



CITY'S HEALTH SERVICES.

FINE RECORD OF IMPROVEMENTS.

By COUNCILLOR W. ASBURY (Chairman, Health Committee).

The Municipal Elections are drawing near, and the floodgates of abuse and misrepresentation will shortly be opened by the local anti-Labour Press on the activities of the Labour and Co-operative jointly on the Sheffield City Council.

Those who are familiar with the excellent work accomplished will need no convincing as to the necessity of continuing their support, but there is a large number of the electors with whom it is impossible for us to establish personal contact who might be influenced by the oft-repeated charges of extravagance levelled against us, and the equally foolish statement that not a man, woman, or child is any better off for the last three years of Labour and Co-operative rule.

It is for the information and guidance of the latter that this article is written, in which I purpose demonstrating how our public health services, so shamefully neglected in the past, have been brought to a state of efficiency under our control.

OUR WORK FOR THE BLIND.

We took charge of the service in 1927 and immediately revised the rate of augmentation, fixing the lower-paid workers an increase of 8s. per week. We stopped the sale of goods made by sighted workers on mass production lines, and which an unseeing public had unwittingly purchased, believing they were made by the blind. Instead of continuing to produce goods that nobody wanted, but which filled the warehouse, and had eventually to be disposed of at a heavy loss, we found out what our customers required and took the blind employees into our confidence, giving them a square deal. The result is that we have increased sales by 35 per cent.

We are erecting new workshops at Sharrow which will not only be a credit to Sheffield, but will rank as the best in the whole country. Careful consideration has been given to lighting and ventilation, and the provision of lavatory and sanitary accommodation. Mess-rooms will be provided with kitchen and service adjoining same.

The public seasonal of men and women benefit of their sight having to sell matches in the streets, singing in public-houses, and begging from door to door in order to eke out their miserable existence is now a thing of the past, and the pauper taint has also been removed as a result of our policy of providing weekly allowances for the unemployed blind.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

We have reason to be proud of the extension and development of this important branch of our public health work. Additional staff has been appointed, which has enabled a much larger number of expectant mothers to obtain advice and treatment where necessary, free of charge, at our ante-natal clinics. A number of attendances for 1928 being 5,376, as against 2,090 in 1926. The value of this work from the point of view of freeing our women from so much anxiety during confinement cannot be over-estimated.

We have opened a maternity hospital at Nether Edge. Two-hundred-and-thirty-nine births took place there last year, and we believe this hospital, in conjunction with the ante-natal work, and such further extension and development to be made as circumstances warrant—will be an effective contribution to a reduction in the terrible toll of maternal mortality.

Our infant welfare work has been extended: the attendances for 1928 being 55,533, as against 48,227 in 1926. We have bridged the gap which existed in the child's life between one and five years of age; and last year 20,470 visits were paid to such children by our staff.

The complaints made in the past by the education authority that many

children entered school with complaints which ought to have been detected and remedied earlier should now be reduced to a minimum as a result of this work.

COMBATING TUBERCULOSIS.

We have abolished the waiting list for admission to the sanatorium by extending the services. We have made all treatment free of charge, writing off some 4,000 arrears. Enameliware (a breeding ground for bacteria when damaged) is now not used, it being replaced with good-china earthenware. Margarine, which previously formed part of the dietary, has been replaced by best butter, and in many ways the dietary has been improved.

We have not overlooked the preventive side of this work, and a number of infectious cases have been refused, realising that our work cannot be effective unless we remove the causes often associated with bad housing conditions.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Here, again, actions speak louder than words. A scheme of extension has been embarked upon, two new wards having been erected of a type which are admitted to be among the best in the country, and at a price which has been a revelation to the officials of the Ministry of Health. We purpose continuing the work of extension until all the old wooden wards are replaced.

CARE OF THE MENTALLY DEFECTIVES.

We have prepared a scheme to provide ultimately for 500 patients, which would abolish the long waiting list, also enable patients to be brought back to Sheffield, who are now scattered in various parts of the country, as far north as Lancaster, and as far south as Bristol; but owing to difficulties over which we have no control, it has not yet been possible to commence on the work. In the meantime, we have taken a lease of Cliffe House, which will provide accommodation for twenty-eight patients, and thus ease the position locally.

We are not ungrateful of our responsibilities in this matter: the public may rest assured that as early as practicable we shall proceed to provide the institutional accommodation so urgently needed.

PUBLIC BATHS AND WASH-HOUSES.

We are introducing filtration plant in all the public baths to ensure clean water every day.

We have recently received the approval of the Ministry of Health, after very long delay, for the erection of slipper baths at Wincobank, in order to supply a long-felt need in that district, where the majority of houses are without bathrooms. The consent of the Ministry has also been obtained again, after very long delay, for the erection of a public washhouse on the same site; also one

adjoining Upperthorpe Baths, and by the time this article appears these buildings should be in course of erection.

We believe these premises, when available, to be a real boon to the inhabitants in the respective districts, and will, to some extent, make up for the amenities denied them in their own homes.

If the service is used to the extent we believe it will, and justifies extension, we shall not hesitate to ask the City Council to approve of similar schemes for other parts of the city.

HOUSEHOLD REFUSE.

In March last we introduced on the High Wincobank, Brunsley, and Stubbin housing estates a system of dustless collection, each house being provided with a patent type of bin with hinged lid, a vehicle also being purchased of a type which enabled the operation of emptying the bin to be carried out without any dust being blown about.

The experiment, from the point of view of cleanliness, has been a complete success, and we anticipate the system will be extended throughout the city.

GENERAL SANITARY MATTERS. Conversion of Privy Middles.

Although this has been completed where sewers are available, we have not removed satisfaction, but as a result of our representations, the Highways Committee have agreed on sewer extensions, which will enable an additional number to be dealt with. We also are insisting on the provision of pedestal water closets where sewers are not available, but where satisfactory cesspools can be constructed.

Conversion of Slop Trough and Pail Closets.

We had no power to compel the conversion of these abominations, the remnants of a bygone conception of sanitation, prior to January last. With the coming into operation of the Sheffield Corporation Act, 1928, in which was included a number of useful sanitary clauses, in addition to the one giving us power to compel conversion of the above, we set to work right away, and during the first six months of this year we have converted into pedestal water closets a total of 330.

The time is not far distant when any other types but the pedestal water closets will be unknown in our city.

Provision of One W.C. per House.

This is now being insisted upon, with the exception of back-to-back houses, which are being surveyed in order to determine whether the proposal is practicable, also areas to be demarcated. A total of 348 was provided during the six months ended June 30th, 1929.

Abolition of Fixed Ashts.

Next to the privy midden as a breeding ground for diseases, comes the fixed asht, and the indifference of the anti-Labour Party, when it is power, to the

desirability of spending up the work is demonstrated by the following figures—

Number of ashts abolished in seven years, 1919-1926	894
Number of ashts abolished in two-and-a-half years, 1927 to June, 1929	4,949

The figures referring to the period during which we have been in control are a striking illustration of what can be achieved, provided there is the will to do it.

Provision of One Sanitary Bin to each House.

Here, again, we have a story of neglect by our predecessors of this modern sanitary necessity for our fellow-citizens; the majority of those who have been neglected in this way being the poorest members of the community and living in closely-congested areas, and who should be the first, if preference is to be given, to receive our consideration. The difference between reaction and progress is set out below—

Number of additional bins provided by the anti-Labour Party during the whole of their career	169
Number provided in two-and-a-half years of Labour rule, 12.009	

Sanitary Labour, &c.

As a result of the intervention of our Department 23,344 nuisances were abated last year, as against 7,593 in 1916; figures which speak for themselves.

Milk Supply.

The fullest advantage has been taken of the power contained in the Milk and Dairies Amendment Act, 1922, and the various Orders, to ensure to the public a clean and wholesome supply of milk.

Thousands Have Benefited.

In many other directions Public Health matters are to be dealt with in a manner more in accord with twentieth-century ideas than hitherto. The foregoing facts will satisfy readers of the "Co-operator" that thousands of our fellow-citizens have directly benefited during the past three years, including—

- The Blind.
- The Expectant Mother.
- Women at Child Birth.
- The Children.
- Those Afflicted with Tuberculosis.
- The Patients in all our Hospitals.
- The Nursing Staff.

It would be interesting to hear from our opponents in specific terms which branch of the services they would abandon or reduce, then we should be able accurately to gauge the value of their profession of sympathy.

It is all very simple to propose reducing expenditure by 50 many thousands of pounds, but I venture to assert that no anti-Labour candidate at the forthcoming election will show sufficient constructive capacity to indicate how it is to be done without injury to the community.

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THE COUNCIL IN SEPTEMBER.

BY COUNCILLOR A. BARTON.

This September Council Meeting was comparatively short owing to the holiday season, but some important business was transacted.

Progress of Libraries (and Direct Labour).

Councillor Barton commented on the great improvement in the Library system. The number of borrowers had increased by about 3,000 and issues had also increased, and were increasing considerably. The Free Access system had been applied in Hillsborough and had proved a very great success. Some people seem to think that libraries were largely for amusement, but he would like to point out that 25 per cent. of the books used were non-fiction. He had recently been at a conference and met representatives from other counties, but Sheffield's service was well able to compare with any of them, it seemed far ahead of cities like Berlin and Leipzig in the number of books issued, in proportion to the population. He pointed out that the Libraries had a very successful book-fair at the exhibition of Sheffield-Crafts, and was working along with the Applied Science Department of the University in an endeavour to help Sheffield industry.

Councillor Hunter seemed rather annoyed with this appraisal of the Committee, and suggested that the Free Access system was started by the Citizens' Party, who ought to have credit for the improvements that had been effected. At any rate, he did not deny that vast improvements had been effected during the last few years.

Councillor Beacott wanted to know whether there had been competitive tenders for the new Library at Woodhouse. Councillor Barton, in reply, said that none were asked for because their experience of the Direct Labour Department had been very satisfactory in the past. They were in direct touch with the department and found it much easier to get on with the work than to get in touch with outside contractors.

Alderman Blanchard said it was a pity that the members of the Finance Committee had not the benefit of the experience of the Libraries Committee, but Councillor Barton said they had had Direct Labour for the erection of the Hillsborough Library, and the work was exceedingly well done.

Water.

Alderman Womersley said that the present water drought had reduced their stock by something like 4,000,000,000 gallons. The advice in the Press had the effect of reducing consumption by something like 2,250,000 gallons a day, but since then the public seem to have become assured that everything was all right, and the amount of water used had increased. As a matter of fact the position was still serious. The high level reservoirs are only three-tenths full, but the Water Committee had done all in their power to make an addition by the installation of a pumping plant to lift the Derwent water up to Lodge Moor mains. What little rainfall there had been had, owing to the very nature of the water-sheds, been gradually "gorgoned" by the gaping gorges.

It is still necessary the greatest care and economy should take place. Alderman Graves referred to the waste of compensation water in Rivelin Valley and elsewhere at six o'clock and seven o'clock in the evening when the water could not be used. This question of compensation water is certainly one that requires very grave consideration, and it is to be hoped that the Government will do something in the near future.

Land Purchase at Norton.

The Finance Committee had tabled a special report proposing to buy 140½ acres in the Norton district from the executors of the late Colonel H. A. Pirbright for the sum of £165,500. Councillor Rowlinson defended the action of the Committee. He said the land might have been taken up by people who would have no regard to the amenities

of the district. This land was in everyone's mind as a possible site for an aerodrome, but he wished to make it clear that the purchase of the land would not commit the Council to use it for this purpose. The land was available for such things as housing, recreation, &c., and an attempt would be made to see if, for a particular purpose, it would be used. He was glad to see that it was the only site in the neighbourhood of Sheffield which was suitable for that purpose. He was curious that so many opponents of Municipal enterprise in other directions should be pressing the Corporation to take up action in this particular way, and he hoped their enthusiasm for Municipal enterprise would extend itself in other spheres.

Alderman Hauberton was very perturbed about the possibility of an aerodrome being so near the hospital grounds, and Alderman Graves was very anxious that the possibility of finding another site for an aerodrome, which he insisted, would only be a terrible nuisance to everyone in the neighbourhood.

Personally, I am not enamoured of the proposal. Air traffic is bound to be more expensive than land or sea traffic, and is only useful when great speed is required. It is doubtful whether the benefit to a manufacturing city is a very great one, and the proposals put forward by the company (for it is a private company) seem to imply that the municipality should bear all the cost of providing an aerodrome for the profit and benefit of the company itself. I agree with Alderman Graves that if necessary a place considerably further from Sheffield might be found; for London the flying station is at Croydon which is a considerable distance from the city itself, and there seems to be no reason why it should be on the very edge of the city. This, however, is a matter of personal opinion that will have to be considered by the Council in due course.

Council Takes Over the Work of the Guardians.

Councillor Rowlinson explained the proposals laid down for taking over the work of the Guardians on April 1st next year. A large portion of this work will be taken entirely from the Poor-Law and placed in the hands of existing Committees of the Council. For example, the hospitals will come under the control of the City Hospitals Committee. The maintenance of children apart from their parents will be in the hands of the Health Committee of the Council, and the Education Committee will (indirectly) take control of other sections of the work. The Relief will be in the hands of a Public Assistance Committee.

The question has arisen as to whether it would not be advisable to co-opt existing Guardians, but the Committee was strongly in favour of having only Council members on the Committee, as they did not look with favour on the principle of co-opting; feeling that all members of public committees should be responsible to the electors.

Councillor W. I. Mitchell wanted to know if this was a question of getting behind the present arrangements under which Ecclesall had a lower population than Sheffield; even if so, it was a risk many electors would be troubled to take. Councillor Rowlinson said the matter of preference was rapidly diminishing, and in a short time would be a thing of the past.

Councillor (Mrs.) Moore roused some amusement, when, in speaking of the work done by herself and her fellow members of the Board of Guardians, she said that they worked much harder than the Council did, and were required to be away from home from early morning till late at night. She said the work of the Council was done in comparison with being a member of the Board of Guardians. "I say before it is too late take counsel to co-opt" she advised the irreverently one member of the Council to be warned. "The spisy's warning." The scheme was carried.

QUALITY FIRST. BIG IMPROVEMENT IN NEW HOUSES.

By Councillor C. W. GASCOIGNE
(Chairman, Estates Committee).

On the advent of the Labour and Co-operative Parties to power in the City Council two years ago, it was felt that the first great aim was to improve the quality and type of houses that were being built. An examination of the cost of repairs on houses only two or three years old, some of which have had to be repainted and floors renewed, is proof of the need of this being done.

The new Longley Estate is a visible proof that we have succeeded, and if further proof is required it can be found in the fact that 80 per cent. of the new applications for houses are for this estate. It might be still further pointed out that on the Ridgeway Estate, built by direct labour, there have been no repairs at all despite the very exposed position of the estate.

Although building costs were very high when our direct labour department commenced building, we have succeeded in reducing the cost of houses by £100 per house, as well as having built a better type of house. This saving has consequently accounted for the reduction in rents. This reduction would have been more substantial but for the cut in the subsidy made by the late Conservative Government.

We have condemned more insanitary buildings in one year (over one hundred) than have been condemned in any preceding year; and have built a record number of houses to re-house those displaced by slum clearance schemes of 1928.

We are proud of what has been accomplished, but not satisfied. With the advent of a national Labour Government pledged to bring in a new slum-clearance measure, the Council hope to be able to co-operate actively with the Government in all these schemes, and also in building houses at such rents as the workers can afford to pay.

BOOKS AND ART.

HOW THE LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS
SERVE THE CITY.

By Councillor A. BARTON.

Since the Labour Party took office, the issues of books from the public libraries have risen from 1,765,912 to 2,002,507, an increase of 236,595. We have built, completely reorganised and modernised, three branch libraries. A new branch library is building at Fifth Park, and is expected to be open by the end of the year; another new branch will shortly be commenced at Woodhouse; and a site for a third has been purchased at Woodlands. In addition, a great new Central Library and Art Gallery will be begun next year. A new children's library is also building at Hillsborough, and will open in November.

We have extended the library service in all directions—in the schools, among study circles, to W.E.A. classes, and the Guardians' Children's Homes. Our aim is to bring books and knowledge into the lives of all our citizens.

The Weston Park Museum has now been opened on Sunday afternoons. Considerable additions have been made to its collections, especially those connected with primitive man.

The Mappin Art Gallery has a succession of interesting exhibitions. In addition, the permanent collection has been enriched by many beautiful paintings.

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ACTIVITIES OF THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT.

By Councillor GANDY (Chairman).

DURING the last two years the Rating and Valuation Department has undergone considerable changes, and in the space of my disposal it would be impossible adequately to explain all the improvements which have taken place.

Immediately I was elected chairman I investigated the methods employed in rate collection, and was appalled at the state of affairs. The arrears of rates were practically nil, and since 1926 they had mounted up at the rate of nearly £100,000 a year. Realising that bank interest on the arrears must be enormous, I called for drastic action with a view to putting the department on a business-like footing. The department was directed into a rating section and a valuation section; the former to conduct a strict supervision of the collection of money, the latter to deal with the pressing matter of re-valuing the whole of the city under the terms of the "Rating and Valuation Act" of 1925.

The iniquitable state of assessments called for intensive inquiry and a speeding up of the work in this direction owing to the short time at our disposal. Realising the heavy financial losses entailed by the outstanding debts a consolidation summary was prepared to show where the arrears lay, and in the first six months we collected £94,000 from debts owing upwards of five years in a very encouraging start. Small weekly payments were taken, and what it is pointed out that in sums of 1s. or so per week over £50,000 a year has been recovered, it proves that even poor debtors have recognised their responsibility to the city when suitable facilities were granted. During this period nearly the whole of the current rate was collected within a half-year, a striking contrast with the financial handling by the Citizen Party when in power. This is also a proof that Socialist control is more effective than that of our opponents.

Not only was there a huge rate arrears, but the arrears of work in the office were also alarid. The posting of the rate payments was in a ridiculous state, and in numerous cases nearly seven months behind time—notwithstanding that nearly £10,000 was spent in overtime in the last five years, an average of £4,000 a year. Our posting is now completed within twenty-four hours.

The outstanding arrears of rates in September, 1926, were £577,827, and up to March, 1929, we have collected £220,000, besides collecting the whole of the current rate during that period—somehow better than adding £100,000 to the deficit, and a proof that the Labour administration can do the job!

A simple sum in arithmetic will show how much was saved in bank interest—say at 5 per cent. £11,000 is worth saving in one year.

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THE WATER OF LIFE.

By Alderman F. WOMERSLEY
(Chairman, Water Committee).

DURING the past twelve months the question of water supplies has seriously engaged the attention of many public authorities throughout the country, owing to the effect of one of the severest droughts in the history of water undertakings. Sheffield has had the perspicacity to provide a plentiful supply not only for its inhabitants but also for those ever-increasing contiguous communities near to its boundary. This has been accomplished by the city expending a very large sum of money in this great communal enterprise.

The total sum expended up to March 31st, 1929, was £7,281,888. With this money 142,000 compounding and eighteen service reservoirs, with a storage capacity of 7,400,000,000 gallons, have been constructed with the necessary mains and filtration plants required to deliver the water in a clean, wholesome condition. This vast volume of water is obtained by draining forty-seven square miles of moorland situated in the valleys around Sheffield.

This municipal undertaking is now one of the largest in the country, extending over an area of 176 square miles, and supplies a population of 877,000 people.

It is impossible to estimate the amount of labour and ingenuity required to collect and purify this mass of water, which is done on the most scientific principles known to the world, and delivered in large trunk mains across

long distances of country at the low average cost of 21d. per ton. The average daily quantity drawn from our works is 35,000,000 gallons, and the amount annually exceeds 13,000,000,000 gallons. For public baths and sanitary purposes we supply 40,000 worth of water to the city free of cost.

The new system of housing the people and the provision of baths and W.C.s has made an increasing draw on the resources. The following statistics illustrate this—

In 1888 the number of houses supplied was 68,267, of which 5,540 were provided with W.C.s.

At March 31st, 1929, the number of houses supplied was 131,617, of which 123,966 had W.C.s. The number of W.C.s have doubled during the last twenty-two years.

In regard to baths the number in use in 1888 was 2,513 (one for every twenty-seven houses).

At March 31st, 1929, the number had increased to 37,987 (or one for every three-and-a-half houses). This number of baths have increased during the last ten years by 70 per cent.

To meet the very heavy future demands, the City Council have bought the Barbage Estate of nearly 3,200 acres of moorland, for the construction of a large reservoir to provide about 4,000,000 gallons per day for the benefit of our high level districts. This also will provide work for 400 men for five years.

The policy of the Labour Party is not only to provide for present needs but to look ahead, in order to leave posterity with a plentiful provision of the main essential to health—water.

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CO-OPERATION AND THE MUNICIPALITY.

When the Co-operative Movement first secured representation in Parliament, it was careful to add, and on local government and administrative matters, to the famous resolution. It was realised that, however benevolent a national Government may be, it is in the local administration that the anomalies arise. When the Co-operative Movement was seeking with vigour the retail society in the country, the Urban District Councils, Parish Councils, Urban District Councils, and so on were packed with private traders and representatives with the profit-seeking instinct.

Our representation on these bodies was sought, therefore, not merely to remedy the gross anomalies, but to infuse the spirit of co-operation into our everyday life.

In Sheffield the influence of Co-operative representation has not only been felt in the local administration, but also in the development of an advanced sense of co-operation as a result of the larger organisation of civic life. Men and women have had to administer the affairs of a community in the interest of the whole, not of a few, or a class, have learnt their experience and idealism in the conduct of the City's affairs, and we venture to say that the spirit and service demonstrated during the last three years has been of immense advantage to the City. As many of the articles in our current issue will show, there have been wonderful developments during the period in which Co-operation and Labour has been in the saddle, and this in spite of very difficult circumstances and organised opposition.

We shall have more to say on this matter in our next issue; meantime we trust our readers will familiarise themselves with details of civic administration as outlined by the various chairmen of municipal committees in this issue.

EDUCATION OF JUNIOR EMPLOYEES.

About 300 of the Brightside and Carbrook Society's junior employees attended a social evening at the Hillsborough Institute on Thursday, September 24th, arranged by the Educational Committee for the distribution of Co-operative Union certificates gained at the Arundel-street evening classes for co-operative employees during the previous session in the subjects of English, arithmetic, and co-operative bookkeeping.

Councillor E. S. Nicholson, J.P., provided, and in commenting on the work of the classes stressed the necessity of efficient education in business, and pointed out that the Educational Committee of the Society were inaugurating new classes in salesmanship during the coming winter, in addition to the classes already in operation, in conjunction with the City Education Committee and the Co-operative Union.

Mr. J. Dimberline, J.P. (president of the society), in presenting the certificates, told how in visiting different societies he had met previous employees of the society, now holding positions of authority in the co-operative movement, who had gained their qualifications in similar classes, and, being holders of Union certificates and diplomas, had proved their qualifications for the positions they now held.

More and more had it become necessary for the employees of the movement to take advantage of the educational facilities offered, because in the future it would only be those who had equipped themselves efficiently for the position who would be able to compete and keep the co-operative movement in the forefront of the business world. The board were watching the progress of their junior employees, and would take into consideration their attendance and work in these classes in future arrangements.

Musical items were rendered, and a suitable dance programme, for which Mr. Godde's Dance Band provided the music, made up a very enjoyable evening. Refreshments were provided by the board of directors.

FRESH AIR AND SUNSHINE FOR THE PEOPLE.

SHEFFIELD PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS.

By Councillor E. S. NICHOLSON, J.P. (Vice-Chairman, Sheffield Parks Committee).

SHEFFIELD is very favourably situated in respect to its parks and recreation grounds, as, with the single exception of London, no other city or town enjoys the use of so large an acreage as Sheffield does, and even in the case of London, when the population is taken into account, the advantage is greatly in favour of our city. The Corporation owns and controls twelve parks, twelve woods, eighteen recreation grounds, two golf courses, and seventeen "open spaces," the whole covering an area of not less than 2,791 acres. Whist portions of the parks are ornamentally laid out and are pleasing to the eye, facilities are provided for recreation. We have seventy-one tennis courts, twenty-six bowling greens, four putting greens, two golf courses, one miniature golf course, and three open-air baths. That these are appreciated by the general public is shown by the receipts from the various games last year. On the tennis courts 28,859 hourly, and 7,363 half-hourly tickets were sold, the total receipts being £1,706 21s. 3d. On the bowling greens we had 343 season ticket-holders, and disposed of 35,130 hourly and 47,966 half-hourly tickets, the total receipts from the greens being £1,014 14s. 1d. Tickets to the number of 26,862 were disposed of to players on the putting greens, realising £211 7s. On the miniature golf course 8,048 players paid £241 10s. 10d., whilst on the golf courses at Beaufich and Tinsley Park, 27,753 tickets were disposed of, and the receipts amounted to £2,484 9s. 3d. In all, on the various playing areas, 161,924 tickets were disposed of, the total receipts being £5,681 8s. 4d. The parks committee are also responsible for music and concerts in the parks, and, last year, arranged 161 performances, and, in addition, eighteen "Court and Alley" concerts were given. The amount paid

in fees to bands and artists amounted to £1,308, and the receipts were £172, leaving a deficit of £536. The total number of workmen employed (apart from relief works) is 277; the annual wage bill being £25,443. Taking into account the area of the parks, woods, and recreation grounds accessible to the public, together with the amenities provided, a net cost to the city of £17,014 os 6d. (less than 3d. in the pound on rates) cannot be considered excessive.

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TAILORING DEPARTMENT,
THE ARCADE ECCLESALL ROAD.

OCTOBER WEAR.

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For Men from	Youths from	Boys from	Kiddies from
35/-	19/6	14/6	10/6

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SEE ADVANCE DISPLAYS AT THE ARCADE.

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The latest shaped Bowler for Autumn Wear from 10/6, and all the Newest Shades of Brown in Soft Felt Hats from 7/11.

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Once you have seen
it, you must get it
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illustrated, the most
interesting, the most
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and beats the maga-
zine at a shilling.
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"IVY" BRAND

BOOTS
AND
SHOES



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CO-OPERATIVE BOOT
SOCIETY Ltd.,
Northampton.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.
CO-OPERATIVE PARTY CANDIDATES.

The Co-operative Party has nominated the following candidates for the forthcoming Municipal Elections. In view of the increased number of seats the party is seeking increased representation, and in agreement with the Labour Party the following candidates have been nominated.

Hillborough Ward.

Mr. JAMES GILL has again been selected as the Co-operative and Labour candidate for the Hillborough Ward. An ex-schoolmaster of the Wadley Bridge Council School and a fifteen years' member of the Brightside and Carbrook Co-operative Society's Board of Management, he can claim to be a truly well known in the Hillborough Ward, where he has resided for over twenty years, but an active worker on behalf of the people. He is an advocate of the Franchise of Land Values, which policy he has advocated in steam and out of season. A life-long trade unionist and co-operator, he would make an excellent councillor. It is men like Mr. Gill, with experience in educational work, who can best direct the new educational policy inaugurated by the National Labour Government.

Owlerton Ward.

The newly-created ward of Owlerton is to have three councillors, whose period of office will be conditioned by the number of votes obtained at the next election. The candidate obtaining the highest number will sit for three years, the next for two years, and the next for one year.

Councillor A. BARTON, who has represented the old Hillborough Ward for three years and had previously served ten years service to the City Council, is well known, not only for his propaganda work, but for his administrative ability on the Council. During his period of chairmanship of the Libraries Committee, the Open-Access system has been developed and enormously increased facilities offered—and made—in the way of adult education through increased borrowings. Through the action of Alderman J. G. Graves, coupled with the progressive committee which now presides over the Libraries, Councillor Barton is looking forward to the time when we shall have a central Library and Art Gallery worthy of the city. Councillor Barton is chairman of the Adult Education Committee and member of a number of other committees, in which he has proved his pre-eminent fitness to represent the best interests of the Owlerton electors.

Mr. R. E. JONES, J.P., contested the Hillborough Ward in 1927, and received overwhelming support in the area which has now been created the new Owlerton Ward.

He is a long-standing member of the Trade Union and Co-operative Movements, having spent ten years on the Board of the Brightside and Carbrook Society, many years on the Educational Committee, and also given splendid service in the way of lecturing, &c., for the Co-operative Union. He is a life-long student of social problems, and has done much to establish the Co-operative and Labour Movements in the city of Sheffield.

The Labour Party has nominated Mr. W. IBBOTSON, who has already given splendid service as a Guardian for the last five years in the Walkley Ward, and, as a matter of fact, has actually represented the same electors in parts of the Owlerton Ward, who will now have an opportunity of exercising their vote in favour of Mr. Ibbotson for Municipal purposes.

Neepsend Ward.

Councillor J. HAWNT, who has again been nominated for the Neepsend Ward, which he has well represented for the last three years, is again appealing to the electors as the Co-operative candidate, in whom Neepsend has the highest possible con-

fidence. His work on the following committees: Education, Establishment, Libraries, Magpie Art Gallery, Parks, Old-Age Pensions, and Rating, will bear the most careful scrutiny of the electors who desire a representative who really represents the people. Mr. Hawnt attends to the Committee work and to the particular needs of the Neepsend Ward in the traditional style of Co-operative representatives, which is to watch the best interests of the electors in that area whatever subject is under discussion in the committee-room or in the Council Chamber itself.

Darnall Ward.

Mr. JOHN DIMBERLINE, J.P., has served for thirty-five years on the Education Committee and on the Management Committee of the Brightside and Carbrook Co-operative Society. He has been a member of the Labour Party for many years, and was created a Justice of the Peace in 1924. Mr. Dimberline has lived the whole of his adult life in the Attercliffe and Darnall district, and knows the needs of the people in that area. He will be a worthy successor of Mr. C. E. Wilson and other men who have so well represented the Darnall Ward for many years past.

Tinsley Ward.

Councillor S. H. MARSHALL, who has represented Attercliffe Ward for the last three years, has been appointed Co-operative candidate for the new Tinsley Ward.

Councillor Marshall's work on the Education Committee and other important Committees of the Council will bear the closest scrutiny, as also the record of service to the local electors.

Councillor Marshall is a technician, a Trade Unionist, a Co-operative, and a Labour advocate who can be relied upon by electors in the new Tinsley Ward, along with his two Labour colleagues.

Firth Park Ward.

Mrs. S. E. AGER, who is a Co-operative candidate with two Labour colleagues, has spent the whole of her adult life in service for the workers, particularly in the Co-operative wing of the Workers' Movement. Her services as a Guardian has been faithful and consistent in helping those who have come upon hard times; whilst her membership of the Brightside and Carbrook Management Committee for nearly twelve years has given her training in business administration that will be of immense advantage to the city where she is elected to the Council.

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AMALGAMATION

Essay Competition.

First Prize, £1 10s. Second Prize, £1. Third Prize, 10s.

The Brightside and Carbrook Co-operative Educational Committee offer prizes for the three best essays on "Amalgamation." Open to all members of Brightside and Carbrook Co-operative Society.

CONDITIONS.

- Essays to contain not more than 1,500, or less than 1,200 words.
- The subject to be dealt with on general lines, as it affects co-operative societies.
- Essays must be written on numbered sheets, on one side of paper only, and sent in without signature or other identification marks, accompanied by a separate sheet bearing competitor's name, address, and share number.
- The committee reserve the right to submit any or all essays received to an independent adjudicator, appointed by the Co-operative Union, and prizes will be awarded on his decision, which shall be final.
- Prizes will be vouchers, exchangeable for goods in any department of the Brightside and Carbrook Co-operative Society Limited.
- The committee will publish at their discretion any prize-winning or other essay in the "Wheatbread" or the "Sheffield Co-operator."
- Essays for consideration must be sent to Mrs. Kenne, 65, Wincobank Lane, Sheffield, not later than November 30th, 1929. Results will be published in the "Wheatbread" and the "Sheffield Co-operator" for February, 1930.

SAVING THE CITY'S CHILD-LIFE. IS WALKLEY NEGLECTED?

THE BOONS AND BLESSINGS OF OUR SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

BY ALDERMAN W. DANCOFT.

It is a long way from 1573—the first record of education in Sheffield to the found—but it is only twenty-five years ago that Parliament ordered an inquiry into the health of the school child. Three years afterwards, in 1907, it imposed certain duties on Local Authorities. The City of Sheffield has, to its credit, given a lead for the past twenty years in this most important work of saving the child-life in our schools. They have during that time reformed schools for the physically defective child who is unable to attend our elementary schools, the mentally defective, the deaf, the partially blind, the tubercular, and in many ways improved the lot of the children of the elementary and secondary schools. They have at the present time on the rolls of the schools for defective children over 300 physically defective, 100 partially blind, 200 mentally defective, and over ninety deaf scholars; at open-air schools, 270.

During the past five years the service have passed through these schools: Mentally defective, 284; physically defective, 450; deaf, 72; partially blind, 97; but the service is still short of accommodation, and a long list of children are waiting to be admitted. The staff of the service is represented by nine doctors, six dental surgeons (full time) and five medical officers (part-time), twenty-seven school nurses, and other attendants. There are fourteen school clinics in various parts of

the city. During the past year two new clinics have been opened. During the last year 289,688 visits were made by children to the clinics, an increase of 35,803 over the previous year. By increasing the medical staff the service has been enabled to carry out 5,000 more examinations than any previous year. Over 20,000 children were treated at the dental clinic; 5,863 children were treated for skin diseases; 857 tubercular children were dealt with, 509 placed in sanatoria, others placed under observation; and 141 children were sent to the Edgar Allan Institute for treatment. There are 130 epileptic children in the city, for which we have yet no special school.

During the year the service supplied 1,029,977 meals to school children at a cost of £41,758 6s. 5d. During the past five years there were supplied to our school children in the Sheffield elementary schools 5,498,372 meals.

During the present year we hope to open the Bents Green Open-Air School, at which there will be accommodation for 350 more children.

There is a much brighter outlook for the Sheffield school child than at any other time. The building of new schools, with improved conditions of light, air, space, &c., are steps in the direction of better health for the school child; but the great important factor in child-life is to prevent the child contracting bad health. The School Medical Service, the Child Welfare Centre, and the Nursery School will in the future, I am sure, tend to decrease disease among young children. Greed, ignorance, and indifference in the past have marred the nation's greatest asset, its child-life. The School Medical Service in its systematic medical inspection is laying the foundations of national health. It is, therefore, the duty of every parent and citizen to support this important part of our educational system.

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MAKERS OF ALL KINDS OF PLAIN, RIBBED, AND FANCY HOSIERY, LADIES' AND GENTLEMEN'S UNDERWEAR

Every Co-operator should give these goods a trial. Sure to give satisfaction. Made under the best conditions and supplied at Your Own Stores.

Next to ASHFIELD BRAND HOSIERY AND UNDERWEAR.

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Boot Department.

The ARCADE, Ecclesall Road, and Branches.

One of the ALUTA styles. Obtainable in Patent, Black Glacé, and Bulrush Glacé, with fancy quarter and 2 in. Louis Heel.

Other styles in Patent, Black Glacé, and Brown Glacé, with fancy or plain bar. All at



Obtainable in Sizes and Half-sizes.

One of the ELIZABETH styles. In Patent, Black Glacé, and Brown Glacé, with slashed quarters, underlay of Snake, and leather heel.

Other styles in Patent, Black Glacé, Brown Glacé, and Brown Willow. All at



By Councillor J. W. HOLLAND.

Can South-road be Widened?

There is in Walkley an absolutely unanimous view on the necessity of doing something with South-road. The narrowness at several points make those portions very dangerous, a state of affairs which has prompted inquiry by the Walkley councillors for some considerable time. At present there is a small scheme on foot to alter the improvement line between Fir-street and Greenhow-trest. Then again, from High-ton-street towards the library corner. The estimated cost is £4,200.

To tackle the whole length of South-road, and make a sixty-foot road would cost on a minimum estimate, no less than £147,000. The first portion of the scheme we shall press for in the very early future as being a necessity to public safety.

In addition to the above, I am now able to add further details respecting work and attention paid to Walkley as promised last month.

Schools.—The cost of maintaining the council schools in the ward, including caretaker, repairs, &c., is for 1927-8, £1,365, and for 1928-9, £2,118, making a total for the two years £3,483.

Housing.—The cost of repairs and alterations on the Walkley Estate to March 31st, 1928, is £686, and to March 31st, 1929, £809; making a total for the two years £1,495. In addition, the influence of the Walkley councillors has entailed a cost of £87 to level the land attached to the houses in Northfield-road, whilst further expenditure is to be incurred in making good the frost gardens.

Electricity.—As a member of the committee, I have ensured that Walkley was not neglected. There-

fore, of the following we have our share:

Year Ending March 31st	Quantity Consumed	Total Length of Mains, Estimated Complete.
1927	7,077	2512
1928	8,286	2451
1929	9,826	2501

of Medical Service.—Dr. Chet-informs me that the children 3 at the various clinics from orrough District is as follows:

Dr. Chet-informs me that the children 3 at the various clinics from orrough District is as follows:	1927	1928
Dr. Chet-informs me that the children 3 at the various clinics from orrough District is as follows:	1,149	1,275
Dr. Chet-informs me that the children 3 at the various clinics from orrough District is as follows:	968	682
Dr. Chet-informs me that the children 3 at the various clinics from orrough District is as follows:	562	571
Dr. Chet-informs me that the children 3 at the various clinics from orrough District is as follows:	114	90
Dr. Chet-informs me that the children 3 at the various clinics from orrough District is as follows:	1,915	1,985

4,808—4,705 The above figures do not include attendances at the Tuberculosis Dispensary, nor mere attendances at the clinics for medical examinations.

Sanitary Service.—In No. 2 District, of which Walkley is part, I have obtained the following particulars: Additional Dots, 1827, 1928, Total. bins Provided, 157, 780, 877

Adopted Abolished, 73, 136, 209
Privies Converted, 219, 23, 275
Statutory Notices Served, 608, 295, 1,202
Intimation Notices Served, 2,495, 3,128, 5,623
Yards Paved, 446, 457, 911

These are but a few of the details which my colleagues, Councillors Laing and Skelton, have assisted to get done in the ward, but they suffice to prove that Walkley is not by any means the " Cinderella of the Suburbs." A record of service which surely warrants the support of Walkley electors for the retiring candidate on November 1st next—Councillor J. H. Skelton.

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Will Give Complete Protection, Whatever the Weather.

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SMART AND COMFORTABLE YET REASONABLE IN PRICE.

ALUTA AND ELIZABETH SHOES.

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The CITY STORES

"Where better quality costs less."

AT the City Stores you always get a little more for your money than you do elsewhere. Below we give some typical examples of the outstanding values now being offered in the various departments.

COME AND SEE WHAT WE HAVE TO SHOW YOU!



Fashion Salons (First Floor)

Fur-Trimmed Tweed Coats, from 22/6.

Leatherette, excellent quality, wool lined, all shades, 21/6.

Children's Department

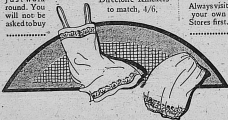
Children's 20" Serge Coats, fur trimmed, all shades. Very special value, 5/11.

Ladies' Underwear

Very special line in Ladies' Art. Silk Princess Skirts, non-ladder, lace insertion, 5/11.

Directoire Knickers to match, 4/6.

Just walk round. You will not be asked to buy



Gents' Boots & Shoes for Autumn Wear.

Black Chrome Derbys, 14/11 to 26/6.
Also in Stout Tan Willow, 16/11 to 26/6.
Splendid Value. Every Pair Guaranteed.

Ladies' Department

New Season's Sports Models, latest colours and styles, 12/11 to 30/-

Children's Dept.

Footwear for School or better wear.

Boys' Boots, 5/11 to 8/11.
Girls' Boots, 6/11 to 9/11.

BOOT REPAIRS.

We not only sell smart shoes, but we keep them smart by skilful repairing. Leave them at the City Stores, or any branch, and have them perfectly repaired.

GENTS' OUTFITTING (Ground Floor)

Winter Shirts - from 3/11 to 18/6
Tunic Shirts - " 4/6 to 21/-
Socks, ribbed - " from 1/-
Ties, splendid value - 1/- to 4/6
Hats, smart shapes and colours - from 3/11
Caps, latest trends - " 2/6

Furnishing Department.

THE U-PHONE GRAMOPHONE gives perfect tone to every home.

All the latest and up-to-date models now in stock—Call To-day.

B. & C. Portables - £3 0s. U-Phone Elite Pedestal - £7 7s.

U-Phone Portables - £3 3s. " Gram Console - £12 0s.

" Table Grand - £6 0s. " Queen Anne Pedestal £12 0s.

Up-to-date stock of Records, including Union, Pathophons, Brunswick, and Columbia.

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Clearing Line of Art. Silks.

This season's designs, reduced from 3/11 to 2/11, 2/11½ to 2/3, 1/11½ to 1/6

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1/8 in the £

Hosiery Department

Pure Silk Reinforced Rayer Hosiery, in all the leading shades. Limited quantity (worth 4/6) Per pair, 3/6.

Furnishing Dept.

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