).

Miss A. Pearson.

Speech Therapist:

Mrs. Z. Statman, L.C.S.T.

Organisers of Physical Education:

Miss O. M. Smith.

Mr. G. Rees.

Chief Clerk:

Miss D. J. Blaker.

General Clerks:

Miss M. Sowray.

Miss H. F. Milburn.

Miss C. M. Lonsdale.

Miss M. H. West.

Clerical Assistants:

Miss S. S. D. Starr.

Mrs. E. E. Hedinburgh.

STAFF OF CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC.

Psychiatrist:

Dr. Irene Turgel, M.D.

Psychologist:

Miss E. M. Johns, M.A., A.R.C.M., C.T.

Psychiatric Social Worker:

Miss M. Monkley.

Secretary:

Mrs. W. Howe (resigned 29.7.54).

Miss D. M. Snowball (commenced 27.9.54).

GENERAL

Co-operation with the Hospital Authorities.

Relations between the staff of the hospital services and of the School Health Service have been cordial. Dr. J. S. Robertson has occasionally assisted at the hospitals with casualty work at week-ends.

Dr. D. R. Cameron, the consultant cardiologist, will be undertaking some research into normal variations in the electrocardiogram of children, with the approval of the Education Committee and of the parents of children concerned, during 1955.

The number of reports received in respect of schoolchildren investigated or treated in hospital unfortunately showed a further decline. In 1954 the number received was 1357, little more than half the number received in 1948 when the Education Committee was financially responsible for hospital treatment.

Courses and Meetings Attended.

Sisters Stoddart and Nairn attended the Summer School organised by the Central Council for Health Education at Bangor, from the 17th to the 27th August. Dr. F. B. Shevlin attended a Refresher Course for Senior School Medical Officers at Birmingham, from the 8th to the 15th September, and the half-yearly meeting of the North Regional Association for the Deaf on 12th November at Manchester University. Professor Ewing demonstrated cases of pre-school children profoundly deaf yet learning to speak normally using a hearing aid and receiving tuition from their mothers as suggested by the Department of Education of the Deaf at the University. Dr. N. M. Durcan attended a Refresher Course for doctors who had recently joined the School Health Service, held at Wansfell Residential College, Essex, from the 22nd to 24th January. Dr. F. B. Shevlin attended a meeting in November of the York and District Advisory Council on Occupational Health and took part in a discussion on "The Adolescent in Industry".

Dr. F. B. Shevlin has attended, as a committee member, meetings of the following bodies:—

- (1) Supplementary Ophthalmic Services Sub-Committee.
- (2) Technical Advisory Panel on Ophthalmology to the Leeds Regional Hospital Board.
- (3) Council of the School Health Group of the Society of Medical Officers of Health.

Dr. F. B. Shevlin gave a talk at the November Meeting of the York and District Head Teachers' Association on matters relating to school health problems.

Camps for Handicapped Children.

Two children attended the Holiday Camp run for Diabetic Children at Barrow, Lancashire, from 21st August to 4th September.

Co-ordinating Committee.

In May, a Co-ordinating Committee of Officers of the Local Authority and Officers of other bodies dealing with neglected children was set up to deal with the difficulties arising in connection with problem families. The Committee has met at monthly intervals and has proved most useful. Case conference methods are used.

Influenza Epidemic.

York suffered in the "Four Day Influenza" epidemic which affected many areas during November and early December. In the week ending 20th November, 18% of the school population were affected: the following week the percentage rose to 30%, and receded the following week to 21.4%. The epidemic gradually abated thereafter. The infection was of a mild nature, children being absent for about a week.

Co-ordination of Nursing Services.

A Superintendent Nursing Officer was appointed at the end of September to supervise the Health Visiting, School Nursing and District Nursing Services. Two Health Visitor/School Nurses were also appointed for combined duties in the Acomb area. This joint service is to be based on the new Health Services Centre in Cornlands Road, and it is hoped to extend the joint appointments as vacancies occur.

Washing in Schools.

Following the investigation, a couple of years ago, into the washing facilities in the schools, improvements have been made in some of the older church schools by the provision of wash bowls and warm water. Now that proper washing facilities are available to so many of the children consideration is to be given by a small committee representing the Chief Education Officer, the Principal School Medical Officer, the City Architect, and the teachers to the most efficient way of providing soap and drying facilities.

Weighing Machines.

An enquiry was made into the accuracy of the machines used in schools for the weighing and measuring of children. It was found that the older weighing machines were only accurate to within two or three pounds, but the newer type within two ounces. Replacement of old machines by the newer type is being implemented gradually.

Child Guidance Clinic.

A scheme for the integration of all mental health services in the City under the Regional Hospital Board was not approved by the Education Committee in so far as it concerned the Child Guidance Clinic. At the end of the year it was decided that the services of a psychiatrist for six sessions a week should be provided by the Local Education Authority and not by the Regional Hospital Board.

Physical Education.

Following a period of suspension, owing to the need for economy, progressive provision is now being renewed of shoes and clothing for physical education in schools.

Welfare Work in respect of Handicapped Children.

The Education Committee agreed in November to allow children handicapped in any serious way to be reported, with the written consent of their parents, to the Chief Welfare Officer on leaving school. The Welfare Officer makes sure at the first visit that the handicapped person is benefiting from all services provided by statutory and voluntary bodies.

In some cases help has been given in securing invalid chairs and even in making alterations to doors and paths to assist the crippled person to get in and out of the house. Occasionally convalescent holidays have been arranged and handicraft classes are held regularly each week. Consultation takes place with the Ministry of Health and Pensions and there is close co-operation with the Youth Employment Officer, the Education Officer, and the School Medical Officer in efforts to help to the maximum these seriously disabled children.

Miscellaneous.

Dr. J. S. Robertson was approved under the School Health and Handicapped Pupils Regulations, 1953, for the ascertainment of educationally sub-normal pupils.

HEALTH EDUCATION

The most valuable contribution to the promotion of healthy living is made by the School Medical Officer and Nursing Sisters at the time of the school medical inspection. It is then that they have the opportunity of discussing with a parent any habit or routine way of life that may be interfering with the proper development of the child.

At the first school medical inspection a copy of the leaflet "Children's Shoes" is presented to each mother in the hope that many of the deformities of the feet which develop during school life may be prevented.

HYGIENE IN SCHOOLS

The maintenance and repair of school premises including redecoration has proceeded in accordance with the Authority's programme. Improved washing facilities were provided at St. Thomas' C. of E. School and additional washing and sanitary accommodation at Castlegate School. 1,000 new secondary places and 480 new primary school places have been opened during the year. A sum of £5,000 was allocated for the replacement of school furniture in all types of schools. In Clifton C. of E. School electric lighting was installed.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

The number of children on the registers continues to increase as the following figures, relating to the primary, secondary, and special schools, show :—

1946	1948	1950	1952	1954
13,812	15,255	15,779	16,253	17,060

In 1954 there were 399 children under the age of five years attending school. Admission of such children continues to be restricted in certain schools owing to lack of accommodation. The percentage of attendances in the case of pupils over five years was 91%, and in the case of pupils under five years, 85% during the year.

MEDICAL INSPECTION

Medical Inspection has been carried out on the same age groups as in previous years, viz. :—

- (a) Entrants to the Infant Departments (usually about five years).
- (b) Entrants to the Junior Departments (usually about 8 years).
- (c) Leavers from the Junior Departments (usually about 11 years).
- (d) Leavers from the Secondary Departments (usually about 14 years).

The number of defects discovered among the eight year old group justifies this extra inspection. Most children of this age have had the common infectious diseases, and it is important to look for untreated sequelae. Special inspections have also been made at the request of parent, teacher or school nursing sister of any children thought not to be in good health. Children with defects found at previous inspections have been re-inspected to see if the defects have been remedied.

During the year 7,015 children were inspected compared with 7,327 in the previous year. The number of special inspections was 6,476 and the number of re-inspections 3,472. In our opinion twenty is the maximum number of children who can be satisfactorily examined in a session of two hours.

GENERAL CONDITION

Although the percentages of children placed in the two satisfactory groups in relation to their general condition show variations due to the differing standards of the examining doctors, the percentage of children assessed as being of poor physique continues to show a decline as the following figures demonstrate :—

<i>Category.</i>				1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.
A	(Excellent)	...	...	46.7%	46.6%	27.2%	39.7%
B	(Satisfactory)	...	...	50.5%	50.6%	70.8%	58.7%
C	(Poor)	...	...	2.8%	2.8%	2.0%	1.6%

AVERAGE HEIGHTS AND WEIGHTS

Although the average heights of the children in the primary and secondary modern schools examined in the 5, 8, 10, 11 and 14 year old groups showed some slight gains and losses compared with the previous year, the average weights in each instance show a gain. In the case of the grammar schools, all the boys in the 13, 15 and 17 year old groups showed an increase in their average weights, whilst the 13 and 15 year old girls showed a decrease. During the year we received requests from (1) The Commonwealth Bureau of Animal Nutrition, Rowett Research Institute, Aberdeenshire, (2) The Education Department of the University, Birmingham, to provide statistics relating to the average heights and weights of York schoolchildren.

Because of loss of weight as shown by the annual weighing, 35 children were brought forward for investigation.

AVERAGE HEIGHTS AND WEIGHTS OF CHILDREN ATTENDING
PRIMARY AND SECONDARY MODERN SCHOOLS, 1954
NEW MACHINES

BOYS					GIRLS					
Age	Number Examined	Average Height		Average Weight		Number Examined	Average Height		Average Weight	
4	83	Ft. 3	Ins. 6.10	St. 2	Lbs. 13.35	68	Ft. 3	Ins. 5.03	St. 2	lbs. 11.61
5	163	3	7.13	3	1.04	155	3	6.51	2	13.00
6	24	3	9.07	3	5.31	18	3	8.65	3	3.17
7	17	3	10.59	3	6.71	14	3	10.59	3	6.61
8	271	4	2.36	4	2.72	219	4	1.90	4	2.12
9	22	4	4.21	4	7.85	22	4	3.39	4	5.75
10	133	4	5.81	4	13.77	108	4	6.00	5	0.73
11	117	4	7.58	5	4.87	113	4	7.38	5	5.02
12	6	4	9.00	5	9.66	2	4	6.50	5	1.25
13	6	4	11.13	6	3.92	22	5	1.15	7	2.81
14	170	5	2.55	7	8.57	138	5	1.93	7	10.65
15	52	5	3.95	7	13.56	29	5	1.97	8	0.83
16	8	5	6.47	9	11.38	—	—	—	—	—

AVERAGE HEIGHTS AND WEIGHTS OF CHILDREN ATTENDING
PRIMARY AND SECONDARY MODERN SCHOOLS, 1954
OLD MACHINES

BOYS					GIRLS					
Age	Number Examined	Average Height		Average Weight		Number Examined	Average Height		Average Weight	
		Ft.	ins.	St.	lbs.		Ft.	ins.	St.	lbs.
4	102	3	5.36	2	12.87	75	3	5.38	2	10.76
5	424	3	6.85	3	1.22	419	3	6.42	2	13.63
6	73	3	8.62	3	3.51	85	3	8.69	3	3.54
7	34	3	11.22	3	7.38	39	3	11.33	3	8.88
8	472	4	2.02	4	2.71	463	4	1.39	4	0.90
9	37	4	3.51	4	7.21	34	4	3.45	4	4.76
10	208	4	6.42	5	2.93	217	4	6.09	5	2.70
11	289	4	7.45	5	5.31	280	4	7.63	5	7.18
12	25	4	8.91	5	9.78	24	4	7.45	5	7.86
13	25	4	10.74	6	5.21	20	4	11.34	6	3.66
14	275	5	2.55	7	9.28	307	5	1.39	7	12.37
15	54	5	4.39	8	4.66	59	5	2.26	8	4.64
16	3	5	2.17	7	10.17	2	5	3.25	8	4.00

AVERAGE HEIGHTS AND WEIGHTS OF CHILDREN ATTENDING
PRIMARY AND SECONDARY MODERN SCHOOLS, 1954
BOTH OLD AND NEW MACHINES

BOYS						GIRLS					
Age	Number Examined	Average Height		Average Weight		Number Examined	Average Height		Average Weight		
4	185	Ft. 3	Ins. 5.69	St. 2	lbs. 13.09	143	Ft. 3	Ins. 5.22	St. 2	lbs. 11.18	
5	587	3	6.93	3	1.16	574	3	6.44	2	13.46	
6	97	3	8.88	3	3.96	103	3	8.68	3	3.47	
7	51	3	11.01	3	7.15	53	3	11.12	3	8.28	
8	743	4	2.14	4	2.71	682	4	1.55	4	1.29	
9	59	4	3.77	4	7.45	56	4	3.42	4	5.15	
10	341	4	6.18	5	1.70	325	4	6.05	5	2.04	
11	406	4	7.49	5	5.18	393	4	7.56	5	6.56	
12	31	4	8.93	5	9.76	26	4	7.37	5	7.35	
13	31	4	10.81	6	4.96	42	5	0.28	6	10.55	
14	445	5	2.55	7	9.01	445	5	1.55	7	11.83	
15	106	5	4.17	8	2.15	88	5	2.16	8	3.38	
16	11	5	5.30	9	3.41	2	5	3.25	8	4.00	

AVERAGE HEIGHTS AND WEIGHTS OF CHILDREN ATTENDING
GRAMMAR SCHOOLS, 1954
OLD MACHINES

BOYS						GIRLS					
Age	Number Examined	Average Height		Average Weight		Number Examined	Average Height		Average Weight		
		Ft.	Ins.	St.	lbs.		Ft.	Ins.	St.	lbs.	
10	2	4	8.75	6	1.25	—	—	—	—	—	
11	27	4	8.52	5	10.08	21	4	9.31	6	6.92	
12	6	4	11.37	6	6.79	32	4	11.26	6	9.60	
13	129	5	1.08	7	2.23	149	5	1.06	7	8.19	
14	14	5	2.89	8	1.50	38	5	3.24	8	6.37	
15	166	5	6.38	9	2.45	95	5	3.01	8	6.26	
16	20	5	6.25	9	1.40	53	5	3.68	8	7.14	
17	51	5	7.99	10	1.00	76	5	3.46	8	13.21	
18	1	5	9.25	9	2	7	5	4.25	8	6.89	
19	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	6.50	10	9	

HEIGHTS AND WEIGHTS

In view of the statement of the manufacturers of the scales used for weighing schoolchildren that the old scales are only accurate to within two or three pounds as opposed to two ounces with the new types, the average weights of the 5, 8, 10, 11 and 14 year old children weighed on the new scales are given in comparison with those for all the children of those ages weighed on the two types of scales.

Age in years	BOYS				GIRLS			
	Average weight with new scales		Average weight with both types of scales		Average weight with new scales		Average weight with both types of scales	
	St.	lbs.	St.	lbs.	St.	lbs.	St.	lbs.
5	3	1.04	3	1.16	2	13.00	2	13.46
8	4	2.72	4	2.71	4	2.12	4	1.29
10	4	13.77	5	1.70	5	0.73	5	2.04
11	5	4.87	5	5.18	5	5.02	5	6.56
14	7	8.57	7	9.01	7	10.65	7	11.83

These comparisons reveal some rather large differences for average weights and make the replacement of the older weighing machines, although adjusted twice a year, a matter of urgency.

At the end of the year nineteen departments were provided with the newer types of machines.

FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS IN ALL SCHOOLS

During the year 7,015 children have had periodic medical inspections. This includes 1,793 entrants to and 1,522 leavers from primary schools, 1,172 leavers from secondary schools, and 2,528 at other ages, the majority being eight year olds.

22.4% of children were found with defects requiring treatment excluding dental defects and infestation. Amongst the eight year olds the percentage was 19.9%.

VISION

The distant vision of each child is tested at medical inspections. Those who are too young to co-operate are tested the following year. The near vision is tested during the last year at the primary school when the child can read. During the year 5.8% of those examined were found to need ophthalmic treatment, whilst another 8.5% had already received such treatment. A further 1.8% were found with squints, bringing the total percentage of children needing ophthalmic care to 16.1% (14.0% last year).

SQUINTS

Of 130 children found with squints, 67 were entrants to the primary schools. All except 3 had already been referred to an ophthalmologist by the Infant Welfare Department or by their family doctor.

EXTERNAL EYE DISEASES

71 children were found with external eye diseases, 49 of whom needed treatment; 39 were suffering from mild blepharitis.

DEFECTIVE COLOUR VISION

There were 46 children found at school medical inspections to have defective colour vision when tested by the Ishihara Tests. These children were referred to the County Hospital to have further tests by means of a lantern. Of the 46 referred, 11 failed to attend; of the 35 who did attend, 22 were found to be unsafe as far as certain employments were concerned, whilst the remaining 13 could seek work as train drivers, navigators, etc. These figures demonstrate the unreliability of the Ishihara Tests alone to determine the choice of a career for a school child.

EAR DISEASE AND DEAFNESS

Of 557 children found with ear trouble, 29 with middle ear disease and 70 with deafness were requiring treatment. Of 269 requiring observation, 67 were for old middle ear disease and 138 for deafness. 228 children had wax in their ears.

TONSILS AND ADENOIDS

415 children were seen at school medical inspections with enlarged tonsils or adenoids or both. Only 75 of these were thought to need operative treatment, i.e., 1.06% of those inspected.

Reports have been received from hospital showing that 416 children had their tonsils and adenoids removed in the same period. At the end of the year there were 134 on the waiting list, and 16 children are sent for each week.

ENLARGED CERVICAL GLANDS

210 children were found to have enlarged neck glands, 3 needing specialist treatment.

ENURESIS

117 children were stated by their parents to be bed-wetters—72 boys and 45 girls. 12 of these were from senior departments. 2.5% of the entrants to primary schools were said to be enuretics. There is reason to believe that the real percentage is much higher.

SPEECH

7 of the 31 children found with speech defects requiring treatment were stammerers; the other 24 had defective articulation of varying types. 97 other children needed observation.

RHEUMATISM

No child was found at school medical inspections with rheumatism. Of 15 medical certificates received during the year for children absent with rheumatism, 3 had rheumatic fever. 4 reports were received from hospital relating to children suffering from rheumatism.

HEART DISEASE

8 children with heart murmurs were referred to hospital for further investigation. In 5 cases there was no organic disease. Of the other 3, 2 had uncomplicated pulmonary stenosis, 1 had congenital valvular stenosis (pulmonary). 2 other children with organic disease of the heart were seen but these were already under supervision.

DISEASES OF THE LUNGS

24 of the 371 children found with diseases of the lungs were requiring treatment—13 had bronchitis and 1 asthma. 52 children suffering from asthma were seen at school medical inspections; 3 had bronchiectasis. The majority had bronchial colds or slight catarrh.

ORTHOPAEDIC DEFECTS

1,075 children were found with orthopaedic defects, only 365 of whom needed treatment. The commonest deformities were postural defects (305), flat foot (228), knock-knee, mostly of a mild degree (120), valgus deformity of the ankle (101), hallux valgus (68), and deformed toes (59).

DEVELOPMENTAL DEFECTS

Of 499 children found with developmental defects, 134 had undescended testicles, 80 were obese, 35 had phimosis, 46 had defective colour vision, 8 naevi, and 94 herniae. 38 hernia cases and 41 other cases needed treatment.

PSYCHOLOGICAL DEFECTS

523 children (7.4%) of those examined showed signs of some slight psychological disturbance. 263 were nail biters, 117 were enuretic, 39 classed as nervous children (afraid of the dark, etc.) and 18 were thumb suckers.

TUBERCULOSIS

Following the receipt of Ministry of Health Circular 8/54 (Prevention of Tuberculosis), it was agreed that teachers appointed to the York service from some other Authority should have an X-ray examination of the chest before appointment. In addition, certain other employees such as school care-

takers, and full-time workers in the schools meals service who come into contact with schoolchildren, are to be similiary X-rayed as part of their medical examination on appointment. Teachers already in the employ of the Authority are encouraged to attend the Mass Radiography Unit each year.

In regard to the children themselves it is hoped to introduce the B.C.G. Vaccination of school leavers in the coming year. At present only children who are home contacts of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis are vaccinated if susceptible. During the year 30 schoolchildren received B.C.G. Vaccination by the Tuberculosis Officer.

There were four cases of tuberculosis amongst schoolchildren during the year. The parts of the body affected were :—

- Meninges—1 male.
- Lungs and Right Ankle—1 female.
- Left Hip Joint—1 female.
- Spine—1 male.

The attendance at the Mass Radiography Unit was 1,794 pupils and 190 teachers. Clinical examinations were made of 10 pupils and 3 teachers. Three pupils and one teacher were found with inactive tuberculosis of the chest, and 7 pupils and 2 teachers with other abnormalities of the chest.

In the 13 teachers who were X-rayed as part of their medical examination on appointment during the latter part of the year, no evidence of any active pulmonary disease was found.

SCABIES

Only 1 case of scabies has been seen at school medical inspections, but 12 children were treated at the cleansing centre.

SKIN DISEASES

589 children were found with skin diseases. The commonest conditions being epidermophytosis 99, warts 73, acne vulgaris 52, urticaria 49, eczema 45, ichthyosis 33, and verrucae 39. 4 cases of ringworm of body were discovered at school, and 11 cases of impetigo.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

42.35% of the children seen at school medical inspections showed vaccination marks and 71.9% were reported to be immunised against diphtheria.

The percentages in age groups were :—

		<i>Vaccination.</i>	<i>Immunisation.</i>
Entrants to Primary Schools	...	36.0%	65.5%
Eight year olds	... ..	49.5%	73.7%
Leavers from Primary Schools	...	43.5%	72.1%
Leavers from Secondary Schools	...	36.1%	66.7%
Pupils at Grammar Schools	...	48.3%	86.5%

PARENTS OR GUARDIANS PRESENT AT SCHOOL MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

63.5% of parents or guardians attended the school medical inspection of their children during the year.

The percentages in age groups were :—

Entrants to Primary Schools	...	...	89.4%
Eight year olds	...	...	84.3%
Leavers from Primary Schools	...	...	73.9%
Leavers from Secondary Schools	...	...	20.3%
Pupils at Grammar Schools	...	...	19.2%

ST. PAUL'S NURSERY SCHOOL

There are 40 places for children age 2-5 for which there is a good demand. Dinner is provided at school, and vitamin supplements. The children have a mid-day rest on their beds. A school medical officer and a school nursing sister visit frequently and a school medical inspection takes place every term. This is the only Nursery School in the City but there is a nursery class in one of the Infant Schools.

AUDIOMETRIC TESTING

Tests by means of a Western Electric Group Audiometer were carried out by Dr. Robertson on 415 children in the 11 year age group in three secondary modern and two secondary grammar schools. Those who failed in the first test were retested. Those who failed in the second test were clinically examined to discover the cause of their deafness. Where no apparent cause could be found and the loss of hearing exceeded 15%, the children were referred to hospital to see an ear specialist. Of the 48 (11%) found to be deaf after a second test, the causes were as follows :—

- 16 Otitis Media
- 11 Eustachian Catarrh
- 9 Wax
- 1 External Otitis
- 1 Hydrocephalus
- 1 Injury to Middle Ear
- 7 No discoverable cause
- 2 Later found to be normal

These figures show that about 7% of schoolchildren suffer from some degree of deafness in one or both ears due to ear disease.

The following table shows the result of the testing in the different types of schools :—

CLASSES	TESTED			RETESTED			DEAF					
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	%	Girls	%	Total	%
Sec. Mod. A. & B. Streams ...	102	94	196	29	32	61	5	4.9	10	10.6	15	7.7
Sec. Mod. C. & D. Streams ...	55	41	96	19	17	36	10	8.2	6	14.6	16	16.7
Total Sec. Mod.	157	135	292	48	49	97	15	9.6	16	11.9	31	10.6
Grammar Schools ...	—	123	123	—	35	35	—	—	17	13.8	17	13.8
TOTAL ...	157	258	415	48	84	132	15	9.6	33	12.8	48	11.6

UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS

Small but definite progress is apparent in the fight to eliminate verminous conditions amongst children in school. During the year 376 children were found to be infested with vermin. One nit is sufficient to have a child classified as verminous for statistical purposes. This number (376) is slightly smaller than last year and when it is remembered that the school population is still increasing it becomes obvious that the incidence of infestation is decreasing. In 1954 the percentage of children found to be verminous in schools was 2.2% compared with 2.6% the previous year. Some children are found to be verminous at each head inspection carried out by the school nursing sisters. This fact is shown by the following figures :—

			<i>Girls.</i>	<i>Boys.</i>
Found to be verminous once	...	...	166	38
" " " two or three times			116	19
" " " four or five times			18	3
" " " six or seven times			13	2
" " " eight or nine times			1	—

Children from careless families when found to be infested are referred to the cleansing centre. The sister in charge visits the home and encourages all the infested members of the household to attend at the same time for cleansing. During the year 41 families attended the centre, but only in 9 cases did the mother attend with all the children of the family; in 20 cases all the children attended but no parent; in 12 cases only some of the children attended, again with no parent. A free issue of D.D.T. emulsion is made to any parent who will attend the central clinic to collect it. Despite all these inducements and offers of help there are some unco-operative parents who constitute a hard core of resistance to all efforts to eliminate this unnecessary

problem. Another way in which the improvement in this matter can be demonstrated is the fact that in two departments not a single child was found to be verminous at any time throughout the year. In nine other departments no case of verminous infestation was discovered during two of the three terms, whilst in twelve departments there was one term in the year when no case was found.

THE OPEN AIR SCHOOL

I am indebted to Dr. I. D. M. Forster, School Medical Officer, who is responsible for the medical care of the children at the school, for the following report :—

The Open Air School accommodates about 100 children who because of general debility, specific infection or some physical handicap would not, at this stage, be able to benefit from a normal school curriculum.

The medical and nursing facilities for the pupils are the same as in previous years but special mention should be made of the twice weekly sessions of ultra violet light and the breathing exercises, available not only for asthmatics but for those who suffer from chronic respiratory infections—the latter two measures have cut down the number of asthmatic attacks and the absences due to coryza in the winter.

This year new stoves have been fitted in all the classrooms. This has the double advantage of keeping the pupils warm and allowing them to have fresh air during study both in winter and summer.

As I have been Medical Officer to the school for only one term, my impressions of the good work of the school are based, not only on my own observations, but on those of the parents and teachers.

The results obtained may be classified under two headings— medical and psychological.

Medical. (1) The appetites of the children improve and the heights and weights as shown by monthly recordings go up not in a gradual curve but in a steep one.

(2) Resistance to infection is increased—this fact was demonstrated during the recent influenza epidemic. At the Open Air School absenteeism remained at its usual level, unlike the other "ordinary schools" where one third of the pupils were absent.

Psychological. The general tone of the child is increased. This also reflects the atmosphere and aim of the school—not only to restore its physical health but to develop the child's potentiality. Children who have lost valuable

educational time and upon whom the teacher of a normal school class would not have time to concentrate, make rapid advances in the small class non-competitive system. Physically handicapped children join in both educational and sporting activities and far from being reticent, insist on being included. The most striking thing, however, is the children's changed attitude to life—instead of being highly strung, timid or moody, they learn to express themselves and develop a personality of their own. Thus when they leave, either to go back to an ordinary school or to take up employment, they are on an equal footing with children of their own age.

In the year 1954 the following were the numbers at the school :—

January—92; December—99

The number of leavers was 35, and the number of admissions was 52.

Reasons for admission :

Bronchiectasis 7, asthma 10, chronic respiratory infections 12, heart disease 4, tuberculous joints and glands 3, tuberculosis contacts 2, spastics 2, poliomyelitis 6, Perthe's disease 1, epilepsy 4, hydrocephalus 1, progressive muscular dystrophy 1, general debility 44, primary tuberculosis 2.

CLASS FOR THE PARTIALLY-SIGHTED

There were ten children in this class, which is accommodated in the Open Air School, during the year.

Only three of them were cases of high myopia. The others had the following diseases :—

Nystagmus	...	...	...	...	...	4
Heredo-macular degeneration	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bilateral optic atrophy	...	...	...	...	...	1
Haemorrhage from persistent hyaloid artery	...	...	...	...	...	1

The last case had ultimately to be certified as blind and admitted to the School for the Blind.

FULFORD ROAD SPECIAL SCHOOL (E.S.N.)

The number of children at this school at the end of the year was 97 (51 boys and 46 girls), including 12 North Riding and 2 West Riding children. 8 boys and 10 girls were admitted during the year and 12 boys and 5 girls discharged.

The number of notifications to the Local Authority during 1954 totalled 24, of which 8 were under Sub-section 3, para. 57, of the Education Act, 1944, and 16 under Sub-section 5.

HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

December, 1954.

Blind. 2 girls and 1 boy were in residential schools because of blindness.

Partially-sighted. There was 1 girl in a residential school, but 7 boys (including 1 West Riding) and 2 girls in the Day Class for the partially-sighted.

Deaf. There were 5 boys and 4 girls in residential schools and none waiting admission.

Partially deaf. There were no children in residential schools and none waiting for admission, but 6 boys and 6 girls attend York day schools and use hearing aids.

Delicate. There were 51 boys and 48 girls, including 5 children from the North Riding and 1 child from the East Riding, at the Day Open Air School at the end of the year. There were no children waiting for admission.

Diabetics. 3 girls and 2 boys with diabetes attend ordinary schools. There were no children with this complaint at residential schools.

Educationally Subnormal. 51 boys and 46 girls, including 12 from the North Riding and 2 from the West Riding, were in attendance at the Day Special School (E.S.N.) at the end of the year. In addition 5 boys and 2 girls were in residential schools. There were no children awaiting admission to residential schools, but 8 were waiting for admission to the Day Special School (E.S.N.).

Epileptics. 20 girls and 23 boys with epilepsy attended day schools in York. 6 were at the Open Air School; 3 at the E.S.N. School; the remainder at ordinary schools.

Maladjusted. There was 1 boy in a residential school for maladjusted children. There were no children waiting for admission.

Physically handicapped. There were 3 boys and 1 girl in residential schools in December and none awaiting admission.

Defective speech. 140 children attended the York Speech Therapy Clinic during the year. There are no children at residential schools and none awaiting admission.

DEAF AND PARTIALLY DEAF

An investigation on behalf of the Infant Welfare Department to find out the incidence of children who were probably very deaf before reaching the age of one year showed that between the years 1939 and 1951 there were 16 such children; 9 of these now attended Schools for the Deaf; 4 attended ordinary schools but wore hearing aids and received tuition in lip-reading; 2 had been notified to the Local Authority as ineducable; 1 was awaiting admission to a nursery school for the deaf. To discover such children before the age of 1 year the Health Visitors would need to be specially trained along the lines taught by the Department for the Education of the Deaf at Manchester University. It would be necessary to test about 1,300 to 1,500 infants to discover one requiring the special educational treatment in order that it might be brought up using a hearing aid to be an ordinary speaking child by the time it had to go to school at 5 years.

There were 12 partially deaf children attending ordinary schools and using a hearing aid.

Seven children were receiving or had received tuition in lip-reading throughout the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the monthly incidence of infectious diseases during 1954, with comparative totals for the previous five years.

Month	Diph- theria	Scarlet Fever	German Measles	Measles	Chicken- pox	Whoop- ing Cough	Mumps
January ...	—	11	—	—	34	4	12
February ...	—	10	1	—	30	3	20
March ...	—	26	1	—	74	6	28
April ...	—	9	—	1	42	6	10
May ...	—	11	2	—	17	6	18
June ...	—	5	—	1	25	1	21
July ...	—	9	1	1	11	—	17
August ...	—	2	—	1	—	1	—
September ...	—	13	—	—	5	—	11
October ...	—	6	—	14	14	4	9
November ...	—	11	—	56	12	6	5
December ...	—	—	—	35	11	1	3
Total, 1954	—	113	5	109	275	38	154
„ 1953	—	202	213	181	94	107	15
„ 1952	—	199	84	1,111	197	182	287
„ 1951	—	179	1	801	132	467	41
„ 1950	—	215	6	1,485	111	238	33
„ 1949	3	177	4	1,154	106	386	2

Last year was the fifth year during which there were no cases of diphtheria in the City. Whooping Cough showed the lowest incidence yet. This fact may be attributable to the introduction of immunisation against this disease over the last few years.

(With the exception of influenza, referred to elsewhere in the report, the other infectious diseases did not reach epidemic proportions.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

I am indebted to Miss O. M. Smith and Mr. G. Rees, Organisers of Physical Education, for the following reports :—

Report on Remedial Classes for Infants and Girls.

The remedial work at the School Clinic continues to make steady progress. This year the attendance figures have reached the best average so far, and thanks are expressed to parents and teachers whose co-operation ensures this regular attendance. It means so much towards effecting a cure in the shortest

possible time. From a total of 41 children who received posture treatment, 29 were discharged, and from 68 who had treatment for flat feet, 54 were discharged. Fewer parents refused treatment for their children, 10 left before treatment could be completed, and three went to their own doctors for treatment.

Term	Total Attending	Flat Foot Classes	Dis-charged	Posture Classes	Dis-charged	Left before treatment completed	Attendance %
Spring	55	34	25	21	6	6	85
Summer	48	27	14	21	8	2	82
Autumn	56	29	15	27	15	2	81

Report on Remedial Classes for Boys.

Classes in Remedial Exercises for boys suffering from flat feet or posture have been held throughout the school year in the Gymnasium at the St. George's R.C. Secondary Modern School.

Many parents availed themselves of the opportunity to gain a sound knowledge of the purpose of the specially selected physical movements by being interested spectators at these weekly sessions. This has permitted the parents to further the children's efforts at home with regular daily periods of exercise. Much credit for some of the speedier results has been due to the parents, whilst in others, the boys themselves are to be complimented on their personal enthusiastic efforts.

Throughout the year the attendance has been good, showing an average of approximately 85%.

There are two separate remedial classes, one for the boys with flat feet and the other for boys with poor posture. In the posture group, out of a total of 37, 16 were treated with success and were subsequently discharged by the Senior Assistant School Medical Officer, whilst three boys left school at the end of the Autumn Term and one left the district. Out of a total of 44 boys who attended for flat foot exercises 20 were discharged, whilst three left school before treatment was completed.

SCHOOL CAMPS

The following camps were held during the year.

(1) York Children's Holiday Camp at Staithes. 24 boys and 24 girls from poor homes and nominated by headteachers spent a most enjoyable week's holiday at the Holiday Fellowship Camp. The Education Committee made a grant of £48 under Section 53 of the Education Act, 1944. The children

were under the care of Mr. C. S. Baxter and other teachers who devoted part of their summer holidays in promoting the interests of these necessitous children.

(2) Haxby Road School Camp at Robin Hood's Bay. 37 girls attended the camp during the first week and 35 boys the second week. Eleven members of the staff gave their services during the fortnight. The cooking was done by the Fishergate Old Boys and in the absence of rationing, a high standard was reached.

(3) York Family Service Unit organised a camp for the benefit of the children of the families that they were assisting. Particulars of this camp will be found elsewhere in the report.

PROVISION OF MEALS

The percentage of York schoolchildren having their midday meal at school during December, 1954, was 32.8% compared with 32% the previous year. The percentage of meals provided free to necessitous children during the course of the year was 16.2%. 4.5% of the meals served at Grammar Schools are provided free. During school holidays only 24.7% of the children entitled to free meals attend for them.

The following tables show the demand for meals in the different type of school throughout the year, and the number of free meals provided:

SCHOOL MEALS

Average number supplied daily to children

1954	All Schools (except Grammar)		Grammar Schools.		Total.
	Paid.	Free.	Paid.	Free.	
January ...	3,461	603	641	26	4,731
February ...	3,541	616	718	31	4,906
March ...	3,532	634	741	34	4,941
April ...	3,476	641	756	34	4,907
May ...	3,414	589	674	32	4,709
June ...	3,431	600	607	32	4,670
July ...	3,286	586	572	30	4,474
September ...	3,615	626	851	36	5,128
October ...	3,737	618	817	36	5,208
November ...	3,480	587	718	33	4,818
December ...	3,534	586	756	32	4,908

Number of meals supplied on payment in 1954 ... 834,129

Number of meals supplied free in 1954 ... 134,961

MEALS SUPPLIED DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Holiday Periods, 1954	Percentage of Usual Demand.		Number of dinners served.	
	Paid.	Free.	Paid.	Free.
Easter	1.0	25.3	407	1,710
Whitsuntide ...	.8	21.0	123	532
Summer ... ..	.6	24.8	699	4,424
October ... ..	.8	27.4	180	899
Christmas ... ..	.4	25.1	169	1,393

Percentage of children in attendance taking School Meals during December, 1954 :—

(a) At all schools —32.8%

(b) At all schools (excluding Grammar) —31.3%

PROVISION OF MILK

Percentage of children, in attendance, at all schools taking a bottle of milk in school daily at the end of 1954 83.09%

Percentage of children, in attendance, at all schools (excluding Grammar schools) 90.75%

MILK CONSUMPTION

Average number of bottles of milk supplied free daily

1954	Primary Schools	Secondary Modern Schools	Grammar Schools	Further Education	Totals
January	9,620	2,383	835	88	12,926
February	9,536	2,241	771	75	12,623
March	9,649	2,360	728	60	12,797
April ...	9,726	2,415	731	60	12,932
May ...	9,742	2,144	795	66	12,747
June ...	9,934	2,145	774	65	12,918
July ...	9,846	2,151	653	67	12,717
August	502	—	—	64	566
September	9,995	2,850	1,000	94	13,939
October	9,942	2,839	986	97	13,864
November	9,476	2,799	982	98	13,355
December	9,143	2,662	894	99	12,798

PROVISION OF CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR

Clothing and footwear are provided for schoolchildren under Section 5 of the Education (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1948.

	1954	1953
No. of children reported by Head Teachers and others as suffering educationally by lack of suitable clothing	267	313
No. of families involved	149	180

Of these 149 families, 1 was found to have an income above scale and 2 children concerned were supplied with clothing and footwear on promise to refund the cost to the Authority.

<i>Items</i>	<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>
Footwear	149 pairs	125 pairs
Overcoats	13	22
Jackets	45	—
Trousers	57 pairs	—
Underclothing	16 articles	14
Dresses, tunics, blouses, etc.	—	83
	<hr/> 280 <hr/>	<hr/> 244 <hr/>

The gross cost of this provision totalled approximately £746 (£805 in 1953); an average expenditure of £2 15s. 11d. per child (£2 11s. 4d. in 1953).

ARRANGEMENTS FOR TREATMENT

The School Health Service under the Education Act provides medical treatment for all schoolchildren in maintained or voluntary aided schools, except in those cases where domiciliary or hospital treatment is required. The Authority works in close co-operation with the family doctor and with the hospital.

The School Clinic is open from 9—6 p.m., Monday and Tuesday; 9—5-30 p.m., Wednesday to Friday; 9—12 noon, Saturday; except on Bank Holidays.

In addition to the treatment of minor ailments, the following defects are dealt with at special clinics :—

Defective vision and squint; ear, nose and throat diseases; orthopaedic defects; skin diseases, including ringworm of the scalp; emotional, education and character abnormalities (Child Guidance Clinic); dental troubles, including orthodontic defects; verminous conditions; foot defects needing chiropody; and speech defects.

HOSPITAL TREATMENT

There has been no change in the arrangements for the hospital treatment of schoolchildren during 1954.

The following table gives particulars relating to those children seen at hospital, in respect of whom reports have been received by the School Health Department during 1954:—

	Total No. of cases	No. of out- patients	No. of in- patients
SKIN DISEASES.			
Ringworm of scalp	2	2	—
Ringworm of body	—	—	—
Warts	7	7	—
Other diseases	16	14	2
TOTAL ...	25	23	2
EAR, NOSE AND THROAT DISEASES.			
Tonsils and Adenoids	459	383	416
Ear conditions	62	58	5
Nasal conditions	31	28	3
Other conditions	15	13	3
TOTAL ...	567	482	427
MEDICAL CONDITIONS.			
Asthma	8	6	2
Cardiac Disease	30	30	—
Chest complaints	72	64	10
Epilepsy	8	7	1
Rheumatism	4	1	3
T. B. cases	1	—	1
Other conditions	129	81	54
TOTAL ...	252	189	71

		Total No. of cases.	No. of out- patients.	No. of in- patients.
SURGICAL CONDITIONS.				
Injuries (casualties, etc.)	... ..	30	11	19
Orthopædic conditions	... ..	82	55	29
Glands	... ..	4	4	—
Cysts	... ..	1	1	—
Herniæ	... ..	49	34	23
Undescended testicles	... ..	28	22	10
Septic conditions	... ..	6	1	5
Other conditions	... ..	44	14	32
TOTAL	...	244	142	118
EYE CONDITIONS.				
Eye Diseases	... ..	15	13	2
Refractions...	... ..	218	218	—
Squints	... ..	36	30	8
TOTAL	...	269	261	10
TOTALS, 1954	...	1,357	1,097	628
TOTALS, 1952	...	1,983	1,659	500
TOTALS, 1950	...	847	609	238
TOTALS, 1948	...	2,576	1,960	616

HEART SURGERY

York schoolchildren in need of heart operations are admitted to Leeds Hospitals. During the year reports have been received of the following operations performed :—

Dilatation of pulmonary Stenosis ...	...	...	1
Patent Ductus Arteriosus ...	...	...	2
Pulmonary Valvotomy ...	...	...	1

BRAIN SURGERY

Similarly York schoolchildren are admitted to Leeds Hospitals for operation on the brain. Particulars concerning 5 such children have been received

- 1 was operated on for cerebral abscess.
- 3 for cerebral tumour.
- 1 for head injuries.

MINOR AILMENT CLINICS

It has been found from experience that teachers are reluctant to send children, especially young children, out of school to minor ailment clinics unless the ailment is of an urgent character. Since the policy of treating minor ailments in those schools which have special suites of medical rooms was adopted, more children are being treated and they are being seen when the ailment is really minor, i.e., before it becomes serious to the child himself, or possibly to other children. The School Nursing Sisters are competent to treat most minor ailments successfully, but when they do encounter some condition about which they would like a doctor's opinion, then the child is asked to attend the central clinic, preferably with a parent, to see the School Medical Officer. This policy of treating children in schools finds favour both with mothers who can ill afford the time to wait in the doctor's surgeries, and with teachers who are relieved of the anxiety of sending children along busy streets to a central clinic. Furthermore it prevents waste of educational time of the child. It has also been found that these medical rooms if only used on rare occasions, such as for school medical inspections, tend to be brought into regular use for educational purposes, and after a time are no longer regarded as primarily for the use of the school health service.

A total of 2,515 complaints or diseases were attended to at the Central Clinic during the year. They were composed of the following :—

Ringworm of the Body 8, Scabies 6, Impetigo 102, Warts 195, Other Skin Diseases 254, Minor Eye Defects 156, Minor Ear Defects 379, Miscellaneous 1,415. The miscellaneous group comprised sprains, cuts, abrasions, septic conditions, sore throats, chills, etc.

The number of children attending the Central Clinic decreases each year as more minor ailment clinics are opened in the newly built schools. The School Nursing Sisters attend each of these minor ailment clinics in the schools twice a week. The following figures demonstrate this fact :—

Year	No. of Attendances at the Central Clinic	No. of Attendances at Minor Ailment Clinics in the Schools	Total Attendances
1948	12,897	1,079	13,976
1949	8,897	3,414	12,311
1950	8,288	4,276	12,564
1951	7,997	4,520	1,2517
1952	9,408	6,994	16,402
1953	8,378	6,237	14,615
1954	7,432	8,404	15,836

DETAILS OF THE VARIOUS MINOR AILMENT CLINICS

The following table shows the number of children attending minor ailment clinics throughout the City. The Central Clinic has a doctor in attendance.

	Number of Sessions held	Average Attendance per Session	Number of Children Attending Clinic	Number of Attendances
Central Clinic ...	300	24.8	2,179	7,432
Open Air School ...	76	13.3	105	1,008
Fulford Special School	76	10.0	71	762
Derwent Junior School	73	12.6	153	924
Burnholme Secondary Modern School	70	11.2	204	786
St. George's School ...	76	17.5	184	1,328
Carr Infants' School	76	15.0	148	1,145
Carr Junior School ...	72	13.3	118	958
Beckfield Secondary Modern School	70	7.1	93	502
Westfield Infants' School	75	9.6	96	723
Hob Moor Infants' School	13	10.9	26	135
Acomb Secondary Modern School	14	9.5	34	133
Total Attendances				15836

OPHTHALMIC CLINIC

The Senior Assistant School Medical Officer, who is a recognised ophthalmic medical practitioner, conducts this clinic by arrangement with the Regional Hospital Board.

During the year 1,306 children attended, making 2,670 attendances. A post-mydriatic test is made on each child refracted. 950 children were refracted. 695 children had spectacles ordered for them, 475 only needing a change of lenses. No spectacles were necessary for 126 children. 23 children did not need to continue wearing spectacles, 56 children with squints were referred to the Orthoptic Clinic. When a child has an obvious squint it is now referred to the hospital for refraction as well as for orthoptic treatment.

During 1954, 664 children obtained spectacles ordered through the School Clinic. 21 children examined required a reserve pair of glasses because of the serious nature of their visual defect. These were obtained after reference to hospital. 8 children were referred to the Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon for a second opinion.

After refraction at the School Clinic the parents are given the option of obtaining the child's glasses from any optician in York. Children who break their glasses (581 in 1954) are sent to the School Clinic for a repair form. They are tested with their old lenses, and unless their vision is satisfactory, are referred for refraction again. The sister in charge of the Eye Clinic is available most afternoons after school to deal with such breakages.

In 1954, 254 schoolchildren were refracted at hospital. There are many advantages in keeping the supervision and treatment of visual defects amongst schoolchildren centred at the School Clinic. It would be a further advantage if opticians attended such centres to measure children for their glasses and then later for the School Oculist to distribute the glasses after checking them.

The general practitioner is informed when a child on his list is sent to hospital for an ophthalmic investigation.

EAR DISEASES

During the year 379 children have attended the minor ailment clinic, 176 of them having been referred from school medical inspections. 73 of these had discharges from one or both ears; 39 were deaf, 48 had earache, 175 needed syringing for wax, 5 had furunculosis, 20 had catarrhal deafness, and the remainder various complaints. Of the 73 with aural discharges, 37 were successfully treated at the clinic, 6 were referred to hospital, 11 were transferred to their private doctors, 2 left school, 5 ceased to attend, and the remainder 12 were still receiving treatment at the end of the year. Of the 39 children seeking treatment for deafness, 14 were successfully treated at the clinic, 16 were referred to hospital, 1 was referred to the private doctor, 1 recommended for lip-reading lessons, 1 left school, 5 were found to have normal hearing, and 1 was not improved by treatment.

In all 1,570 attendances were made by children for ear defects.

Amongst the school leavers last year, 1% were found with otitis media requiring treatment or observation, whilst another 2% were deaf. Of those found to be deaf, only two were in need of treatment.

CONVALESCENT HOLIDAYS

During 1954, 14 children have been sent to convalescent homes by the Health Committee, under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act.

ORTHOPTIC CLINIC

Miss P. Tompkin, the Orthoptist, kindly furnished the following details in regard to the work of the Orthoptic Clinic during the year.

Number of new cases	...	...	...	...	64
Total number of attendances	...	...	...	...	459
Number of patients seen	...	...	...	...	115
Number of patients discharged cured :—					
With operation	...	...	...	...	5
Without operation	...	...	...	...	14
Number of patients discharged cosmetically cured :—					
With operation	...	...	...	...	16
Without operation	...	...	...	...	5
Number of patients refused—Test only—No Treatment					
needed or unsuitable	...	...	...	...	10
Number of patients who failed to attend	...	...	...	...	2
Current :					
On treatment	...	...	...	...	7
On Occlusion	...	...	...	...	22
On Observation	...	...	...	...	20
On waiting list for operation	...	...	...	...	6

CHILDREN WITH MULTIPLE DEFECTS

Excluding children who are both deaf and dumb, there are in York 13 schoolchildren with more than one serious defect or deformity.

The combination of defects are as follows :—

1. E.S.N. with oxycephaly causing deafness.
2. E.S.N. with epilepsy.
3. E.S.N. with hemiplegia (three cases).
4. E.S.N. with congenital spastic paralysis.
5. E.S.N. with blindness.
6. E.S.N. with epilepsy and right-sided hemiparesis.
7. Hemiplegia with partial-sightedness.
8. Congenital heart disease and paraplegia.
9. Epilepsy and left hemiplegia.
10. Hydrocephalus, spina bifida and spastic paralysis of both legs.

11. Epilepsy with right-sided hemiparesis.

6 of these are accommodated in the Day Special School (E.S.N.), 1 in a residential school (E.S.N.), 1 in an orthopædic hospital school, 2 in the Day Special School (Del.), 1 in the class for the partially-sighted, 1 is at home, and 1 attends ordinary school.

EXAMINATIONS OF EDUCATIONALLY SUBNORMAL CHILDREN

The intelligence of 105 children has been tested during the year. 27 of these were recommended for admission to the Day Special School for educationally subnormal children; 18 children were tested before leaving the Special School (E.S.N.); these 18, which included 2 from the Ridings, were notified to the Local Authority as needing supervision after leaving school. 7 children who had never attended school, and 3 who were already in attendance, were notified to the Local Authority under Section 3, para. 57, of the Education Act; 2 were to be retested. 3 children tested had to remain at the Occupation Centre. 3 to be re-examined at the age of five years; 1 child sent to the Open Air School; 1 child was recommended to a residential school for E.S.N. children; 1 to a residential school for physically handicapped children; 1 child tested had to remain at the Special School. 1 child examined for another Authority required supervision after leaving school. The other 37 children tested did not require special educational treatment and remained at their ordinary schools.

ORTHOPÆDIC CLINICS

Mr. Crockatt, of the Adela Shaw Orthopædic Hospital, Kirbymoorside, held 11 clinics at monthly intervals at Rougier Street during the year.

There were 174 new cases seen and 311 attendances made.

15 children were admitted during the year to the Adela Shaw Hospital for treatment. Reports have been received from two local hospitals in respect of 82 children seen for orthopædic defects, 29 of whom were admitted for in-patient treatment.

CHIROPODY

Miss F. Long, S.R.N., S.C.M., M.Ch.S., held a weekly clinic for the treatment of chiropodial defects in schoolchildren. 333 children made 1,106 attendances.

The details of the clinic are as follows:—

<i>Complaint</i>				1954	1953
Verrucae	...	...	...	227	220
Corns	...	...	...	39	41
Other defects	...	...	...	80	63
Total				346	324

43 clinics were held altogether.

EPILEPSY

There are 41 schoolchildren known to be or suspected to be suffering from epilepsy (22 boys and 19 girls). All the children attend York schools and received treatment from their own doctors, and very few fits take place in school.

CEREBRAL PALSY

There are 45 cases of cerebral palsy affecting children between the ages of 2 and 16 years known to the department—21 are boys and 24 are girls.

20 of them attend ordinary schools; 2 attend the Day Special School for delicate children; 1 boy attends the Class for the Partially-sighted; 4 attend the Day Special School for educationally subnormal children; 3 are at home; 3 are at a hospital school; 2 are at a residential school for physically-handicapped children; 1 is at a residential special school; 9 have been notified to the Local Authority as ineducable.

POLIOMYELITIS

There were no cases of confirmed poliomyelitis amongst schoolchildren during the year.

MISCELLANEOUS EXAMINATIONS

Number of staff examined	...	...	...	...	...	126
Number of entrants to Training College	...	...	...	...	...	69
Children examined re part-time employment	...	...	...	...	...	273
Children examined before going to camp	...	...	...	...	...	131
Children examined before being boarded out	...	...	...	...	...	5
Children examined before going on holiday	...	...	...	...	...	99
Children examined before swimming sports	...	...	...	...	...	8
Children examined prior to admission to Residential Schools, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	27

Employment of Young Persons. Medical history of 70 children recorded for the use of Youth Employment Officer.

BACTERIOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS

91 swabs were taken from 72 children during the year; of these 34 showed the presence of haemolytic streptococci and 1 had a growth of staphylococcus pyogenes.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

In connection with the medical inspection of school leavers, advice was given to the Youth Employment Officer concerning unsuitable occupations in respect of 70 children with the following complaints :—

Defective Colour Vision	...	...	...	...	25
Defective vision (nystagmus 2)	...	...	...	...	11
Asthma	...	...	...	...	8

Deafness	8
Chronic Bronchitis	2
Old Poliomyelitis	1
Epilepsy	3
Old dislocated congenital hip	1
Rheumatic Fever associated with cardiac	2
Deformity elbow—result of fracture	2
Old collapse lung	1
Bronchiectasis	1
Moist sounds right base	1
Left Hemiplegia	1
Inguinal Hernia	1
Spina Bifida	1
P.I.D. lumbar spine	1

The required Forms Y9 or Y10 were completed in regard to these 70 children.

PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT

Only one boy with bronchitis was rejected on medical grounds for part-time employment. Altogether 273 children were examined.

REMAND HOME

The Ashbank Remand Home, under the control of the Children Committee, has medical services provided by the School Health Department, the Children Committee reimbursing the Education Committee.

Each boy is medically inspected within twenty-four hours of admission and discharge. The Educational Psychologist tests each boy before the magistrates decide on his disposal, and in some cases the child psychiatrist submits a report for the guidance of the Court. Of 95 boys admitted during the year 44 belonged to York. The average length of stay was 26 days; the longest stay 171 days.

I.Q. range of 47 boys tested at the York Child Guidance Clinic who have been to Ashbank during 1954 :—

<i>I.Q. Ranges.</i>	<i>No.</i>
40-50	1
51-60	0
61-70	1
71-80	6
81-90	8
91-100	11
101-110	15
111-120	2
121-130	1
131-140	2

The offences or reasons for being committed to the Remand Home were :—

	<i>No. of boys.</i>
Larceny	39
Breaking and entering	12
In the care of the Local Authority ...	13
Absconding	5
Shopbreaking	5
Beyond control	5
Other reasons	16

The good health combined with the good discipline found in the Home are largely due to the efforts of the Warden and his wife, who work unremittingly for the good of their charges.

THE CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC

The clinic continues to have a full team of workers, viz., psychiatrist, educational psychologist and psychiatric social worker. In order to retain full control of the work of the clinic the Local Education Authority has now decided to be financially responsible for all the staff including the psychiatrist.

The following figures describe statistically the work of the clinic :—

YORK CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC

FIGURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1954

	YORK			ELSEWHERE			TOTAL 1954	TOTAL 1953
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total		
A. CASES INTERVIEWED:								
Brought forward from 1953	115	48	163	1	1	2	165	126
Registered during 1954 ...	275	145	420	15	1	16	436	421
Closed during 1954 ...	279	152	431	14	2	16	447	382
Carried forward on 31.12.54	110	41	151	2	—	2	153	165
On Waiting list 31.12.54								
Not yet investigated ...	13	4	17	—	—	—	17	32
Under investigation ...	49	11	60	—	—	—	60	68
B. NEW REGISTRATIONS:								
School Medical Dept. ...	23	21	44	2	—	2	46	39
Hospitals, Medical Prac- titioners ...	6	8	14	—	1	1	15	16
Education Dept. ...	7	2	9	—	—	—	9	4
Head Teachers ...	203	98	301	2	—	2	303	289
Prob. Officers, etc. ...	13	1	14	11	—	11	25	29
Children Department	2	3	5	—	—	—	5	9
Parents ...	14	3	17	—	—	—	17	14
Others (including Speech Therapist ...	7	9	16	—	—	—	16	21
TOTAL ...	275	145	420	15	1	16	436	421
C. CLOSURES:								
Psychological only ...	182	83	265	6	—	6	271	223
Social Service only ...	11	16	27	—	—	—	27	4
Consultations ...	38	33	71	2	—	2	73	101
Treatment by Psychiatrist ...	37	18	55	4	2	6	61	54
Treatment by Psychologist ...	14	2	16	—	—	—	16	
TOTAL ...	282	152	434	12	2	14	448	382
D. APPOINTMENTS KEPT:								
Clinic, Schools and Remand Home							2599	2834
E. VISITS OF ENQUIRY PAID TO HOME AND SCHOOLS :								
						389	687	
F. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENTS (Meetings, Lectures, etc.)								
						48 since 1.7.54		

Dr. Turgel, the Child Psychiatrist, saw 131 children—90 boys; 41 girls, in the course of the year.

An analysis of her work is given in the following tables:—

A. Classification according to Main Symptom.	C/fwd. from 1953.		Admitted in 1954.		Total
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	
1. Delinquency (lying, stealing, sex misdemeanor, including 16 court cases)	8	1	13	3	25
2. Behaviour disorders (out of control, aggressive, defiant, negativistic) ...	12	13	11	5	41
3. Psychosomatic disorders (functional pains, fainting, asthma, alopecia, enuresis, soiling)	8	2	6	4	20
4. Neurotic and nervous manifestations (anxiety, hysterical states, nervous tics)	6	3	4	4	17
5. Tension habits (stammer, nailbiting) ...	3	—	4	1	8
6. Inadequate Personalities, Personality disorders	—	3	3	1	7
7. Educational backwardness and/or general immaturity	10	—	2	1	13
	47	22	43	19	131

It should be remembered again that most children present more than one symptom. Bedwetting was recorded this year 25 times; but it occurred as an isolated symptom in 5 cases only. It was associated with behaviour problems 6 times, with delinquency 5 times, with nervous manifestations 5 times, with stammer twice and with backwardness twice.

B. Classification according to Aetiology.	C/fwd. from 1953.		Admitted in 1954.		Total
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	
I. Primarily in the Child:					
1. Organic defects or disorders of the Central Nervous System (including spastic conditions)	2	1	—	—	3
2. Intellectual Retardation or General Immaturity	1	—	3	2	6
3. Emotional Instability or Temperamental Abnormalities (including psychopathic personalities) ...	11	5	9	4	29
4. Emotional reactive processes:					
(a) Mental Conflicts	14	3	12	8	37
(b) Anti-social character formation	3	—	4	1	8
(c) Traumatic experiences, including early separation	5	3	4	—	12

II. Primarily in the Environment :

1. Faulty family relationships ...	...	7	5	7	4	23
2. Inadequate environment ...	...	3	5	3	—	11
3. School ...	...	1	—	1	—	2
		47	22	43	19	131

C. TREATED IN 1954—131 children.

				Children.
Brought forward from 1953 ...	...	...	...	69
Admitted in 1954 ...	...	...	...	62
Discharged in 1954 ...	...	...	...	65
Carried forward ...	...	...	...	66

D. STATUS ON CLOSURE.

Seen for Diagnosis (1—3 interviews) ...	...	...	...	5
Improved ...	...	...	...	34
Very well adjusted ...	...	...	...	13
Little or no improvement ...	...	...	...	1

Discontinued:

(a) Lack of co-operation of parent or child ...	...	...	...	5
(b) Moved to other area ...	...	...	...	2
(c) Placed in Special School, Home, or Approved School ...	...	...	...	5

E. DISTRIBUTION OF INTELLIGENCE.

I.Q. 65 or under	2	} 16.8%
66-75 ...	...	...	...	4
76-85 ...	...	...	...	16
86-95	27	} 55.7%
96-105 ...	...	...	...	25
106-115 ...	...	...	...	21
116-125	18	} 27.5%
126-135 ...	...	...	...	7
136 or over ...	...	...	...	11

SPEECH THERAPY CLINIC

This clinic, under the able direction of Mrs. B. Z. Statman, L.C.S.T., is held in the Old Priory Adult School. I am indebted to her for the following account of her work:—

Average appointments kept weekly at clinic ...	70
Average appointments kept weekly at school ...	20
No. of children on waiting list 31.12.54. ...	76
No. of children under treatment 31.12.54. ...	74
No. of children discharged cured during year ...	47
No. of children discharged for other reasons ...	19

Figures for the year under headings of defects :—

		<i>Treated.</i>	<i>Still attending.</i>	<i>Dis- charged cured.</i>	<i>Dis- charged other reasons.</i>
Cleft Palates	...	3	2	1	—
Undeveloped Speech		5	3	1	1
Dysphonics	... ..	2	—	1	1
Dyslalsics	... ..	85	41	33	11
Stammerers	... ..	45	28	11	6

"Other reasons for discharge" were (a) left district; (b) awaiting growth of dentition; (c) referred to Child Guidance Clinic; (d) lack of co-operation from parents.

During two terms, morning sessions have been held twice weekly at a primary school, where at first, between 9—10 children received individual treatment. Where possible parents were asked to attend one of the morning sessions and shown how to continue the exercises at home. Where home co-operation was good, results were most satisfactory. The more severe cases needing prolonged treatment were transferred to the clinic for weekly visits and continued home exercises when there was no further need for visiting the school, to treat a large number of children. The majority were cured in a comparatively short period.

Children attending schools situated near the clinic are seen daily, and given treatment before the afternoon school period begins.

During the year I have received much help and advice from the Child Guidance Clinic, Dental Clinic and School Clinic, and the many teachers I have seen in the course of school visiting. I should like to express my appreciation and thanks for this help and co-operation.

FAMILY SERVICE UNIT

Miss M. Allison, the Field Work Organiser with the Unit, has sent the following report on the work :—

In the past year the Unit has continued its role of support and assistance to those families referred to it. Continual intensive support is necessary with many of the families where the main cause of the breakdown is the low mentality of mother combined with poor health and lack of domestic skills. Several families have improved and reached a sufficiently stable and satisfactory standard for supervision to be no longer necessary, while other families will need continual help and supervision to maintain the highest standard of which they are capable.

Casework. The Unit has had 30 families under its supervision during the past year, 10 of these have been closed, though contact is still maintained with three of them, and five referrals accepted. The work involved 1,861 home visits and 528 contacts with officials, also 417 calls at the Unit, which include sewing and cookery lessons. The Unit has continued to work in close contact with various local authority departments, from whom most of the referrals have been received.

Camp. During August, 46 children of ages between seven and fifteen were taken to camp at Airton, near Skipton.

Playgroups. In the autumn two playgroups were started for children belonging to the families who live near the Unit.

N.S.P.C.C.

Inspector Blackham, the local representative of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, has provided me with the following information relating to York schoolchildren :—

Number of children investigated : 179—84 boys; 95 girls.

Number of people involved : 113—47 males; 66 females.

Number of case of :—

Neglect	...	...	...	...	52
Ill treatment	...	...	...	...	5
Assault	...	...	...	...	2
Advice sought	...	...	...	...	30

How dealt with :—

Warned by Officer	...	...	...	...	59
Advised	...	...	...	...	29
Prosecuted and convicted	...	...	...	...	1
Cases closed as satisfactory	...	...	...	...	60
Cases remaining under supervision	...	...	...	...	29
Number of supervisory visits	...	...	...	...	224

Results of cases remaining under supervision from 1953 :—9 cases remain open. One girl committed to care of Local Authority. Two boys and one girl to Dr. Barnard's Homes.

DEATHS AMONGST SCHOOLCHILDREN

There were 3 deaths amongst schoolchildren during 1954. The causes were as follows :—

Cerebellar Medulloblastoma	...	...	...	...	1
Cerebellar Neoplasm	...	...	...	...	1
Muscular Dystrophy	...	...	...	...	1

YORK SCHOOLS' ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

The 41st Annual Report of this Association reveals continued progress in the organisation of sports and athletic meetings during the year. I am indebted to Mr. Rayson, the General Secretary of the Association, for a detailed account of the activities of the different sections—Association and Rugby Football, Cricket, Swimming, Rounders, Boxing, Netball, Hockey and Athletics Competitions are arranged in the different age groups. All this voluntary work done by teachers and others must play a big part in promoting the health of the schoolchild.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE, 1954.

Periodic Medical Inspections:

Primary and Secondary Modern School Children	...	4,487	
		—	4,487

Other Periodic Inspections:

Primary and Secondary Modern School Children	...	1,540	
Grammar School Children	... ..	988	
		—	2,528

Other Inspections:

Special Inspections	... ..	6,476	
Re-Inspections	... ..	3,472	
		—	9,948

Total 16,963

Periodic Dental Inspections	... ..	5,157
Special Dental Inspections	... ..	1,558
Number of children treated by School Dental Surgeons	...	2,429

Number of attendances at Clinics:

Minor Ailments (at Rougier Street)	... ..	5,862
Open Air School Clinic	... ..	1,008
Fulford Road Special School Clinic	... ..	762
Derwent School Clinic	... ..	924
Burnholme School Clinic	... ..	786
St. George's School Clinic	... ..	1,328
Carr Infants' School Clinic	... ..	1,145
Carr Junior School Clinic	... ..	958
Beckfield School Clinic	... ..	502
Westfield School Clinic	... ..	723
Ophthalmic Clinic	... ..	2,670
Ear Clinic	... ..	1,570
Orthopaedic Clinic	... ..	311
Orthodontic Clinic	... ..	507
Dental Clinic	... ..	8,083
Chiropody Clinic	... ..	1,106
Examination of backward children	... ..	105
Hob Moor Infants' School Clinic	... ..	135
Acomb Sec. Mod. School Clinic	... ..	133
		—
Total	... ..	28,618

Number of Inspections by School Nursing Sisters for uncleanness	...	40,892
Number of home visits made by School Nursing Sisters	... ..	669
Number of visits to schools by School Nursing Sisters	... ..	2,190
Number of "follow-up" cases	... ..	2,968

COST OF SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

The cost of the School Health Service for 1954 reflecting the increase in the dental and nursing staffs and the gradual rise in prices revealed a marked rise as the following figures show :—

	1954.	1953.	1952.
	£	£	£
Gross Cost of School Health Service ...	18,900	16,286	16,555
Government Grant	11,340	9,772	9,933
Net Cost of School Health Service to Rates	7,560	6,514	6,622
Amount produced by penny Rate	3,125	3,040	2,958
Net Cost to Rates in terms of a penny Rate	2.42d.	2.14d.	2.24d.

REPORT ON THE SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE

I am indebted to Mr. Graham Turner, Principal School Dental Officer, for the following report :—

The work during 1954 was again handicapped by a staff shortage although the problem was not so acute as during the previous years. Mr. C. H. Thomas, B.D.S., commenced duty in mid January on a full time basis and Mr. J. K. Thornham, L.D.S., was appointed also in a full time capacity, and took up duty in December. Miss Ruth Sawkill was appointed to the post of third dental attendant. 1954 closed with the full establishment of three full time officers. Even so, to offer an adequate service five full time officers are necessary, and consideration must be given to increasing our establishment and clinical facilities. This is necessary in order to carry out a six monthly inspection of every child. Few parents taking an interest in their children's teeth would be satisfied if they were only examined yearly and the authority should be in a position to ensure that each year each child is examined on two occasions.

The accommodation in the dental clinic has become too limited for the demands put upon it. Storage room has become inadequate and a third surgery is necessary in Rougier Street to enable more work to be performed. During a busy morning the waiting room becomes very overcrowded.

Inspections. During the year 6,783 children were inspected in all and of these, 5,157 children were inspected in schools. 3,479 of these children required treatment. The overall figure of those needing treatment was 64%. This is the lowest percentage since the dental clinic reopened in 1950. Once again few grossly septic mouths were seen, but one had the impression that the children who did need treatment had more caries than in the early post war years when less white bread and sweets were eaten. Many children during the year who suffered from rampant caries were questioned about their sweet eating habits and many admitted a heavy consumption.

A steady trickle of young children attend for inspection who have passed through the Toddlers' Clinic at the Health Services Centre, Duncombe Place.

Miss L. Ritchie does valuable work in accustoming young children to dental treatment. If this pre-school work can be extended in the future it will be of great benefit to the School service.

Treatment. Attendances for treatment numbered 8,083. In addition 507 attendances were made at the Orthodontic Clinic. 2,429 children were actually treated, a drop of 44 compared with 1953, but much more work was performed on these children. In 1951, the first full year after my appointment, less than three permanent teeth were filled for every 2 permanent teeth extracted. During the past year the ratio was 3.7 permanent teeth saved for every permanent tooth lost. This upward trend is very satisfactory. The number of permanent teeth lost was lower than during the previous years, 927 permanent teeth were extracted compared with 1,444 in 1951.

Twelve gold inlays, one bridge, four crowns and 37 dentures were fitted. The bulk of the inlays and dentures were fitted to replace or repair anterior teeth damaged in accidents. One five year old was fitted with a denture which she wears satisfactorily.

Orthodontic Clinic. 68 new cases were treated some of whom were referred by private practitioners and 507 attendances were registered, 53 orthodontic plates were fitted. One obturator was fitted for a child with a cleft palate. Cases were seen and treated in collaboration with Mrs. Z. Statman, Speech Therapist, where it was felt that the child's speech defect arose from irregular teeth.

General. 134 X-ray examinations of the teeth were made. The value of the X-ray machine is great—one child who presented with vague aches in the right side of the face showed no carious teeth when examined visually. An X-ray photograph, however, revealed 9 cavities situated between the teeth.

The Principal School Dental Officer attended a week's full time refresher course in children's dentistry at the Eastman Clinic. This was valuable and many new techniques have, with benefit, been tried and put into practice in the clinic.

All children examined for the Open Air School by the doctors receive a dental examination and every effort is made to make them dentally fit. During 1954 it was decided to inspect and treat the children at this school each term. It was felt that many of the children who were referred to the Open Air School because of general debility were in low health through sheer inability to eat properly due to grossly septic and painful teeth.

Conclusion. The achievement of a full establishment will mean a higher standard of dental health should be reached in the future; we can see our hope of a better preventive service growing nearer.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE STAFF AND SCHOOL CLINICS

(RETURN MADE TO MINISTRY OF EDUCATION FOR
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1954)

I. STAFF OF THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE (excluding Child Guidance).

Principal School Medical Officer: DR. CATHERINE B. CRANE.

Principal School Dental Officer: GRAHAM TURNER.

	Number of Officers	Numbers in terms of full-time Officers employed in the School Health Service
(a) Medical Officers (including the Principal School Medical Officer):—		
(i) whole-time School Health Service	3	3
(ii) whole-time School Health and Local Health Services	1	0.10
(iii) General Practitioners working part-time in the School Health Service	—	—
(b) Physiotherapists, Speech Therapists, etc. (specify):—		
Speech Therapist	1	1
(c) (i) School Nurses	8	7.2
(ii) Number of the above who hold a Health Visitor's Certificate ...	3	2.2
(d) Nursing Assistants	2	2

	Officers employed on a Salary basis		Officers employed on a Sessional basis	
	Number of Officers	Numbers in terms of full-time Officers in the School Dental Service	Number of Officers	Numbers in terms of full-time Officers employed in the School Dental Service
(e) Dental Staff:—				
(i) Principal School Dental Officer ...	1	1	—	—
(ii) Dental Officers ...	2	2	—	—
(iii) Orthodontists ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	3	3	—	—
			Number of Officers	Numbers in terms of full-time Officers employed in the School Dental Service
(iv) Dental Attendants			2	2
(v) Other Staff (specify)			—	—

II. NUMBER OF SCHOOL CLINICS 1

A certain amount of minor ailment treatment is carried out in the Medical Inspection Rooms at 11 schools.

III. TYPE OF EXAMINATION AND/OR TREATMENT PROVIDED

Examination and/or treatment (1)	Number of School Clinics (i.e. premises) where such treatment is provided	
	directly by the Authority (2)	under arrangements made with Regional Hospital Boards or Boards of Governors of Teaching Hospitals (3)
(a) Minor ailment and other non-specialist examination or treatment	12	—
(b) Dental	1	—
(c) Ophthalmic	—	1
(d) Ear, Nose and Throat	—	—
(e) Orthopædic	—	1
(f) Pædiatric	—	—
(g) Speech Therapy	1	—
(h) Others (Specify) :—		
Chiropody... ..	1	—
Remedial exercises carried out by the Organisers of Physical Education	2	—

IV. CHILD GUIDANCE CENTRES.

Number of Child Guidance Centres provided by the Authority: 1

	Number	Aggregate in terms of the equivalent number of whole-time officers
Psychiatrists	1	0.55
Educational Psychologists	1	1
Psychiatric Social Workers	1	1
Pædiatricians, Play Therapists, Social workers, etc. (excluding Clerks)	—	—

The Psychiatrist is employed by the Authority.

HANDICAPPED PUPILS REQUIRING EDUCATION AT SPECIAL SCHOOLS OR BOARDING IN BOARDING HOMES

	(1) Blind (2) Partially sighted		(3) Deaf (4) Partially Deaf		(5) Delicate (6) Physi- cally Handi- capped		(7) Educa- tionally sub- normal (8) Mal- adjusted		(9) Epi- leptic	(10) TOTAL
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
In the calendar year ended 31st Dec., 1954 ...										
A. Handicapped Pupils <i>newly</i> <i>placed</i> in Special Schools or Board- ing Homes ...	2	3	-	-	48	6	19	-	1	79
B. Handicapped Pupils <i>newly</i> <i>ascertained</i> as requiring educa- tion at Special Schools or boarding in Homes ...	1	3	-	-	40	6	27	-	-	77
On or about December 1st 1954										
C. Number of Handi- capped Pupils from the area—										
(i) attending Special Schools as—										
(a) Day Pupils ...	-	8	-	-	84	9	83	-	-	184
(b) Boarding Pupils	3	1	9	-	3	4	7	1	-	28
(ii) attending independent schools under arrangements made by the Authority ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(iii) Boarded in Homes and not already included under (i) or (ii)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL (C) ...	3	9	9	-	87	13	90	1	-	212

	(1) Blind (2) Partially sighted		(3) Deaf (4) Partially Deaf		(5) Delicate (6) Physically Handicapped		(7) Educationally sub-normal (8) Mal-adjusted		(9) Epileptic	(10) TOTAL
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
D. Number of Handicapped Pupils being educated under arrangements made under Section 56 of the Education Act, 1944—										
(i) in hospitals	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(ii) in other groups (e.g. units for spastics)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(iii) at home	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
E. Number of Handicapped Pupils from the area requiring places in special schools (including any such children who are temporarily receiving home tuition or whose parents have not yet consented to their attending a Special School:—										
(i) Day	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	8
(ii) Boarding	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Amount spent on arrangements under Section 56 of the Education Act, 1944, for the education of handicapped pupils otherwise than at school, in the financial year ended 31st March, 1954:—£196 7s. 0d.

Number of children reported during the year:—

(a) under Section 57(3) (excluding any returned under (b))	...	8
(b) under Section 57(3) relying on Section 57(4)	...	—
(c) under Section 57(5)	...	16

of the Education Act, 1944.

MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS

Year ended 31st December, 1954.

TABLE I.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (including Special Schools).

A.—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Age Groups inspected and Number of Children examined in each :—

First Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	1793
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	1522
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	1172
Total						4487
Additional Periodic Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	2528
Grand Total						7015

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	6476
Number of Re-Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	3472
Total						9948

C.—PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

Number of Individual Pupils found at Periodic Medical Inspection to Require Treatment (excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin).

Age Groups Inspected.	For defective vision (excluding squint).	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIA.	Total Individual Pupils.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
First Age Group ...	58	281	323
Second Age Group ...	107	239	325
Third Age Group ...	78	231	294
Total ...	243	751	942
Additional Periodic Inspections	166	497	627
Grand Total ...	409	1248	1569

TABLE II.

A.—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1954.

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease.	Periodic Inspections		Special Inspections	
		No. of Defects		No. of Defects	
		Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
4	Skin	369	220	421	52
5	Eyes—	409	596	656	314
	a. Vision	42	88	62	25
	b. Squint	49	22	113	10
6	Ears—	70	138	24	38
	a. Hearing... ..	29	67	65	13
	b. Otitis Media	189	64	150	26
	c. Other	124	523	127	157
7	Nose or Throat	31	97	41	55
8	Speech	3	207	5	72
9	Cervical Glands	12	196	4	87
10	Heart and Circulation	24	345	15	102
11	Lungs				
12	Developmental—				
	a. Hernia	38	56	5	32
	b. Other	41	364	15	118
13	Orthopaedic—				
	a. Posture	131	174	45	44
	b. Flat Foot	140	88	68	36
	c. Other	94	448	109	183
14	Nervous System—				
	a. Epilepsy	10	17	—	9
	b. Other	1	15	—	5
15	Psychological—				
	a. Development	—	111	—	4
	b. Stability	16	507	10	118
16	Other	22	168	738	69

B.—CLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERAL CONDITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE AGE GROUPS.

Age Groups Inspected.	Number of Pupils Inspected.	A. (Good)		B. (Fair)		C. (Poor)	
		No.	% of Col. 2	No.	% of Col. 2	No.	% of Col. 2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
First Age Group ...	1793	572	31.9	1174	65.5	47	2.6
Second Age Group ...	1522	586	38.5	926	60.8	10	.7
Third Age Group ...	1172	480	41.0	680	58.0	12	1.0
Additional Periodic Inspections	2528	1147	45.4	1340	53.0	41	1.6
Total ...	7015	2785	39.7	4120	58.7	110	1.6

TABLE III.

INFESTATION WITH VERMIN.

(i) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorized persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	40,892
(ii) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	...	...	...	...	...	...	376
(iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944)	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
(iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944)	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

TABLE IV.

TREATMENT OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (INCLUDING SPECIAL SCHOOLS)
 GROUP 1—DISEASES OF THE SKIN (excluding uncleanliness, for which see Table III).

	Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year	
	by the Authority	otherwise
Ringworm—(i) Scalp	—	2
(ii) Body	8	6
Scabies	—	12
Impetigo	143	47
Other skin diseases	1187	55
Total	1338	122

GROUP 2—EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

	Number of cases dealt with	
	by the Authority	otherwise
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	286	45
Errors of refraction (including squint)	—	1746
Total	286	1791
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were:—		
(a) prescribed	—	1095
(b) obtained	—	864

GROUP 3—DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE & THROAT

	Number of cases treated	
	by the Authority	otherwise
Received operative treatment		
(a) for diseases of the ear	—	5
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis ...	—	416
(c) for other nose and throat conditions ...	—	6
Received other forms of treatment	543	932
Total	543	1359

GROUP 4—ORTHOPÆDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

(a) Number treated as in-patients in hospitals	44	
	by the Authority	otherwise
(b) Number treated otherwise, e.g. in clinics or out-patient departments	252	232

GROUP 5—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT.

	Number of cases treated	
	in the Authority's Child Guidance Clinics	elsewhere
Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics	159	—

GROUP 6—SPEECH THERAPY.

	Number of cases treated	
	by the Authority	otherwise
Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapists	140	—

GROUP 7—OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN.

	Number of cases treated	
	by the Authority	otherwise
(a) Miscellaneous minor ailments ...	2560	164
(b) Other than (a) above (specify)		
1. Chiropody	333	—
2. Medical Conditions	—	1700
3. Surgical Conditions	—	208
4. U.V.L. Treatment	93	—
5. Orthodontic	68	—
Total	3054	2072

TABLE V.
DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT
BY THE AUTHORITY

1. Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers:—							
(a) At Periodic Inspections							5,157
(b) As Specials... ..							1,266
						Total (1)	<u>6,783</u>
2. Number found to require treatment							4,929
3. Number offered treatment							4,786
4. Number actually treated							2,429
5. Attendances made by pupils for treatment							8,590
6. Half-days devoted to:—							
Periodic Inspection							24
Treatment							918
						Total (6)	<u>942</u>
7. Fillings:—							
Permanent Teeth							3,741
Temporary Teeth							163
						Total (7)	<u>3,904</u>
8. Number of Teeth filled:—							
Permanent Teeth							3,435
Temporary Teeth							157
						Total (8)	<u>3,592</u>
9. Extractions:—							
Permanent Teeth							927
Temporary Teeth							2,899
						Total (9)	<u>3,826</u>
10. Administration of general anæsthetics for extraction							1,546
11. Other operations:—							
Permanent Teeth							2,158
Temporary Teeth							60
						Total (11)	<u>2,218</u>

APPENDIX 1

REMOVAL OF TONSILS AND ADENOIDS

In "The Health of the School Child" for the years 1952 and 1953, the number of children who received operative treatment for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis was shown to differ widely in different parts of the country and school medical officers were asked to investigate the matter locally. In York parents are always asked to complete questionnaires before each school medical inspection and amongst the information sought is whether the child has had any operations. By analysing some 18,422 records it was found that 2,944 children (16%) had had operations for the removal of tonsils or adenoids or both. 415 (2.3%) had been operated on before the age of five years, 1,594 (8.7%) had been operated on at the age of six or seven years, i.e., whilst in the infants' department.

595 (3.2%) had been operated on whilst in the junior department. 119 (0.65%) had been operated on whilst in the senior department. Slightly more boys than girls had had operations but the difference was not significant—16.6% compared with 15.2%.

221 (1.2%) had had operations but their parents could not remember the ages when they were done.

As the number of children operated on in York during the last four years had considerably increased, an investigation was made to see if the school medical officers were in any way responsible for the increase by having referred more children to hospital. The following figures proved that this was not so.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Number of schoolchildren referred to E.N.T. Consultants by School Medical Officers.</i>	<i>Number of schoolchildren who were operated on for tonsils and adenoids.</i>
1945	105	171
1946	151	76
1947	121	223
1948	123	271
1949	63	161
1950	103	155
1951	87	324
1952	81	406
1953	74	426
1954	68	416

With such a big increase in the numbers of children having their tonsils and adenoids removed, and as the commonest age for removal appears to be after the child starts school and is still in the infants' department, it looks as if recurrent tonsillitis is becoming the main reason for referral by the general practitioners rather than chronically enlarged tonsils and adenoids with their complications (deafness, otitis media, etc.), which is the condition usually seen by the School Medical Officer at school medical inspections.

In connection with the 68 children referred in 1954 by the School Medical Officers for removal of their tonsils and adenoids, the following shows how they were dealt with :—

<i>Length of time waiting before removal.</i>	<i>No. of children.</i>
2 weeks	4
1 month	3
2 months	3
3 months	5
4 months	6
5 months	15
6 months	9
7 months	2
8 months	2

Of the remaining 19 children, 7 were examined and found not to need removal of tonsils and adenoids, 9 are still on the waiting list, 3 failed to keep their appointments.

APPENDIX 2

ENQUIRY INTO THE TAKING OF MEDICINES BY SCHOOLCHILDREN AT HOME

On the form issued to parents before the school medical inspections of their children, information is sought concerning such matters as the personal health of the child, the family health history, and other matters of interest. Over the last few years parents have been asked to state if they regularly gave their children medicine of any sort.

During 1954 these replies have been analysed and out of 15,522 parents who were asked the question, some 85% have replied. Their replies reveal the fact that 34.5% of parents give medicine to their children regularly. The percentage is greater (37.6%) in the case of the boys than in the case of the girls (31.5%). The types of medicine given are for the most part vitamin supplements such as cod liver oil or laxatives of which Syrup of Figs appears to be the most popular. The weekly purge of children still has quite a number of adherents. In spite of a free national sickness service the luxury of self medication has a fascination for a big percentage of the population. In the following pages are shown the facts and figures of this enquiry.

Answers to "Medicine" Question on Invitations

Boys.

Number of Invitations	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,633
Number answered "No"	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,051
Number gave no reply	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,143
Number answered "Yes"	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,439

Medicines given:

"Yes" (no special medicine)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,760
Cod Liver Oil & Malt, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	261
Syrup of Figs	...	...	...	...	...	...	158
Halibut Oil	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
Yellow Mixture	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Milk of Magnesia	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Cough Medicine	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Virol	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Senna	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Scott's & Angier's Emulsion	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Health Salts (Fruit, Eno's & Andrew's)	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Liquid Paraffin	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Minadex	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Vitamins	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Adexolin	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Ephedrine Tablets	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Radiostoleum	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Malt	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Phenobarbitone	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Rose Hip Syrup	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Emulsified Paraffin	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ex Lax	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Beecham Pills	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Brimstone & Treacle	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Casinal Tablets	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Glucodin	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Gregory Powder	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Insulin	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Metatone	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ostomalt	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pitressin tannate in oil	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sulphur Tablets	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Thyroid Tablets	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

2,439

Medicines given to 37.6%

Answers to "Medicine" Question on Invitations

Girls.

Number of Invitations	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,889
Number answered "No"	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,583
Number gave no reply	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,200
Number answered "Yes"	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,106

Medicines given:

"Yes" (no special medicines)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,459
Cod Liver Oil & Malt, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	204
Syrup of Figs	...	...	...	...	...	...	191
Halibut Oil	...	...	...	...	...	...	61
Yellow Mixture	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Magnesia	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Virol	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Liquid Paraffin	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Senna	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Minadex	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Angier's Emulsion	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Health Salts	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Epsom Salts	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Parish's Food	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Adexolin	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Choc Lax	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Scott's Emulsion	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Andrew's Liver Salts	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Ephedrine Tablets	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Ribena	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cough Medicine	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Herbs	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Malt	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Petrolagar	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rose Hip Syrup	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Vimalt	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Anti Asthma Pills	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Agarol	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Calciferol	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Crook's Vitamin Quota	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Epanutin, 1½ gr. daily	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Haliborange	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Irradex	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Lixen	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Phenobarbitone	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Radiostoleum	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Sanatogen	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Treacle and Brimstone	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Worm Syrup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ex Lax	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
									<hr/>
									2,106
									<hr/>

Medicines given to 31.5%

