

There have been during the year several resignations and fresh appointments in the school-nursing service.

The routine work of school medical officers and school nurses was interrupted for several weeks during the winter by epidemics of influenza and of diphtheria.

(2.) FIGURES RELATING TO WORK ACCOMPLISHED.

The following summary serves to indicate the extent of the work accomplished during the year:—

Schools inspected—			
Of roll under 100	711	
Of roll 100 to 500	262	
Of roll 500 and over	127	
Children examined:—			1,100
Complete examinations	64,446	
Partial examinations	38,497	
		-----	102,943
Notifications sent to parents relating to defects requiring treatment	32,364	
Health talks given to school-children	1,032	
Parents interviewed	6,659	
Public lectures and addresses to parents	39	
The figures for the work of the school nurses are as follows:—			
Number of days assisted medical officer in schools	1,535	
Number of days engaged wholly in clerical work	1,553	
Number of children examined for medical schedule	66,003	
Number of children re-examined after inspection of medical officer	35,201	
Number of visits to homes in—			
Large towns	11,047	
Small country districts	2,839	
Scattered districts	2,547	
Number of children taken personally to hospital	316	
Number of children taken personally to dental clinic	1,182	

(3.) FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Total number of children examined	64,446
Percentage found to have no defects	12.13
Percentage found to have defects	87.87
Percentage with defects other than dental	65.78
Percentage showing evidence of—		
Subnormal nutrition	6.39
Pediculosis	3.26
Uncleanliness	2.29
Skin—		
Impetigo	1.13
Scabies	1.04
Ringworm	0.18
Other skin-diseases	0.67
Non-vaccination	84.74
Heart abnormality	1.03
Respiratory diseases	0.59
Total deformities of trunk and chest		
Stooped shoulders	5.78
Flat chest—		
Undefined	0.30
True	0.69
Postural	1.68
Scoliosis	1.08
Pigeon breast	5.03
Depressed ribs	3.22
Depressed sternum	4.14
Assymmetrical chest	0.54
Other deformities	0.85
Deformation of jaw and palate	11.18
Mouth, teeth—		
Dental caries	68.98
Extraction of permanent teeth	7.65
Mouth, teeth—		
Fillings	18.52
Perfect sets of teeth	4.74
Nose and throat		
Enlarged tonsils	11.97
Obstructed nasal breathing	1.07
Enlarged cervical glands	13.74
Goitre, all degrees	13.81
Incipient	10.57
Small	2.72
Medium	0.47
Large	0.05
Eye, external eye-disease		
1.07		
Vision—		
Total	4.78
Corrected	1.61
Uncorrected	3.17
Ear—		
Middle-ear disease	0.25
Defective hearing	0.55
Defective speech	0.82
Mental—		
Feeble-mindedness	0.15
Imbecility	0.01
Epilepsy	0.05
Tuberculosis	0.06

These results do not differ greatly from those found in previous years. An analysis of the figures affords favourable comparison with other countries in the percentage of children found to be suffering from conditions such as defective eyesight, defective hearing, obstruction to breathing from pressure of enlarged tonsils, adenoids, &c.; also in the numbers found to be suffering from heart and respiratory diseases.