

[Report 1954] / Barry Port Health Authority.

Contributors

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B A R R Y P O R T H E A L T H A U T H O R I T Y .

ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR 1954

BY

THE PORT MEDICAL OFFICER,

Mary Lennox
B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.(Wales).



BOROUGH



OF BARRY

*With the Compliments of the
Port Medical Officer.*

*Public Health Department,
Woodlands Road, Barry.*

OF BARRY



BOROUGH

With the Compliments of the
Post Medical Officer.

Health Department

BARRY PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY - 1954.

Constitution of Port Health Authority.

The Port Health Authority was constituted by an Order of the Local Government Board, dated 27th July, 1893, and an amending Order, dated 27th April, 1938, of the Ministry of Health, made under Sections 3, 9 and 314 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

The Port Health Authority is the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Barry, acting by the Council.

Mayor:

Alderman J.P.Bennett, J.P.

Deputy Mayor:

Councillor W.C.Stone.

Aldermen:

F.G.ADAMS.	H.W.DURMAN	Mrs.M.HOLLAND.
A.R.M.ROOK.	K.C.STEER.	T.YEOMAN.

Councillors:

Mrs.K.J.ATKINS.	D.J.BOON, J.P.	B.CRIPPS.
J.G.DAVIES.	W.EAST.	Mrs.M.C.GREGORY.
L.HEFFERNAN.	Mrs.M.M.HIGGINS.	R.M.HOWELL.
T.JEAVONS.	T.JONES.	C.B.KING.
E.O.MORGAN.	A.C.PONSFORD.	C.T.PRICE.
E.SMITH.	A.G.THOMAS.	B.WILLIAMS.
R.D.WILLIAMS.	Mrs.A.O.YEOMAN.	

(The above Constitution is as existing on the 31st December, 1954).

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman:

Councillor W.EAST.

Vice-Chairmen:

Alderman Mrs.M.HOLLAND

The Mayor (Alderman J.P.BENNETT, J.P.)

Councillor Mrs.M.C.GREGORY. Councillor T.JEAVONS.

Councillor Mrs.A.O.YEOMAN. Councillor C.B.KING.

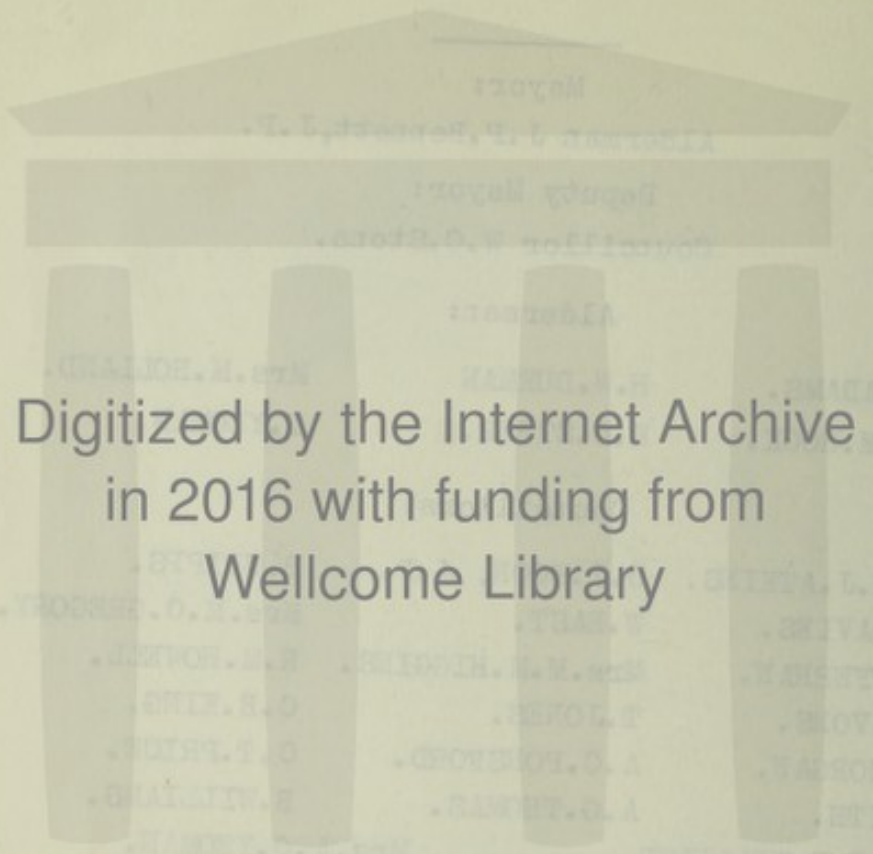
Councillor B.CRIPPS. Councillor C.T.PRICE.

Councillor R.M.HOWELL. Councillor W.C.STONE. (Deputy Mayor).

Councillor B.WILLIAMS.

(The above Constitution is as existing on the 31st December, 1954).

The Port Health Authority is the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Barry, acting by the Council.
The Port Health Authority was constituted by an Order of the Local Government Board, dated 27th July, 1952, and an amending Order, dated 27th April, 1953, of the Ministry of Health, made under Sections 2, 3 and 51A of the Public Health Act, 1936.



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Public Health Department,
Woodlands Road,
Barry, Glam.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee of
the Barry Port Health Authority.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Report for the Year 1954.

This is the 66th Annual Report of the Barry Port Health Authority and covers the work of the Authority during the Year. The Report has been prepared on the lines as indicated in Circular 22/54 (Form Port 20). In compliance with Form Port 20, Sections I, V, VI, VIII, XIV, and XVI are not repeated in full.

Limits of Jurisdiction - During the Year there was no change in the Authority's limits of jurisdiction. The contributing Riparian Authorities are the Cardiff Rural District Council and the Cowbridge Rural District Council.

SECTION I. - Staff.

The only change during the Year was as follows -

Name of Officer	Nature of Appointment	Date of Appointment.	Qualifications.	Any other appointments held.
J. Clements Colley.	Town Clerk & Solicitor to Barry Borough Council (acting as Port Health Authority).	1/7/54	Solicitor LL.B.	Nil.

SECTION II. - Amount of shipping entering the district during the year

TABLE B.

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number inspected		Number of ships reported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board.
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Sanitary Inspector.	
Foreign Ports	173	249,125	29	167	1
Coastwise	2,056	1,168,971	3	1,027	1
Total	2,229	1,418,096	32	1,194	2

Observations on Table B.

Although the tonnage from foreign ports increased by 45%, the total tonnage entering the Port (foreign and coastwise) during the Year showed a decrease of 3.9% when compared with the figures for 1953.

SECTION III. Character of shipping and trade during the year.

TABLE C.

PASSENGER TRAFFIC -

Number of passengers INWARDS ... 127 } see observations
Number of passengers OUTWARDS .. 71 } following.

CARGO TRAFFIC -

Principal IMPORTS - Pitwood and Mining Timber;
Oil and Spirit;
Grain and Flour;
Coal and Coke.

Principal EXPORTS - Coal and Coke;
Oil and Spirit.

PRINCIPAL PORTS from which ships arrive:-

Home Ports.

Great Britain London and Bristol
Channel Ports.
Eire Dublin, Cork, Waterford.

Foreign Ports.

Belgium. Antwerp.
Canada. Montreal.
France. Various.
Germany. Hamburg.
Holland. Rotterdam.
Portugal. Lisbon.
Russia. Leningrad.

Observations on Table C.

Passenger Traffic.- The figures produced above have been provided through the courtesy of Mr.M.Morgan, H.M. Immigration Officer, Barry, and are further sub-divided, viz:-

Passengers Landed Aliens 28; British 99
Passengers Embarked Aliens 33; British 38

The Port of Barry is not an approved port under the Aliens Order, 1953, and this fact is indicated in Section XV.

Cargo Traffic.- The details set out in Table C in respect of Cargo Traffic have been extracted from the following figures kindly produced by the Dock Manager, Barry Docks (British Transport Commission - South Wales Docks).

As a matter of comparative interest, the 1953 figures are also submitted.

The import figures in respect of coal and coke show a large increase on those for last year. This is one of the very few occasions in the history of the Port when coal and coke have formed a significant part of its import trade.

It should be pointed out that the greater part of the export trade is coastwise in character.

<u>IMPORTS.</u>	<u>1954.</u>	<u>1953.</u>
Coal and Coke.	57,748 tons.	117 tons.
Building and Road Materials	23,865 "	32,940 "
Fruit and Vegetables.	8 "	10 "
Grain and Flour, .etc.	81,839 "	106,630 "
Food and Provisions	388 "	7 "
Iron Ore	-	306 "
Oil and Spirit	98,811 "	86,924 "
Iron and Steel Goods (including Scrap).	13,929 "	11,071 "
Pitwood and Mining Timber.	96,445 "	76,376 "
Other Timber.	1,253 "	1,762 "
Chemicals and Chemical Fertilizers	1,035 "	653 "
General Cargo.	22,014 "	19,047 "
Total Imports.	397,335 tons.	335,843 tons
	<u>1954.</u>	<u>1953.</u>
<u>EXPORTS.</u>		
Coal and Coke.	1,993,904 tons.	2,235,688 tons
Building and Road Materials	7,710 "	3,225 "
Processed Food and Drink.	9,496 "	8,533 "
Grain and Flour	40,468 "	17,630 "
Chemicals and Chemical Fertilizers	92 "	67 "
Machinery.	73 "	203 "
Vehicles and Vehicle Parts . . .	34 "	-
Tinplates.	41 "	126 "
Iron and Steel Goods.	540 "	392 "
Oil and Spirit.	67,422 "	86,151 "
General Cargo.	11,040 "	13,047 "
Total Exports.	2,130,820 tons.	2,365,062 tons
	<u>1954.</u>	<u>1953.</u>
Total Imports and Exports.....	2,528,155 tons.	2,700,905 tons.

SECTION IV. - Inland barge traffic.

Not applicable to the Port of Barry.

SECTION V. - Water supply.

No change.

The following Table shows the number of samples taken during the Year and the bacteriological results obtained:-

Source.	Number of Samples.	Satisfactory.
Vessels.	12	8
Dockside.	9	9

Upon receipt of unsatisfactory reports, it was ensured that the water tanks were emptied, thoroughly cleaned and cement-washed.

Where possible, further samples were taken after completion of this work.

SECTION VI - Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

No change.

SECTION VII. - Smallpox.

- (1) Name of Isolation Hospital to which smallpox cases are sent from the district.

Penrhys Hospital, Rhondda.

- (2) Arrangements for transport of such cases to that hospital by ambulance, giving the name of the Authority responsible for the ambulance and the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.

The responsible Authority for the ambulance service is the Glamorgan County Council.

Arrangements have been made by this Authority for the transport of all cases or suspected cases of smallpox to be dealt with by the County Ambulance Control Station at Severn Road, Treforest Trading Estate, where special drivers have been selected for the purpose.

In instances where the smallpox consultant for the Area has advised removal of a case, application for transport would be made to the Ambulance Control Station at Barry, who would pass the request to Treforest Control for action.

At the Treforest Station a supply of white gowns is kept and these would be issued to the drivers when called upon to convey smallpox cases.

Upon receipt of a call for transport, the Treforest Control would detail the vehicle and driver to be used and he would then proceed to Penrhys Hospital, Rhondda, where a nurse and necessary equipment would be picked up. The case would then be collected and taken to hospital.

The vehicle would be disinfected at the Hospital and, together with the driver, retained at the Hospital as long as considered necessary. The driver would be re-vaccinated immediately after conveying the patient to the Hospital.

(3) Names of smallpox consultants available.

Dr. G. Emrys Harries,
Medical Superintendent,
City Isolation Hospital,
CARDIFF.

(Tel. No. CARDIFF 21466).
(Private Address and Tel. No. - Same).

Dr. G. F. James Thomas,
Deputy Medical Superintendent,
St. David's Hospital,
CARDIFF.

(Tel. Nos. CARDIFF 20441 and 20478).

Private Address, etc.

"The Lees,"

Highfields,

Llandaff,

CARDIFF.

(Tel. No. LLANDAFF 679).

(4) Facilities for laboratory diagnosis of smallpox.

The Public Health Laboratory Service at Cardiff is available for the diagnosis of any suspected case.

SECTION VIII - Venereal Disease.

During the Year there has been no change in the arrangements for dealing with Venereal Disease and the following

details of attendances at the Barry Clinic have been kindly provided by Dr.P.Simon, Medical Officer i/c.

Seamen treated at Barry Venereal Diseases Clinic - 1954.

	Syphilis	Soft Chancre	Gonorrhoea.	Non-Gonococcal Urethritis.	Non-Venereal.	Totals.
<u>Cases</u>						
Total	10	6	16	19	167	218
New	7	6	13	16	162	204
<u>Attendances.</u>						
Total	97	30	101	81	231	540
New	83	30	85	73	207	478

SECTION IX. - Cases of notifiable and other infectious diseases on ships.

TABLE D.

Category.	Disease	Number of cases during the year.		Number of ships concerned
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports.	Malaria	-	1	1
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival.	-	-	-	-
Cases landed from other ships.	Pneumonia	-	1	1

Malaria. - The case of Malaria is referred to in Section X.

Pneumonia.

This patient arrived in the Port from Milford Haven on the s.s."Cranbourne". He was admitted to Llandough Hospital.

SECTION X. - Observations on the occurrence
of malaria in ships.

The case of Malaria indicated in Table D. (Section IX) was seen aboard the m.v. "Nordgard" upon arrival at the Port on the 30th. May.

The patient, who had been taken ill on the 24th. May, was immediately removed to the City Isolation Hospital, Cardiff.

The vessel had, during its voyage, called at the following West African ports - Calabar (8/5/54), Abonnema (11/5/54) and Port Harcourt (15/5/54).

Anti-malarial precautions (mepacrine) were being taken by the whole crew.

SECTION XI. - Measures taken against ships
infected with or suspected for plague.

During the Year, no "infected" or "suspected" ships arrived in the Port.

Vessels arriving from plague infected ports or suspected areas would be inspected on arrival by the Port Medical Officer and Port Health Inspector. Such vessels would be thoroughly searched for rat evidence and rats caught or found dead submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination.

SECTION XII. - Measures against rodents in
ships from foreign ports.

(1) Procedure for inspection of ships for rats.

Vessels are inspected by a Port Health Inspector as soon as possible after docking. Deratting or Deratting Exemption Certificates are inspected and an overall inspection for rat traces made of the ship. If evidence of rats is found during the validity of a Certificate held on board, the owners are advised to undertake fumigation. In the majority of cases, the ready co-operation of owners in this matter is obtained. However, should instances arise where such co-operation was not forthcoming, every effort would be made to control and reduce the rat population on board. Trapping and poisoning would be employed as methods of elimination and the use of rat-guards, painted and lighted gangways, etc., to prevent egress of the rodents ashore.

In cases where rat indications are found and the Certificate is not valid, fumigation is enforced.

(2) Arrangements for the bacteriological or pathological
examination of rodents, with special reference to rodent
plague, including the number of rodents sent for
examination during the year.

These examinations are carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service (directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health), The Parade, Cardiff.

7 rats from ships and 18 from the Dock Area were sent to the Laboratory for examination and none were found to be infected with rodent plague.

(3) Arrangements in the district/deratting ships, the methods used, and, if done by a commercial contractor, the name of the contractor. for

The main method of deratting ships in the Port during the Year was fumigation by Hydrogen Cyanide though in one instance trapping was undertaken by the Port Health Authority's Rodent Operator.

Fumigation of vessels in the district is undertaken by commercial contractors. Notification is received from the contractors as to the date and time when fumigation will take place; a Port Health Inspector attends the fumigation and ensures that everything done is in strict compliance with the Hydrogen Cyanide (Fumigation of Ships) Regulations, 1951.

The contractors who carried out fumigations of vessels during the Year were as follows:-

1. Deodor-X Hygiene Services Ltd.,
309, Corporation Road, Birkenhead.
2. Western Scaling and Painting Co.,
1, Stuart Street, Cardiff.

(4) Progress in the rat-proofing of ships.

Modern vessels are designed to provide an almost complete measure of rat-proofing and there is steady improvement in the older vessels.

TABLE E.

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports

Category	Number
Black rats	21
Brown rats	-
Species not known	-
Sent for examination	7
Infected with plague	-

TABLE F.

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports.

No. of Deratting Certificates Issued.				No. of Deratting Exemption Certificates Issued. (6)	Total Certificates Issued. (7)
After fumigation with		After Trapping (3)	After Poisoning (4) ⁺		
HCN (1)	Other fumigant (state method) (2)				
2	-	-	-	2	82

+ State poisons used and number of Certificates issued after each poison.

A research has recently been made into the history of rodent control in the Port and the following details are submitted for the interest of Members.

The Port was opened in 1889 but the only records of rodent control before 1920 were in 1910, when 1,140 rats were destroyed on vessels, and in 1913, when 2,060 rats were destroyed in ships and on the docks. In 1919 a rat-catcher was appointed to the permanent staff.

In March 1928, the Port was authorised to issue Deratisation and Deratisation Exemption Certificates (Art. 28 International Sanitary Convention of Paris 1926).

The ratio of certificates issued in period (1928 - 1954) is set out in the following table -

Years.	Average No. of Certificates issued each year.		Ratio of Deratting Exemption Certificates to Deratting Certificates.
	Deratting Certificates.	Exemption Certificates.	
1928 - 32	152	201	.76 : 1
1933 - 37	216	125	1.73 : 1
1938 - 42	139	61	2.28 : 1
1943 - 47	48	21	2.29 : 1
1948 - 52	64	8	8.0 : 1
1953 - 54	76	3	25.3 : 1

The degree of infestation in foreign-going vessels is set out in the following table. The years 1920-22 have been shown separately as only trapping and poisoning were used as methods of elimination. From 1923, additional methods were introduced and the figures given subsequently are for five-year periods.

Years.	Average No. of vessels (both clean and infested) arriving from foreign each year.	Average No. of infested vessels from foreign each year.	Average No. of rats destroyed each year.	Average No. of rats per infested vessel.
1920 - 22	1,713	14	693	50
1923 - 27	1,345	46	2,866	62
1928 - 32	1,215	224	5,913	26
1933 - 37	885	126	3,572	28
1938 - 42	397	62	1,205	19
1943 - 47	214	21	299	14
∅				
1948 - 52	166	9	114	13
1953 - 54	146	3	36	12

∅. Excluding 7,896 rats destroyed on s.v. 'Pamir' in 1951. This vessel, which was completely devoid of rat-proofing, had been used as a grain store for six months prior to arrival at this Port.

Methods of Rat Destruction.

Up to and including the Year 1922, the only method recorded at this port was that of trapping and poisoning.

Fumigation with sulphur was introduced in 1923 but trapping and poisoning remained the predominant method until 1928.

In 1929 H.C.N. first came into use in the Port but did not gain ascendancy as the method of choice until 1942. Since and including 1945, only H.C.N. has been used for fumigation purposes.

SECTION XIII. - Inspection of ships for nuisances.

TABLE G.

Inspections and Notices.

Nature and Number of Inspections.		Notices Served		Result of serving Notices.
		Statutory	Other	
Defects of original construction	1194	Nil.	Nil.	-
Structural defects through wear and tear.		Nil.	91	91 complied with
Dirt and other conditions prejudicial to health.		Nil.	109	109 complied with
Verminous conditions		Nil.	10	10 complied with
Total	1194	Nil.	210	210 complied with

SECTION XIV. - Public Health (Shell-Fish) Regulations 1934 and 1948.

No change.

SECTION XV. - Medical Inspection of Aliens.
(applicable only to ports approved for the landing of aliens).

Berry is not an approved port for this purpose.

SECTION XVI. - Miscellaneous.

Arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious disease.

No change.

OTHER MATTERS

RODENT CONTROL.

(a) Prevention of Damage by Pests (Application to Shipping) Order, 1951.

During the Year, 80 Rodent Control Certificates were issued under this Order.

(b) Rats Destroyed - In Docks, Quays, Wharves and Warehouses.

	<u>Bleak.</u>	<u>Brown.</u>
By Rodent Operator employed by British Transport Commission (South Wales Docks)	14	41
+ By Port Health Authority's Rodent Operator	360	-

+ Of these, 18 were sent for bacteriological examination.

All were reported free from infection.

FOOD INSPECTION.

1. Food and Drugs Acts, 1938 and 1944.

The Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937 and 1948.

During the Year, the Cold Stores were regularly inspected and close contact maintained with the Flour Mills. Several requests were also received for the examination of items of ships' stores.

The following list shows details of foodstuffs condemned during the year by the Chief Port Health Inspector. In several instances, the foodstuffs concerned, although unfit for human consumption, were found to be suitable for animal feeding purposes.

Barley	12,460 lbs. (approx.)
Beef (Corned) (tins)	3 x 6 lbs.
Butter (tins)	43 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Cereals	347 lbs.
Flour	3,170 lbs.
Fruit and Vegetables	640 lbs.
Fruit and Vegetables (tins)	29 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Margarine	30 lbs.
Meat	9 lbs.
Milk (Sweetened) (tins)	24 x 14 ozs.
Piccalilli (bottles)	48 x 16 ozs.
Tea	28 lbs.
Wheat	2,866 lbs.

2. The Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1948.

The Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations, 1926.

No action was taken under these Regulations during the Year.

Factories and Workshops.

Frequent inspections of the sanitary conveniences were made during the Year. All nuisances have been reported upon and the remedial work carried out. The conditions from a public health point of view are satisfactory.

Sanitary Conveniences on Dockside.

These are adequate and maintained in a satisfactory condition.

Foreign Animals Orders, 1910 - 1919.

These Orders prohibit the importation of animals into British home ports, scheduled ports and countries, and also provide for the disinfection and cleansing of vessels on which animals are carried.

34 dogs, 24 cats and 2 rabbits were brought to the Port during the Year, and remained on board.

Dangerous Drugs (No.3) Regulations, 1923.

No certificates were issued under these Regulations during the Year.

CARDIFF (RHOOSE) AIRPORT.

During the Year the Minister of Health, acting under Section 18 of the Civil Aviation Act, 1949, invited the Corporation to undertake, on his behalf, health control at Cardiff (Rhoose) Airport. This the Corporation agreed to do.

Under Article 54 of the Air Navigation Order, 1949, the Airport has been designated as a 'customs airport' as from the 1st. April, 1954.

The Medical Officer of Health and Deputy Medical Officer of Health were appointed as Airport Medical Officer and Deputy Airport Medical Officer respectively and undertake health control in accordance with the provisions of the Public Health (Aircraft) Regulations, 1952 and 1954.

A temporary examination room is provided at the Airport for the medical examination of passengers who arrive from places abroad which are known, or suspected, to be infected by major infectious diseases. At the moment negotiations are proceeding for more permanent accommodation to be made available.

The same facilities are available for removal of patients to hospital as apply to the Port of Barry.

As indicated previously, the Airport is designated only as a "customs airport". It is not a "sanitary airport" and should any arriving aircraft or passenger thereon require cleansing, disinfecting or disinsecting the aircraft would be directed to proceed to a recognised "sanitary airport".

The appropriate officers connected with the Airport are issued with up-to-date information on 'infected' or 'suspected' areas but it has not been necessary to take any action under the Public Health (Aircraft) Regulations during the period under review.

Close co-operation exists with the Staff of the Airport, H.M. Customs and the Immigration Officers and, wherever necessary and possible, advance information of arrival of aircraft is transmitted to the Public Health Department.

The Airport is a recognised port under the Aliens Order, 1953, and the Medical Officer of Health and Deputy Medical Officer of Health hold Warrants of Appointment as Medical Inspectors of Aliens.

It was not found necessary to examine any aliens during the period.

Cardiff (Rhoose) Airport - Table I.
Medical Examination of Aliens.
(Period - Six months ended 31/12/54.)

Total number of aircraft arriving carrying aliens	25.
Total number of aliens (excluding transmigrants; seamen and airmen) -	
(a) arriving at the port	87
(b) medically examined	Nil.
Transmigrants landed and medically examined	Nil.

Cardiff (Rhoose) Airport - Table II.
(Period - Six months ended 31/12/54).
Aircraft and Passenger Arrivals.

<u>From.</u>	<u>Aircraft.</u>	<u>Passengers.</u>
"Excepted Area"	565	5,469
Europe outside "Excepted Area"	2	40
Total	567	5,509

Note:-

"Excepted Area" means the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, the Irish Republic, France in Europe, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg.

Conclusion.

My thanks are tendered to Officers of H.M. Customs, Immigration Officers, Officials of British Transport Commission (South Wales Docks), Harbour Master and Pilots, and Officials of the Ministry of Civil Aviation for their ready co-operation at all times.

The continued loyal and efficient support of the Staff of the Port Health Department is gratefully acknowledged and I would also record my appreciation of the consideration shown by the Health Committee throughout the Year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

MARY LENNOX.

Port Medical Officer.

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