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NEWHAVEN PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PORT MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER, 1952

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

Public Health Department,
Lewes House,
LEWES,
Sussex.

May, 1953.

NEWHAVEN PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER, 1952

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NEWHAVEN PORT HEALTH COMMITTEE

Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report for 1952 of the Port Medical Officer and Medical Inspector of Aliens.

During the year under review a total of 52,178 inward aliens arrived at Newhaven Port. This number is the highest one recorded and shows an increase of 55.51% over the average annual number (33,553) for the period 1929 to 1938 and an increase of 36.89% over the average annual number (38,117) for the period 1945 to 1951.

As in former years passengers from the Continent landed on 365 days out of the 366 days in the year 1952. Landings were made in the afternoons each day with additional landings in early mornings of the summer months.

The small medical staff, the members of which deal with the medical inspection of aliens, is barely enough to cope with the work in view of the great increase of inward aliens in recent years. Moreover, attendances at the daily arrivals of the passenger ships on seven days a week and 365 days in the year without remission makes administration difficult with a small medical staff. If there is a further increase in the number of inward aliens in the future the medical staff should be increased since the present staff is stretched to the limit.

Of the 52,178 inward aliens, who arrived at Newhaven in 1952, the number subjected to general medical inspection was 50,403. In addition, 1,775 were subjected to detailed medical inspections and of these three were classified as lunatic, idiot or mental defective, 21 were found to be undesirable for medical reasons and 17 were physically incapacitated.

As before, there was the closest co-operation between the Medical Inspector of Aliens and the Immigration Officer in carrying out duties under the Aliens Order. The friendly and helpful relationship which has always existed continued to assist in making the duties of the Medical Inspector so that they were carried out smoothly and efficiently.

The arrangements for the medical inspection of aliens continued therefore to be satisfactory.

The medical inspection rooms were adequate and kept in a clean condition.

In 1952 imports of various kinds amounted to 165,640 tons. Coal, coke and patent fuel amounted to 120,303 tons, oil fuel to 10,292 tons, fruit and vegetables to 6,847 tons, timber to 3,712 tons and iron and steel to 3,517 tons. Other imports included fish grain and flour, chemicals and chemical fertilisers, raw wool and other commodities.

Exports during the year included vehicles and vehicle parts, 16,024 tons, building and road materials 2,996 tons and machinery 2,765 tons. Other exports were chemicals and chemical fertilisers, iron and steel, woollen goods, other textiles and other commodities. The total tonnage of all exports was 28,868.

During the year a total of 1,514 vessels from foreign ports and coastwise entered Newhaven. The Port Sanitary Inspector inspected 65 vessels from foreign ports and served two informal notices requiring the cleansing of crews' quarters. Reinspections were not possible owing to the quick turn round and departure of the vessels. He also inspected 106 coastwise vessels and served six informal notices in respect of the cleansing of crews quarters, leaking deckheads and ports, the cleansing and painting of forecastles and general defects.

Five of these Notices and one Notice from the previous year were complied with.

No vessel reported during 1952 as having or having had during the voyage infectious disease aboard.

Arrangements for the cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons and clothing and for hospital accommodation, transport of infectious and non-infectious disease cases from ships remained as before.

In conclusion, I have to thank Dr. Stenhouse, the Assistant Medical Inspector of Aliens for his zeal, conscientiousness and Mr. Harrison, the Port Sanitary Inspector, for his loyal support. The ready help received from the Chief Immigration Officer and his staff made the work of the medical inspection of Aliens carried out under the happiest circumstances and in a most efficient manner. My thanks are also due to Mr. Cardy, Marine Superintendent, Newhaven Harbour, for his kind co-operation and helpfulness at all times.

Finally, I am grateful to you for your help and encouragement I received during the year.

Yours obediently,

G. M. Davidson Lobban,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
F.R.S.I., etc.

Port Medical Officer and Medical
Inspector of Aliens
Newhaven Port

Public Health Department,
Lewes House
LEWES.

May, 1953

SECTION I - STAFF

TABLE A

Name of Officer	Nature of Appointment	Date of Appointment	Qualifications	Any other Appointment held
Dr. G.M.D. S.B.Lobban	Port Medical Officer and Medical Inspector of Aliens.	15th May, 1945.	M.B.,Ch.B., D.P.H., F.R.S.I., F.R.I.P.H., F.S.M.O.H.	Medical Officer of Health, East Sussex United Districts. Physician (Infectious Diseases) Brighton & Lewes Hospital Group, S.E. Met. Regional Hospital Board.
Dr. R. A. Stenhouse	Assistant Rxt Medical Officer of Health & Assistant Medical Inspector of Aliens	19th April, 1948.	L.M.S.S.A. (Lond.)	Assistant School Medical Officer, East Sussex County Council. Assistant Medical Officer of Health Newhaven U.D.C.
W.P.Harrison	Port Sanitary Inspector & Food Inspector	5th March, 1945.	Cert.R.S.I. & S.I.J.B. Cert.R.S.I. Meat and Foods. M.R.San.I. B.O.T. Cert. Master Mariner	Sanitary Inspector Newhaven U.D.C.
Miss Willett	Clerk, Port Health Dept.	15th December 1952.	-	-
Mrs. A. Bassett	Nurse-Attendant Medical Inspector of Aliens	1st March, 1948	-	-
Address and Telephone Number of the Medical Officer of Health:-				Lewes House, School Hill, LEWES. 1282

SECTION II - Amount of Shipping entering the district during the year

TABLE B

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected: By the Medical Officer of Health	Number Inspected: By the Sanitary Inspector	Number of ships reported as having or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board
Foreign Ports	852	543,444	8	65	NIL
Coastwise	662	109,077	6	106	NIL
Total	1,514	652,521	14	171	NIL

ADDITIONAL:-

	Number	Tons
Fishing Vessels	2,360	19,585
Yachts	3,140	12,319

SECTION III - Character of shipping and Trade during the year

TABLE C

Passenger Traffic (Number of Passengers INWARDS 208,865
(Number of Passengers OUTWARDS 208,601

			Tons
CARGO TRAFFIC	(Principal IMPORTS	Coal, Coke and Patent fuel	120,303
		Fish	280
		Fruit and vegetables	6,847
		Grain and flour	158
		Iron and steel	3,517
		Oil fuel	10,292
		Timber	3,712
		Chemicals and chemical fertilizers	154
		Raw Wool	187
	‡	Other commodities	18,836
		Total	165,640
	‡ Includes:-	Motor Vehicles (over 1 ton)	1,796
		Motor Vehicles (under 1 ton)	2,845
		Motor Cycles	793
		Animals	21

			Tons
CARGO TRAFFIC	(Principal EXPORTS	Iron and steel	188
		Building and road materials	2,996
		Machinery	2,765
	*	Vehicles & vehicle parts	16,024
		Woollen Goods	184
		Other textiles	72
		Chemicals and chemical fertilizers	354
	‡	Other commodities	6,285
		Total	28,868
	* Includes:-	Motor Vehicles (over 1 ton)	3,542
		Motor Vehicles (under 1 ton)	3,648
		Motor Cycles	710
	‡ Includes:-	Animals	73

PRINCIPAL PORTS from which ships arrive

Dieppe; Ostend; Nieuport; Cherbourg; Fe'camp; Le Havre; Baltic Ports.

SECTION IV - Inland Barge Traffic

The Port is not used by Inland Barge Traffic.

SECTION V - Water Supply

(1) Source of Supply for

(a) The District ... The Newhaven and Seaford Water Company supply the district from their Poverty Bottom well. The supply is adequate and of consistently good quality. The supply is chlorinated.

(b) Shipping ..... West Side of the Port is supplied by the Newhaven and Seaford Water Company. The East Side of the Port by the British Railways - Southern Region from their well at Denton Village. This water is chlorinated.

(2) Reports of tests for contamination:

Two samples from the British Railway's well at Denton before chlorination, and four samples after chlorination were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory. All results were satisfactory.

Twenty-nine samples (14 Bacteriological, 15 Chemical), reported by the Newhaven and Seaford Water Company were satisfactory.

(3) Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes:

West Side: Hydrants and hosepipes are in charge of an employee of the Newhaven and Seaford Water Company, and are stored under suitable conditions. Before filling ship's tanks a quantity of water is run to waste.

East Side: Hydrants and hosepipes are well maintained and stored under suitable conditions under the care of an employee of British Railways. It is the custom to run a quantity of water to waste before filling tanks.

(4) Number and sanitary condition of water boats, and powers of control by the Authority.

There are no water boats employed in the Port of Newhaven.

SECTION VI - Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952

(1) LIST OF INFECTED AREAS

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.

Following the receipt of the weekly record on Monday morning of each week, after scrutiny a list of Infected Areas is drawn up based on Part I and following closely the layout of the official list.

Typed copies are forwarded to H.M. Waterguard Surveyor, the Senior Port Pilot, and the Medical Inspector of Aliens.

The prepaid letters are posted at 1.00 p.m. on Monday, ensuring delivery by first post on Tuesday.

(2) RADIO MESSAGES

(a) Arrangements for sending permission by radio for ships to enter the district. (Regulation 13)

On request the Divisional Manager, British Railways, Newhaven Port, would pass the permission to the Post Office Radio Station Niton, who would despatch the signal to the ship in question.

(b) Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships and for acting thereon. (Regulations 14 (1) (a) and (2)

Messages are received by the Post Office. Radio Station Niton, and passed to the Medical Officer, Newhaven, via the Divisional Manager, British Railways, Newhaven Port. If necessary replies can be transmitted through the same channels.

(3) NOTIFICATIONS OTHERWISE THAN BY RADIO (Regulation 14 (1) (b))

Arrangements for receiving notifications otherwise than by radio and for acting thereon.

The Port Health Office immediately adjoins the Harbour. The Sanitary Inspector is available on the telephone at all hours. H.M. Customs and the Harbour Authority co-operate readily in passing information.

(4) MOORING STATIONS (Regulations 22 to 30)

Situation of stations, and any standing directions issued under these Regulations.

There are no designated Mooring Stations. In the event of action under the regulations becoming necessary, any berth at the Railway Quay or North Quay would be used for the purpose.

(5) ARRANGEMENTS FOR:-

(a) HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION for infectious diseases (other than smallpox - see Section VII)

The Newhaven Infectious Diseases Hospital near the Port is available for cases of infectious disease.

(b) SURVEILLANCE and follow up of contacts.

No set routine has been laid down to deal with such contacts, but arrangements are made by the Medical Officer of Health in each case to ensure that the contact is warned to watch out for appropriate symptoms and, if necessary, to report to his own doctor. In appropriate cases the Medical Officer of Health of the district to which the person is proceeding is warned. In cases of serious risk, the contact can be kept under surveillance at the Newhaven Isolation Hospital for a suitable period.

(c) CLEANSING AND DISINFECTION of ships, persons, clothing and other articles.

Equipment is available in the Port Health Department for the disinfection of persons, clothing and other articles and for the disinfection of ships. A disinfection station is earmarked for use when required on the East Quay. A steam disinfector is available for the treatment of bedding and other articles at the Newhaven Infectious Diseases Hospital.

SECTION VII - Smallpox

(1) NAME OF ISOLATION HOSPITAL TO WHICH SMALLPOX CASES ARE SENT FROM THE DISTRICT.

Smallpox cases would normally be admitted to the River Hospital, 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.

The Ambulance Authority is the East Sussex County Council which has earmarked an ambulance for the conveyance of smallpox or suspected smallpox cases and has arranged for the provision of protective clothing to the ambulance personnel, all of whom are in a satisfactory vaccinal state.

(3) NAMES OF SMALLPOX CONSULTANTS AVAILABLE

Dr. W. S. Parker, Royal York Buildings, Brighton.
Dr. R. J. Toleman, Town Hall, Bexhill.

(4) FACILITIES FOR LABORATORY DIAGNOSIS OF SMALLPOX.

The Central Public Health Laboratory, Colindale Avenue, London N.W.1., provides full facilities for the laboratory diagnosis of smallpox. Specimens may either be sent direct or via the Public Health Laboratory, Brighton.

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

The following details relate to the available facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among merchant seamen, in common with the local population.

Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton

Male

Mondays	4.30 p.m.
Wednesdays	9.30 a.m.
Thursdays	1.30 p.m.

Female

Tuesdays	1.30 p.m.
Thursdays	10.0 a.m.
Saturdays	9.30 a.m.

In-patient treatment is also arranged, if necessary, by the above-mentioned hospital.

This information is made available by the Port Sanitary Inspector on boarding ships.

SECTION IX - Cases of notifiable and other infectious disease 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
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival		NIL	NIL	NIL
Cases landed from other ships		NIL	NIL	NIL

SHORT ACCOUNT OF MEASURES TAKEN ON ARRIVAL BY SHIP OF (a) ANY CASE OF SMALLPOX, CHOLERA, PLAGUE, YELLOW FEVER, TYPHUS OR RELAPSING FEVER EXCLUDED IN TABLE D, (b) ANY SUSPECTED CASE OF SUCH DISEASE

No measures were required to be taken as there were

(a) No cases of small-pox, cholera, plague, yellow fever, typhus or relapsing fever, and,

(b) No suspected cases of such diseases which occurred during the year.

SECTION X - Observations on the occurrence of malaria in ships

No case of malaria arrived at the port, nor did any vessel report a case of malaria during the voyage.

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

No measures were taken as there were no ships infected with or suspected for plague during the year.

SECTION XII - Measures against rodents in ships from foreign ports

(1) PROCEDURE FOR INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR RATS

Where possible the Sanitary Inspector examines vessels for the presence of rats. A regular inspection is made in the case of the Cross Channel vessels and an attempt is made to inspect thoroughly all foreign-going ships.

(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.

Arrangements exist for the examination of rodents from ships when necessary at the Public Health Laboratory, Brighton.

No specimens were sent during 1952.

(3) ARRANGEMENTS IN THE DISTRICT FOR DERATTING SHIPS, THE METHODS USED AND, IF DONE BY A COMMERCIAL CONTRACTOR, THE NAME OF THE CONTRACTOR.

The port is not an approved port or a designated approved port for this purpose.

Trapping and poisoning are available.

(4) PROGRESS IN THE RAT-PROOFING OF SHIPS

Ships using the port are mainly Cross Channel passenger and cargo vessels with a high degree of rat-proofing and little harbourage. Colliers entering the port have been found to be almost devoid of harbourage, while in the modern vessels rat-proofing is good.

If any excessive temporary harbourage is discovered the Master is required to abate the same.

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

Number of Deratting Certificates issued					Number of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued	Total Certificates issued
After fumigation with HCN	Other fumigant (state method)	After Trapping	After poisoning‡	Total		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

‡ State poison used and number of Certificates issued after each poison.

The Port is neither an approved port nor a designated approved port for the issue of certificates.

SECTION XIII - Inspection of ships for nuisances

TABLE G

Inspections and Notices

Nature and number of Inspections	Notices served Statutory Notices	Notices served Other Notices	Result of serving Notices
Foreign Going: Steam & Motor 65	NIL	2	Re-inspections not possible.
Coastwise: Steam & Motor 106	NIL	6	5 Notices complied with. 1 Notice from previous year complied with.
Total 171	NIL	8	

SECTION XIV - Public Health (Shell-fish)

Regulations 1934 and 1948

INFORMATION RESPECTING ANY SHELL-FISH BEDS OR LAYINGS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE AUTHORITY STATING WHETHER THEY ARE, IN THE OPINION OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, LIABLE TO POLLUTION. A REPORT OF ANY ACTION TAKEN, WHICH SHOULD STATE WHETHER ANY PROHIBITED AREA HAS BEEN PRESCRIBED, SHOULD BE INCLUDED.

There are no shell-fish beds or layings within the jurisdiction of the Newhaven Port Health Authority.

SECTION XV - Medical Inspection of Aliens

(1) List of Medical Inspectors of Aliens holding Warrants of Appointment

(a) Dr. G. M. D. Lobban, Chief Medical Inspector of Aliens

(b) Dr. R. A. Stenhouse, Assistant Medical Inspector of Aliens

(2) List of other staff engaged on this work

Mrs. Bassett, Nurse Attendant.

(3) Organisation of Work

The organisation of the work is such that the requirements of the Aliens Order 1920 are met. Both Medical Inspectors carry out the Medical Inspection of Aliens.

(4) Nature and Amount of Aliens Traffic

	Total	Number inspected by the Medical Inspector	Number subjected to detailed examination by the Medical Inspector	Lunatic, Idiot or M.D.	Undesirable for medical reasons	Physically incapacitated	Suffering from acute infectious disease	Transmigrants
(a) Total number of Aliens landing at the Port	52,104	50,337	1,767	-	16	17	-	-
(b) Aliens refused permission to land by the Immigration Officer	74	66	8	3	5	-	-	-
(c) Transmigrants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Aliens arriving at the Port	52,178	50,403	1,775	3	21	17	-	-

Total number of vessels carrying alien passengers 431

Number of vessels dealt with by the Medical Inspector .. 431

(5) ACCOMMODATION FOR MEDICAL INSPECTION AND EXAMINATION

The accommodation for the medical inspection and examination of aliens is satisfactory.

SECTION XVI - Miscellaneous

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE BURIAL ON SHORE OF PERSONS WHO HAVE DIED ON BOARD SHIP FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The arrangements are such that the bodies of persons who died on board ship from infectious disease would be removed to the Newhaven Infectious Diseases Hospital mortuary where they would remain until burial or cremation.