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Contributors

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To the Chairman and Members of the Port Sanitary Authority.

Madam and Gentlemen,

We have the honour to present our report on the work of the Port Sanitary Authority of Portsmouth during the year 1939.

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

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

We desire to express our 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 our pleasure to record our appreciation of the excellent service readily and willingly given us by the Port Sanitary Inspector.

To the Chairman and Members of the Portsmouth Port Sanitary Authority our 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° 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".

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

1. AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT DURING THE YEAR 1939.

Under Article 10 of the TABLE A. Sanitary Regulations, 1933, the following provisions have been established, with the concurrence of the Harbour Master and the Commissioners of Customs and Excise.

Number	Tonnage	No. Inspected by		No of Vessels found defective.	No of Vessels on which defects were remedied.	No. of Vessels with infectious Disease.
		M.O.H.	P.S.I.			
(a) OUTER MOORING	An area about half a mile					
(b) INNER MOORING STATION	The inner mooring station of Portsmouth Harbour.					
Foreign 204	41,257	-	60	3	3	Nil.
Coastwise 649	263,946	-	72	9	9	Nil
Total 853	305,203	-	132	12	12	Nil

11. CHARACTER OF TRADE OF PORT.

CARGO TRAFFIC. The principal imports were coal, timber, cement, stone and oil, chiefly from St. Malo, Antwerp, Trangsund, Guernsey, Roscoff, 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 the 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.

Table A.

Number	Tonnage	No. Inspected by M.O.H. P.S.I. found no-objection.	No. of Vessels found no-objection.	No. of Vessels on which detention was recorded.	No. of Vessels with no-objection.
204	4,237	-	68	3	111
205	103,946	-	72	2	111
206	302,202	-	122	12	111

II. CHARACTER OF TRADE OF PORT.

CARGO TRAFFIC. The principal imports were coal, timber, cement, stone and oil, chiefly from U.S.A., Canada, Venezuela, Trinidad, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Barbados, and other West Indian ports.

III. SOURCES OF WATER SUPPLY.

The water used in the docks is supplied by the Port Authority. The water is taken from the sea and is pumped into the docks. There are two water tanks (one on the pier and one on the wharf) in use. These are both of good sanitary condition and are regularly inspected.

With regard to the supply of drinking water to ships arriving at and leaving the port the following arrangements 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. The hydrants are locked and covered up also, and the area in the vicinity of the hydrants and the hose pipes is kept scrupulously clean by washing down.

V. PORT SANITARY REGULATIONS, 1935.

1. Arrangements for dealing with notifications of Health.

Notifications 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 health authorities in the event of a notification of Health, the Port Sanitary Inspector is provided with a special telegraphic address "Port Sanitary Inspector" and is supplied 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 at (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-

(1) 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) 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.

Under Article 10 of the Port Sanitary Regulations, 1937, the following mooring stations have been established, with the consent 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 Western of Bank Spd.
- (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 at (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 anchorage included in the weekly return of infected or suspected ports or anchorages, 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.

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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.

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 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 E.

No rats were destroyed during the year in vessels.

TABLE F.

No rats were destroyed in Docks, Quays, Wharves, Warehouses during the year.

VI. HYGIENE OF CREWS' SPACES.

TABLE J.

Nationality of Vessel	No. inspected during year 1939.	Defects of original construction	Dirt, Vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health.
BRITISH	72	nil	9
FOREIGN	60	nil	3

VII. 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.

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.

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No rats were destroyed during the year in vessels.

TABLE F.

No rats were destroyed in docks, quays, wharves, warehouses during the year.

VI. HYGIENE OF CREWS' SPACES.

TABLE G.

Nationality of Vessel	No. inspected during year 1933.	Defects of original construction	Diff. Vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health.
BRITISH	72	Nil	2
FOREIGN	60	Nil	3

VII. FOOD INSPECTIONS.

The inspections 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 Port Inspector.

• SHELL-FISH.- There is one oyster-laying 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 the shell-fish have proved satisfactory.

During the year no action was taken under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations 1937, the Public Health (Preservatives etc. in Food) Regulations 1925 to 1939, the Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations 1926 and the Public Health (Shellfish) Regulations 1934.

The number of livestock landed at the docks from the Isle of Wight was 9740. During the inspections of livestock no clinical evidence of the existence of any contagious and notifiable animal diseases was found.

We have the honour to be,

Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servants,

on - 14486R
(Top copy signed "A.B. Williamson")

Medical Officer of Health,
City and Port of Portsmouth.

April, 1940.

(Top copy signed "Y.E. Roberts")

Acting Medical Officer of Health,
City and Port of Portsmouth.

[Signature]
H.A. Reg
20.4.40

(transcribed by A. O. Rader + 1 - no
benjamin paper got)

April 1940.