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Contributors

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PORT SANITARY AUTHORITY.

To the Chairman and Members of the Port Sanitary Authority.

Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report on the work of the Port Sanitary Authority of Portsmouth during the year 1938.

The total number of foreign and coastwise ships entering the port last year shows a slight increase as compared with the previous year.

There were no cases of infectious disease reported in the area during the year.

I desire to express my thanks to the King's Harbour Master and to H.M. Collector of Customs and staff for their cordial co-operation and valuable assistance during the year.

It is again my pleasure to record my appreciation of the excellent service readily and willingly given to me by the Port Sanitary Inspector.

To the Chairman and Members of the Portsmouth Port Sanitary Authority my thanks are due for their unfailing sympathy and support in all matters relating to Port Sanitation throughout the year.

JURISDICTION OF THE PORT SANITARY AUTHORITY.

The limits of the jurisdiction of the Port Sanitary Authority are as follows:-

"So much of the Port of Portsmouth as lies to the east of a line drawn due south from the most southerly point of the pier of the L. & S.W. Railway Co. at Stokes Bay to a point $50^{\circ} 45'$ N. Lat.; to the west of a line drawn due south to the same parallel of latitude from the south eastern extremity of the common boundary of the Parishes of Havant and Warblington; and to the north of a line drawn due west along the same parallel of latitude from the point at which the line lastly hereinbefore mentioned meets the said parallel to the point secondly hereinbefore mentioned;

Together with the waters of the said Port of Portsmouth within such limits, and the place which may from time to time be appointed for the Customs Boarding Station for such part of the said Port, and the place which may from time to time be appointed for the mooring and anchoring of ships for such part of the said Port, under any Regulations for the prevention of the spread of diseases issued under the Authority of the Statutes in that behalf, and the place which may from time to time be appointed, with our Consent, for the mooring or anchoring of any floating hospital provided by the said Sanitary Authority; and, for the purpose of any such Regulations as aforesaid, shall also extend to any ship which, in pursuance thereof, or of any directions given thereunder, shall be moored or anchored at the place appointed thereunder as aforesaid, or which shall be on its way thither, together with the docks, quays, wharves, rivers, creeks, streams, channels, roads, bays and harbours within the aforesaid limits".

BOND

1874

1. Amount of Shipping entering the Port during the year 1938.TABLE A.

Number		Tonnage	Number Inspected		No. of Vessels found Defective	No. of Vessels on which defects were remedied	No. of Vessels with infectious Diseases
			By M.O.H.	By P.S.I.			
Foreign	(Steamers)	112.	31,230	-	38.	-	NIL.
	(Motor V.)	134.	22,275.	-	25.	-	
	(Sailing.)	1.	747	-	2.	-	
<u>Total Foreign</u>		247.	54,702	-	65.	-	"
Coastwise	(Steamers)	455.	226,229.	-	38.	2.	"
	(Motor V.)	257.	47,648.	-	39.	-	"
	(Sailing)	-1.	- 120.	-	-	-	"
<u>Total Coastwise</u>		713.	273,997	-	77	-	"
<u>Total Foreign and Coastwise</u>		960.	328,699	-	142	2.	"

11. Character of Trade of Port.TABLE B.

There was passenger traffic with the Channel Islands during the year:-
29 passengers to and 44 passengers from Channel Islands.

CARGO TRAFFIC. The principal imports were coal, timber, cement, stone and oil, chiefly from St. Malo, Antwerp, Trangsund, Guernsey, Rosscoff, Ostend, Rotterdam, Wasa, Randers, Baltic, Gulf of Riga, etc.

111. Sources of Water Supply.

The water used in the docks is supplied by the Portsmouth Water Company. Vessels in dock are supplied from hydrants from the same source. There are two water-boats (Fenna and Irishman) in use. These are both in good sanitary condition and are periodically inspected.

With regard to the supply of drinking water to ships arriving at and leaving the port, the following precautions are taken before water is supplied:

When the water is turned on it is allowed to run through the hydrants for a while and then the hose is connected and the water allowed to run through the hose in the same way. When the quantity of water needed has been supplied the hose is disconnected, the water allowed to run through, and the hose replaced in the store, where it is locked up safely. The hydrants are locked and covered up also, and the area in the vicinity of the hydrants and hose pipes is kept scrupulously clean by washing down.

IV. Port Sanitary Regulations, 1933.(1). Arrangements for dealing with Declarations of Health.

Declarations of Health, which must be filled in and signed by the Master of every ship arriving from a foreign port are obtained -

- (a) In respect of vessels from non-infected ports, by the Customs Officer, who forwards them to the Port Medical Officer.
- (b) In respect of vessels from infected ports by the Port Medical Officer. Vessels are visited in dock by the Port Sanitary Inspector as soon as possible after docking.

2. Telegraphic Address.

To avoid delay in notifying inward vessels requiring special attention, the telegraphic address "Portelth", suggested by the Ministry of Health, has been adopted by the Port Sanitary Authority.

3. Mooring Stations.

Under article 10 of the Port Sanitary Regulations, 1933, the following mooring stations have been established, with the concurrence of the King's Harbour Master and the Commissioners of Customs and Excise, viz:-

- (a) Outer Mooring Station.
An area about half a mile north-west of Mother of Bank Spit.
- (b) Inner Mooring Station.
The upper reaches of Portsmouth Harbour.

This agreement is subject to the following understandings:-

(1) That the mooring place referred to at (a) above is for ships with cholera, plague, yellow fever, typhus fever or smallpox on board, and that (b) for all other unhealthy ships not within a standing exemption.

(2) That a standing exemption from detention under Article 14 has been granted by the Medical Officer of the Port Sanitary Authority in respect of any ship which -

(i) has called at a port or seaboard included in the weekly return of infected or suspected ports or seabords, but reports "all well" during the voyage, or arrives with no sickness on board, unless a written notice to the contrary has been delivered to the Customs Officer by or on behalf of the Medical Officer of the Port Sanitary Authority.

(ii) has on board a case of minor infectious disorder, namely, chickenpox, measles, scarlet fever, diphtheria, enteric fever, erysipelas, malaria, dysentery, pneumonia, tuberculosis, mumps, or cerebro-spinal fever.

(3) That when necessary the Port Sanitary Authority will convey the Customs Officers to the mooring place referred to as (a) above, free of expense to the Crown.

4. Arrangements for dealing with cases of Infectious Diseases, etc.

Cases of dangerous infectious disease are removed to the smallpox hospital at Elson.

All other cases of infectious disease are removed to the City Infectious Diseases Hospital by means of the Corporation Motor Ambulance Service.

Contacts of Infectious Diseases Cases.

(a) In respect of vessels from non-infected ports, by the Quarantine Officer, who forwards them to the Port Medical Officer.
(b) In respect of vessels from infected ports by the Port Medical Officer. Vessels are visited in dock by the Port Sanitary Inspector as soon as possible after docking.

2. Telegraphic Address.

To avoid delay in notifying inland vessels requiring special attention, the telegraphic address "Port Health", managed by the Ministry of Health, has been adopted by the Port Sanitary Authority.

3. Moring Stations.

Under article 10 of the Port Sanitary Regulations, 1905, the following moring stations have been established, with the concurrence of the King's Harbour Master and the Commissioners of Customs and Excise, viz:-

(a) Outer Moring Station.

An area about half a mile north-west of Mouth of River.

(b) Inner Moring Station.

The upper reaches of Portsmouth Harbour.

This agreement is subject to the following understandings:-

(1) That the moring place referred to as (a) above is for ships with cholera, plague, yellow fever, typhus fever or smallpox on board, and that (b) for all other unhealthy ships not within a standing exemption.

(2) That a standing exemption from detention under Article 14 has been granted by the Medical Officer of the Port Sanitary Authority in respect of any ship which:-

(i) has called at a port or seaboard included in the weekly returns as infected or suspected ports or seaboard, but reports "all well" during the voyage, or arrives with no sickness on board, unless a written notice to the contrary has been delivered to the Customs Officer by or on behalf of the Medical Officer of the Port Sanitary Authority.

(ii) has on board a case of minor infectious disease, namely, epidemic, measles, scarlet fever, diphtheria, enteric fever, typhoid, malaria, dysentery, pneumonia, tuberculosis, or cerebro-spinal fever.

(3) That when necessary the Port Sanitary Authority will convey to Customs Officers for the moring place referred to as (a) above, free of expense to the Crown.

4. Arrangements for dealing with cases of infectious diseases, etc.

Cases of dangerous infectious diseases are removed to the smallpox hospital at Brixton.

All other cases of infectious diseases are removed to the City Infectious Diseases Hospital by means of the Corporation Motor Ambulance Service.

5. Contacts of Infectious Diseases Cases.

(a) Living in the City. If not removed to hospital they are kept under observation by the Sanitary Inspector.

(b) Proceeding to an address outside the City. The Medical Officer of Health of the place of destination is advised.

A consulting room and waiting room are available at the docks for medical examination.

Personnel and clothing are disinfected at the Infectious Diseases Hospital. Provision can be made for the temporary accommodation of persons who may have to be detained pending further examination.

Bacteriological and pathological examination of rats is carried out by the Pathologist of the Royal Portsmouth Hospital.

Arrangements are made at the Venereal Diseases Clinic, the Royal Portsmouth Hospital, for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal diseases among sailors.

TABLE C.

There were no cases of Infectious Diseases landed from Vessels.

TABLE D.

There were no cases of infectious disease occurring upon the voyage but disposed of prior to the vessel's arrival.

TABLE E.

No rats were destroyed during the year in vessels.

V. Measures against Rodents.

All vessels arriving from abroad are examined periodically by the Port Sanitary Inspector. Rats are caught periodically on the quays, wharves, warehouses, etc., in the vicinity of the Port, per Table F., and sent for bacteriological examination for rat plague, by the Bacteriologist at the Royal Portsmouth Hospital. A trained rat-catcher is employed.

When necessary, rat guards are placed on ropes between the ships and the quays. The Port is not approved for the deratisation of ships.

TABLE F.

Number of Rats destroyed in Docks, Quays, Wharves, Warehouses.

<u>Number of Rats.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Black.	6
Brown	4
Species not recorded	-
Examined	10
Infected with Plague	Nil.

VI. Hygiene of Crews' Spaces.

TABLE J.

<u>Nationality of Vessel</u>	<u>No. inspected during year 1938.</u>	<u>Defects of original Construction.</u>	<u>Dirt, Vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health.</u>
British	60. 77	nil	nil. 18
Foreign	85. 65	nil	nil.

(a) Living in the City. If not removed to hospital they are kept under observation by the sanitary inspector.

(b) Proceeding to an address outside the City. The Medical Officer of Health of the place of destination is advised.

A consultation room and waiting room are available at the dock medical examination.

Personnel and others are disinfected at the Infectious Diseases Hospital. Provision can be made for the temporary accommodation of persons who may have to be detained pending further examination.

Bacteriological and pathological examination of rats is carried out by the Pathologist of the Royal Portsmouth Hospital.

Arrangements are made at the General Diseases Clinic, the Portsmouth Hospital, for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal diseases among sailors.

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Number of Rats destroyed in Docks, Quays, Wharves, Warehouses.

Number of Rats.		Total.
Black.	6	
Brown	4	
Species not recorded	-	
Examined	10	
Infected with Plague	Nil.	

VI. Hygiene of Crews' Quarters.

TABLE G.

Quality of Vessel	No. Inspected during Year 1936.	Defects of original Construction.	Dirty, Vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health.
38. 17	Nil	Nil	Nil. 17
38. 17	Nil	Nil	Nil.

11. Food Inspections.

The importations of food-stuffs are small in amount, these being chiefly potatoes from the Channel Islands, Scotland and Ireland, and flour, sugar and tinned foods from Liverpool, London, etc. During the year no adverse reports were made by the Meat Inspector.

Shell-Fish.- There is one oyster-lying in Langstone Harbour, but as the Harbour is liable to pollution from the sewage outfall, no oysters are put on the market. The owner, however, disposes of spat for relaying and growing purposes elsewhere.

Periwinkles are collected by the above owner and marketed to Bedford, Luton, Guildford, Billingsgate, etc. Bacteriological examinations of shellfish have proved satisfactory.

During the year no action was taken under the Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations, 1934, or the Public Health (Cleansing of Shell-fish) Act, 1932.

The number of livestock landed at the docks from the Isle of Wight was 11,755. During the inspections of livestock no clinical evidence of the existence of any contagious and notifiable animal diseases was found.

I have the honour to be,

Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. B. WILLIAMSON, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health,
City and Port of Portsmouth.

3 - MAR 1939

...of food-stuffs are small in amount, these
...from the Channel Islands, Scotland and
...and from the River Mersey, Liverpool, London,
...During the year no adverse reports were made by the
Inspector.

Shellfish - There is one oyster-bay in Liverpool Harbour,
but as the water is liable to pollution from the sewage outfall, no
oysters are put on the market. The oyster, however, although of good
for relieving and cooling purposes elsewhere.

For oysters are collected by the oyster canner and marketed to
Bedford, Luton, Guilford, Millington, etc. Bacteriological
examinations of shellfish have proved satisfactory.

During the year no action was taken under the Public Health
(Shellfish) Regulations, 1934, or the Public Health (Cleansing of
Shellfish) Act, 1932.

The number of livestock landed at the docks from the Isle of
Wight was 11,788. During the inspections of livestock no clinical
evidence of the existence of any contagious and notifiable animal
disease was found.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. H. WILLIAMS, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health,
City and Port of Portsmouth.

3 - MAR 1935