[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Port of London].

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REPORT,

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1908,

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE

PORT OF LONDON.

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BY

HERBERT WILLIAMS, M.D., M.D. (State Medicine), London University, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond., D.P.H.Camb.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, PORT OF LONDON,
MEDICAL INSPECTOR FOR PURPOSES OF THE ALIENS ACT, 1905, PORT OF LONDON,
FELLOW AND MEMBER OF COUNCIL, ROYAL SANITARY INSTITUTE,
FELLOW OF THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH,
FELLOW OF THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY CHARLES SKIPPER & EAST, 49, GREAT TOWER STREET, E.C.

1909.

TRUSCOTT, *Mayor.*

A Common Council holden in the Chamber of the Guildhall of the City of *London*, on *Thursday*, the 22*nd* day of *April*, 1909.

THE Port of London Sanitary Committee did this day deliver into this Court a Report in writing under their hands, of their proceedings, and submitting the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health of the Port to the 31st December, 1908; which was read.

And a Motion being made and Question put, That this Court doth agree with the Committee in their said Report, the same was resolved in the Affirmative.

ORDERED, That the Report be printed, and a copy sent to every Member of this Court.

BELL.

To the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Commons of the City of London, in Common Council assembled.

WE, whose names are hereunto subscribed, of your Port of London Sanitary Committee, to whom it has been referred to carry into execution the powers assigned to the Corporation, as the Port Sanitary Authority of the Port of London, by the Local Government Board, under the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, beg to submit for the information of your Honourable Court the Annual Report of Dr. Herbert Williams, the Medical Officer of Health for the Port of London, for the year ended the 31st December, 1908, which Report contains a full and detailed account of the work carried out in the Port during that period by the Medical Officers and Inspectors.

The Report sets out a list of Officers forming the staff of the Port of London Sanitary Authority on the 31st December, 1908, and also gives an outline of the development of the Authority, with the respective increases in its staff, from its creation in 1872.

Details are given of the number of cases of Infectious Disease reported during the year, which is the highest number reached during the past ten years.

The Report also refers to the epidemic of Cholera which existed in Russia during the latter months of the year, and particulars are given showing the precautions adopted for the medical inspection of vessels arriving in the Thames from Russian ports, and also for dealing with the passengers arriving on such vessels.

The Bye-laws relating to Infectious Diseases have been amended, and have received the sanction of the Local Government Board. These are set out in full. The Bye-laws as amended will strengthen the hands of the Officers of the Authority in dealing with cases of infectious disease, as any ship now arriving within any part of the Port of London with a case of infectious disease on board can now be dealt with.

The Medical Officer gives a short account of an outbreak of plague amongst rats in one of the docks, together with the steps taken for stamping out the epidemic.

This is the first occasion on which plague has been known to occur amongst rats in the Port of London, and the Medical Officer rightly draws attention to the importance of this, not only as affecting the public health, but as to its effect upon the trade of the Port of London.

A floating disinfecting plant has been sanctioned by your Honourable Court, and will be in use at an early date, so that ships in the Port of London will be able to be fumigated with a view to the destruction of rats on board.

Regulations have been made by the Local Government Board under the Public Health (Regulations as to Food) Act, and an abstract of these is furnished.

Food Inspection in the Port of London has been carried on for many years under many difficulties, but the additional powers conferred upon this Authority will enable this work to be carried out to a greater extent than formerly, and additions to the staff of Inspectors have been sanctioned by your Honourable Court. The quantities of unsound food destroyed during the year are also given, together with a table showing the quantities of meat destroyed during the last four years.

The Port of London Act, which transferred the property of the Dock Companies and the powers of the Thames Conservancy below Teddington Lock to the Port Authority, became law. Your Committee urged strongly that the sanitary clauses of the Thames Conservancy Act, which were proposed to be transferred to the new Authority, should be administered by the Port Sanitary Authority, and the Lord Mayor and your Medical Officer of Health gave evidence before the Select Committee on this point. Your Committee regret, however, that their efforts were unsuccessful.

The question of the purification of the River Thames and Estuary continues to receive the careful attention of your Committee.

Particulars are given as to nuisances reported and dealt with during the year, together with the administration of the Hospital for Infectious Diseases at Denton, and also the number of cases admitted and discharged, and the cost of maintenance, &c.

Details of the working of the Aliens Act are given, with the number of alien passengers rejected by the Medical Officers during the year.

The Report also gives particulars of the inspection of canal boats under the Canal Boats Acts and Regulations.

In accordance with the Order of your Honourable Court, an Account of Receipts and Expenditure in connection with the Port of London Sanitary Authority for the year ended the 31st December last is appended for the information of the Court.

All which we submit to the judgment of this Honourable Court. Dated this sixth day of April, 1909.

	S. Pollitzer.
J. S. Robinson.	Benj. Turner.
David Haydon.	C. C. Hodges.
J. Banks Pittman.	Chas. M. Wither.
Spencer W. Morris.	Tyson Crawford.
Edward Hughes.	W. H. Williamson.
S. Alderton.	Fred. G. Dray.
John Stopher.	Walter Dennis.
J. W. Domoney.	Horace S. Dove.
	James Lake.

OFFICES

OF THE

Port of London Sanitary Authority

AND

Medical Officer of Health

AT

51, KING WILLIAM STREET,

GREENWICH S.E.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS - - -	"MEDOFF," LONDON.
TELEPHONE No. - - - -	36 DEPTFORD.

BOARDING STATIONS.

RIVER THAMES - -	HULK "HYGEIA," GRAVESEND.
RIVER MEDWAY - -	GARRISON POINT, SHEERNESS.

HOSPITAL FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES

AT

DENTON, NEAR GRAVESEND.

TELEPHONE No. - - - -	957 GRAVESEND.

1908.

PORT OF LONDON SANITARY COMMITTEE.

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Sir HENRY EDMUND KNIGHT, Knt.
Sir WALTER VAUGHAN MORGAN, Bart.
Sir G. WYATT TRUSCOTT, Knt.,
CHARLES JOHNSTON, Esq.
Sir DAVID BURNETT, Knt., Sheriff.

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PEARSE MORRISON, Esq., Deputy	Aldgate.
Mr. JAMES BANKS PITTMAN	Bassishaw.
THOMAS HASTINGS MILLER, Esq.	Billingsgate.
DANIEL GREENAWAY, Esq., Deputy	Bishopsgate.
Mr. JAMES TOLLWORTHY	Bishopsgate.
CHARLES CHEERS WAKEFIELD, Esq., Sheriff	Bread Street.
WILLIAM HENRY WILLIAMSON, Esq.	Bridge.
Mr. WILLIAM HURST BROWN	Broad Street.
Mr. WALTER DENNIS	Candlewick.
Mr. CHARLES MCCAIG WITHER	Castle Baynard.
Mr. JOHN ROBERT PAKEMAN	Cheap.
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WILLIAM WALTER GREEN Esq.	Tower.
Mr. WILLIAM JAMES BERRIMAN TIPPETTS	Vintry.
JOHN RICHARD WHITMORE LUCK, Esq., Deputy	Walbrook.

Corporation Representatives on the Thames Conservancy Board (*ex-officio* Members of the Committee) :—

Sir WALTER WILKIN, K.C.M.G., Alderman.
Sir JAMES THOMSON RITCHIE, Bart., Alderman.
Mr. WILLIAM COOPER.
ALPHEUS CLEOPHAS MORTON, Esq., M.P., Deputy.
JOHN JAMES BADDELEY, Esq., J.P., Deputy,
Mr. JAMES WILLIAM DOMONEY, L.C.C.

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STAFF.

List of Officers forming the Staff of the Port of London Sanitary Authority, 31st December, 1908.

Office.	Name of Officer.	Date of Appointment.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH	Herbert Williams, M.D.Lond., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. Camb.	June, 1901.
ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICERS—		
Gravesend	W. M. Willoughby, B.A., M.D., B.C., D.P.H.Camb.	May, 1901.
	J. S. Warrack, M.A., M.D., C.M. Aberdeen, D.P.H.Camb.	April, 1903.
	W.D.Betenson,M.R.C.S.,L.R.C.P., Lond., D.P.H. Lond.	July, 1907.
	A. Kidd, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Lond., D.P.H.	November, 1908.
Sheerness	E. V. Legge, M.A., M.D., B.C., B.A.O., L.M.Dublin.	(September, 1902; Temporary).
GREENWICH OFFICES—		
Clerk	W. J. Albrow	March, 1890.
1st Assistant	E. A. Sorrell	October, 1894.
2nd ditto	W. C. Barham	June, 1903.
Junior ditto	H. N. Jones	June, 1903.
FOOD INSPECTORS	*H. Spadaccini, Cert.R.San.Inst.	July, 1898.
	*W. Anderson, Cert.R.San.Inst.	July, 1898.
	*T. W. Bailey, Cert.R.San.Inst.	July, 1901.
SANITARY INSPECTORS	*W. G. Romeril, Cert.R.San.Inst.	August, 1892.
	*A. Garland, Cert.R.San.Inst.	May, 1894.
	*W. G. Wetjen, Cert.R.San.Inst.	August, 1898.
	*W. W. Burr, Cert.R.San.Inst.	August, 1898.
	*H. R. Hopkins, Cert.R.San.Inst.	February, 1899.
	*P. R. Lambe, Cert.R.San.Inst.	January, 1900.
	*J. H. Rolfe, Cert.R.San.Inst.	September, 1901.
DENTON HOSPITAL—		
Medical Officer	W. M. Willoughby, B.A., M.D., B.C., D.P.H. Camb.	November, 1908.
Nurse Matron	A. Minshull	July, 1908.
Assistant Nurse	—	—
Junior Assistant Nurse	M. Young	July, 1908.
Ditto	M. E. Parr	July, 1908.
Cook	E. Cole	November, 1908.
Maidservant	E. Deadman	October, 1908.
Caretakers	W. J. Wragg	November, 1908.
	M. E. Wragg	November, 1908.
STEAM LAUNCHES—		
"David Burnett"—		
Master	J. G. True	July, 1893.
Engineer	G. H. Bagshaw	July, 1893.
Mate	C. Boyd	July, 1902.
Stoker	J. Steen	June, 1908.
"Clotho"—		
Master	W. Jarvis	June, 1902.
Engineer	J. A. Hardman	July, 1901.
Deckhand	T. McPherson	October, 1908.
"Denton"—		
Master	C. Strange	June, 1902.
Engineer	G. Lane	July, 1901.
Deckhand	P. Gadsdon	February, 1908.
GREENWICH MOORINGS—		
Watchmen	W. Howell	April, 1897.
	W. Shaw	February, 1906.
HULK "HYGEIA"—		
Shipkeeper	I. Rogers	April, 1893.
Ditto	A. Salter	July, 1898.
OFFICE CARETAKER	F. Hudgell	November, 1906.

* These Inspectors possess the Special Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspectors of Food.

PORT OF LONDON SANITARY OFFICES,
51, KING WILLIAM STREET,
GREENWICH, S.E.

TO THE WORSHIPFUL THE PORT OF LONDON SANITARY COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present herewith my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1908, being the seventh of the series.

Before dealing generally with the Report, and in view of the further additions to your Staff of Sanitary Inspectors contemplated for the year 1909, it may be of interest to give an outline of the growth of the Port Sanitary Authority since it was first established by Provisional Order of the Local Government Board in 1872—thirty-seven years ago—together with some description of the extent of the Port, and of the districts daily covered by your Officers. For convenience, I will deal with the latter first.

At the time of the Constitution of the Port Sanitary Authority, the limits of the Port of London were from Teddington Lock to the North Foreland, a distance of 88 miles.

By a Treasury Minute of 1st August, 1883, the seaward limit was placed at a line drawn from Havengore Creek in Essex to Warden Point in Sheppey, by which the distance was reduced to about 68 miles.

In addition, there are 22 creeks, with a navigable distance of 45 miles.

The Port of London traverses five Counties, including the Administrative County of London, and 81 Parishes abut on the jurisdiction of the Port Sanitary Authority.

The section of the River subjected to daily inspection is about 31 miles in extent, representing 62 miles out and home for the launches.

The Docks, of which there are eight groups, have a total water area of about 631 acres, and a total length of quayage of about 25 miles.

The mileage to be covered daily, therefore, represents nearly 90 miles—in direct line—the actual mileage being of course much more.

The population resident within the jurisdiction of the Port Sanitary Authority, that is, living in the Port on vessels and in dwelling-houses, has been estimated at about 10,000. The larger proportion is naturally

always on the move, but the place of those leaving is regularly filled by fresh arrivals, so that the figures quoted are found to be fairly constant over a long period.

It will be at once appreciated, in view of the wide extent of the Port, that the degree of sanitary supervision exercised at the beginning and for many years after the creation of the Port Sanitary Authority, was of a very general character.

It was the visitation of Cholera and its spread throughout the Country during the preceding decade, that doubtless led to the desire for a more particular examination, from a sanitary view, of vessels arriving from foreign ports.

At that time also the River Thames was practically a common sewer for the metropolis. There was, consequently, abundant scope for sanitary reform, and records show that the Port Sanitary Anthority played an important part, not only in causing sewer outfalls to be closed, but also in bringing about the appointment of a Royal Commission which resulted in the present method of dealing with the sewage of Greater London.

A commencement was made by appointing a Medical Officer of Health, with an Inspector of Nuisances, who made use of a rowing boat for visiting vessels in the River.

Very soon another Inspector was found necessary, and an office for the Medical Officer of Health was found at the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford.

The rowing boat was found impracticable, and was replaced by a small steam launch of the "upriver" type.

By the year 1882 the number of Inspectors had risen to three, and offices were established at Greenwich.

The condition of affairs was such that there was no lack of work for Sanitary Officers.

The Hospital of the Authority at that time consisted of an old hulk moored off Gravesend, in charge of caretakers, with a visiting Medical Officer, and during the severe epidemic of Small-pox in London in 1881, this vessel was made much use of, not only for the reception of cases of Small-pox from vessels, but also for the treatment of cases from the City of London.

At this time the Small-pox ships of the Metropolitan Asylums Board were moored off Deptford.

In 1883, the old hospital hulk "Rhin" was condemned, and the existing hospital at Denton was founded on shore.

In this year also, the staff of Inspectors was raised to four.

With the exception of the employment of a clerk in the Greenwich offices, to cope with the increasing office work, no material change in the staff took place until the year 1892. In this year there was a serious epidemic of Cholera in Hamburg, and the fear of the introduction of the disease into the Port of London was realised.

The unfortunate victims did not pass Gravesend, where they were discovered, and the living and dead were transferred to Denton Hospital.

The vigilance that consequently became necessary was more than could be adequately carried out by the existing staff.

Medical attendance was absolutely necessary night and day on vessels arriving at Gravesend from infected Ports, while closer inspection of the sanitary districts and the following up of foreign immigrants was also desirable.

That year, therefore, saw the inauguration of a system of medical inspection at the entry of the Port—a system, the great value of which has been amply demonstrated on many occasions in subsequent years.

Three Medical Officers were ultimately appointed temporarily, this number affording a shift of 24 hours on and 48 off duty for each, for the work of inspection has to be carried out by night as well as day, and also on Sundays and public holidays.

The entrance to the Port of Rochester is at Garrison Point, Sheerness, and a Medical Officer was appointed to inspect all vessels from foreign passing Sheerness.

The Senior took over the duties of Medical Officer to the Hospital on the retirement of the former visiting practitioner.

A Trained Nurse and Assistant were installed at the Hospital, in addition to the Caretakers, thus superseding the occasional hired nurses ; and additional river transport was provided at Gravesend in the shape of a larger steam launch, so that by the end of 1897, the staff of the Port Sanitary Authority stood at :—

Medical Officer of Health - - - -	1
Medical Officers for boarding purposes - -	4
Inspectors - - - - - -	7
Two steam launches - - - -	7
Boarding hulk - - - - -	2
Hospital - - - - - -	5
Offices, Clerk and two Assistants - - -	3
Total - -	29 persons

During the following year, 1898, the enormous growth of the import trade in foodstuffs, particularly refrigerated and tinned meat of various kinds, and the fact that occasionally large quantities of these goods were landed in an unsound condition, called for serious attention.

Representations made were carefully considered, with a result that the two senior Sanitary Inspectors were detailed for the work of food inspection solely, two additional Inspectors being appointed for sanitary work, a third being added in 1900.

This brought the number of Inspectors up to ten, which is the number shown in the list on page 6 of this Report.

Meantime, a third steam launch—a small one—had become necessary in the upper part of the Port, and for the purpose of affording occasional relief shifts for the Gravesend boat.

The passing of the Aliens Act, 1905, which came into force on January 1st, 1906, necessitated an additional Medical Inspector for the special work of the Act, while the recent Public Health (Regulations as to Food) Act, 1907, with the Regulations issued in the following year, enforcing more detailed inspection of foreign meat, and generally strengthening the hands of Port Sanitary Authorities in the matters of imported human food, have called for the special organisation dealt with in another portion of this Report.

The foregoing is a mere sketch of the development of the Port of London Sanitary Authority and its Staff, which, from a beginning 37 years ago of two persons, numbers at the time of writing forty-six.

There can be no question that the influence of the Authority in the Port has been wholly for the good of the public health, while in the administration the strictest economy has been invariably the rule.

The standard of efficiency has always been high, and has been accepted as a model in many other Ports at home and abroad.

The success of the Authority in its work so far has been due in no small degree to the loyalty and devotion to duty of the members of the staff, some of whom have now served the Corporation a considerable number of years.

The work is often arduous, requiring many continuous hours of duty by night as well as day, exposed to all the trying changes of the English climate. At such times I have always received willing assistance, although no system of special payment for these extra services has ever been recognised.

I referred last year to the gradual diminution in the number of vessels arriving in London from foreign ports. This still continues, and during the past year the number is lower than in any preceding year during the last decade.

The figures illustrating this will be found in the comparative Table attached to Table I.

As regards vessels arriving "coastwise" and those engaged in "inland navigation," there is an increase over the preceding year in the number of inspections, and the number shown is still above the average for the past ten years. These figures will be found in Table III., which also gives the general summary of sanitary inspection throughout the Port.

Important developments have taken place in the work of Food Inspection, and these are dealt with at length under that heading.

The presence of Cholera in Russia necessitated special precautions, which are fully dealt with in the section of the Report dealing with Infectious Disease.

MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The number of vessels arriving from foreign ports is, as pointed out in my introductory remarks, somewhat smaller than the preceding year, and this diminution has been going on for some time.

The number of vessels medically inspected is, however, larger than in any year during the past decade.

This has been brought about largely by the necessity for inspecting closely vessels arriving from Russian ports, by reason of the epidemic of Cholera, which has raged throughout Russia during the past year.

Many vessels arriving from Russian ports, as is well known, bring large numbers of alien immigrants, and the necessity for careful examination of these, as a precautionary measure against the introduction of Cholera, has imposed a considerable amount of work on the medical staff.

I have dealt with this question further under the heading of "Cholera."

The medical inspection at Sheerness shows also a reduction in the number of vessels arriving from foreign ports.

Similar precautions with regard to arrivals from Cholera-infected ports have, of course, been taken at this Boarding Station also.

Vessels entering the Medway are not, however, with one or two exceptions, of the passenger-carrying class.

TABLE I.

MEDICAL INSPECTION—GRAVESEND. From 1st January to 31st December, 1908.

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Number of foreign arrivals...	697	690	813	784	822	817	894	810	816	846	781	789	9,559
Number medically inspected	225	231	254	262	263	256	227	212	224	257	219	210	2,840
Number of passengers ...	362	781	1,022	943	935	1,027	1,008	834	1,003	461	577	581	9,634
Number of crew	3,537	5,063	5,315	5,989	5,334	5,603	4,426	5,169	5,466	6,592	4,329	6,124	62,947

COMPARATIVE TABLE.

GRAVESEND.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	Mean annual number for the 10 years ending 31st December, 1908.	1908.
Number of foreign arrivals...	10,297	10,394	10,521	10,520	10,711	10,030	9,962	9,955	9,639	*10,158·8*	9,559
Number of vessels medically inspected	1,276	1,256	1,080	1,668	2,522	2,559	2,813	2,853	2,700	*2,156·7*	2,840

Total number medically inspected at Gravesend—

From August, 1892, to December, 1907	31,768
„ 1st January to 31st December, 1908	2,930
Total	34,698

TABLE II.

MEDICAL INSPECTION—SHEERNESS. From 1st January to 31st December, 1908.

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Number of foreign arrivals...	19	26	17	28	34	39	29	23	34	24	24	22	319
Number medically inspected	18	18	12	25	34	34	20	21	32	24	23	18	279
Number of passengers ...	—	3	—	1	6	20	6	16	13	6	12	1	84
Number of crew	185	204	111	315	396	419	216	298	332	276	333	210	3,295

COMPARATIVE TABLE.

SHEERNESS.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	Mean annual number for the 10 years ending 31st December, 1908.	1908.
Number of arrivals	309	374	330	387	402	344	349	375	376	*356·5*	319
Number of vessels medically inspected	263	243	212	244	342	308	292	320	325	*282·8*	279

Total number medically inspected at Sheerness—

From 1st September, 1894, to 31st December, 1907	3,960
„ 1st January to 31st December, 1908	279
Total	4,239

SANITARY INSPECTION.

In Table III. will be found particulars of the results of the work of sanitary inspection as carried out on vessels lying in the River and Docks.

The total number of inspections for the twelve months was 35,272, of which 15,258 were on vessels arriving from foreign ports, and 20,014 on coastwise vessels and those engaged in inland navigation, together with other inspections including 1,625 inspections of various premises in the Docks.

In 3,204 cases the crew's quarters of vessels were found to be in such a dirty condition as to require immediate cleansing ; this was carried out under the supervision of your officers.

Of the nationalities of the vessels inspected, 5,570 were British. Swedish and Norwegian were next in order of number with 1,330, or 13 per cent. of the total ; the Germans being next with 876, or 9 per cent. ; the Dutch following with 6 per cent. ; Belgian, Danish, French, with others, coming next in order of importance.

A Statement is given showing the number of inspections in each year for the past ten years. This shows the number of inspections during 1908 to have closely approximated the average over the period mentioned.

TABLE III.

General Summary, and Analysis, of the Sanitary Inspection of Vessels, &c., in the Port of London, for the year ending 31st December, 1908.

Foreign.						Coastwise.						Inland Navigation.												Shore Premises.			Sick Seamen referred to Hospital.	Water Barges.				
Steam.			Sail.			Steam.			Sail.			Steam.			Sail.			Lighters (uninhabited).			Canal Boats.										
Inspected.	Defective.	To be Cleaned.	Inspected.	Defective.	To be Cleaned.	Inspected.	Defective.	To be Cleaned.	Inspected.	Defective.	To be Cleaned.	Inspected.	Defective.	To be Cleaned.	Inspected.	Defective.	To be Cleaned.	Inspected.	Defective.	To be Cleaned.	Inspected.	Defective.	To be Cleaned.	Inspected.	Defective.	To be Cleaned.		No. in District in Port on 31st December, 1907.	New Barges.	Condemned.	Use Discontinued.	No. in District on 31st December, 1908.
13225	111	1629	2033	22	256	2711	38	240	1005	25	169	638	5	25	11353	73	545	1514	5	135	1168	81	32	1625	31	173	—	21	—	—	1	20

Total Inspections to 31st December, 1907 - -		828,459
Total Inspections from 1st January to 31st December, 1908—		
"Foreign" -	15,258	
"Coastwise" -	3,716	
"Inland Navigation" -	14,673	
Premises on shore - -	1,625	
		35,272
Total - -		863,731
Cleansing of Crew's Quarters, &c. :—		
Total to 31st December, 1907		52,382
Total No. of Vessels from 1st January to 31st December, 1908 - - - -		3,204
Total - -		55,586
Number of vessels inspected :— In the Launches—		
"David Burnett" -		4,371
"Clotho" - - -		4,416
"Denton" - - -		4,813
Total - -		13,200
In the Docks, &c. - -		20,447
Total - -		33,647

Docks and River.	No.
St. Katharine's - -	834
London - - -	1,699
Regent's Canal - -	696
Millwall - - -	2,340
West India - - -	1,925
Poplar - - -	103
East India - - -	495
Victoria - - -	1,842
Royal Albert - -	1,925
Commercial - - -	2,031
Tilbury - - -	2,564
Gravesend District -	2,697
River—*Upper District	5,765
*Middle "	3,810
*Lower "	4,910
Medway - -	11
Total vessels -	33,647
Shore premises - -	1,625
Total - -	35,272

Nationality.	Arrived from Foreign Ports.	No. of inspections.	Arrivals Per cent of Total.
American -	11	17	·11
Argentine -	—	5†	—
Austrian -	24	39	·25
Belgian -	349	337	3·65
British -	5,570	9,799†	58·26
Danish -	297	436	3·10
Dutch - -	588	611	6·14
Finnish -	28	67	·29
French -	152	261	1·59
German -	876	1,183	9·18
Greek -	1	5	·01
Italian -	18	20	·18
Japanese -	60	100	·62
Mexican -	1	—	·01
Russian -	181	395	1·89
Spanish -	73	98	·76
Swedish & Norwegian	1,330	1,885	13·90
Total vessels -	9,559	15,258	
		† Coastwise and Inland navigation 18,389	
Shore premises -		1,625	
Total - -		35,272	99·94

*Upper District extends from Limehouse to Teddington.
*Middle " " " Limehouse to Erith.
*Lower " " " Erith to outer limits of Port of London.

COMPARATIVE TABLE.

Total number of Inspections of vessels from—	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	Yearly average for the 10 years ending 31st December, 1908.
"Foreign" - - -	14,564	14,966	16,844	16,336	15,989	15,685	14,279	13,013	17,971	15,258	15,490·5
"Coastwise," "Inland Navigation," and other Inspections -	19,052	15,839	15,231	17,270	19,496	19,700	19,975	22,335	19,414	20,014	18,832·6
Total - -	33,616	30,805	32,075	33,606	35,485	35,385	34,254	35,348	37,385	35,272	34,323·1

SANITARY CONVENIENCES, &c.

With regard to the inspection of premises on shore, in Table IV., Part I., will be found particulars of various works which have been carried out under the supervision of officers of the Port Sanitary Authority.

These will be seen to comprise closets and urinals, stables, drains and other sanitary conveniences.

Works which are in hand but not completed at the date of completion of the Report will be found in Part II. of the same Table.

In all these cases plans have been submitted by the persons carrying out the work, and laid before the Port Sanitary Committee.

TABLE IV.

Part I.

Sanitary Works and Alterations in connection with Buildings, Premises and Vessels within the Docks, &c., completed during the year :—

Date completed.	Works.
1908.	
Feb. 20	Construction of two 2-stall urinals at South Quay, London Dock.
March 12	Connections made by London and India Docks Company to the sewer laid by the Orsett Rural District Council in Tilbury Dock.
" 12	Construction of earth-closets for Meat Department, Royal Victoria Dock.
" 13	Construction of a stable at the rear of the Jute Shed, Royal Victoria Dock, by the Temperance Catering Company, Limited.
April 4	Construction of new private water-closets at north-east corner of East India Dock Basin.
May 18	Construction of sanitary conveniences at Shadwell Pier Head, London Dock, for the use of Officers of His Majesty's Customs.
" 18	Construction of additional water-closet at the Pier Head, Shadwell Entrance, London Dock.
July 10	Construction of a new water-closet and drain in connection with same at Messrs. W. Christie and Co.'s (Limited) Works, Tilbury Dock.
Sept. 8	Construction of drains in connection with new offices and shed erected for Messrs. Fisher, Renwick and Co., at Manchester Wharf, Glamis Road, Shadwell Entrance, London Dock.

Part II.

Sanitary Works and alterations, not yet reported as completed :—

Date Plan submitted.	Works.
1908.	
Dec. 10	Proposed construction of water-closets and urinal at Customs, No. 4, East India Dock.
" 18	Royal Victoria Dock—Construction of drains inconnection with new offices for Messrs. W. Cory and Son.
" 23	Tilbury Dock—Construction of drains in connection with a new closet being erected between "C" and "D" Sheds, for the White Star Line of Steamers.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The total number of cases of Infectious Disease reported during the year was 308.

Of these, 88 were treated in Denton Hospital.

The total number is, with one exception, the highest of any during the past ten years.

This is accounted for by the increased number of Enteric Fever cases reported, the number of such being 90, of which 42 were treated in Denton Hospital.

There were also 86 cases of Measles reported, most of these occurring on passenger ships from South Africa.

Sixteen cases of Small-pox were reported as having occurred on vessels during the voyage to London, but no case of this disease was admitted to the Port Sanitary Hospital during the year.

The cases reported were principally on homeward-bound vessels, and the patients had been landed at some port of call before arrival.

The absence of further cases on the vessels in question is satisfactory, and reflects credit on the means of isolation and other precautions adopted by those responsible on each vessel.

With the exception of one case exhibiting inflamed glands, which, however, proved entirely negative as regards plague, there were no cases of suspected or actual Cholera or Plague admitted to Hospital, and of these diseases, which are dealt with under their respective headings, only eight suspected cases were reported on vessels during the year.

On May 6th, 1908, the Local Government Board sanctioned the amended Bye-laws made by the Port of London Sanitary Authority for removing to Hospital and for keeping in Hospital for so long as may be necessary any persons brought within the Port by any vessel, who are infected with a dangerous infectious disease.

I set these Bye-laws out in full for your information :—

BYE-LAWS made by the Port Sanitary Authority of the Port of London, pursuant to the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, Section 66 (3), and confirmed by the Local Government Board, for removing to Hospital, and for keeping in Hospital so long as may be necessary, any persons brought within the Port by any Vessel who are infected with a dangerous Infectious Disease.

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1. In these Bye-laws the expression "The Port Sanitary Authority" means the Mayor, Commonalty, and Citizens of the City of London, acting as the Port Sanitary Authority of the Port of London. The term Medical Officer of Health or Medical Officer of the Port of London Sanitary Authority shall include any duly qualified medical practitioner appointed or employed to act on their behalf.

The expression "Dangerous Infectious Disease" means any one of the following diseases :—

Small-pox,
Diphtheria,
Membranous Croup,
Scarlatina or Scarlet Fever,
Typhus Fever,
Typhoid Fever,
Enteric Fever,
Relapsing Fever,
Continued Fever,
Measles,

and shall include any infectious disease to which Section 55 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, has been applied by the Port Sanitary Authority in manner provided by that Act.

2. Every master or other person having charge of a vessel arriving in the Port of London, with any person on board, whether a passenger or belonging to the ship's crew, suffering from a dangerous infectious disease, shall, if bound up the River Thames to any place situated Westward of a line drawn from Havengore Creek in Essex, to Warden Point in the Isle of Sheppey, proceed to Gravesend and stop off the Custom House, Gravesend, and if bound up the River Medway, shall stop on arrival off Garrison Point, Sheerness, and forthwith send notice to the Medical Officer of the Port Sanitary Authority stationed at Gravesend or Sheerness, as the case may be, that there is a person on board suffering from such a disease.

3. The master or other person in charge shall cause the vessel to remain off the Custom House, Gravesend, or Garrison Point, Sheerness, until the Medical Officer of Health, or Medical Officer of Port of London Sanitary Authority has boarded the said vessel.

4. The Medical Officer to whom notice is given as aforesaid, shall, as soon as practicable, visit the vessel, and ascertain whether the person referred to in the notice is suffering from a dangerous infectious disease, and, if in the opinion of the Medical Officer he is, and can properly be removed, and proper accommodation can be provided for him in the Hospital of the Port Sanitary Authority at Gravesend, or in some other Hospital to which the Port Sanitary Authority are entitled to remove patients, and it is desirable that he should be removed thereto, the master or other person having charge of the vessel shall forthwith cause such person to be removed to such Hospital according to the directions of the Medical Officer.

5. Every person infected with a dangerous infectious disease who may be removed to the Hospital of the Port of London Sanitary Authority at Denton, below Gravesend, or to any other Hospital to which the Port Sanitary Authority are entitled to remove patients, shall remain in such Hospital so long as may be considered necessary by the Medical Officer in charge of the Hospital, for the purpose of preventing the spread of infection.

6. If any dangerous infectious disease shall break out on board any vessel arriving in the Port of London, and after she has passed Gravesend, the master or other person having charge of such vessel shall give notice to the Medical Officer of Health of the Port Sanitary Authority, at his Office at 51, King William Street, Greenwich, S.E., that there is on board a person suffering from such a disease, and if, upon examination, the Medical Officer of Health shall find that he is so suffering, the master or other person in charge of such vessel shall forthwith cause such person to be removed to a Hospital to which the Port Sanitary Authority are entitled to remove patients, as directed by the Medical Officer of Health.

PENALTIES.

7. Every person who shall offend against any of the foregoing Bye-laws shall be liable for every such offence to a penalty of five pounds, and in the case of a continuing offence to a further penalty of forty shillings for each day after written notice of the offence from the Port Sanitary Authority.

Provided nevertheless, that the Justices or Court before whom any complaint may be made, or any proceedings may be taken, in respect of any such offence, may, if they think fit, adjudge the payment as a penalty of any sum less than the full amount of the penalty imposed by this Bye-law.

REPEAL.

8. From and after the date of the confirmation of these Bye-laws, the bye-laws for the removal to hospital of persons brought within the Port by any vessel who are infected with a dangerous infectious disease, which were made by the Port Sanitary Authority of the Port of London, pursuant to the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, section 66 (3), on the first day of December, 1892, and which were confirmed by the Local Government Board on the twenty-seventh day of January, 1893, shall be repealed.

Examined,

HOMEWOOD CRAWFORD, L.S.

City Solicitor.

The Common Seal of the Mayor and Commonalty and Citizens of the City of London was affixed to these Bye-laws at a duly constituted Meeting of the Court of Common Council holden on the Twelfth day of March, 1908, and in my presence.

HOMEWOOD CRAWFORD.

Allowed by the Local Government Board this Sixth day of May, 1908.

S. B. PROVIS, L.S.

Secretary,

Acting on behalf of the said Board under the Authority of their General Order dated the Twenty-sixth day of May, 1877.

Address:—

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH - - 51, KING WILLIAM STREET, GREENWICH, S.E.

Telephone: 36 DEPTFORD.
Telegrams: "MEDOFF, LONDON."

MEDICAL OFFICER - - - - BOARDING STATION, GARRISON POINT, SHEERNESS.

MEDICAL OFFICER - - - - HULK "HYGEIA," OFF CUSTOM HOUSE, GRAVESEND.

The chief amendments consist in the removal of Erysipelas and Puerperal Fever from the list of scheduled diseases, and in making it compulsory for vessels bound up the Medway, having infectious disease on board, to stop on arrival off Garrison Point, Sheerness, and send notice to the Medical Officer stationed there that there is on board a person suffering from an infectious disease.

Any person who is removed to Hospital at Denton with an infectious disease, shall remain in Hospital so long as may be considered necessary by the Medical Officer.

TABLE V.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Disease.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	Mean annual number for 10 years ending 31st December, 1908.	1908.
(*a*) Cases reported:											
Cholera (including suspected cases)	...	1	...	20	9	4	6	3	9	*5·7*	5
Yellow Fever (ditto) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	*0·5*	2
Plague (ditto) ...	4	6	19	10	6	6	9	9	4	*7·4*	1
Small-pox	12	15	13	93	13	11	24	31	27	*25·5*	16
Scarlet Fever	5	14	27	13	11	11	26	82	44	*25·6*	23
Diphtheria	7	20	28	26	7	3	8	7	7	*13·1*	18
Enteric Fever	66	126	78	66	88	50	65	81	55	*76·5*	90
Measles	38	67	83	36	14	38	36	68	51	*51·7*	86
Erysipelas	10	2	5	2	4	1	9	7	2	*4·9*	7
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	*0·1*	...
Continued Fever...	1	2	5	2	13	12	11	11	11	*8·7*	19
Other diseases (including Chicken-pox).	17	12	9	14	9	17	16	35	42	*21·2*	41
Total	160	265	267	282	175	153	211	336	252	*240·9*	308
(*b*) Treated in Port Sanitary Hospital:											
Cholera (including suspected cases)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	*0·1*	...
Yellow Fever (ditto) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague (ditto) ...	1	3	13	4	3	4	3	1	3	*3·5*	...
Small-pox	8	9	7	29	11	5	4	...	8	*8·1*	...
Scarlet Fever	1	2	5	2	5	7	3	28	4	*6·3*	6
Diphtheria	...	1	5	2	4	...	2	1	3	*2·3*	5
Enteric Fever	23	55	37	27	55	33	23	26	27	*34·8*	42
Measles	7	4	5	11	7	8	13	3	14	*8·5*	13
Erysipelas	3	...	1	1	1	...	2	1	...	*1·0*	1
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever	1	2	5	4	13	12	9	7	10	*6·9*	6
Other diseases (including Chicken-pox).	6	8	1	8	4	4	1	24	5	*7·6*	15
Total	50	84	79	88	103	73	60	91	75	*79·1*	88

CHOLERA.

Cholera, which had existed along the banks of the Volga during 1907, and reached St. Petersburg, became epidemic in 1908 in St. Petersburg. The infection spread to several Russian Baltic Ports. The disease still exists in St. Petersburg and Cronstadt, and this is a serious matter, as, in the natural course of events, it should die out during the winter months. It is therefore to be expected that it will recur in St. Petersburg in the spring and summer months.

There is danger of it spreading to many towns in the interior of Russia as well as ports on the northern littoral of Europe. The danger to this country of the importation of this disease is increased owing to the numbers of alien immigrants which come from ports of northern Europe. Such passengers have all been medically examined at Gravesend on arrival, and have only been allowed to leave the vessel and land in London on my being satisfied that they are going to the addresses furnished. It is extremely probable that these restrictions will have to be kept up during the greater part of the coming year.

Cholera has also existed in Southern Russia and many towns in the interior, and was carried from Southern Russia into Persia and Asiatic Russia. Cholera also existed in India, Ceylon, Siam, Straits Settlements, Philippine Islands, and China, and there were several epidemics in Japan.

The s.s. "Logician," of Liverpool, 102,160, left Calcutta on February 15th, 1908. At that time Cholera was prevalent there.

A supply of water was taken in before leaving, and the next call of the vessel was at Colombo on the 23rd February, where a further supply of water was taken in from a water-boat.

On February 19th an able seaman was taken ill at 2.30 p.m., suffered with severe diarrhœa and cramps in the body, and died at 9.30 p.m. The master supposed this to be a case of sunstroke.

On February 24th a fireman, at 5 a.m., ailed with diarrhœa, rice water stools, and died at 3.30 p.m. on the 27th.

On February 24th a steward ailed, at 6 a.m., with diarrhœa and cramps, and he recovered.

On February 26th a fireman ailed with cramps and diarrhœa at 6 a.m., and died the same day at 1.45 p.m.

These men were all British, belonging to Liverpool. In all probability the first man contracted the disease at Calcutta, and the others were infected from him.

All of these cases illustrate the terrible nature of this disease, the first man being apparently well on the 19th, and dying seven hours after the onset of the first symptoms.

The vessel was thoroughly disinfected at Suez, and the water tanks cleaned and disinfected.

On arrival of the vessel at Gravesend all were found to be well on board, and no suspicious symptoms had occurred since leaving Suez ; the vessel was allowed to proceed to dock, where the crew have been kept under daily observation, until her departure for Liverpool. The Medical Officer of Health of that place being duly notified.

A special report was forwarded to the Local Government Board, in accordance with the Regulations relating to Cholera, Yellow Fever and Plague.

The s.s. "Merton Hall," of Liverpool, official number 96,342, from Coconada, arrived at Gravesend on the 22nd instant, and reported a case of Cholera on board during the voyage. The patient ailed on the 20th April and died on the 23rd, the body being buried at sea.

The vessel was disinfected by the Sanitary Authorities at Suez and Marseilles, the water tanks had been emptied and the bilges disinfected. On arrival of the vessel at Gravesend all persons on board were in good health.

The facts were reported to the Local Government Board.

Cholera, which has been for some weeks past gradually spreading through the interior of Russia, finally reached St. Petersburg, and that place has been the seat of a serious outbreak. Since the beginning of September the disease has made rapid progress in that city ; 1,653 cases of Cholera and 492 deaths from Cholera having occurred in St. Petersburg during the two weeks ended on September 20th, while there were 366 cases with 153 deaths on September 21st, and 419 cases with 177 deaths on September 22nd.

All vessels arriving from St. Petersburg have been medically inspected, at Gravesend, and the names and addresses of all persons leaving the ship in London have been taken, and notified to the Medical Officers of the districts to which they are proceeding.

On all vessels, where the drinking water has been brought from St. Petersburg, the tanks have been emptied and thoroughly cleansed.

Those persons remaining on the vessels, have been visited daily and enquiries made as to anyone being ill, when they will be medically inspected.

Previous experience has shown that the addresses furnished by alien steerage passengers arriving from Russia were generally unreliable, and these

passengers have therefore been detained on the vessel by the Medical Officer at Gravesend.

The Authorities of the Jewish Shelter, Leman Street, E., have agreed to become responsible for conveying these passengers to their Shelter, and to personally conduct them to the address to which they desire to go.

A list of the names and addresses of all such persons leaving the Shelter has been furnished to me in accordance with this arrangement.

So far, no case of actual or suspected Cholera has arrived in the Port of London.

TABLE VI.

(CHOLERA.)

Date.	Name of Vessel, Port of Registry, and Official Number.	Where from.	Number of Cases.	How dealt with.
1908. March 23	s.s. "Logician," of Liverpool, 102,160	Calcutta -	4	Three died, and bodies buried at sea. One recovered before arrival in London.
May 22	s.s. "Merton Hall," of Liverpool, 96,342.	Coconada	1	Died, and body buried at sea.
		Total -	5	

YELLOW FEVER.

Yellow Fever has been prevalent during the past year in various places in South America, Venezuela, Mexico, Ecuador, the West Indies, Martinique, Cuba, Barbados, Trinidad, and St. Vincent. This disease was brought from Martinique to the French port of St. Nazaire—eleven cases and six deaths having occurred. In March an English vessel arrived in the Thames having had two cases on board during the voyage.

The s.s. "Saba," of London, 105,713, from the West Indies, arrived at Gravesend on the 8th March.

The vessel was lying at Demerara from the 25th to the 30th January, 1908, and was at Trinidad on the 31st January to the 6th February, and Grenada from the 6th to the 11th February.

On the 2nd February, a fireman was taken ill with fever, and on the 6th he was diagnosed as suffering from Yellow Fever. He was removed to hospital, and subsequently recovered.

Another fireman ailed on the 2nd February, and was also diagnosed as suffering from Yellow Fever.

He resumed duty on the 11th of that month, and on arrival of the vessel in London was in good health.

The holds and the crew's quarters were fumigated at Grenada, and on arrival of the vessel at Gravesend all persons were thoroughly examined and found to be in good health.

The vessel was allowed to proceed to dock, and kept under observation during her stay in this Port.

The facts were reported to the Local Government Board.

TABLE VII. (YELLOW FEVER.)

Date	Name of Vessel, Port of Registry and Official Number.	Where from.	No. of Cases.	How dealt with.
1908. March 8	s.s. "Saba," of London, 105,713.	West Indies	2	One removed at Grenada, one recovered before arrival in London.

PLAGUE.

This disease continues to show itself in many places throughout the world, but during the past year the numbers of deaths in India have largely diminished, and are not nearly so numerous as those which occurred during the year 1907.

The disease has shown itself in the Straits Settlements, Siam, Philippine Islands, China, and Japan; a few cases occurred in Australia; it was also present in California; many countries in South America were affected, particularly Brazil, Uruguay, the Argentine Republic, Ecuador, Peru, and Chili. Egypt was also infected, especially the Port of Alexandria; it also showed itself in British East Africa, Mauritius, Madagascar, and West Africa. A few ports in Asia Minor were also infected, and, coming nearer home, three cases of Plague occurred at Liverpool in the latter quarter of the year.

The s.s. "Adelina Patti," of Sunderland, official number 99,617, arrived at Gravesend from Odessa on the 14th February, having called at Algiers. The cargo consisted of maize, and on opening No. 1 hatch, twelve dead rats were seen. These were at once burnt in the donkey furnace.

I gave instructions that if any more rats were found dead or dying they were to be seized by tongs, placed in a bucket of disinfecting fluid and forthwith burnt in a furnace on board.

The crew's quarters were fumigated with sulphur with a view to the destruction of rats therein, and two dead rats were forwarded to the Local Government Board for Bacteriological examination. The result was negative, and the vessel proceeded to Barry Roads, the Medical Officer of Health for that district being duly informed.

TABLE VIII. (PLAGUE.)

Date.	Name of Vessel, Port of Registry and Official Number.	Where from.	Number of Cases.	How dealt with.
1908. Dec. 16	s.s. "Den of Airlie," of Dundee, 104,732.	Calcutta -	1	Removed to Hospital at Marseilles.

Precautions under the Regulations for preventing, as far as possible, the passage of rats between ship and shore have been enforced by the following notice, which is handed to the Master of any vessel arriving at Gravesend from an "infected" Port.

PORT OF LONDON SANITARY AUTHORITY.

The Local Government Board have issued Regulations for the prevention of the introduction of Plague, Yellow Fever and Cholera into this country, and whereas, by such Regulations it is provided, *inter alia*, as follows :—

REGULATION 24 (2).

"The master of a ship which by reason of plague is an infected ship, or a "suspected ship, or which has come from, or has, during the voyage, called at a "port infected with plague, or in which there are rats infected with plague, or "in which there is or has been during the voyage an unusual mortality among "rats, shall, under the direction and to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer of "Health, take all such precautions or employ all such means for effectually "stopping the access of rats from the ship to the shore as in the opinion of the "Medical Officer of Health are measures reasonably necessary for the prevention "of danger arising to public health from the ship ;"

This is to give Notice that, in my opinion, given under the Regulation aforesaid, the following precautions are reasonably necessary for stopping the access of rats from the ship to the shore :—

1. All ropes and mooring tackle for securing the vessel either to the shore or mooring buoys, shall be fitted with metal brushes, funnels, or other effective guards, the portions of such ropes and mooring tackle leading from the vessel to a distance from the vessel's side of at least four feet shall be coated each night with fresh tar. Ropes may, if desired, be protected by a covering of canvas or yarns before tarring.

2. When not engaged in discharging cargo, one gangway only shall be permitted to afford means of communication between the ship and the shore.

3. The end of the gangway near the ship shall be whitened for a length of 10 ft., and the watchman shall keep the gangway pulled in board after sunset, or it shall be guarded in some approved manner.

4. When alongside the quay, the ports on the side of the vessel nearest the quay shall be kept closed after sunset.

5. All empty cases and barrels, especially those from the store rooms, shall be examined before being landed, to ensure that no rats are contained therein.

6. It is recommended that all possible means be adopted for catching and destroying rats, both on the voyage and during the stay of the vessel in port. Any rats so caught shall be killed, then placed in a bucket of strong disinfecting solution, and afterwards burnt in the ship's furnace.

7. No rats, alive or dead, are to be removed from the ship without my permission in writing.

"If any person wilfully neglects or refuses to obey or carry out, or "obstructs the execution of this Regulation, he shall be liable to a "penalty not exceeding *One Hundred Pounds*, and in the case of a "continuing offence to a further penalty not exceeding *Fifty Pounds* for "every day during which the offence continues."

December 31*st*, 1907.

Office—51, King William Street,
Greenwich,
London, S.E.

HERBERT WILLIAMS, M.D.London,
Medical Officer of Health for the Port of London.

A translation of this circular has been made and printed in French and Spanish for distribution on vessels of those nationalities.

RAT PLAGUE.

On August 19th the Inspector in charge of the West India Dock discovered in the course of his daily inspection that there was an offensive smell at the Pay Office, situated on the North Quay.

He investigated the matter and found that the smell arose from some decomposing bodies of rats lying in a quantity of rubbish in the basement.

On receiving his report I directed a search to be made in the adjoining warehouses, with the result that five dead rats were found, making ten in all in the basement of No. 5 Warehouse.

I visited the locality, and was informed, as a result of enquiries, that no poison had been laid down recently, and there was no apparent cause for this mortality amongst the rats; I therefore formed the opinion that it was probably due to some disease, and bearing in mind the susceptibility of rodents to be affected by the disease of Plague, in all probability this was the cause of the mortality.

The rats were more or less decomposed, but one, which was in a better condition than the others, was submitted to Professor Klein, who furnished the following report :—

"Saint Bartholomew's Hospital and College,
"*August* 25*th*, 1908.

"It will be in your recollection that on August 21st a dead rat was "brought here by your messenger.

"The head of the rat was covered with maggots.

"On opening the abdomen it was evident that owing to the putrefac- "tive changes the rat must have been dead some time. The lungs, "however, seemed to promise better results ; the right lung was congested "and almost solid.

"Film specimens stained, of the inflamed lung juice, showed besides "spores and anaerobic bacilli, a fair number of bacteria which in size "and shape and bipolar staining resembled B. pestis.

"With the lung juice I injected subcutaneously one small guinea-pig "(No. 1) and inoculated cutaneously one mouse (No. 2).

"On August 22nd the guinea-pig showed slight swelling, but was "otherwise lively, the mouse was seemingly alright.

"On August 24th (Monday) the guinea-pig had big bubo in the groin ; "the animal was quiet, and did not feed. The mouse was distinctly ill : "rough coat, and not feeding. I punctured the bubo of the guinea-pig "and examined the film specimen made of the bubo fluid ; it was "crowded with bipolarly stained bacilli which in size and shape resembled "B. pestis. I at once telephoned to your office to say that the case is "'very suspicious of plague.'

"With the bubo fluid of the guinea-pig I injected a further guinea- "pig (No. 3) and made agar plates and agar tubes.

"To-day, August 25th, the guinea-pig was found very ill ; it was "killed.

"On post-mortem it presented in the groin a big necrotic tumour "(lymph gland) surrounded by hæmorrhage and œdema. The necrotic "tissue of the gland was crowded with typical bipolarly stained B. pestis.

"The spleen was pervaded by minute necrotic nodules—subacute plague.

"The cultures made yesterday showed colonies of B. pestis.

"The mouse (No. 2) is still alive, but distinctly ill.

"From the above result in the guinea-pig, I have no hesitation in "saying that this guinea-pig was affected with Pestis Bubonica—subacute "type, and consequently the original rat had died of Plague.

"E. KLEIN."

I had meanwhile caused a thorough search to be made of all the basements and warehouses on the North Quay, with the following results :—

TABLE IX.

NORTH QUAY, WEST INDIA DOCK.—Rats Caught Alive and Dead Rats Found.

Date.	Warehouses																						Total.	
	No. 1.		No. 2.		No. 3.		No. 4.		No. 5.		No. 6.		No. 7.		No. 8.		No. 9.		No. 10.		No. 11.			
	Caught Alive	Found Dead	Caught Alive	Found Dead	Caught Alive	Found Dead	Caught Alive	Found Dead	Caught Alive	Found Dead	Caught Alive	Found Dead	Caught Alive	Found Dead	Caught Alive	Found Dead	Caught Alive	Found Dead	Caught Alive	Found Dead	Caught Alive	Found Dead	Caught Alive	Found Dead
1908.																								
August 19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
" 20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
" 26	...	4	...	2	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	4	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	6	14
" 27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	9	...	...	...	...	3	9
" 28	...	...	...	...	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	5	4
" 29	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	12
" 31	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	...	...	...	...	15
Sept. 1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	20
" 2	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	...	...	...	...	...	22
" 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	11
" 4	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	7
" 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3
" 7	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2	3
" 8	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
" 9	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
" 10	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	5
" 11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	4
" 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1
" 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	1
" 15	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
" 17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
" 22	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
" 23	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	5
" 25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
" 26	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3
" 28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
" 29	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	7
" 30	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	2	2
Oct. 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1
" 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	2
" 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
" 7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
" 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	2
" 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2
" 14	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
" 16	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
" 19	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1
" 21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
" 22	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
" 26	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1
" 27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	1
" 29	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
" 30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
" 31	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Nov. 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1
" 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
" 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
" 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
" 16	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2
" 17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
" 19	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
" 23	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
" 26	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
" 27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	...	...	...	...	2	3
Dec. 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
" 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1
" 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
" 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
" 14	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
" 18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	9	...
" 19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	2	1
" 24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	2	1
	...	6	...	8	14	24	1	3	12	39	1	7	3	10	...	1	30	93	...	...	6	17	67	208

The existence of Plague amongst the rats being thus established, I called on the Managers of the London and India Docks Company and related to them the facts, and also explained to them the seriousness of the situation, not only as affecting the public health, but also as regards the trade interests of the Port of London. This they fully realised, and immediately gave instructions for their staff in the dock to co-operate with me in every possible way.

Dr. Willoughby and Inspector Romeril were specially detailed to carry out my instructions.

A search party was organised, under the charge of a foreman, to make a thorough and systematic search in every basement and warehouse on the North Quay. This was to be carried out twice a day, any dead rats found to be taken up with tongs and placed in a bucket of disinfecting solution and finally burnt in a furnace.

The contents of the basements were to be arranged in a more orderly manner so as to facilitate the work of the search party, and large quantities of useless rubbish, the accumulation of many years, were taken away and burnt, in all about 48½ tons.

These warehouses are very solidly built and of some age, consisting of four floors with basements containing several cellars, in which a quantity of timber and other material was stored. Each basement opens on to the quay by means of an area covered at the top with a grating, but there were ample facilities for rats to enter the warehouses through these areas. A roadway was at the back, and next to this were railway lines, and fortunately, some distance existed at the back between the warehouses and the nearest dwelling-houses.

As far as possible the same men were retained for this work ; their names and addresses were furnished to me, and, in the event of any man being absent, I was either furnished with a medical certificate as to the cause of his absence, or Dr. Willoughby personally visited the man and satisfied himself that the man was not suffering from any symptom of Plague.

Your Medical Officer of Health, in conjunction with Dr. Willoughby, conducted post-mortem examinations on the bodies of dead rats which had been found, and several of them presented to the naked eye appearances of having died of Plague, whilst Professor Klein examined 13 rats with the following results :—

No.	1908.					
1.	August 21	-	1 rat	-	Mus Decumanis	-	Pneumonic.
2.	„ 26	-	1 „	-	„ „	-	„
3.	„ 27	-	1 „	-	„ „	-	„
4.	„ 28	-	1 „	-	„ Rattus	-	Bubonic.
5.	„ 31	-	1 „	-	„ „	-	„
6.	Sept. 7	-	1 „	-	„ „	-	„
7.	„ 10	-	1 „	-	„ „	-	Negative.
8.	„ 15	-	1 „	-	„ „	-	„
9.	„ 26	-	1 „	-	„ „	-	Bubonic.
10.	Oct. 12	-	1 „	-	„ „	-	Negative.
11.	„ 22	-	1 „	-	„ „	-	„
12.	„ 28	-	2 „	-	„ „	-	„
			13 rats.				

and I append extracts from his reports :—

" Rat No. 6 had a bubo in the left groin, the juice of the bubo showed " numerous bi-polar bacilli like B. pestis. The spleen was enlarged, " dark, and firm, like the typical plague spleen. It contained numerous " bi-polar bacilli. A guinea-pig injected with spleen juice developed in " 24 hours a distinct bubo, the juice of which contained numerous " bi-polar bacilli.

" Rat No. 7 (Mus. rattus).—No plague-like bacilli were found in the " cervical or bronchial lymphatic glands, lung, or spleen juice. Cultures " from cervical gland and spleen juice revealed no colonies of B. pestis.

" Rat No. 9.—Spleen and liver were enlarged, and mottled with " greyish streaks and patches. Film specimens from spleen and liver " showed numerous bi-polar bacilli like B. pestis. Cultures from spleen " yielded pure cultures of B. pestis. A guinea-pig injected with spleen " juice, developed a bubo within 24 hours, juice from this bubo showed " crowds of B. pestis."

I urged the Dock Company to adopt all possible means to destroy rats in that dock, and they entered into negotiations with a rat virus company for that purpose.

I called upon the Medical Officer of the Local Government Board and reported the facts to him, and also stated in detail the measures which I had taken in order to deal with this disease amongst the rats.

As will be seen from the table, the mortality from Plague ended about September 26th.

This was a very difficult matter to deal with, as the disease occurred amongst the rodents over an area 900 yards long. It was practically

confined to the rats in the basements, the floors of which were honeycombed with rat-holes, and my anxiety was naturally very great in having to deal with an infectious disease occurring amongst animals which live below ground.

Many vessels from plague-infected ports, especially grain vessels from South America, discharge at this quay, and it is probable that the epidemic was caused by the passage from the ship to the shore of one or more rats who were at the time incubating Plague, and subsequently entered the basements of the warehouses, developed the disease, died there, and, according to the generally accepted theory of the propagation of Plague, when dead, fleas leave the rat and attach themselves to the living, and thus communicate the disease.

The Court of Common Council, on a Report from the Port Sanitary Committee, sanctioned the purchase, at a cost of 850*l.*, of an apparatus for the fumigation of ships with a view to the destruction of rats. This will be installed on a barge, to be towed where required.

The Regulations as to Plague can then be carried out, and the requirements of the Paris Convention, 1903, be complied with. It is hoped that the apparatus will not be used much, but the Port Sanitary Authority will then be up to date, and ready to cope with any emergency that may arise in connection with this disease.

Vessels proceeding to certain countries of Europe, and which have come from ports infected with Plague, have to be fumigated either before or after arrival, with a view to destroying the rats on board. Owners of vessels going from London to such countries will, in future, be able to have their vessels fumigated in London, and so avoid the delay incidental to such fumigation on arrival.

Professor Klein stated that the disease amongst the rats was of the chronic form, with a low degree of virulence.

A number of persons were in contact with the infected rats, but only one person showed any symptoms of Plague; he had some fever with rigors, and a bubo in the cervical region, which came on very rapidly, attaining the size of an orange in a few hours. He was isolated and kept under medical supervision. The swelling was punctured and the fluid submitted to Professor Klein, who made a series of very careful examinations with negative results.

This is the first occasion on which Plague amongst rats has occurred in the Port of London to my knowledge, and I have to express my thanks to Mr. Watts, Mr. Wright, Mr. Seabrooke, Mr. Willey and Mr. Nicholls, of the London and India Docks Company, and also to Dr. Willoughby and Inspector Romeril for the valuable assistance rendered by them in stamping out this outbreak.

TABLE X.

Return of Rats caught and destroyed during 1908.

The entire cost of destroying these rats has been borne by the Shipowners and Dock Companies.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.
Millwall Dock—													
Warehouses - -	102	136	127	108	180	136	208	290	197	214	158	101	1,957
Vessels during voyage	—	122	140	18	27	—	36	—	—	—	—	—	343
„ while in dock -	136	485	194	175	236	144	172	255	128	172	491	229	2,817
Surrey Commercial Dk.—													
Warehouses - -	110	159	123	108	137	130	128	117	23	20	36	45	1,136
Vessels during voyage	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
„ while in dock -	201	196	425	268	167	75	—	52	368	459	602	221	3,034
Regent's Canal Dock—													
Warehouses - -	21	55	34	17	47	21	29	41	9	30	11	6	321
Vessels during voyage	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ while in dock -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Katharine's Dock—													
Warehouses - -	85	109	121	103	110	102	87	99	83	102	74	67	1,142
Vessels during voyage	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ while in dock -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
London Dock—													
Warehouses - -	117	147	152	137	164	136	112	128	131	157	107	107	1,595
Vessels during voyage	—	20	6	30	300	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	363
„ while in dock -	32	84	88	154	196	69	140	147	159	184	195	143	1,591
Albert and Victoria Dks.—													
Warehouses - -	493	645	564	534	763	549	591	656	506	594	536	516	6,947
Vessels during voyage	57	196	594	250	42	50	90	194	146	197	—	473	2,289
„ while in dock -	259	415	202	609	281	243	389	394	539	277	469	299	4,376
West India Dock—													
Warehouses - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	41	201	91	22	44	399
Vessels during voyage	—	30	88	108	—	48	68	—	40	53	6	12	453
„ while in dock -	376	588	467	512	364	685	579	775	565	640	311	425	6,287
East India Dock—													
Warehouses - -	95	23	18	16	24	20	20	36	43	54	41	28	418
Vessels during voyage	—	20	—	—	1	—	—	18	—	2	—	—	41
„ while in dock -	33	149	20	84	50	10	32	57	12	31	52	88	618
Tilbury Dock—													
Warehouses - -	120	169	131	11	34	4	—	47	12	9	3	—	540
Vessels during voyage	1,501	1,592	835	1,284	1,185	1,018	1,986	1,277	1,400	1,384	1,742	998	16,202
„ while in dock -	527	708	939	488	914	598	683	533	633	752	839	738	8,352
River—													
During voyage - -	—	30	—	8	12	—	160	6	32	—	—	—	248
While in river - -	—	—	—	1	5	33	1	—	—	—	—	—	40
Totals - -	4,265	6,078	5,268	5,035	5,239	4,071	5,511	5,163	5,227	5,422	5,702	4,540	61,521

Total from February, 1901, to 31st December, 1907 -		494,423
Total from 1st January to 31st December, 1908 :—		
In Dock Warehouses - - - -	14,455	61,521
On Vessels during voyage - - -	19,951	
On Vessels while in Dock and River -	27,115	
Total - -		555,944

SMALL-POX.

The s.s. "Namur," of Greenock, 123,528, from Calcutta, arrived at Gravesend on the 16th March, and reported having landed a case of Small-pox at Marseilles on the 8th March.

The vessel left Calcutta on February 12th, and Colombo on February 18th, at which latter place the patient was on shore.

On February 29th, the patient, a first-class passenger, was taken ill with symptoms of fever, and on March 3rd a rash appeared, and was diagnosed as Small-pox.

The patient was immediately isolated, and subsequently landed at Marseilles on March 8th, where all necessary disinfection was carried out, and the passengers were vaccinated.

On arrival at Gravesend, all persons were found to be in good health, their names and addresses were taken and notified to the Medical Officers of Health of the districts to which they were proceeding.

The s.s. "Macedonia," of Belfast, Official Number 116,012, from Bombay, arrived at Gravesend on the 16th May. One of the first-class passengers ailed on 4th May, and was landed at Marseilles on the 9th May suffering from Small-pox.

All necessary disinfection was carried out, and every person on board was inspected on arrival of the vessel at Gravesend and found to be in good health.

Each person on board had to be considered as a possible contact, and therefore the names and addresses of all persons leaving the ship were notified to the Medical Officers of Health of the various districts to which they were proceeding, whilst the persons remaining on board have been kept under daily medical observation.

In all, the names and addresses of 255 persons leaving the vessel were so notified.

TABLE XI.

(SMALL-POX.)

Date.		Name of Vessel, Port of Registry and Official No.	Where from.	No. of Cases.	How dealt with.
1908.					
Jan.	14	s.s. "Alcinous," of Liverpool, 110,636.	Yokohama -	2	Removed to Hospital at Singapore.
,,	26	s.s. "Persia," of Greenock, 109,258.	Bombay -	1	Removed to Hospital at Port Said.
Feb.	22	s.s. "Egypt," of Greenock, 105,581.	Do. -	1	Removed to Hospital at Gibraltar.
March	13	s.s. "Sunda," of Greenock, 102,399.	Yokohama -	1	Removed to Hospital at Shanghai.
,,	16	s.s. "Namur," of Greenock, 123,528.	Calcutta -	1	Removed to Hospital at Marseilles.
April	4	s.s. "Benvorlich," of Leith, 104,921.	Manila -	1	Removed to Hospital at Port Maria Velos.
,,	9	s.s. "Matheran," of Liverpool, 120,946.	Calcutta -	1	Removed to Hospital at Colombo.
,,	18	s.s. "Persia," of Greenock, 109,258.	Bombay -	1	Removed to Hospital at Aden.
,,	25	s.s. "Dilwara," of Glasgow, 102,645.	Calcutta -	1	Removed to Hospital at Colombo.
May	16	s.s. "Macedonia," of Belfast, 116,012.	Bombay -	1	Removed to Hospital at Marseilles.
,,	23	s.s. "Glenlochy," of Glasgow, 105,990.	Yokohama -	1	Removed to Hospital at Singapore.
July	6	s.s. "Achilles," of Liverpool, 113,405.	Do. -	1	Removed to Hospital at Colombo.
Aug.	9	s.s. "Peninsular," of Greenock, 93,208.	Bombay -	1	Removed to Hospital at Aden.
Sept.	27	s.s. "Macedonia," of Belfast, 116,012.	Sydney -	1	Removed to Hospital at Suez.
Dec.	16	s.s. "Den of Airlie," of Dundee, 104,732.	Calcutta -	1	Removed to Hospital at Genoa.
			Total	16	

SCARLET FEVER.

As an example as to how infectious diseases may be spread, a family consisting of father, mother and two children came from County Donegal, in Ireland, to embark at Tilbury Dock on the 7th February on board a steamer outward bound for New Zealand.

The Board of Trade insist on a Medical Inspection of all immigrants before they embark on a ship, and in the course of this inspection one of the children was discovered suffering from Scarlet Fever.

The child had been ill since the 26th January, and it is impossible to say how many persons have been infected by that child whilst travelling by train from Donegal, in Ireland, to Tilbury, and indeed it is likely that some of the

children on the tender might have been infected, and would develop the disease in the course of the voyage of the steamer.

The child was very seriously ill, and was landed at Denton Hospital, where she died from inflammation of the kidneys, a complication of Scarlet Fever.

TABLE XII.

(Scarlet Fever.)

Date.		Name of Vessel, Port of Registry, and Official Number.	Where from.	Number of Cases.	How dealt with.
1908.					
Jan.	18	Central Hotel, Royal Albert Dock -	—	1	Removed to Hospital of Metropolitan Asylums Board.
"	20	Training Ship "Arethusa," lying off Greenhithe.	--	1	Removed to Hospital at Bow Arrow, Dartford.
"	30	s.s. "Gascon," of Southampton, 106,907.	East London.	3	Removed to Hospital at Southampton.
Feb.	7	s.s. "Rose," of London, 112,843 -	Employed on the River at Gravesend	1	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
"	23	s.s. "Oruba," of Liverpool, 96,310 -	Brisbane -	1	Ditto.
March	1	s.s. "Victoria," of Greenock, 93,192 -	Sydney -	1	Removed to Hospital at Port Said.
April	6	Training Ship "Worcester," lying off Greenhithe.	—	1	Removed to Ship's Hospital on shore.
"	6	s.s. "Papanui," of Plymouth, 108,562	Lyttelton -	2	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
May	28	s.s. "Dover Castle," of London, 118,409.	Delagoa Bay	1	Removed to Hospital at Southampton.
"	11	s.s. "Avondale Castle," of London, 108,160.	Cape Town	1	Ditto.
July	1	s.s. "German," of Southampton, 109,290.	East London.	5	Ditto.
Sept.	16	Training Ship "Arethusa," lying off Greenhithe.	—	1	Removed to Hospital at Bow Arrow, Dartford.
Oct.	19	s.s. "Tempo," of Newcastle, 83,910 -	River Tyne	1	Removed to Seamen's Hospital, Greenwich.
"	27	Training Ship "Arethusa," lying off Greenhithe.	—	1	Removed to Hospital at Bow Arrow, Dartford.
Dec.	25	s.s. "Narrung," of London, 105,873	Sydney -	2	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
			Total -	23	

TABLE XIII.

(Enteric Fever.)

Date.		Name of Vessel, Port of Registry, and Official Number.	Where from	No. of Cases.	How dealt with.
1908.					
January	11	s.s. "Arabia," of Greenock, 105,587.	Bombay -	1	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
,,	12	s.s. "Pakeha," of Southampton, 97,215.	Buenos Ayres	7	Six removed at St. Vincent and one to Port Sanitary Hospital.
,,	16	s.s, "Lake Michigan," of Liverpool, 115,252.	St. John's -	1	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
,,	21	s.s. "Pardo," of Belfast, 120,701.	La Plata -	3	Removed at Southampton.
,,	24	s.s. "Guardiana," of West Hartlepool, 124,326.	Buenos Ayres	1	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
,,	28	s.s. "Lucknow," of Greenock, 98,305.	Lobos -	5	Two died at sea, two recovered before arrival in London, one removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
February	19	s.s. "Ionic," of Liverpool, 115,337.	Wellington	1	Removed to Hospital of Metropolitan Asylums Board.
,,	24	s.s. "Star of Japan," of Belfast, 120,717.	Melbourne -	1	Removed to Hospital at Sydney.
March	1	s.s. "Rangatira," of Southampton, 97,216.	Buenos Ayres	1	Removed to Hospital at Teneriffe.
,,	5	s.s. "Paparoa," of Plymouth, 111,346.	Wellington	1	Convalescent on arrival in London.
,,	14	Canal Boat "Sarah Ann," of Reading, No. 64.	Reading -	1	Removed to Royal Berkshire Hospital.
,,	20	s.s. "Alnwick Castle," of London, 114,784.	Mauritius -	1	Removed to Hospital at Durban.
,,	28	s.s. "Balgownie," of London, 77,457.	Hamburg -	1	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
April	4	s.s. "Rappahannock," of Liverpool, 102,106.	Halifax -	1	Ditto.
,,	13	s.s. "Blackfriargate," of Hull, 123,289.	Rosario -	2	Ditto.
,,	22	s.s. "Afric," of Liverpool, 110,537.	Sydney -	1	Ditto.
,,	23	s.s. "Gaika," of Southampton, 106,908.	Cape Town -	1	Removed to Hospital at Southampton.
,,	23	s.s. "Orient," of Glasgow, 82,254.	Marseilles -	1	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
May	8	s.s. "Umtata," of London, 110,001.	Delagoa Bay	1	Ditto.
,,	25	s.s. "Hebburn," of Newcastle, 110,359.	Hartlepool -	1	Removed to Hospital at Hartlepool.
,,	29	s.s. "Durham," of London, 118,499.	Sydney -	1	Died, and body buried at sea.
,,	30	s.s. "Commonwealth," of London, 115,903.	Do.	1	Convalescent on arrival in London.
June	1	s.s. "Iwan Asbeleff," of St. Petersburg.	St. Petersburg.	2	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
,,	9	s.s. "Cluny Castle," of London, 118,323.	Mauritius -	2	Removed to Hospital at Cape Town.
,,	20	s.s. "Conway," of West Hartlepool, 112,430.	Tampa -	1	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
July	2	Canal Boat "Ada," of Berkhampstead, No. 404.	Berkhampstead.	1	Removed to Hospital of Metropolitan Asylums Board.
,,	14	s.s. "Eaton Hall," of Cardiff, 119,951.	Nicolieff -	1	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
,,	20	s.s, "Irkutsk," of Windau -	St. Petersburg.	1	Removed to Seamen's Hospital at Greenwich
			Forward -	43	

Date.		Name of Vessel, Port of Registry, and Official Number.	Where from.	No. of Cases.	How dealt with.
1908.		Brought forward -		43	
July	20	s.s. "Myrtle Holme," of Sunderland, 104,688.	Guayaquil -	3	Two removed at Antofagasta and one at Callao.
"	21	s.s. "Turakina," of Plymouth, 114,620.	Lyttelton -	2	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
"	22	s.s. "Henri Gerlinger," of Antwerp.	Alicante -	1	Ditto.
"	23	s.s. "Dunluce Castle," of London, 118,490.	Cape Town -	1	Removed to Hospital at Southampton.
"	30	s.s. "Comrie Castle," of London, 118,342.	Mauritius -	2	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
"	31	s.s. "Sicilian," of Glasgow, 111,225.	Montreal -	5	Ditto.
August	12	s.s. "Matiana," of Glasgow, 104,588.	Calcutta -	1	Ditto.
"	26	s.s. "Saltees," of Glasgow, 111,176.	Glasgow -	1	Removed to London Hospital.
"	28	s.s. "Linden Hall," of West Hartlepool, 112,421.	Kurachi -	1	Removed to Hospital at Port Said.
September	15	s.s. "Perm," of Copenhagen -	Libau -	1	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
"	15	s.s. "Borneo," of Newcastle, 104,287.	Calcutta -	1	Ditto.
"	20	s.s. "Marmora," of Belfast, 116,011.	Bombay -	9	Six removed at Port Said and three at Port Sanitary Hospital.
"	21	s.s. "Wologda," of Windau -	St. Petersburg.	1	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
"	29	Barge "Anglia," of London, 110,029.	Brightlingsea	1	Ditto.
"	29	s.s. "Michael Lund," of Mariupol.	St. Petersburg.	1	Removed to Seamen's Hospital at Greenwich.
"	29	Barge "Leslie" - - -	—	1	Ditto.
October	10	s.s. "Holmsland," of London, 118,279.	Cherbourg -	1	Removed to Hospital at East Ham.
"	12	s.s. "Montezuma," of Liverpool, 110,604.	Montreal -	1	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
"	17	s.s. "Egypt," of Greenock, 105,581.	Bombay -	1	Removed to Hospital at Marseilles.
"	26	Barge "Teaser," of London, 112,838.	Yarmouth -	1	Removed to Hospital at Great Yarmouth.
November	11	s.s. "Zeus," of Amsterdam -	Genoa -	1	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
"	16	s.s. "Prome," of Glasgow, 102,651.	Bangkok -	2	Removed to Hospital at Bangkok.
"	28	s.s. "Goth," of Southampton, 98,866.	Mauritius -	2	One removed at Mauritius and one at Cape Town.
December	1	s.s. "Montezuma," of Liverpool, 110,604.	Montreal -	2	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
"	1	"Neptun," of Westrhauderfehn	Brunshausen	1	Removed to Seamen's Hospital at Greenwich.
"	5	s.s. "Guardiana," of West Hartlepool, 124,326.	Buenos Ayres	1	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
"	13	s.s. "Caroni," of Newcastle, 118,638.	Demerara -	1	Ditto.
"	26	s.s. "Pardo," of Belfast, 120,770	Buenos Ayres	1	Removed to Hospital at Las Palmas.
				90	

TABLE XIV.

(Measles.)

Date.		Name of Vessel, Port of Registry and Official Number.	Where from.	No. of Cases.	How dealt with.
1908.					
January	20	s.s. "Mersey," of London, 102,876.	Calcutta -	1	Died at sea.
"	22	s.s. "Persic," of Liverpool, 110,620.	Sydney -	1	Removed to Hospital at Melbourne.
March	18	s.s. "Medic," of Liverpool, 110,573.	Do. - -	2	Convalescent on arrival in London.
"	25	s.s. "Minneapolis," of Belfast, 110,515.	New York -	3	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
"	26	s.s. "Sitona," of Fredrikstad -	Fredrikstad	1	Ditto.
"	28	s.s. "Britannia," of Greenock, 93,196.	Sydney -	1	Removed to Hospital at Fremantle.
April	11	s.s. "Mooltan," of Greenock, 117,397.	Do. - -	1	Patient landed at Plymouth, convalescent.
"	18	s.s. "Persia," of Greenock, 109,258.	Bombay -	1	Patient recovered before arrival in London.
"	22	s.s. "Ava," of Glasgow, 124,135	Rangoon -	1	Ditto.
"	25	s.s. "Shropshire," of Liverpool, 99,319.	Do. - -	1	Ditto.
May	2	s.s. "Egypt," of Greenock, 105,581.	Bombay -	2	One removed at Bombay, one recovered before arrival in London
"	4	s.s. "Geelong," of London, 118,426.	Sydney -	1	Patient recovered before arrival in London.
"	16	s.s. "Ortona," of Liverpool, 110,613.	Brisbane -	3	Two ditto, one removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
"	22	s.s. "Goorkha," of Southampton, 106,917.	Cape Town -	2	Removed to Hospital at Southampton.
June	14	s.s. "Brilliant," of Glasgow, 114,003.	Glasgow -	1	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
"	24	s.s. "Durham Castle," of London, 118,387.	Cape Town -	1	Removed to Hospital at Southampton.
"	28	s.s. "Ormuz," of Glasgow, 93,341.	Brisbane -	1	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
July	1	s.s. "German," of Southampton, 109,290.	East London	11	Removed to Hospital at Southampton.
"	12	s.s. "Orotava," of Liverpool, 96,348.	Brisbane -	9	Four removed at Plymouth, four removed to Port Sanitary Hospital, one convalescent on arrival in London.
August	19	s.s. "Dover Castle," of London, 118,409.	Delagoa Bay	25	Two removed at Cape Town, 22 at Southampton, and one at Port Sanitary Hospital.
"	24	s.s. "Wilcannia," of London, 110,154.	Sydney -	6	One removed to Port Sanitary Hospital, five recovered before arrival in London.
"	28	s.s. "Malakand," of Liverpool, 120,907.	Calcutta -	1	Convalescent on arrival in London.
September	24	s.s. "German," of Southampton, 109,290.	East London	8	Ditto.
October	27	s.s. "Persic," of Liverpool, 110,620.	Sydney -	2	Ditto.
			Total -	86	

TABLE XV.

(CHICKEN-POX.)

Date.		Name of Vessel, Port of Registry, and Official Number.	Where from.	Number of Cases.	How dealt with.
1908.					
Jan.	20	s.s. "Rohilla," of Glasgow, 124,149	Calcutta -	1	Removed to Hospital at Aden.
March	10	Training Ship "Worcester," lying off Greenhithe.	—	1	Removed to Ship's Hospital on Shore.
,,	26	Ditto ditto	—	1	Ditto.
April	9	s.s. "Galician," of Southampton, 113,334.	East London	1	Recovered before arrival in London.
,,	19	s.s. "Somali," of Greenock, 114,056	Calcutta -	1	Ditto.
,,	24	s.s. "China," of Belfast, 114,467 -	Sydney -	5	Ditto.
,,	25	s.s. "Shropshire," of Liverpool, 99,319.	Rangoon -	2	One removed at Colombo, and one to Port Sanitary Hospital.
,,	25	s.s. "Marmora," of Belfast, 116,011 -	Shanghai -	1	Removed to Hospital at Suez.
,,	25	s.s. "Flintshire," of London, 105,833	Yokohama	1	Convalescent on arrival in London.
May	9	s.s. "Gascon," of Southampton, 106,907	East London	3	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
,,	10	s.s. "Syria," of Glasgow, 113,959 -	Calcutta -	1	Removed to Hospital at Colombo.
,,	14	s.s. "Tintagel Castle," of London, 105,900.	Delagoa Bay	7	Five removed at Southampton, two convalescent on arrival in London.
June	4	s.s. "Galeka," of Southampton, 110,265.	East London	1	Convalescent on arrival in London.
,,	16	s.s. "Damascus," of Aberdeen, 94,521	Brisbane -	9	Five removed to Port Sanitary Hospital, four convalescent on arrival in London.
July	12	s.s. "Durham Castle," of London, 118,387.	Antwerp -	1	Convalescent on arrival in London.
,,	15	s.s. "Ceylon," of Middlesbrough, 98,785.	Hankow -	1	Ditto.
Aug.	30	s.s. "Clan Sutherland," of Glasgow, 106,037.	Coconada -	1	Ditto.
Sept.	5	s.s. "Marathon," of Aberdeen, 118,184	Sydney -	2	Ditto.
			Total -	40	

DIPHTHERIA.

A few cases of Diphtheria have occurred on the training-ship "Warspite," moored in the River Thames, off Greenhithe. The boys were given three weeks' leave of absence, during which period the ship was thoroughly disinfected.

TABLE XVI.

(DIPHTHERIA.)

Date.		Name of Vessel, Port of Registry and Official Number.	Where from.	No. of Cases.	How dealt with.
1908.					
Jan.	15	H.M.S. "President" Training Ship, lying in West India Dock.	—	1	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
Mar.	25	s.s. "Prosum," of Drammen - -	Drammen	1	Removed to Hospital of Metropolitan Asylums Board.
April	18	Training Ship "Cornwall," lying off Purfleet.	—	1	Removed to Hospital at Wennington.
May	9	Training Ship "Warspite," lying off Greenhithe.	—	1	Removed to Ship's Hospital on shore.
"	30	Ditto	—	1	Ditto.
June	8	Ditto	—	1	Ditto.
"	10	Ditto	—	1	Ditto.
"	12	Ditto	—	1	Ditto.
"	19	Ditto	—	1	Ditto.
"	4	s.s. "Durham," of London, 118,499 -	Sydney -	1	Removed to Hospital of Metropolitan Asylums Board.
July	11	s.s. "Iwan Asbeleff," of St. Petersburg	Dunkirk -	1	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
Aug.	13	Barge "Maude Little," of Rochester, 87,217.	Plymouth	1	Removed to Hospital of Metropolitan Asylums Board.
"	17	Training Ship "Warspite,," lying off Greenhithe	—	1	Isolated on board.
Oct.	10	Ditto	—	1	Removed to Ship's Hospital on shore.
"	16	Ditto	—	1	Ditto.
Nov.	12	s.s. "Irkutsk," of Windau - -	Riga -	1	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
"	13	Training Ship "Warspite," lying off Greenhithe.	—	1	Removed to Ship's Hospital on shore.
"	18	Training Ship "Arethusa," lying off Greenhithe.	—	1	Ditto.
			Total -	18	

TABLE XVII.

(Erysipelas.)

Date.	Name of Vessel, Port of Registry and Official Number.	Where from.	No. of Cases.	How dealt with.
1908.				
March 20	s.s. "Baltic Sea," of London, 125,611	Sfax -	1	Removed to London Hospital.
May 14	s.s. "Tintagel Castle," of London, 105,900.	Delagoa Bay	1	Recovered before arrival in London.
Aug. 26	s.s. "Tern," of Ipswich, 120,783 -	Ipswich -	1	Removed to Seamen's Hospital at Greenwich.
Sept. 22	s.s. "City of London," of Aberdeen, 65,079.	Aberdeen	1	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
Oct. 14	Barge "Senta," of London, 110,161 -	Employed in London	1	Isolated on board.
Nov. 21	s.s. "Irma," of Haugesund - -	Konigsberg	1	Ditto.
,, 27	s.s. "Holmwood," of London, 115,928	Hull -	1	Removed to Seamen's Hospital at Greenwich.
		Total -	7	

TABLE XVIII.

(Continued Fever.)

Date	Name of Vessel, Port of Registry and Official Number.	Where from.	No. of Cases.	How dealt with.
1908.				
Jan. 20	s.s. "Mersey," of London, 102,876 -	Calcutta -	1	Died at sea.
Feb. 1	s.s. "Crown Point" - - -	Philadelphia	1	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
May 26	s.s. "Leona," of Goole, 122,957 -	Guernsey	1	Ditto.
July 15	s.s. "Annam," of Marseilles - -	Saigon -	1	Ditto.
Aug. 8	H.M.S. "Mercedes" - - -	Hong Kong	1	Died, and body buried at sea.
,, 16	s.s. "Haulwen," of Cardiff, 115,379 -	Odessa -	1	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
Sept. 20	s.s. "Marmora," of Belfast, 116,011 -	Bombay -	10	Convalescent on arrival in London.
Oct. 26	Barge "Teaser," of London, 112,838 -	Yarmouth	1	Removed to Port Sanitary Hospital.
Nov. 10	s.s. "Antinous," of London, 125,612 -	Messina -	1	Ditto.
,, 18	s.s. "Cuba," of Stavanger - -	Valencia -	1	Ditto.
		Total -	19	

TABLE XIX.

(Blackwater Fever).

Date.	Name of Vessel, Port of Registry, and Official Number.	Where from	No. of Cases.	How dealt with.
1908.				
January 24	s.s. "Goth," of Southampton, 98,866.	Delagoa Bay	1	Recovered before arrival in London.

TABLE XX.

(Beri-Beri).

Date of Arrival.	Name of Vessel.	Where from.	Number of Cases.
1908.			
March 21	s.s. "Macduff," of Leith, 95,228	Bankok - -	One.
April 16	s.s. "Goth," of Southampton, 98,866.	Cape Town - -	Three.
Sept. 21	s.s. "Carnarvonshire," of Liverpool, 97,758.	Yokohama - -	One.
Oct. 29	s.s. "Silverdale," of Sunderland, 119,227.	Odessa - -	One.
Dec. 22	Barque "Skein," of Skein -	Lobos de Tierra -	Five.

DENTON HOSPITAL.

The total number of cases admitted to Hospital during the year was 88, being 28·5 per cent. of the total number of cases of infectious disease reported.

Of these, 78 were discharged convalescent, 4 died, and 7 remained in the Hospital at the end of the year.

Of the cases admitted, 42 were suffering from Enteric Fever, 13 from Measles, 5 from Diphtheria, 6 each from Scarlet Fever and Continued Fever respectively, and 14 from Chicken-pox.

One case of Scarlet Fever proved fatal, as did 3 cases of Enteric Fever.

The average number of days' treatment in each case was 18·28, while the average daily number of patients in Hospital was 4·4.

The average daily cost of maintenance (provisions and drugs) was 1*s*. 10·9*d*. per head. This amount shows a slight reduction on previous figures, and is probably accounted for by the absence of Small-pox patients in the Hospital. These patients when convalescing have enormous appetites, consequently the cost of maintenance is much increased.

TABLE XXI.

HOSPITAL.

NUMBER OF CASES ADMITTED, COST OF MAINTENANCE, &c.

Patients remaining in Hospital on 31st December, 1907 - - 1

	Admitted.	Discharged.	Died.	Remaining under treatment.
Cholera - - - -	0	0	0	0
Bubonic Plague - - -	0	0	0	0
Suspected ditto - - -	1	2	0	0
Small-pox - - - -	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever - - -	6	3	1	2
Enteric Fever - - -	42	35	3	4
Continued Fever - - -	6	5	0	1
Diphtheria - - - -	5	5	0	0
Measles - - - -	13	13	0	0
Erysipelas - - - -	1	1	0	0
Chicken-pox - - -	14	14	0	0
Totals - - -	88	78	4	7

Remaining in Hospital on 1st January, 1909 - - -	7
Total number of days' treatment during the year - - -	1,627
Average number of days' treatment for each case - - -	18·28
Average daily number of patients in Hospital - - -	4·4
The average daily cost of maintenance per head was -	1*s*. 10·9*d*.

DISINFECTIONS.

The total number of vessels and other premises disinfected during the year was 111, while the Disinfecting Apparatus was used 157 times for the disinfection of personal effects, bedding, &c.

Full particulars will be found in Tables XXII. and XXIII.

No serious item of repairs has been necessary during the past year. The apparatus was installed in the year 1892, and is thoroughly efficient at present.

TABLE XXII.

VESSELS AND PREMISES DISINFECTED, FROM 1ST JANUARY TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1908.

Month.	Reason for Disinfection.												Total Number of Disinfections.
	Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.	Chicken-pox.	Cholera (Suspected).	Continued Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Plague (Suspected).	Scarlet Fever.	Small-pox.	Precautionary Measure.	
January -	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	2	...	...	6
February -	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	2	1	4	11
March -	...	2	...	...	1	3	1	2	...	...	...	2	11
April - -	...	1	...	...	...	5	...	3	...	1	...	2	12
May - -	...	2	...	1	...	1	1	1	...	1	...	3	10
June - -	...	1	...	...	1	3	...	2	...	...	...	...	7
July - -	...	1	...	...	1	6	...	2	...	1	...	3	14
August -	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	3	...	...	...	4	10
September -	...	...	...	...	...	5	1	1	...	...	...	2	9
October -	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	1	...	1	5
November -	...	...	...	2	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	1	7
December -	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	1	...	4	9
Totals -	...	8	...	5	5	38	5	14	...	9	1	26	111

TABLE XXIII.

NUMBER OF DISINFECTIONS OF EFFECTS, BEDDING, &c., FROM 1ST JANUARY TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1908.

Month.	Reason for Disinfection.										Hospital Bedding, &c.	Total Effects.	Number of times Steam Disinfector was used.	Disinfected by Fumigation.
	Chicken-pox.	Continued Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Suspected Plague.	Scarlet Fever.	Small-pox.	Precautionary Measure.				
January -	...	...	1	5	...	...	...	3	...	...	1	10	38	...
February -	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	8	12	11	...
March - -	4	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	6	14	11	2
April - -	2	...	...	5	...	4	...	2	1	...	3	17	9	1
May - -	2	1	1	1	1	2	...	1	...	...	7	16	14	...
June - -	2	...	2	3	...	3	...	1	...	...	5	16	12	...
July - -	1	1	1	5	...	2	...	1	...	...	4	15	18	...
August -	...	2	1	1	...	3	...	...	...	1	5	13	12	2
September -	...	...	1	5	...	1	...	...	...	...	10	17	15	..
October -	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	5	5	1
November -	...	2	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	8	5	1
December -	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	7	7	...
Totals -	11	7	8	35	3	17	...	12	2	2	53	150	157	7

NUISANCES.

The total number of nuisances reported during the year was 4,112. Of these, 3,864 were on vessels, 241 in buildings and places on shore, whilst 7 related to the River.

Three hundred and seventeen were complaints of nuisance from smoke, 30 from offensive cargoes, 11 arising from defective drains, 424 from defects of a structural character, while 3,137 were complaints of dirty and insanitary quarters on board ship.

Dealing with these nuisances involved the sending of 608 written intimations, while 103 Statutory Notices were served in cases where such a step was necessary.

Legal proceedings were taken in the case of three vessels on account of smoke nuisances, in one of which a conviction was obtained, the Master of the vessel having to pay fines and costs amounting to 9*l.* 15*s.*, while in two cases the summonses were dismissed on technical grounds (see Table XXX).

Full particulars of the number and description of the nuisances dealt with will be found in Tables XXIV and XXV.

On June 10th a man, who was employed on a sailing barge, went on board another barge lying alongside and entered the fore cabin. As he did not return, search was made and the man was found to be dead. The barge was loaded with an offensive cargo, gases from which had entered the fore cabin, and the man was suffocated.

An inquest was held, and a verdict was returned as "death by misadventure." I instructed one of your Sanitary Inspectors to attend the inquest and to give any information which the Coroner desired, with a view to assisting the jury in their inquiry. He gave particulars as to the action taken by this Authority in protecting the inmates of sailing barges on which persons lived, from the effects of these gases, when they were loaded with offensive cargoes, but he pointed out that, in the case of the barge in question, the barge was not inhabited, and the Authority had no power to deal with the question. The Coroner expressed his thanks for the assistance rendered by the Inspector.

In August, I received a complaint with regard to a nuisance caused by the presence of large quantities of flies at the Branch Seamen's Hospital, Connaught Road, Royal Albert Dock.

The plague was at its worst about the 19th, a fly-paper collecting over 100 flies in fifteen minutes.

Fresh paint in the Hospital was covered with the legs of flies which had stuck to it when fresh, so that there was no question as to the fact of the existence of the nuisance.

Situated to the North-East of the Hospital is the West Ham rubbish-shoot, which receives about 40 van loads of house and other refuse daily.

Inspector Spadaccini visited the locality, and reported that in all parts of the dust heap there were myriads of flies, and it appeared that the flies predominated in premises near the dust-shoot.

At the time when the nuisance was at its worst, the wind had been blowing from the North and North-East for several days.

I have no doubt that this rubbish-shoot is responsible, if not for the breeding of the flies, certainly for the collection.

The shoot is not within the jurisdiction of the Port Sanitary Authority, and I recommended the Secretary of the Seamen's Hospital to write to the Corporation of West Ham on the subject, and I drew the attention of the Medical Officer of Health to the facts.

The prevailing wind is South-West, and it is only when the wind blows from the North and North-East that the Hospital is likely to be infested with flies from this source.

TABLE XXIV.

NUMBER OF NUISANCES ON **VESSELS** REPORTED AND DEALT WITH during the year ending 31st December, 1908.

Description of Nuisances.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Totals.
Smoke Nuisances :—													
Number of complaints received ...	18	27	22	16	15	16	31	7	14	21	29	46	262
Number of recurrences reported ...	2	...	5	1	3	7	2	1	...	...	1	3	25
Offensive Cargoes (Bye-laws) :—													
Number of Infringements reported	8	1	4	2	1	...	1	...	...	3	10	...	30
Structural and other Defects :—													
Ventilation	8	3	12	6	9	7	6	2	1	4	6	4	68
Lighting	10	8	11	8	3	7	5	8	3	4	5	5	77
Heating	10	3	11	3	3	3	1	...	...	1	5	11	51
Bare iron in crew's quarters ...	2	3	3	...	3	3	1	...	...	1	1	2	19
Leaky decks, hawsepipes, cable casings, &c.	10	7	17	8	5	8	14	3	2	7	5	3	89
Defective bulkheads and floors ...	4	4	14	4	3	2	5	3	...	3	2	1	45
Sanitary conveniences ...	6	2	6	5	5	2	2	1	4	1	3	1	38
Ship's gear or stores stowed in crew's quarters	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	5
Foul bilges or peaks	17	1	11	8	3	2	6	1	2	7	1	8	67
Storage of drinking water (dirty or defective tanks)	3	...	3	...	1	1	2	3	4	4	2	...	23
Dirty quarters	267	234	314	275	268	233	283	201	195	267	250	244	3,031
Accumulation of offensive matter ...	...	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Miscellaneous Nuisances	3	1	5	3	...	6	2	2	5	1	...	2	30
Totals	369	296	440	340	323	297	361	232	230	325	320	331	3,864
Total number of vessels on which structural alterations were ordered ...	31	22	48	27	18	19	23	16	14	15	20	21	274
Total number of vessels on which structural alterations were reported as carried out	19	26	71	21	35	7	16	17	38	9	19	17	295

NUMBER OF NUISANCES **IN THE RIVER** REPORTED AND DEALT WITH during the year ending 31st December, 1908.

From discharge of foul liquid, sewage, &c. into the River...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	3	...	...	5
Carcasses of Animals, &c., floating in the River	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	2
Accumulation of offensive matter ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	...	3	...	...	7

TABLE XXV.

NUMBER OF NUISANCES ON **SHORE PREMISES** REPORTED AND DEALT WITH during the year ending 31st December, 1908.

Description of Nuisances.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Totals.
Smoke Nuisances:—													
Number of complaints received ...	1	5	2	2	1	1	4	1	3	...	3	3	26
Number of recurrences reported ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	1	
Structural and other Defects :—													
Ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lighting	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Heating	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dilapidations	...	1	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	1	1	1	7
Sanitary conveniences	2	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	6
Water supply	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dirty premises	8	12	8	8	20	11	15	22	29	26	8	7	174
Accumulation of offensive matter...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Drainage	2	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	6
Foul cesspits, latrines, &c. ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous nuisances	3	...	1	...	2	2	...	2	1	1	2	...	14
Totals	16	18	13	10	26	18	23	27	34	28	14	14	241
Number of shore premises on which structural alterations were ordered ...	6	1	2	...	3	2	1	...	...	1	2	3	21
Number of shore premises on which structural alterations were reported as carried out...	3	4	3	...	2	2	...	...	1	...	2	4	21

SUMMARY.

	Smoke.	Structural.	Offensive Cargoes.	Sewage, Drainage, &c.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
Number of Nuisances reported—						
(a) On vessels	287	410	30	...	3,137	3,864
(b) On shore	30	14	...	6	191	241
(c) On the River	...	...	...	5	2	7
Totals	317	424	30	11	3,330	4,112
Number of written Intimations—						
(a) On vessels	228	233	30	...	70	561
(b) On shore	18	14	...	5	8	45
(c) On the River	...	...	...	...	2	2
Totals	246	257	30	5	80	608
Number of Statutory Notices—						
(a) On vessels	76	24	...	...	...	100
(b) On shore	3	...	...	...	...	3
(c) On the River	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	79	24	...	...	...	103

POLICE COURT PROCEEDINGS.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
Total number of cases in which legal proceedings were recommended ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	3
Total number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	4

ALIENS ACT, 1905.

Particulars of the results of the working of the Aliens Act in the Port of London, so far as regards medical inspection of Aliens, will be found in Tables XXVI and XXVIII. These have been compiled from the quarterly returns of H.M. Inspector under the Aliens Act, 1905.

From these it will be seen that the total number of Aliens arriving in the Port of London during the year was 58,781, and that of this number 8,067 required medical examination under the Act.

A reference to Table XXVII will show that of the total number of Alien Immigrant vessels arriving in the United Kingdom 12 per cent. arrive in London, and of the total number of Alien Immigrants 11 per cent., while of Alien passengers who are non-immigrants, London received 21 per cent.

This class would be represented principally by ordinary travellers and tourists.

In Table XXVIII. I give some particulars of the diseases from which Aliens were suffering who were rejected on medical examination at Gravesend.

TABLE XXVI.

NUMBER OF ALIENS ARRIVING IN THE UNITED KINGDOM DURING THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1908.

	All Ports.	*London.*
Cabin passengers	161,469	33,988
Exempted second-class passengers	112,809	14,765
Transmigrants	61,680	1,961
Other Alien passengers*	63,330	8,067
	399,288	58,781

* PARTICULARS OF OTHER ALIEN PASSENGERS.

Proceeding to destinations outside United Kingdom	6,417	1,108
Holding return tickets	17,848	868
Seamen	10,235	1,029
Refused leave to land	604	61
Balance	28,226	5,001
	63,330	8,067

Number of Expulsion Orders, 356.

TABLE XXVII.

Arrivals in the Port of London.

	Ships.			Passengers.		
	Non-Immigrant.	Immigrant.	Total.	Non-Immigrant.	Immigrant.	Total.
January -	155	14	169	2,464	859	3,323
February -	157	10	167	2,533	624	3,157
March - -	168	18	186	2,737	1,245	3,982
April - -	163	32	195	2,302	2,368	4,670
May - -	172	35	207	2,768	2,454	5,222
June - -	171	53	224	2,418	3,589	6,007
July - -	197	70	267	2,301	5,183	7,484
August -	213	68	281	2,274	5,126	7,400
September -	189	58	247	2,397	4,321	6,718
October -	209	23	232	2,931	1,473	4,404
November -	174	17	191	2,471	850	3,321
December -	165	17	182	2,274	819	3,093
Total -	2,133	415	2,548	29,870	28,911	58,781
Other Ports	7,903	3,014	8,099	109,855	230,652	340,507
Total -	10,036	3,429	10,647	139,725	259,563	399,288
			London.			
Percentage of Total	21·25	12·10	23·93	21·39	11·13	14·72
Do. 1907	21·60	11·39	—	22·03	9·53	—

TABLE XXVIII.

Medically Rejected.

Date.	No.	Sex.	Age.	Disease.	Result of Appeal.
1908.					
February 2	1	M	50	Trachoma - - - -	Rejected.
March 22	1	M	20	Gonorrhœa - - - -	"
" 22	1	M	18	" - - - -	"
" 22	1	M	? aged	Trachoma - - - -	Admitted.
" 25	1	M	63	Trachoma and Double Inguinal Hernia	"
April 5	1	F	17	Trachoma - - - -	Rejected.
" 5	1	F	4	" - - - -	"
" 5	1	M	8	" - - - -	"
" 5	1	F	45	" - - - -	"
" 5	1	M	53	" - - - -	"
" 5	1	F	54	" - - - -	"
" 5	1	M	14	" - - - -	"
July 18	1	M	?	Ringworm and Seborrhœa - -	"
" 19	1	M	20	Double Inguinial Hernia - -	Admitted.
" 26	1	M	23	Gonorrhœa - - - -	Did not appeal.
August 22	1	M	22	Trachoma - - - -	Rejected.
" 22	1	M	20	" - - - -	"
September 8	1	F	56	" - - - -	"
" 8	1	F	65	Decrepit, Dilated Heart, Œdema -	Admitted.
" 10	1	M	21	Gonorrhœa - - - -	Did not appeal.
" 11	1	F	75	Trachoma - - - -	Rejected.
Total -	21				

Rejected on appeal - - -	15
Admitted - - - -	4
Did not appeal - - -	2
	21

FOOD INSPECTION.

Regulations have been made under the Public Health (Regulations as to Food) Act, 1907.

This Act is for the purpose of preventing danger to the public health from the importation, preparation, storage and distribution of articles of food or drink other than drugs or water.

The Public Health (1st Series, Unsound Food) Regulations, 1908, came into operation on the 1st October.

The execution of these Regulations is entrusted to Port Sanitary Authorities and such Riparian Authorities in England and Wales, whose areas do not abut upon part of a Customs Port.

These Regulations have the object of securing that articles of food which are unsound, unwholesome or unfit for human consumption, and which, as part of the cargo of a ship, are brought to a place in this country, shall be dealt with at the port of discharge.

The experience of the inspection of articles of food by the Port Sanitary Authority in the Port of London, for many years past, has been utilized by the Local Government Board in preparing these Regulations.

Powers of inspection, for the purposes of these Regulations, are conferred upon the Medical Officer of Health and upon any other person appointed or employed by the Authority, under the Regulations.

The Board consider it advisable that notices or certificates and the like, should only be given by the Medical Officer of Health or by Officers acting in the place of, or assistant to, the Medical Officer of Health.

The Medical Officer of Health may examine articles of food which have been landed within the district of the Sanitary Authority.

He may also examine such articles before they have been landed, either on the ship or in lighters and barges where the vessel discharges foodstuffs overside.

The Regulations provide that necessary facilities shall be given for the purpose of his examination as regards unpacking and the like, and he is authorised to apply to a justice for a warrant to enter premises in special cases.

Power is also given to take samples, in the case of particular consignments, for the purpose of special examination, and such consignments may temporarily be detained, pending completion of the examination of the samples taken.

The Medical Officer of Health may either himself, or by an assistant, seize and carry away articles of food which, in his opinion, are unsound, unwholesome or unfit for human consumption, and he may either apply to a Justice for an Order of Condemnation, or may require that until examined by a Justice, such articles shall not be removed from the place specified in the notice, without permission of the Medical Officer of Health.

A Justice, if satisfied that the particular food concerned is unsound, must condemn the food and order its destruction.

The Local Government Board suggest that an abstract of the records of articles of food destroyed or disposed of in pursuance of the Regulations, should be furnished by the Medical Officer of Health in his Annual Report to the Authority, which should also include an account of proceedings which have been taken by him, or under his direction.

The Public Health Foreign Meat Regulations, 1908, came into force on the 1st January, 1909. Though not in operation during the year under review, a summary here will not be out of place.

These Regulations deal with :—

(*a*) Foreign Boneless Meat.

(*b*) Tripe, tongues or kidneys, imported in brine, containing certain chemical preservative.

(*c*) Severed partsof a pig not prepared before importation, as bacon or ham, and not contained in a package with a special certificate attached to it.

This is Foreign Meat of Class I., and its importation into this country is practically prohibited.

The Foreign Meat of Class II. means the carcass of pigs from which the head has been removed, or in which the lymphatic glands about the throat and elsewhere are absent.

Foreign Meat of Class III. consists of severed parts of a pig contained in a package, with an official certificate attached thereto.

Official certificates have been recognised from the following countries :—

Dominion of Canada.	Denmark.
Dominion of New Zealand.	Netherlands.

The attachment of an official certificate does not exempt a consignment from examination, and if found to be unsound, diseased or unwholesome, or unfit for human food, is subject to the provisions of the Public Health Act, which enable it to be seized and carried before a justice and an order obtained for its destruction.

For the purposes of these Regulations, the following Medical Officers have been approved by the Local Government Board to act either in the place of, or as assistant to, the Medical Officer of Health :—

Willoughby Mason Willoughby, B.A., M.D., M.B., B.C., D.P.H.

Edward Vincent Legge, M.A., M.D., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.

James Stratton Warrack, M.A., M.D., M.B., C.M., D.P.H.

Woodley Daniel Betenson, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H., R.C.P.S. (Lond.).

Archibald Kidd, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H.

The following Inspectors have also been approved to act as Assistant Officers under the Local Government Board's General Orders of 12th September, 1908 :—

H. Spadaccini.	W. G. Wetjen.
W. Anderson.	W. W. Burr.
T. W. Bailey.	H. R. Hopkins.
W. G. Romeril.	P. R. Lambe.
A. Garland.	J. H. Rolfe.

The work of Food Inspection in the Port of London, up to the end of this year, has been carried out by three Food Inspectors, who possess, in addition to the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, the Certificate as Inspectors of Meat and other Foods.

These Inspectors have had great experience in all kinds of foodstuffs, and for the purposes of administration of the Regulations, the district of the Port Sanitary Authority has been divided into three :—

DISTRICT "A" (Inspector Spadaccini).

Sub-District 1. Royal Victoria Dock.

" 2. Royal Albert Dock.

" 3. Tilbury Dock.

DISTRICT "B" (Inspector Anderson).

Sub-District 1. London, St. Katharine's and Regent's Docks.

" 2. West India, Millwall, and East India Docks.

DISTRICT "C" (Inspector Bailey).

Sub-District 1. Surrey Commercial Docks.

" 2. Vessels discharging in the district of the Port Sanitary Authority not within a dock.

They will be assisted by the Sanitary Inspectors of the sub-districts, each of whom is fully qualified and, as notified above, has been approved by the Local Government Board to act as an Assistant Officer.

Whilst this Report is going to press, three additional Inspectors have been temporarily appointed on probation. These Inspectors, as soon as qualified, will be permanently appointed as Sanitary Inspectors, and the Staff will then consist of three Food Inspectors who, with the assistance of 10 Assistant Officers, will carry out the work of Food Inspection in the Port of London, in accordance with the Regulations made under the Public Health (Regulations as to Food) Act, 1907, under the supervision and direction of the Medical Officer of Health.

There is a large quantity of meat imported into Queenborough from Holland daily. This will be under the supervision of Dr. E. V. Legge, the Assistant Medical Officer, stationed at Sheerness, with the assistance of an Inspector when required.

From Messrs. Weddell and Co.'s Annual Report for 1908 I append a list of the Refrigerating Stores which exist within the jurisdiction of the Port of London Sanitary Authority, and also the number and carrying capacity of the steamers fitted with refrigerating machinery, and engaged in the frozen meat trade at the 31st December, 1908.

London and India Docks Co.—

	Capacity.
Victoria Dock	315,000 Carcasses.
Victoria Dock Extension	180,000 "
West India Dock	90,000 "
West Smithfield	90,000 "
South Dock	13,000 "

London Central Markets Cold Storage Co., Ltd.—

Poplar	150,000 "

Summary.

Route.	*Ships.*	*Carrying Capacity.*
Australia to United Kingdom, &c.	48	1,913,000 Carcasses.
New Zealand to London, &c.	45	4,033,700 "
Australasia and/or South America to United Kingdom, &c.	29	2,794,400 "
South America to United Kingdom, &c.	54	3,433,700 "
Total	176	12,174,800 "

The importation of frozen mutton and lamb (in carcases) into the United Kingdom began approximately about the year 1880, when 400 carcasses were imported into London.

In 1881,	17,275	In 1890,	1,865,790
1882,	66,095	1900,	4,335,258

whilst in 1908, 6,482,902 carcasses were imported into London.

In Table XXIX. will be found a detailed list of the various articles of food which have been destroyed during the year as being unfit for food.

From this it will be seen that the quantity of foodstuffs thus destroyed approximated a weight of nearly 1,000 tons, and comprised fresh or frozen meat 1,627 carcasses, &c. ; 26 cases and 1,253 tins of tinned meats ; 21,616 jars and 1,964 tins of preserved fish ; 3,549 packages and 11,140 tins of fresh fruits, preserved fruits, and vegetables ; 609 packages of provisions ; while 4,274 bags of grain, meal and flour, and 2,461 packages of sundry articles were similarly disposed of. In Table XXIXA will be found the weights of the unsound meat destroyed during the four years ending 31st December last, the total quantity for the four years considerably exceeding 1,000 tons, the average annual weight of meat destroyed in those years being 308·5 tons.

The Inspectors continue to examine the meat provided for the use of crews on small sailing craft.

On 12th November, Inspector Romeril visited the schooner "Zephyr," of Plymouth, Official Number 51,253, and found some meat stored in an old herring barrel, which was quite putrid and unfit for human food.

On the 16th November, the ketch "Irene," of Bridgewater, Official Number 111,394, was visited, and the Inspector found 6 lbs. of bacon hanging up in a paint locker close to some open tins containing paint, and in an earthenware vessel about 8 lbs. of beef which was partly covered with mildew and in a decomposing condition.

The schooner "Zebrina," of Faversham, Official Number 60,245, was visited on the 19th November, and 20 lbs. of salt beef found to be stored in a cask. The beef was decomposing.

In each case the meat was destroyed by burning.

TABLE XXIX.

Quantity and Description of Unsound Food Seized and Destroyed for the Year ending 31st December, 1908.

	Original packages.		Sundry quantities by weight.				Loose Articles.		Approximate Total weight of Goods destroyed.			
	No.	Description.	Tons.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	No.	Description.	Tons.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
MEAT—												
Fresh and Frozen—												
Beef - - - -	376	quarters	...	...	...	...	559	pieces	47	14	2	6
Mutton and Lamb - -	1,220	carcasses	...	...	...	...	245	,,	22	12	2	10
Veal, Pork and Offal -	31	packages	...	...	...	...	583	tins	1	3	0	8
Preserved—												
Tinned - - -	26	cases	...	...	...	...	1,253	,,	3	12	2	8
Smoked and Salted - -	5	packages	...	...	...	...	9	hams	0	9	2	26
Sundry - - -	...	...	2	9	2	15	...	...	2	9	2	15
RABBITS—												
Frozen - - - -	43	crates	...	...	...	...	2,261		3	10	0	26
Tinned - - - -	4	cases	...	...	...	...	54	tins	0	2	3	12
POULTRY and GAME—												
Frozen - - - -	20	packages	...	...	...	...	...		0	14	1	6
FISH—												
Wet - - - -	16	barrels	...	...	...	...	...		0	16	1	12
Preserved, Tinned - -	21,616	jars	...	...	...	...	1,964	tins	3	9	0	22
,, Dried - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...
FRUIT—												
Fresh - - - -	2,783	crates	1	2	2	24	10	packages	83	1	8	19
Preserved, Dried - -	596	packages	...	...	...	...	...		6	1	3	13
,, Tinned and Bottled -	31	cases	...	...	...	...	5,324	tins	7	14	3	6
,, Jam and Marmalade -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...
VEGETABLES—												
Fresh - - - -	125	bags	7	9	0	0	...		11	5	1	0
Preserved, Dried - -	...	...	9	19	3	14	5,806	tins	14	17	1	14
NUTS—												
Whole - - - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...
Ground - - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...
Sundry - - - -	14	bags	...	...	...	...	...		...	16	1	12
PROVISIONS—												
Tea - - - -	320	chests	...	...	...	...	...		18	9	3	8
Coffee - - - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...
Cocoa - - - -	34	bags	...	...	...	...	...		9	14	0	0
Butter, Cheese, Lard, Margarine	84	packages	...	...	...	...	...		2	13	3	13
Condensed Milk - -	65	cases	...	...	...	...	...		1	8	0	10
Prepared Foods - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...
Biscuits and Confectionery -	39	cases	...	...	...	...	...		3	11	0	23
Sugar - - - -	67	casks	0	2	0	0	...		15	5	0	0
GRAIN—												
Wheat, Maize, Barley, Rice, &c.	2,499	bags	...	...	...	...	...		439	12	0	6
MEAL and FLOUR - -	1,775	,,	3	19	0	27	...		95	8	1	0
CONDIMENTS and SPICES -	...	...	0	2	0	0	...		0	2	0	0
EGGS - - - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	50,030		2	17	3	0
Dried - - - -	17	casks	...	...	...	...	...		4	0	0	0
SUNDRIES - - -	2,461	packages	162	18	0	0	150	tins	189	2	0	21
Total - -	34,267	——	188	4	1	24	68,248	——	992	7	0	16

TABLE XXIXA.

Description of Meat.	1905.				1906.				1907.				1908.				Totals for four years.			
	Tons	*cwts.*	*qrs.*	*lbs.*	*Tons*	*cwts.*	*qrs.*	*lbs.*	*Tons*	*cwts.*	*qrs.*	*lbs.*	*Tons*	*cwts.*	*qrs.*	*lbs.*	*Tons*	*cwts.*	*qrs.*	*lbs.*
BEEF	335	16	0	27	136	5	3	24	47	5	2	16	47	14	2	6	567	2	1	17
MUTTON	361	14	1	5	94	15	0	8	63	6	2	24	22	12	2	10	542	8	2	19
VEAL, PORK, OFFAL	8	17	3	24	22	7	0	10	8	11	1	6	1	3	0	8	40	19	1	20
TINNED	2	0	0	12	9	0	0	26	2	14	4	5	3	12	2	8	17	7	3	23
SMOKED AND SALTED, &c. ...	0	4	1	4	0	0	3	14	63	8	0	22	2	19	1	13	66	12	2	25
TOTAL	708	12	3	16	262	9	0	26	185	6	3	17	78	2	0	17	1,234	11	0	20

LEGISLATION.

PORT OF LONDON ACT, 1908.

The Port of London Act, 1908, became law during the year.

Clause 7 provides that as from the appointed day (March 31st, 1909) there shall be transferred to the Port Authority all rights, powers, and duties of the Conservators of the River Thames in respect of the River Thames below the landward limit of the Port of London.

Also all enactments relating to the Conservators (except those regulating the funds and accounts of and borrowing by the Conservators) shall have effect as if references to the Port Authority were substituted for references to the Conservators.

This means that practically the Thames Conservancy Act of 1894 will be administered by the new Port Authority in the Thames below Teddington Lock.

This Act contains many sections dealing with pollution of the River Thames.

These are :—

Section 90, which defines "tributary of the Thames" as including "the whole and every part of any and every river stream watercourse "cut dock canal channel and water being within all or any of the "several counties of Gloucester Wilts Oxon Bucks Berks Hants "Surrey Middlesex Herts Essex and Kent and administrative county of "London and being within the catchment area of the Thames and "communicating either directly or indirectly with the Thames except as "follows :—

"(1) So much as is more than three miles from the Thames of "every river stream watercourse cut dock canal channel and water "which first communicates whether directly or indirectly with the "Thames at a point eastward of the western boundary of the county "of London ;

"(2) So much of the River Lee as is above the south boundary "stones in the Lee Conservancy Act 1868 mentioned ;

"(3) Every river stream watercourse cut dock canal channel and "water which is within the catchment area of so much of the River "Lee as is above the said stones ; and

"(4) Every cut dock and canal belonging to any of the dock "companies established under the authority of Parliament at the "port of London or to any other company established under such "authority and owning any docks within that port."

Section 91. It is the duty of the Conservators to preserve the flow and purity of the water of the Thames and its tributaries, and to scavenge the surface of the Thames and its tributaries within three miles of the Thames down to the western boundary of the county of London.

Section 92, sub-section 4, prohibits the wilful discharge of any offensive matter, whether solid or fluid, into the Thames or into any tributary. This section shall not extend or apply to any vessel within the limits of the Port of London, and under the jurisdiction of the Port Sanitary Authority thereof.

Sub-section 5 prohibits any heap or accumulation of manure, ashes or other offensive matter to remain for more than 48 hours upon any bank of the Thames or its tributaries.

Section 93 prohibits the discharge of any sewage into the Thames or its tributaries.

Section 94 provides for Notice being served requiring discontinuance of pollution.

Section 99 requires the Sanitary Authority and owners and occupiers to afford information of such pollution.

Section 100 gives power to the Conservators to stop up the outlet of a sewer.

Under the Port of London Act, 1908, sub-section 2 (*k*), provides that "so much of any such enactments as confers powers in relation to "pollution shall not apply in the case of any tributaries of the Thames "in the County of Middlesex."

Section 45 orders that the provisions of sections 93, 94, 99 of the Thames Conservancy Act, 1894, which chiefly concern pollution, shall not apply in any area comprised in the Borough of Southend-on-Sea or between that Borough and a straight line drawn from the West Shoebury Buoy to the most easterly point of Canvey Island.

Section 46 in similar manner exempts the Urban District of Sheerness, "including the foreshore opposite that district, nor as respects any part "of the bed of the River Thames within 100 yards from that foreshore."

Section 47 is a saving for the Rural District of Sheppey with regard to the construction of a sewer outfall in that district, or the use of such sewer outfall when constructed.

The limits of the Port of London for the purposes of this Act are as follows :—

"The limits of the Port of London shall commence at an imaginary "straight line (in this Act referred to as the landward limit of the Port

"of London) drawn from high-water mark on the bank of the River "Thames at the boundary line between the parishes of Teddington and "Twickenham in the County of Middlesex to high-water mark on the "Surrey bank of the River immediately opposite the first-mentioned "point, and extend down both sides of the River Thames to an imaginary "straight line (in this Act referred to as the seaward limit of the Port of "London) drawn from the pilot mark at the entrance of Havengore "Creek, in the County of Essex, to the Land's End at Warden Point in "the Isle of Sheppey, in the County of Kent, and shall include all islands, "rivers, streams, creeks, waters, watercourses, channels, harbours, docks, "and places within the before-mentioned limits contained, and all places "which under any Act of Parliament are deemed to be within the Port "of London, but shall not include any part of the River Medway above "the seaward limit of the jurisdiction of the Conservators of the River "Medway, or any part of the River Swale, or any part of the River Lee "or Bow Creek within the jurisdiction of the Lee Conservancy Board, or "any part of the Grand Junction Canal."

The Port Sanitary Committee felt very strongly that those clauses relating to the pollution of the River Thames should be administered by the Port Sanitary Authority, and not by the Port Authority, which is purely a trading concern.

Their views were strongly represented before a Joint Committee of the House of Lords and Commons, and the Lord Mayor and your Medical Officer of Health gave evidence in respect thereto.

The Board of Trade were not unwilling that these clauses should be administered by the Port Sanitary Authority, but the proposal was strongly opposed, amongst others, by the London County Council, who wished the sewage outfall at Barking and Crossness to be excluded from any supervision under the Act, and the representations of the Port of London Sanitary Authority failed to obtain effect.

Clause 29. (1) The Port Authority shall, if so required by the Secretary of State, provide and maintain to the satisfaction of the Secretary of State accommodation for the reception of alien passengers conditionally disembarked for the purpose of inspection, appeals, or otherwise, under the Aliens Act, 1905.

(2) On such accommodation being provided, the Port Authority may, with the consent of the Secretary of State, make bye-laws imposing on immigrant ships within the meaning of that Act entering the Port of London tolls in respect of such accommodation, and requiring the conditional disembarkation at the place so provided of such Alien passengers from immigrant ships as the Secretary of State may by order direct, either generally or as regards any special ships.

Hitherto it has been the practice to visit and examine the Alien steerage passengers on immigrant ships after they have arrived at Gravesend, and such as were considered undesirable have been detained on board the vessels, whilst the Immigration Board has met for the hearing of appeals at premises in Great Tower Street.

This clause compels the Port Authority, if so required by the Secretary of State, to provide and maintain accommodation for the reception of Alien steerage passengers who shall be conditionally disembarked for the purpose of inspection, &c.

The London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1908, became law.

Clause 8 provides that :—

"From and after the passing of this Act the following provisions "shall apply to any room shop or other part of a building within the "county in which any article whether solid or liquid intended or "adapted for the food of man is sold or exposed for sale or deposited for "the purpose of sale or of preparation for sale or with a view to future "sale :—

(*a*) "No urinal water-closet earth closet privy ashpit or other "like sanitary convenience shall be within such room shop or other "part of a building or shall communicate therewith except through "the open air or through an intervening ventilated space ;

(*b*) "No cistern for supplying water to such room shop or other "part of a building shall be in direct communication with and "directly discharge into any such sanitary convenience ;

(*c*) "No drain or pipe for carrying off fæcal or sewage matter "shall have any inlet or opening within such room shop or other "part of a building ;

(*d*) "No such room shop or other part of a building shall be "used as a sleeping place and so far as may be reasonably necessary "to prevent risk of the infection or contamination of any such "article as aforesaid no sleeping place shall adjoin such room shop "or other part of a building and communicate therewith except "through the open air or through an intervening ventilated space ;

(*e*) "Refuse or filth whether solid or liquid shall not be deposited "or allowed to accumulate in any such room shop or other part of "a building except so far as may be reasonably necessary for the "proper carrying on of trade or business ;

(*f*) " Due cleanliness shall be observed in regard to such room " shop or other part of a building and all articles apparatus and " utensils therein and shall be observed by persons engaged in such " room shop or other part of a building.

(2) " If any person occupies or lets or knowingly suffers to be " occupied any such room shop or other part of a building wherein any " of the conditions prohibited by this section exist or does or knowingly " permits any act or thing therein in contravention of this section he " shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding for a first " offence twenty shillings and for every subsequent offence five pounds " and in either case to a daily penalty not exceeding twenty shillings.

Clause 9. (1) " The Council may make bye-laws for regulating the " conduct within the county (elsewhere than in the City of London and " so much of the Port of London as established for the purposes of the " laws relating to the Customs of the United Kingdom as is within the " county) of the businesses of a vendor of fried fish a fish curer and a " rag and bone dealer or any of them and with respect to the premises " in or upon which any business is carried on and the apparatus " utensils and appliances used for the purposes of or in connection with " any such business.

Clause 11. " The Local Government Board may on the application of " the Sanitary Authority of the Port of London by order extend to so " much of the said Port as is within the county any bye-laws made by " the Council under the section of this Act of which the marginal note is " 'Power to Council and Corporation to make bye-laws with respect to " certain businesses.' "

SOUTHEND SEWAGE SCHEME.

The Local Government Board held a Public Enquiry at Southend-on-Sea, in April, 1908, with regard to a scheme of the Southend-on-Sea Corporation for constructing a scheme of sewerage and treatment of the effluent before discharging it into the sea.

By the instructions of the Port Sanitary Committee, the Chairman, ex-Chairman, City Solicitor, and Medical Officer attended to watch the proceedings on behalf of the Port Sanitary Authority.

The scheme provided for the treatment of the sewage by means of filter beds, and the discharge of an apparently pure effluent into the Thames.

The Committee urged that the effluent to be discharged should be of such a standard of purity as would be approved by the Local Government Board, and that the Port Sanitary Authority should have the power of taking samples of such effluent, with the view to ensuring that the standard of purity was maintained.

In view of the fact stated in my last Annual Report, that the purification of the Thames largely depends upon the amount of water coming over Teddington Weir, I append the figures showing the rainfall during the two years ending 31st December last, for the London District :—

1907.		Quarter.	Difference from average.	1908.	Quarter.	Difference from average.
January	1·09			1·67		
February	1·27	3·27	— 2·01	1·42	5·40	+ 0·37
March	0·91			2·31		
April	3·14			2·28		
May	1·47	7·26	+ 1·61	1·63	5·67	0·0
June	2·65			1·76		
July	0·97			3·28		
August	1·92	3·51	— 2·91	2·87	7·48	+ 0·5
September ...	0·62			1·33		
October	3·25			1·97		
November ...	2·23	8·21	+ 1·58	0·73	4·61	— 2·4
December ...	2·73			1·91		
Total fall		22·25			23·16	

TABLE XXX.

Police Court Proceedings.

Date.	Name of Vessel.	Offence.	Police Court.	Result.
1908.				
Jan. 16	s.s. "Charente," of Marseilles.	Unlawfully depositing in the Victoria Dock four cases of dried white of eggs which were unsound and unfit for the food of man.	West Ham	Adjourned until 23rd January.
„ 23	Ditto.	Ditto.	Ditto.	Convicted and fined 10*l.* and 20 guineas costs.
Nov. 3	s.s. "Dagbjorg," of Christiania.	Failure to comply with a Statutory Notice served requiring the abatement of a smoke nuisance and the prevention of a recurrence of the same.	Tower Bridge	Summons - Fine. - Costs. 1st - 5*l.* - 25*s.* 2nd - 10*s.* - 25*s.* 3rd - 10*s.* - 25*s.* Totals 6*l.* and 75*s.*
„ 19	s.s. "Benbow," of London, 29,921.	Causing a smoke nuisance on the River Thames at Irongate Wharf, on 3rd November, 1908.	Thames -	Dismissed on technical grounds.
„ 19	s.s. "Seamew," of London, 95,446.	Ditto.	Ditto.	Ditto.

LAUNCHES.

As last year, I again submit a tabular Statement of the work of the Launches, and the average daily cost of their upkeep, as being of interest.

The Launches were used during the year in making a total 13,200 visits.

Of these, 4,371 were made in the "David Burnett," 4,416 in the "Clotho," and 4,413 in the "Denton."

The average number of visits per day was—18 for the "David Burnett," 16 for the "Clotho," and 18 for the "Denton."

The average daily cost of maintenance will be seen to be higher than the preceding year. This is due to the extra cost of repairs necessary during the year, and consequent loss of time.

The year 1907, as was pointed out at the time, was an exceptionally light one in respect of repairs.

During March, the launch "David Burnett" went into dry dock for thorough overhaul and repair under the supervision of your Consulting Engineers, Messrs. Dudgeon and Gray, at a total cost of 107*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.*

The "Denton" has been fitted with a new rubbing piece, the existing one having decayed. This has now been made of a shape which will improve the manœuvring of the launch when alongside a vessel or wharf.

Few repairs have been necessary to the launch "Clotho." During the latter part of August the deck was found to require recaulking, while several small repairs to the engines were necessary. Advantage was therefore taken of the vacation, and the launch laid up for repairs forthwith.

The hulk "Hygeia," which was moored at Gravesend in 1893 for the convenience of the Medical Officers stationed at Gravesend, has been found to be in a bad state, the plates of the sides near the water line having wasted considerably, and perforated in several places.

After careful survey, temporary repair was effected by bolting sheathing on the inside, and grouting with cement.

The question of replacement of the hulk is therefore being considered.

TABLE XXXI.

Launch.	Total No. of working days.		No. of days laid by.		Total No. of vessels visited.		Average daily No. of vessels visited.	
		1907.		*1907.*		*1907.*		*1907.*
"David Burnett" - -	237	*319*	129	*46*	4,371	*4,219*	18·4	*13·2*
"Clotho" - - -	272	*329*	94	*36*	4,416	*5,180*	16·2	*15·7*
"Denton" - - -	255	*324*	111	*41*	4,813	*5,420*	18·8	*16·7*

TABLE XXXII.

1908.	Wages.			Coals.			Stores.			Repairs, &c.			Total.			Average daily cost.*			1907.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
"David Burnett"	401	15	0	109	16	3	56	14	2	184	13	9	712	19	2	3	0	2	*2*	*0*	*3*
"Clotho" - -	257	0	0	75	7	9	32	14	2	30	8	11	395	10	10	1	9	1	*1*	*4*	*11*
"Denton" -	237	18	0	39	3	6	17	6	8	63	3	1	357	11	3	1	8	0	*1*	*0*	*7*
Total - -	896	13	0	224	7	6	106	7	0	278	5	9	1,466	1	3	5	17	3	*4*	*5*	*9*

* Calculated on the number of "working" days.

STAFF.

The following changes have taken place in the Staff during the year :—

Mr. G. C. Hancock resigned his appointment as Assistant Medical Officer for Boarding duty, and Medical Officer, Denton Hospital, to take up an appointment as Medical Inspector under the Local Government Board.

Dr. W. M. Willoughby, the next Senior Assistant Medical Officer, has succeeded him in the duties at Denton Hospital and Medical Inspection of Aliens.

Dr. Betenson, who was a temporary Medical Officer, has been appointed as Assistant Medical Officer.

Dr. A. Kidd has been appointed temporarily to fill the vacancy on the staff of Boarding Medical Officers.

Miss Hughes resigned her appointment as Nurse Matron at Denton Hospital, and has been succeeded by Miss A. Minshull.

Robert Adams and his Wife, caretakers at Denton Hospital, also resigned their appointments in September; and Walter John Wragg and his Wife have been appointed to fill the vacancies thus caused.

Percy Gadsdon has been appointed as deckhand of the launch "Denton," to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of S. Bromby.

Thomas J. Thomas resigned his appointment as deckhand on the launch "Clotho," and Thomas MacPherson has been appointed to fill the vacancy.

Joseph James Steen has been appointed as stoker on the "David Burnett," in the place of Ernest Coppin.

CANAL BOATS ACTS.

Section 3 of the Canal Boats Act, 1884, provides that every Sanitary Authority within whose District any canal or part of a canal is situate, shall make an annual report to the Local Government Board as to the execution of the Canal Boats Acts, 1877 and 1884, and of the Regulations made thereunder, and as to the steps taken by such Authority during the year to give effect to the provisions of the said Acts and Regulations.

The expression "canal" includes any river, inland navigation, lake, or water being within the body of a county, whether it is or is not within the ebb or flow of the tide.

(1.) Each Sanitary Inspector is responsible for the inspection of all canal boats found within his district.

I append a list of the names of the Sanitary Inspectors, with their remunerations.

The official address of each Sanitary Inspector is 51, King William Street, Greenwich, London, S.E.

Inspector Garland - - - - 208*l.* per annum.

WESTERN DISTRICT.

London Dock.
St. Katharine's Dock.
Regent's Dock.
Surrey Commercial Dock.

Inspector Wetjen - - - 188*l.* 10*s.* per annum.

EASTERN DISTRICT.

East India Dock.
Royal Albert Dock.
Royal Victoria Dock.

Inspector Burr - - - 188*l.* 10*s.* per annum.

CENTRAL DISTRICT.

West India Dock.
South West India Dock.
Poplar Dock.
Millwall Dock.

Inspector Lambe - - - - 169*l.* per annum.

GRAVESEND DISTRICT.

Tilbury Dock.
North Shore, from Purfleet down.
South Shore, from Erith down.

RIVER.

UPPER DISTRICT.

Teddington to Limehouse.

Inspector Hopkins - - - 188*l.* 10*s.* per annum.

MIDDLE DISTRICT.

Limehouse to Erith.

Inspector Romeril - - - 208*l.* per annum.

LOWER DISTRICT.

Erith to seaward limits of the Port of London
(including part of River Medway).

Inspector Rolfe - - - - 169*l.* per annum.

(2) The total number of boats inspected during the year was 1,110, of which 1,006 were found conforming to the Canal Boats Acts and Regulations

In addition to these, 58 boats were visited, and the cabins found to be locked, there being no one on board. Inspection was therefore impossible, and they are not included in the number of boats inspected, although it means that the time of the Inspector was occupied in visiting the 58 canal boats referred to.

(3) The total number of infringements found was 130. A formal notice was served in each case on the owner of the canal boat, requiring him to inform me within a certain time when the infringement no longer existed.

(*a*) Two boats were found to be unregistered. One of these was a new boat which replaced one of the same name registered with this Authority, the use of which, as a canal boat, had been discontinued.

The other unregistered boat was used for the carriage of gas liquor.

Both boats were found to comply with the requirements of the Canal Boats Regulations, and on a formal request from the owners the boats were registered.

(*b*) Notification of change of master. In no case was any information received with regard to this.

(*c*) Certificates of registration were absent in 22 instances, and on 13 boats the certificates did not identify the owner with the boat.

(*d*) Fourteen boats were incorrectly or insufficiently marked.

(*e*) Overcrowding occurred on four boats.

The "Sarah Ann," of Reading, No. 34, was inspected on the 22nd January. The after cabin of the boat, which is registered for three adults, was found to be occupied by the master, his wife, and three children. The master stated that his wife and children had only joined the boat for the trip to London, in order to visit some friends, and would leave the boat on returning to Reading.

The "Friendship," of Brierley Hill, No. 240, was inspected on the 11th March. The after cabin of the boat, which is registered for three adults, was found to be occupied by the master, his wife and three children.

The "Carnation," Port of London, No. 255, registered for two adults, was occupied by the master, his wife and one child.

The "Ada," of Wolverhampton, No. 946, was inspected on the 21st May, and showed a serious infringement of the Regulations relating to overcrowding and to cleanliness of cabins.

The after cabin of the boat is registered for three adults, or for a man and his wife and two children under 12 years of age.

The fore cabin is not registered, being unfit for occupation, and is used only for stores.

In the after cabin were found living the master and his wife, together with six children. The eldest, a girl, was stated to be under 12 years of age, but looked older.

There were thus four children occupying this cabin in excess of the legal number.

The children were dirty and apparently ill-nourished and ill-clad. The cabin was also in a dirty condition.

The Regulations of the Local Government Board provide that in every cabin registered for occupation there shall be not less than 60 cubic feet of free air space for each person above the age of 12 years, and not less than 40 cubic feet for each child under the age of 12 years.

The cabin on being measured was found to contain 226·6 cubic feet of free air space. Deducting 120 cubic feet for the two adult persons, the remainder provided only 17·7 cubic feet for each child, which is grossly inadequate.

The master and his wife stated that owing to bad trade they had been out of work for some time and earning no money, and they were glad to get work on the boat so as to get food for the children. Obviously the master was liable to be summoned for a breach of the Canal Boats Acts and Regulations, but it was thought that any fine which might have been imposed under the circumstances would have to be paid by him, and would only punish his wife and children.

Under the circumstances the owners of the boat were communicated with, and I warned the master and explained his liability.

The "Leslie," of Brierley Hill, No. 229, was inspected on the 12th August. The after cabin of the boat is registered for three adults and the fore cabin for two. The after cabin was found to be occupied by one adult female and five children, being one child in excess of the number for which it is registered. It appeared that all the occupants of the boat were living in the after cabin, owing to the fore cabin having been rendered uninhabitable by a recent collision.

In each case where overcrowding was found, the same was remedied when brought to the notice of the owners of the boats.

(*f*) No infringement of the Acts and Regulations was found as regards the separation of sexes.

(*g*) Thirty intimations were sent in respect of the want of cleanliness, and except in the case of six boats, it has been reported that the necessary cleaning has been carried out.

The only bad case occurred on the "Ada," of Wolverhampton, No. 946, reported under the heading of "Overcrowding and Ventilation." The after cabin of this boat was found in a filthy and offensive condition. The necessary cleaning was put in hand at once.

(*h*) On one boat the ventilation was found to be defective, owing to the fact that a piece of tin had been nailed over the ventilator. This occurred on the "Ada," of Wolverhampton, referred to under the heading of "Overcrowding."

The matter was brought to the notice of the master, who immediately remedied the defect.

(*i*) As a general rule, the boats inspected were found to have been painted regularly, but in two instances the cabin required repainting.

(*j*) Ten boats were without a suitable receptacle for the storage of not less than three gallons of water for drinking purposes, as required by the Regulations. The practice is for the owners to make the master supply the drinking water receptacle.

(*k*) Removal of bilge water. There were no infringements under this heading.

(*l*) One case of infectious disease (Enteric Fever) was notified, but subsequently the case was reported not to have been Enteric Fever or any other notifiable disease.

(*m*) No difficulty was experienced with regard to the admittance of the Inspector.

(4) Legal proceedings were not found necessary in any instance.

(6) Only one case of Infectious Disease was notified as having occurred on a canal boat.

The canal boat "Ada," of Berkhampstead, No. 404, left Berkhampstead on the 24th June and arrived in London on the 26th. The patient, a daughter of the master, had been living on the canal boat for some time, and first complained of feeling unwell on the 29th June. She was seen by a doctor on the following day and found to be suffering from a severe cold. The parents, not being satisfied with the diagnosis, took the child to a hospital, from which the case was notified as one of Enteric Fever. The patient was removed to a hospital of the Metropolitan Asylums Board on the 1st July.

The canal boat and effects belonging to the occupants were thoroughly fumigated, and the cabin occupied afterwards washed down with a solution of corrosive sublimate.

On the 17th July, the superintendent of the hospital to which the patient had been removed reported that the patient was not suffering from Enteric Fever or any other notifiable disease.

(7) It was not found necessary to detain any boats for cleansing and disinfection.

(8) The number of boats on the Register to 31st December, 1908, was 281.

With regard to the boats remaining on the Register of the Authority, it was ascertained during the year that 208 boats had not been inspected for several years. Letters were therefore sent to the various registered owners asking for information with regard to the boats, with the following result :—

32 boats were reported as still employed as canal boats.
52 ,, ,, ,, to be now used as ordinary lighters and non-resident.
23 ,, ,, ,, as broken up.
17 ,, ,, ,, as sold.
1 boat was reported as totally lost.
1 ,, ,, ,, as sold and used as a "dummy."
1 ,, ,, ,, as sunk in the river and used as a pool for soaking timber.
1 ,, ,, ,, as not at work—"for sale."
2 boats were reported as "have been idle for three years."

In the case of 64 boats no reply was received ; in 13 cases my letter failed to find the owners, and was returned by the Post Office, and in the case of one boat ownership was repudiated.

In the case of boats in respect of which definite information has been obtained that such boats are no longer used as canal boats, application will be made to the Port of London Sanitary Authority for the removal of the boats from the Registered Authority.

(9) One new boat was registered. This boat was found being used while unregistered.

On the owners being communicated with, it was ascertained that the boat replaced one of the same name registered with this Authority.

The use of the old boat, as a canal boat, has been discontinued, and the registration cancelled.

I have the honour to be, GENTLEMEN,

Your obedient Servant,

Herbert Williams.

Medical Officer of Health, Port of London.

TABLE XXXIII.

SUMMARY OF CANAL BOATS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1908.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	TOTAL.	TOTAL FOR THE YEAR 1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
New boats registered	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	3	1	2	...
Registration owing to structural alterations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Registration for other purposes ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	7	8	3	3
Inspected	89	86	89	118	105	85	147	86	49	91	58	107	1,110	1,139	1,022	1,087	1,502	1,294
Conforming to Acts and Regulations	84	81	73	105	98	69	136	77	42	87	54	100	1,006	989	905	961	1,377	1,188
Infringements in respect to :—																		
Registration	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	21	19	20	10	6
Notification of change of master	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...
Absence of certificate	2	1	...	2	...	8	...	...	...	2	1	6	22	28	16	30	29	24
Certificate not identifying owner with boat	...	...	2	3	1	3	...	1	3	...	...	...	13	10	9	5	5	3
Marking, &c.	2	...	3	1	1	1	2	1	2	...	1	...	14	19	10	17	28	18
Overcrowding	1	...	1	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	5	5	6	2	8	8
Partition separating sexes ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...
Males over age	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	1	1	1	2	...
Females over age	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	1	3	...
Cleanliness	1	3	9	2	2	3	5	3	1	...	1	...	30	28	37	28	36	35
Painting...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	2	2	2
Ventilation	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	11	6	7	2	4
Dilapidation	...	4	6	4	1	4	5	3	2	...	1	1	31	47	38	34	37	29
Removal of bilge water	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Without pump	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Refusal to admit Inspector ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
No proper water vessel	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	3	...	2	...	...	10	21	13	21	1	5
Without double bulkhead ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Notification of infectious disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Detained for cleansing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Proceedings taken...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Cautions given	5	5	15	8	4	8	11	7	4	3	6	3	76	126	91	123	113	82
„ attended to	3	2	7	13	3	2	9	9	5	5	11	2	71	119	89	122	107	85

Total registered by Port Sanitary Authority since 1887 444
Cancelled 163

Actual number on Register, 31st December, 1908 281

Registered for 4,108 persons.

Carrying 2,296 persons.

APPENDIX.

,, Disinfections				25	12	3
,, Subscriptions				17	17	0
,, Advertisements				28	10	2
,, Medical Examination *re* new Appointments				6	16	6
,, Miscellaneous				16	6	10
,, Law Charges, viz. :—						
Mr. Comptroller	2	4	6			
Mr. Solicitor	26	5	3			
				28	9	9
,, Mr. Remembrancer, in respect of Parliamentary Expenses				115	0	7
,, Delegation Expenses				21	19	2
,, Committee's Allowance	150	0	0			
,, Ditto *re* Inspection of River	90	0	0			
				240	0	0
				£10,338	16	2

£10,338 16 2

CHAMBER OF LONDON,
2nd March, 1909.

JOSEPH C. DIMSDALE,
Chamberlain.

APPENDIX.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE PORT OF LONDON (PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1891).

Dr. REVENUE ACCOUNT for the Year ended 31st December, 1908. *Cr.*

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Salaries, viz. :—						
Dr. H. Williams, Medical Officer of Health	800	0	0			
Assistant Medical Officers :—						
Dr. W. M. Willoughby £400 0 0						
Ditto (3 months) 26 2 0						
„ J. S. Warrack 370 0 0						
„ G. E. Hancock (9 mos. & 7 dys.) 84 0 0						
Ditto (ditto) 307 13 10						
„ W. D. Betenson (3 months) ... 80 0 0						
„ E. V. Legge and others ... 674 2 6						
Locum Tenens 84 0 0						
	2,025	18	4			
W. J. Albrow, Clerk	245	0	0			
				3,070	18	4
„ Uniforms	...		...	118	15	11
„ Fidelity Guarantees	...		...	1	16	0
„ Wages, per Dr. Williams, viz. :—						
Office	376	0	0			
Inspectors	2,140	10	10			
Launch Crews	1,104	19	8			
Hospital Staff	231	12	5			
				3,853	2	11
„ Contributions to Officers' Pension Fund No. 1	87	0	4			
„ Ditto No. 2	240	13	6			
				327	13	10
„ Contributions to Officers' Pension Fund *re* Pensions ...	...		...	169	8	8
„ Pensions	...		...	6	11	6
„ Disbursements, per Dr. Williams, viz. :—						
Petty Cash Expenses	311	5	1			
Inspectors and others	47	0	0			
Sundry Office Expenses	31	2	5			
				389	7	6
„ Expenses of Steam Launches, Hulk, &c., viz. :—						
Insurance	132	3	7			
Coal and Coke	247	14	6			
Repairs and Stores	433	15	5			
				813	13	6
„ Offices at Greenwich, viz. :—						
Rent	55	0	0			
Rates and Taxes	19	14	3			
Fire and Boiler Insurance	1	0	2			
Telephone Rent	20	10	0			
Gas	7	18	10			
Water	2	6	0			
Coal	6	2	6			
				112	11	9
„ Hospital at Denton, viz. :—						
Expenses of extra Nurses	194	14	0			
Rent of Causeway, &c....	3	18	0			
Rates and Taxes	42	13	8			
Fire and Boiler Insurance	11	8	6			
Telephone Rent	14	10	6			
Gas	50	18	2			
Coal	67	2	0			
Stores	46	9	8			
Maintenance of Patients	196	8	6			
General Repairs	196	2	0			
				824	5	0
„ Printing and Stationery	...		...	124	15	2
„ Telegrams and Maintenance of Private Wire	...		...	20	11	11
„ Analysis of Samples of Food, &c.	...		...	4	11	11
„ Disinfections	...		...	25	12	3
„ Subscriptions	...		...	17	17	0
„ Advertisements	...		...	28	10	2
„ Medical Examination *re* new Appointments	...		...	6	16	6
„ Miscellaneous	...		...	16	6	10
„ Law Charges, viz. :—						
Mr. Comptroller	2	4	6			
Mr. Solicitor	26	5	3			
				28	9	9
„ Mr. Remembrancer, in respect of Parliamentary Expenses	...		...	115	0	7
„ Delegation Expenses	...		...	21	19	2
„ Committee's Allowance	150	0	0			
„ Ditto *re* Inspection of River	90	0	0			
				240	0	0
				£10,338	16	2

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Fees *re* Condemned Food				152	15	7			
„ Sundry Fees, viz. :—									
Disinfection of Vessels	46	4	0						
Health Certificates	7	7	0						
Metropolitan Asylums Board, Fees under 1891 Act	1	8	0						
Canal Boat Registration	0	7	6						
				55	6	6			
„ Grant from Home Office in respect of Medical Officer under the Aliens Act, 1905 (less £37 10*s.* Income Tax) ...				712	10	0			
„ Refund of proportion of Medical Officer's Salary, &c., by Rochester Port Sanitary Authority	100	0	0						
„ Ditto, forwarding Telegrams	0	13	0						
				100	13	0			
„ Sundry Reimbursements, viz. :—									
Re Damage to Launches	11	11	11						
Miscellaneous	1	0	0						
				12	11	11			
„ Fine inflicted *re* Smoke Nuisance				6	0	0			
							1,039	17	0
„ Excess of Expenditure over Income							9,298	19	2
							£10,338	16	2

CHAMBER OF LONDON,
2nd March, 1909.

JOSEPH C. DIMSDALE,
Chamberlain.

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