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Contributors

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1968.



BOSTON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

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To : The Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses
of the Borough of Boston,

being the Boston Port Health Authority, as constituted by
the Boston Port Orders, 1933 and 1939.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that I present to the Council the Annual Report of the Port Medical Officer of the Boston Port Health Authority for the year ended 31st December, 1968 in accordance with Regulation 12 (4) of the Public Health Officers (Port Health Districts) Regulations, 1959. The report has, as usual, been prepared in accordance with the instructions laid down in Form Port 20 issued by the Department of Health and Social Security.

During 1968 there was a decrease in the total number of ships entering the Port, 1,080 compared with 1,210 in 1967. This was a drop of 130, made up of 93 less from foreign ports and 37 coastwise. The total tonnage dropped from 282,438 in 1967 to 273,847 in 1968. The number of ships inspected increased slightly to a total of 131.

No cases of notifiable disease occurred in any of the ships while in Port and no ships reported that there had been any infectious disease on board during the voyage.

The principal ports from which ships arrived remained very much the same as in previous years as indeed did imports and exports.

During the year 27 Deratting Exemption Certificates were issued. It was not necessary to issue any Statutory notices in respect of nuisances.

The number of Inward passengers increased to 62 from 53 in 1967, and the number of Outward passengers increased to 57 compared with 28 in 1967.

I should again like to thank the Officers of H.M. Customs and Waterguard for their reports and co-operation, the Port Health Inspectors, the Port Manager and his staff and all the others connected with the Port for their assistance during 1968.

Yours faithfully,

G. HIRD.

Port Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
6, Bridge Street,
BOSTON, Lincs.

March, 1969.

SECTION I - Staff.

TABLE A.

Name of officer.	Nature of appointment.	Date of appointment.	Qualifications.	Any other appointments held.
HIRD, G.	Port Medical Officer of Health.	1- 5-58.	M.B.,Ch.B., D.P.H.	Assistant C.M.O.- Holland County Council. Medical Officer of Health- Borough of Boston. Medical Officer of Health-Boston R.D.C.
CHAMBERLAIN, G.E.	Chief Port Health Inspector.	15-10-45.	Cert.S.I.B., Cert.Meat & Food Inspector.	Chief Public Health Inspector- Borough of Boston.
MILSOM, D.H.	Deputy Chief Port Health Inspector.	1-10-59.	Cert.S.I.B., Cert.Meat & Food Inspector.	Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector- Borough of Boston.
BOWMAN, C.D.	Additional Port Health Inspector.	17- 7-67.	Dip. P.H.I.E.B.	Additional Public Health Inspector- Borough of Boston.

Address and telephone)
number of the Medical) Public Health Department,
Officer of Health.) 6 Bridge Street, BOSTON, Lines.
BOSTON 4601 (six lines).

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 Port Health Inspectors.	
Foreign Ports.	970.	249,210.	Nil.	129.	Nil.
Coastwise.	110.	24,637.	Nil.	2.	Nil.
Total.	1,080.	273,847.	Nil.	131.	Nil.

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

TABLE C.

PASSENGER TRAFFIC ...	Number of passengers INWARDS : 62 Number of passengers OUTWARDS : 57
CARGO TRAFFIC ...	Principal IMPORTS : Aluminium Ingots, Bulbs, Deals, Battens and Boards, Fertilizers, Fruit and Vegetables, Glucose, Grain, Perlite, Potatoes, Salt, Sand, Sleepers, Starch, Steel, Telegraph Poles and General. Principal EXPORTS : Cattle, Coal, Fertilizers, Grain, Pig Iron, Sand, Steel and General.
FOREIGN PORTS from which ships arrive ...	ALGERIA : Algiers. BALEARIC ISLANDS : Palma. BELGIUM : Antwerp, Ghent, Nieuport. BRAZIL : Sao Francisco Do Sul. CYPRUS : Famagusta. DENMARK : Esbjerg. FINLAND : Hamina, Haukipudas, Kasko, Mantyluoto, Pateniemi, Yxpila. FRANCE : Bayonne, Bordeaux, Dunkirk, Trequire. GERMANY : Bremen, Hamburg, Mannheim, Neuss, Wismar. GREECE : Milos. HOLLAND : Amsterdam, Flushing, Koog Aan De Zaan, Maassluis, Rotterdam, Terneuzen, Ymuiden. ICELAND : Rykjavik. MEXICO : Campeche. MOROCCO : Casablanca. NORWAY : Aardelstangen, Aaheim, Bergen, Christiansand, Haugesund, Mellos, Moss, Sundalsora, Tyssedal. POLAND : Danzig, Gdansk, Stettin, Koldbrzeg. PORTUGAL : Leixoes, Lisbon. RUMANIA : Constantza. RUSSIA : Archangel, Igarka, Leningrad, Onega. SARDINIA : Cagliari, Oristano. SICILY : Gela. SPAIN : Carthagen. SWEDEN : Burea, Gefle, Halmstad, Kalmar, Karlshamn, Koping, Norrkoping, Ronneby.

SECTION IV - Inland Barge Traffic

No inland barge traffic entered the port during the year.

SECTION V - Water supply.

1. Source of supply for
 - (a) The District. - NO CHANGE -
 - (b) Shipping.
2. Reports of tests for contamination.
- NO CHANGE -
3. Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes.
- NO CHANGE -
4. Number and sanitary condition of water boats, and powers of control by the Authority.

There are no water boats in the Port.

- NO CHANGE -

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

1. List of Infected Areas. (Regulation 6).
Arrangements for the preparation and amendment of the list, the form of the list, the persons to whom it is supplied, and the procedure for supplying it to those persons.
- NO CHANGE -
2. Radio Messages.
 - (a) Arrangements for sending permission by radio for ships to enter the district. (Regulation 13).
 - (b) Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships and for acting thereon. (Regulation 14 (1) (a) and (2)).

Boston is not a radio transmitting or receiving port.

- NO CHANGE -
3. Notifications otherwise than by radio. (Regulation 14 (1) (b)).
Arrangements for receiving notifications otherwise than by radio and for acting thereon.
- NO CHANGE -
4. Mooring Stations. (Regulations 22 to 30).
Situation of stations, and any standing directions issued under these Regulations.
- NO CHANGE -
5. Arrangements for :-
 - (a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases (other than smallpox - see Section VII) :
- NO CHANGE -
 - (b) Surveillance and follow up of contacts :
- NO CHANGE -
 - (c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles :
- NO CHANGE -

SECTION VII - Smallpox.

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

All cases of smallpox are sent to the Hallwood Smallpox Hospital, Chapeltown. The administration of this Hospital is carried out from Lodge Moor Hospital, Sheffield - Telephone No. Sheffield 33941.

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 transport of all cases of smallpox is the responsibility of the Leicester County Council who will provide ambulances together with specially trained and vaccinated crews.

3. Name of smallpox consultant available.

Dr. P.J. Moroney,
Consultant in Infectious
Diseases,
Lodge Moor Hospital,
Sheffield, 10.

4. Facilities for laboratory diagnosis of smallpox.

Where laboratory diagnosis is required specimens are sent to Professor K. McCarthy, Department of Bacteriology, Medical School, Ashton Street, Liverpool, 3.

SECTION VIII - Venereal Disease.

Information as to the location, days and hours of the available facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among merchant seamen under international arrangements, including in-patient treatment and the steps taken to make these facilities known to seamen.

Arrangements for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease are administered by the Boston Group Hospital Management Committee of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board.

Out-patient clinics are conducted at Boston General Hospital, Boston, at 4.30 p.m. each Tuesday. If necessary special appointments are made for seamen unable to attend the fixed clinics.

In-patient treatment can be arranged by the Consultant Venerealogist.

In order to acquaint seamen with all details of facilities available to them, suitable posters are displayed in various parts of the Dock premises. The information is also brought to the notice of masters of vessels in the course of inspections.

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.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Cases landed from other ships.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

No cases of Smallpox, Cholera, Plague, Yellow Fever, Typhus or Relapsing Fever occurred during the year 1968.

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

There have been no cases of Malaria occurring on any arriving ship.

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

No "infected" or "suspected" ships entered the port during 1968.

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

1. Procedure for inspection of ships for rats.

All ships from "infected ports" are searched for evidence of rats (excreta, gnawings, runs, etc.) and traps are set for confirmation of findings. Similar precautions are taken if the crew or stevedores report indications of rats on other ships or if routine inspections reveal suspicious circumstances.

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.

Bodies of rodents are sent for routine examination for plague to the Public Health Laboratory, St. Anne's Road, Lincoln, but during 1968 no bodies were recovered from ships using the port.

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

Boston is not a designated approved port and there are no standing arrangements for the deratting of ships.

4. Progress in the rat-proofing of ships.

Any work found to be necessary is carried out under the supervision of the Chief Port Health Inspector.

TABLE E.

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports.

Category.	Number.
Black rats	Nil.
Brown rats	Nil.
Species not known	Nil.
Sent for examination	Nil.
Infected with plague	Nil.

TABLE F.

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

Boston is not a designated approved port and therefore no Deratting Certificates have been issued.

Net tonnage.	No. of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued.
Ships up to 300 tons.	12.
Ships from 301 - 1,000 tons.	13.
Ships from 1,001 - 3,000 tons.	2.
Total.	27.

SECTION XIII - Inspection of ships for nuisances.

TABLE G.

Inspections and Notices.

Number of ships inspected: 131.

Nature of Nuisances.	Found.	Remedied.
Defects of Original Construction.	1.	-
Defects due to Wear and Tear.	-	-
Dirt, Vermin, etc.	1.	1.

	<u>Served.</u>	<u>Complied with.</u>
Statutory Notices	Nil.	Nil.
Other Notices	2.	1.

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

There are Mussel and Cockle Beds both within and without the Area of the Port Health Authority in the Wash. These are periodically inspected and samples of the shell-fish are taken for analysis.

Following the receipt from another authority of an adverse report on some Wash mussels, it was decided to take a series of samples from various points in the mussel beds to try to determine which areas could be safely worked. These had not been completed by the end of the year when bad weather necessitated the suspension of operations. Certain areas were found that appeared to be free of pollution but generally the mussels in these beds were of poor quality.

SECTION XV - Medical Inspection of Aliens.

- NO CHANGE -

SECTION XVI - Miscellaneous.

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

- NO CHANGE -

Food Inspection.

The principal food imports were as follows :-

<u>Commodity.</u>	<u>Tons.</u>
Grain.(in)	56,737.
Potatoes.	17,633.
Onions.	16,150.
Fresh Fruit and Vegetable s.	11,115.
Starch.	8,679.
Glucose.	6,028.
Milk in Tins.	4,210.
Vegetables in Tins.	3,124.
Fruit in Tins.	1,245.
Honey.	1,227.
Tomato Puree.	1,074.
Vegetables in Brine.	480.
Dehydrated Vegetables.	451.
Dates.	240.
Meat in Tins.	218.
Ground Nuts.	35.
Capsicum.	29.
Ravioli.	28.
Macaroni in Tins.	26.
Butter.	22.
Beer.	20.
Wines.	7.
Miscellaneous.	7.

Food re-exported.

Grain.	19,969.
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During the year the following amounts of foodstuffs were found to be unfit and were destroyed :-

	132tons. 9cwts. 0qrs.
Potatoes.	88tons. 5cwts. 2qrs.
Onions.	19tons. 6cwts. 0qrs.
Dutch White	
Cabbage.	2tons. 4cwts. 0qrs.

Food Inspection.	1. 100.0 - 100.0 most signs
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Food transported.	1. 100.0 - 100.0 most signs
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