

**[Report 1943] / Port Medical Officer of Health, Cowes.**

**Contributors**

Cowes (England). Port Health Authority.

**Publication/Creation**

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COWES PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.REPORT OF THE PORT HEALTH MEDICAL OFFICER FOR 1943.I. Amount of shipping entering the Port during the year :-

Foreign .... 37

British..... 115 and numerous small coastwise craft.

All this shipping was engaged in coastwise trade.

Number inspected by the Medical Officer.... one.

Number inspected by the Sanitary Inspector.... 37 foreign  
115 British.

Number reported defective.... one.

Number reporting infectious disease during the voyage... none.

The Medical Officer has been called to see cases of sickness on ships in port on several occasions but none were suspected nor actual cases of notifiable infectious disease.

II. Character of trade of Port. Omitted under present state of war.III. Water Supply

(1). Source of supply :- As for the town of Cowes.

There is a pipe line from the Pier Head.

Sources of Private Supply are at the Pontoon (Isle of Wight Steam Packet Co). Messrs Marvin's Shipyard and the Gasworks

IV. Port Health Regulations 1933.

(1). Declaration of Health. This is received by Customs Officers and sent to the Port Medical Officer.

(2). Boarding of Vessels. The Medical Officer works in close co-operation with the Customs Officers who will take him off to any infected ship.

The Ministry of Health's weekly circular relating to infected ports and infection abroad is filed in readiness for Customs Officers' inspection if they wish to consult it.

(3). Mooring stations for the detention of ships.

(a) The Roadstead of Cowes within the local area of jurisdiction.

(b) Medham Buoys in the River Medina.

(4). Infectious cases can be landed to and isolated in an Isolation Hospital in the Island by arrangement with the Isle of Wight Conjoint Hospital Board.

Cases of Scabies can also be isolated by a similar arrangement.

The war still brings ships to temporary anchorage off Cowes, but outside this Port Health Authority's area of jurisdiction. Such ships requiring a doctor send their messages to Naval control. This Medical Officer has gone off to ships in a Naval control launch or drifter. Cases requiring treatment on shore have been landed at Cowes but care is taken not to land infectious cases from any ship outside this area of jurisdiction. Any case which is not a British subject is reported to the Customs Officers at once.

(5). Bacteriological and Pathological examinations are carried out by arrangement with the County Laboratory at Newport Isle of Wight.

(6). Cases of Venereal Disease are reported to the County Clinic at Newport. Some cases of Venereal Disease are seen which are due to sail before they can report to the County Clinic. These cases are examined and treated by the Medical Officer at Cowes.

THE FIRST PART OF THE BOOK IS A HISTORY OF THE  
COUNTRY FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENT TO THE PRESENT  
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THE SECOND PART IS A HISTORY OF THE  
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No cases of infectious disease were landed at the Port during 1943.

V. Measures against Rodents.

No special measures were taken against Rodents.

VI. Hygiene and Crews spaces.

Following a request from the Health Department of Gresham Urban District Council a ship was examined by the Medical Officer on 25th. December 1943. soon after she had moored in the River Medina.

The Forecastle was vominous and inadequately ventilated. The Lavatory amidships was blocked due to defective flushing.

Bedding in one of the engineer's cabins was damp.

A notice of these nuisances was sent to the Owners and a copy of the notice to the Master of the vessel.

The Owners acknowledged the notice and gave an assurance that the nuisances would be corrected.

VII. Food Inspection. This is done by the town Sanitary Inspector.

Shellfish. Copies of the order prohibiting the distribution for sale for human consumption of oysters, mussels and cockles brought from the River Medina unless the same have been relaid in approved waters for three months were circulated this year.

The few oysters still being collected from the depleted maturing beds at Newtown Creek are handled under satisfactory conditions at the Distributor's business premises in Cowes.

G.M. Balfour.

M. B. C. H. B.

March 1944.

Port Medical Officer.

to cases of infectious diseases which landed at the  
port during 1944.

Measures against rodents.

No special measures were taken against rodents.

Measures against insects.

Following a request from the Health Department of London  
District Council, a ship was examined by the District  
Council on 28th January 1945, soon after she had arrived  
in the river basin.  
The foremast was examined and insecticide was applied.  
The 1st mate's cabin was blocked off to detective  
locking.  
Bedding in one of the engine's cabins was burnt.  
A notice of these measures was sent to the Captain and a  
copy of the notice to the Master of the vessel.  
The Captain acknowledged the notice and gave an assurance  
that the measures would be repeated.

Measures against insects. This is done by the Health Inspector.

Measures against insects are taken by the Health Inspector  
for the purpose of preventing the spread of  
disease for human consumption of food, animals and  
cattle brought from the river basin. The measures  
taken relate to approved waters for human consumption  
collected from the basin.  
The measures taken relate to the collection of  
waste from the basin and the disposal of it in a  
sanitary manner. The measures taken in the basin  
are as follows:

W.M. Nelson.  
A.B.C.H.S.

Port Medical Officer.

1944.