

The Avenue School

excerpts from log books

E.E. (Defective and Epileptic Children) Act 1899

Board of Education, Whitehall, London, SW. 11 April 1902

1. Reading Oxford Road, Special Board School
C. County of Berks 29/33

Sir,

I am directed to inform you that the Board of Education have considered your application for the above-named school to be certified, and hereby certify it under Section 2 of the Elementary Education (Defective and Epileptic Children) Act 1899.

The school provides for the education of 17 defective children.

Whatever grants will be made to this school will be issued only once per annum, as soon as possible after receipt of the Inspector's Report showing that the conditions of the minutes of 26th February 1900 have been fulfilled and will be reckoned for year's ending with the last day of September inclusive.

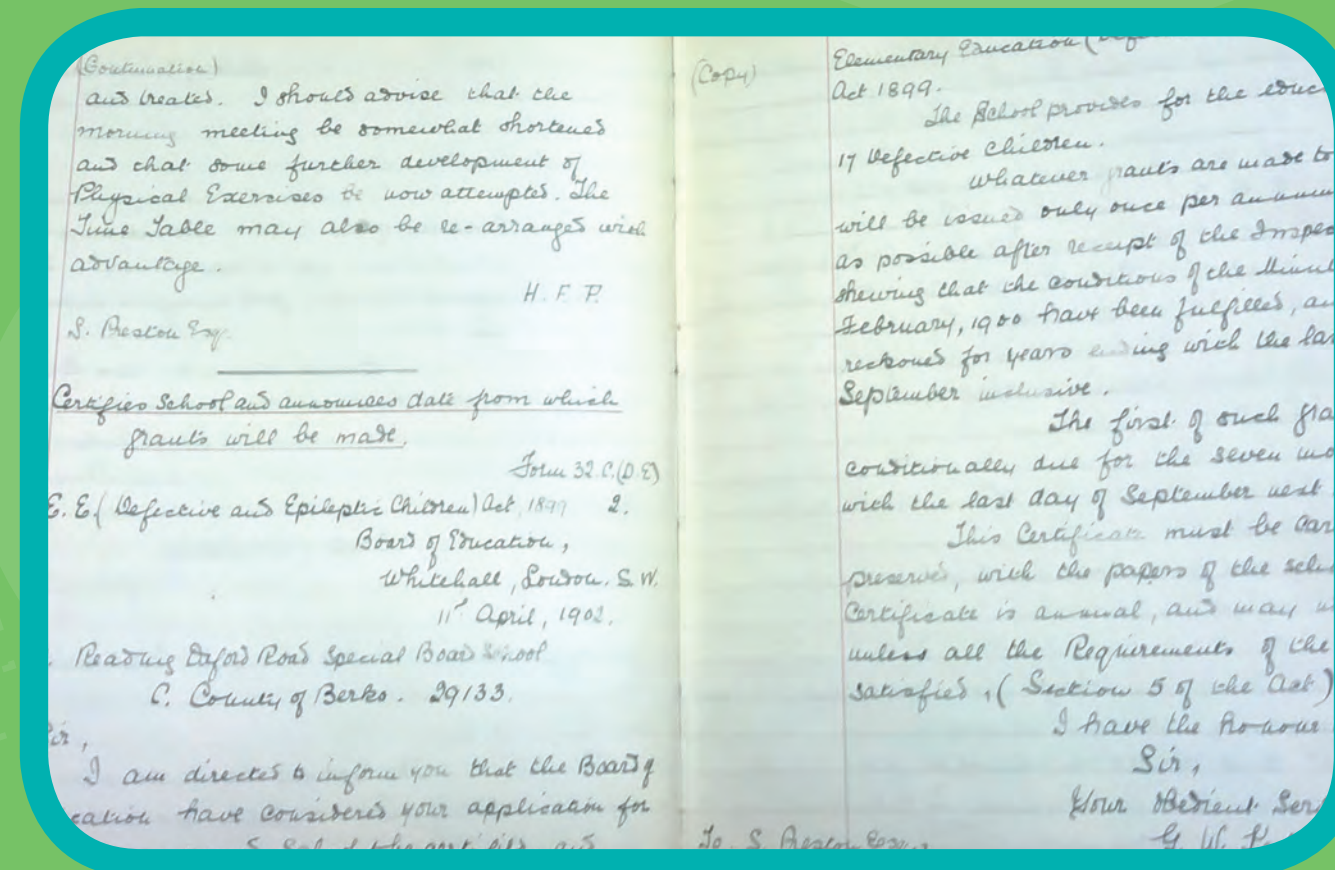
The first of such grants will be conditionally due for the seven months ending with the last day of September next.

This certificate must be carefully preserved with the papers of the school. The certificate is annual and may not be renewed unless all the Requirements of the Act are satisfied (Section 5 of the Act).

I have the honour to be Sir, your obedient servant G. W. L.....

Special School Oxford Road

I Sophy Allen (Miss), Certificated teacher, opened this school for the training and education for Physically and Mentally Defective Children (Act 1899 – Defective and Epileptic Children) on Monday morning, September 2nd, 1901. The children were admitted, all having been previously examined and passed as "fit" by Dr Price.



Miss E. Sutton (Member of R. S. B. C.) was present at the opening.

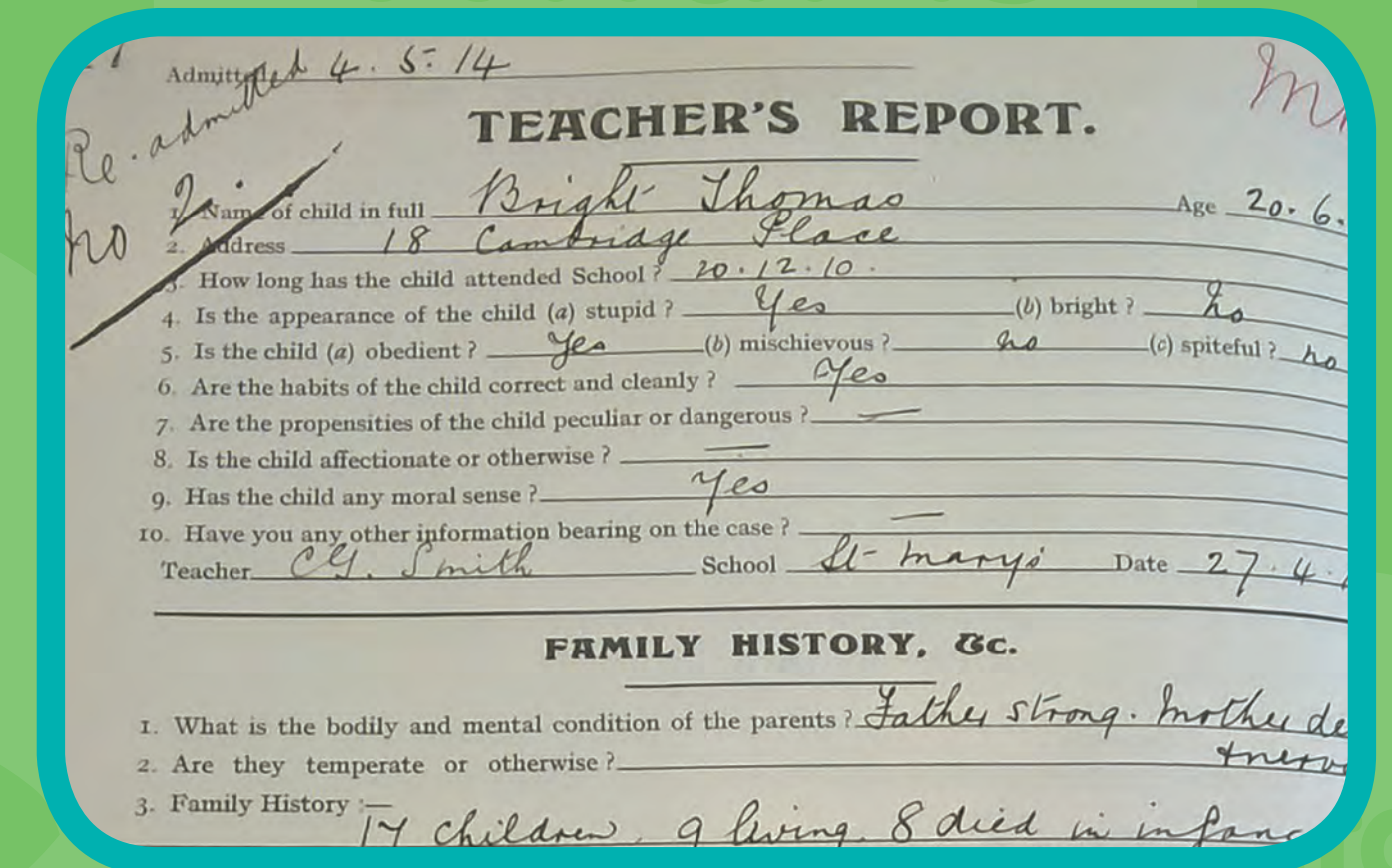
Miss F. Wave began duty as helper on probation on September 2nd. Nothing special has occurred during this week.

From the day book 15th.... "This morning I have had to give a very strong lecture on "Morality". The boys have been kissing the girls and been hugging them on their way home for some weeks past. What I saw on my way home last evening would not conduce to the good morals of any children. Much more defective children whose morals are always more lax than other children's."

Inspector's Report

Summary of HM Inspector's Report and remarks as communicated to the School Board by letter from the Board of Education, dated 3rd December 1902.

"The school is conducted with much sympathy and spirit and



most of the children show a degree of progress which is very encouraging. The confidential book should be more punctually written up."

I am to return the medical certificates which should be filed with the school records.

Records should be made at the time of admission and afterwards for all children admitted.

(a) as to the child's capacity, habits, attainments and health.
(b) as to the family history of the child.

HM Inspector reports that this has been neglected in the case of children more recently admitted.

[Paperwork was an issue even back then!]

"Dr Price visited school this morning and reported Albert V Lawrence .. to the local authority. He is a social danger to the school. Dr Price also reported Elsie Greaves born 28.3.22 being uneducatable."