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DOVER PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year 1953.

C. F. LYNCH, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.



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Dover Port Health Authority.
Health Committee.

To 1st June, 1953.

His Worship the Mayor
(Councillor W. H. Fish, J.P.)

Chairman

Alderman (Mrs.) E. Long

Members

Alderman F. C. Overton	Alderman (Major) G. R. Rowe
Councillor E. A. Bushell	Councillor (Mrs.) D. Bushell
Councillor (Mrs.) E.M.S. Coatsworth	Councillor A. B. Constable
Councillor R. S. Eade	Councillor A. E. Husk
Councillor F. W. Marsh	Councillor R. Snelgrove
Councillor E. Weston	

From 1st June, 1953.

His Worship the Mayor
(Councillor R. Snelgrove, J.P.)

Chairman

Alderman (Mrs.) E. Long

Members

Alderman A. E. Husk	
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Councillor R. S. Eade	Councillor W. H. Fish
Councillor F. W. Marsh	Councillor E. Weston

Health Department,
Brook House,
Dover.

To: The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Dover
acting as the Port Health Authority of the Port of Dover.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the
Dover Port Health Authority for the year ended 31st December,
1953.

The Report is presented in accordance with the Ministry of
Health instructions and takes the same form as that for the year
1952.

The health and sanitary conditions of vessels entering the
Port and the supervision of imported foodstuffs continued to
receive close attention throughout the year. There was an
increase in the amount of shipping from foreign ports compared
with the year before. There was also an increase in the amount
of foodstuffs imported, of which only a small proportion was
found unfit for human consumption.

With regard to the hygiene of vessels, although more sani-
tary defects were recorded in respect of British vessels than in
1952, the general sanitary conditions of both British and foreign
ships have shown a steady improvement in recent years.

Passenger traffic, both British and Alien, showed a
further increase, the number of passengers landing being well
over half a million.

Infectious diseases dealt with were confined to the
"epidemic" diseases, none of the "quarantine" diseases having
occurred in ships entering the Port during the year.

I am indebted to the Chief Officers of H. M. Customs and
Immigration Departments, the Railway Executive, and to their
respective staffs for their unfailing co-operation and assistance
in the work of the Port Health Authority during the year.

I have the honour to be,
Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

C. J. Lurch
Medical Officer of Health.

March, 1954.

Health Department,
Washington, D.C.
June 1942

The Director, National Health Service, and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of June 10, 1942, regarding the matter of the National Health Service.

The matter is being handled in accordance with the policy of the National Health Service, and the results will be reported to you as soon as they are available.

The National Health Service is a department of the Federal Government, and its policies are determined by the National Health Service Board. The National Health Service Board is composed of representatives of the Federal Government, the States, and the local health departments.

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I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Very truly yours,
Director, National Health Service

Enclosed for the Bureau of Investigation

Very truly yours,
Director, National Health Service

SECTION I

Officers and Staff - TABLE A.

As for 1952 with additional appointment of:-

MR. P. A. SLATER, Cert. S.I.J.B., - Port Health and Food Inspector with effect from 1st February, 1953
(Also appointed District Sanitary Inspector - Borough of Dover.)

SECTION II - AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE DISTRICT DURING 1952 YEAR

TABLE B.

Ships from:	Number:	Tonnage:	Number		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	3,056	3,798,939	26	77	19
Coastwise	367	158,926	-	86	1
TOTAL	3,423	3,957,865	26	163	20

SECTION III - CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR

TABLE C.

PASSENGER TRAFFIC		{	Number of Passengers	INWARDS	663,393
		{	Number of Passengers	OUTWARDS	645,387
CARGO TRAFFIC		{	Principal IMPORTS	General merchandise, wines, foodstuffs, coal and timber.	
		{	Principal EXPORTS	Cars and general merchandise.	
PRINCIPAL PORTS from which ships arrive			South and West Africa;	European;	Iberian;
			Scandinavian and Baltic.		

SECTION IV - INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC

NIL

SECTION V - WATER SUPPLY

In addition to Dover Corporation mains and the East Kent District Water Company's mains supplying the Admiralty Pier and the Eastern Dock Yard, there is an alternative supply for Cross-Channel Shipping provided by deep bore, which is a British Railways undertaking.

Results of bacteriological examination of this supply and of the mains supplies during the year were satisfactory.

SECTION VI - PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS,
1952.

NO CHANGE - with the following exception:-

Para (4):- Mooring Stations (Regulations 22-30)

In order to expedite the work of both the Customs Preventive and the Port Health Authorities and to ensure a minimum interference with shipping, and following discussion regarding liaison arrangements between the two Departments concerned, the following Standing Direction giving exemption in certain cases from the requirements of Article 24 of the Regulations was adopted on the 13th July, 1953:-

"Ships from infected areas reporting otherwise All Clear, both during the voyage and on arrival, may proceed to their ordinary place of mooring, discharge or loading and be granted Pratique in modified form, the Port Medical Officer being informed as soon as possible."

SECTION VII - SMALLPOX

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

The River Hospitals,
(Long Reach),
Dartford,
Kent.

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:

Ambulance of Canterbury City Council available on request.

Special ambulance crews provided by the same Authority.

3. Name(s) of smallpox consultant(s) available:

Dr. R. Fletcher,
Maypole Cottage,
Hawkinge,
Kent.

4. Facilities for laboratory diagnosis for smallpox:

Central Public Health Laboratory,
Colindale Avenue,
Colindale,
London, N.W.9.

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 inpatient treatment and the steps taken to make these facilities known to seamen:

Special Clinic, Royal Victoria Hospital, Dover.

- Mondays and Thursdays at 6 - 7 p.m.

Distribution of Leaflets per Shipping Agents, Boarding Officers and Sanitary Inspectors:

Number of new patients attending from the high seas during the year:
= 16

SECTION IX

CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES ON SHIPS

(for TABLE D see page 5)

SECTION IX - CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND 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	Chicken Pox	2	-	1
	Typhoid Fever	1	-	1
	Impetigo	1	-	1
	Influenza	-	1	1
	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-	5*	5
	Acute Tonsillitis etc.	3	1	4
	Gastro Enteritis	2	-	2
	Dysentery	3	-	3
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival	Malaria	-	1	1
Cases landed from other ships	Acute Tonsillitis	-	1	1

*includes 1 D.B.S.
1 Intransit

SECTION X - OBSERVATIONS ON THE OCCURRENCE OF
MALARIA IN SHIPS

Apart from one case in a crew member reported recovered before arrival, no cases of malaria were reported in ships entering the port during the year.

SECTION XI - MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS INFECTED
WITH OR SUSPECTED FOR PLAGUE

No measures were necessary during 1953.

In the event of finding plague-infected rats, vessels would be boomed off and fumigation of all compartments carried out with H.C.N.

SECTION XII - MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS FROM
FOREIGN PORTS

1. Procedure for inspection of ships for rats:

Trade of port consists chiefly of cross-channel traffic, vessels of which are subjected to half-yearly routine inspections in connection with the issue of the necessary certificates under Regulation 19 of the Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

Additionally, any evidence of the presence of rodents on board occurring in the interval would be immediately reported by the British Railway Authorities.

Other vessels entering the port are subjected to routine inspection by the Port Health Inspectors.

Port of Dover approved and designated for the issue of both Deratting and Deratting Exemption Certificates under Regulation 19 of the Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

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:

Although no action was necessary during 1953, any rats found on ships would be sent for necessary examination to the Public Health Laboratory at Maidstone.

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

Deratting carried out by contractors, viz. Fumigation Services Ltd., Barking, Essex, using Hydrogen Cyanide gas under direction of Port Health Inspectors.

4. Progress in the rat-proofing of ships:

No active measures requested during 1953. With regard to the cross-channel vessels, rat proofing of store-rooms effectively maintained. Any deficiencies found in these or other vessels would be brought to the attention of masters and owners.

TABLE ERODENTS DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

Category:	Number:
Black rats	-
Brown rats	-
Species not known	-
Sent for examination	-
Infected with Plague	-

TABLE F - see over

TABLE F

DERATTING CERTIFICATES AND DERATTING EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES ISSUED DURING THE YEAR FOR SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

No. of Deratting Certificates issued:		After trapping: 3.	After Poisoning: #4.	Total: 5.	Number of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued: 6.	Total Certificates issued: 7.
After fumigation with:						
H.C.N. 1.	Other fumigant (state method) 2.					
-	-	-	-	-	35	35

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

SECTION XIII - INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES

TABLE G
INSPECTIONS AND NOTICES

Nature and number of Inspections:	Total Inspections:	Notices served:		Result of serving Notices:
		Statutory Notices:	Other Notices	
BRITISH	98	106	13	Five notices complied with; in remaining cases defects and conditions necessitating notices referred to owners, and Port Health Authority of next port of call.
FOREIGN	65	74	-	
TOTAL	163	177	13	

The thirteen notices served were in respect of the following defects and conditions:-

Dirt, Vermin etc.	..	..	..	..	9
Water supply unsatisfactory	..	..	..	..	1
Defects of Original Construction	..	..	..	..	2
Structural Defects through Wear and Tear	..	..	..	..	4

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)

1. List of Medical Inspectors holding Warrants of Appointment:

NO CHANGE

2. List of other staff engaged on this work:

Nurse K. A. Walker	Aliens Nurse
Nurse J. W. Clarke	Relief Nurse
Nurse N. G. Rees	Relief Nurse
Miss E. Joy	Relief Nurse
And one additional Relief Nurse whose services are required occasionally.	

3. Organisation of work:

NO CHANGE

Representation was, however, made to the Ministry of Health by the Port Health Authority towards the end of the year with a view to exploring the possibility of reorganisation of the work especially in connection with the categories of aliens at present required to be medically examined. During the summer months the need for some such revision became increasingly evident due mainly to unwieldy concentration of numbers referred for medical examination, or otherwise found to require it, and to some extent also by the diversion of certain services, as well as the addition of others, to the Eastern Dockyard, although the actual number of aliens held for examination there was small.

The matter was still under consideration by the Ministry at the end of the year.

4. Nature and Amount of Aliens Traffic:

Number of Aliens arriving at the Port:

YEAR:-	1951:	1952:	1953:
Total Aliens:-	166,065	169,859	183,688

Aliens dealt with by the Medical Inspector:-

Year:	Total Aliens:	Medically Examined:	Percentage of Total Medically Examined:
1951	166,065	5,491	3.3
1952	169,859	5,593	3.29
1953	183,688	5,742	3.13

4. Nature and Amount of Aliens Traffic: (continued)Categories in which Aliens were examined:-

1.	Holding Ministry of Labour Permits	5,397
2.	Intending to make their home in the United Kingdom	200
3.	Visitors	130
4.	Business Visitors	1
5.	Returning Residents	12
6.	Aliens in Transit	2

 5,742

The certificates issued to the Immigration Officer numbered 45, five of the aliens concerned being refused permission to land.

The rate of certificates issued in respect of aliens examined was 0.784% compared with 0.536% for the year 1952.

5. Accommodation for medical inspection and examination:

NO CHANGE

(TABLES 1 AND 2 FOLLOW SECTION XVI)

SECTION XVI - MISCELLANEOUS

NO CHANGE

TABLE 1

NATIONALITIES EXAMINED AND CERTIFICATES ISSUED

Nationality:				Males:	Fe- males:	Chil- dren:	Total:	No. of Certifi- cates:
Baltic States	(Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian)			-	-	-	-	-
	Poles and Finns			5	42	-	47	-
	U.S.S.R.			-	-	-	-	-
	Norwegians, Swedes & Danes			9	29	-	38	-
Middle and Eastern European States	German.. .. .			151	2066	10	2227	11
	Austrian			57	762	9	828	4
	Swiss			39	422	-	461	2
	French			45	164	2	211	1
	Belgian			32	54	-	86	1
	Italian			316	1121	63	1500	19
	Spanish and Portuguese			8	48	2	58	1
	Czechs and Jugo-Slavs			6	71	23	100	-
	Luxembourg & Liechtenstein			-	13	-	13	-
	Dutch			11	53	-	64	2
	Hungarian			-	1	-	1	-
Eastern European States	Rumanian and Bulgarian			-	1	-	1	-
	Greeks			9	20	-	29	1
Egypt, Arabia, Siam and Indo- Chinese States	(Egypt; Palestine; Iraq; Iran)			14	9	3	26	1
	Yemen			-	-	-	-	-
	Turkish; Armenian			5	2	-	7	-
	Syrian; Libyan			-	-	-	-	-
	Chinese			-	-	-	-	-
	Japanese			-	-	-	-	-
	Siamese			-	-	-	-	-
	Central and South America			-	-	-	-	-
North & South Americas	U.S.A.			1	1	-	2	-
	Stateless			7	31	5	43	2
Totals				715	4910	117	5742	45

TABLE (2) - MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

	Total:	Number subjected to detailed examination by the Medical Inspector:	Certificates Issued:					Trans- migrants:
			Lunatic, Idiot or M.D. (a)	Undesir- able for medical reasons: (b)	Physic- ally in- capacit- ated: (c)	Suffer- ing from ac. inf. or other disease: (d)	Landing necess- ary for adequate medical examn: (e)	
(a) Total number of Aliens landing at the Port	183,422	5,737	-	1	36	2	1	-
(b) Aliens refused per- mission to land by Immigration Officer	266	5	-	2	3	-	-	-
(c) Transmigrants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Aliens arriving	183,688	5,742	-	3	39	2	1	-

Number of Vessels attended by the Medical Inspector 1305 (+ 26 liners)

SECTION XVII - FOOD INSPECTION

(1) Action taken under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1957, the Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations, 1926, and the Public Health (Preservatives etc. in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1940.

Article of Foodstuff:	France: tons: cwts:	Italy: Tons: cwts:	Belgium: tons: cwts:	Spain: tons: cwts:	Yugoslavia: tons: cwts:	North Africa: tons: cwts:
Preserved Fruit	3915	-	-	-	-	-
Preserved Meat	6	-	-	-	-	-
Fresh Fruit	163	4353	-	-	55	-
Vegetables	26	528	-	1403	-	-
Tinned Vegetables	-	14	-	78	-	-
Nuts	6	10	-	-	-	13
Confectionery	22	317	-	-	-	-
Truffles	-	-	-	-	-	-
Frozen Turkey	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rice	26	9	-	-	-	-
Dried Fruit	-	16	-	-	-	-
Fish	3	13	19½	-	-	-
TOTALS:	4169	5222	284	1481	55	5
	9½	7	19½	17	2	13

Grand Total: 11,219 tons 8 cwts

Following examination of a consignment of lemons, a percentage of which was found to be unfit, the consignment was allowed to proceed on the understanding that garbling would be effected at the place of destination under the supervision of the Health Authority to whom advice regarding the consignment was forwarded. A report was subsequently received to the effect that 5 tons 9 cwt 2 qtrs (approximately 25% of the consignment) were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

No other action was necessary during the year in respect of foodstuff unfit for human consumption.

2. Action taken under Articles 11 and 12 of the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937:-

No action was necessary during the year.

3. Number of samples of food examined by:-

(a) Bacteriologist NIL
(b) Analyst 8

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------------|-------|--|
| (1) | Canned Truffles | | Cooked truffles black; head space in can over fifty per cent. Severe sulphide staining of internal surface of can and one breakdown point of tinned surface. Tin contents negligible and no evidence of bacterial decomposition. |
| (2) | Chocolate | | Free from metallic contamination and rancidity. |
| (3) | Canned Truffles | | Relatively large head space. Some sulphide staining on interior lining of can. Tin content 30 parts per million. Free from preservative and other contamination. |
| (4) | Canned Truffles | | Large head space. No staining of the tin lining. Tin content negligible. Free from preservative and other contamination. |
| (5) | Drained Cherries | | Free from preservative and metallic contamination. |
| (6) | Crystallised Fruits | | Free from preservative and metallic contamination. |
| (7) | Canned Asparagus | | Only minute traces of tin; no other metallic contamination and free from preservatives. Can interior commencing to etch: will have limited shelf life. |
| (8) | Canned Truffles | | Tin considerably etched and tin content 290 parts per million; unfit for human consumption. Possibly an abnormal can. |

REMARKS

With regard to the four samples of Canned Truffles and the one sample of Canned Asparagus, copies of the Public Analysts' reports were forwarded to the Health Authority at the place of destination of the consignments. Referring particularly to Sample No. 8, information was received that the truffles were to be used for flavouring purposes only and that no further action was proposed.

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I
1945

CONTENTS
PAGES
The
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OF GREAT
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AND IRELAND
VOLUME
LXXV
PART
I
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LXXV
PART
I
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VOLUME
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PART
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VOLUME
LXXV
PART
I
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VOLUME
LXXV
PART
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LXXV
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PART
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1945