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Contributors

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CITY OF PORTSMOUTH

PORT SANITARY AUTHORITY

Public Health Department,
Municipal Offices,
1, Western Parade,
Southsea.

To the Chairman and Members of the Port Sanitary Authority.
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Report of the work of the Port Sanitary Authority of Portsmouth during the year 1949.

JURISDICTION OF THE PORT SANITARY AUTHORITY

The limits of the jurisdiction of the Port Sanitary Authority remain unchanged and are as set out in previous reports.

I. AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT DURING THE YEARTABLE A

	No.	Tonnage	No. Inspected		Number reported to be defective	Number of vessels on which defects were remedied	Number of vessels reported as having or having had during the voyage infectious disease on board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Sanitary Inspector			
FOREIGN							
Steamers, Motor	506	97,662	1	91	22	22	Nil
Sailing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fishing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
COASTWISE							
Steamers, Motor	796	300,896	-	32	7	7	Nil
Sailing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fishing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL Foreign and Coastwise	1,302	398,558	1	123	29	29	Nil

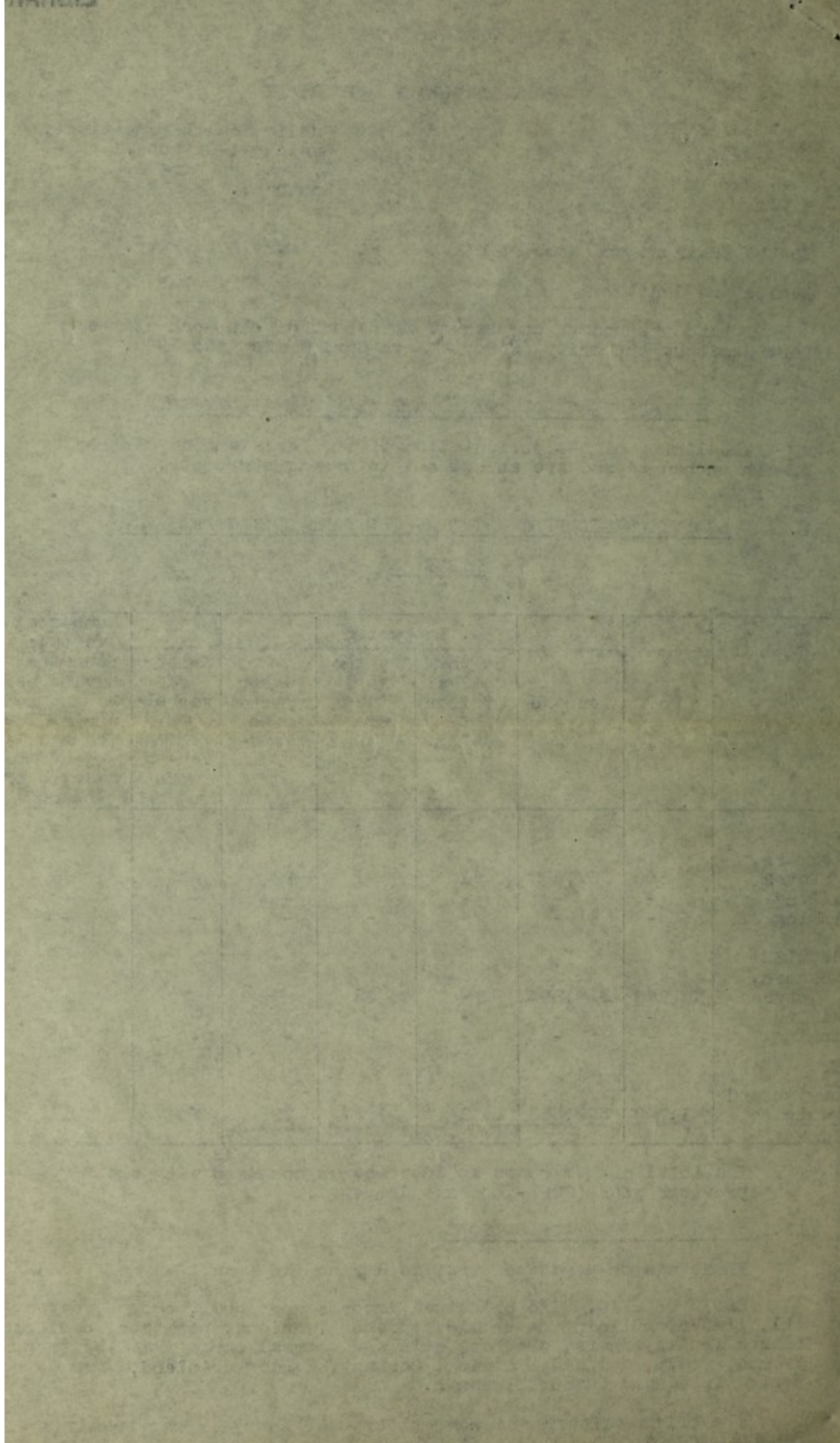
The total number shows an increase as compared with the previous year (226 - tonnage 105,499).

II. CHARACTER OF TRADE OF PORT

There was no passenger traffic during the year.

CARGO TRAFFIC. The principal imports were coal, cement, stone, oil, timber, building materials, tomatoes, onions, potatoes, cauliflower, citrus fruits, pears, peaches, nuts and general cargo traffic, from France, Italy, Holland, Belgium, Germany, Sweden, Finland, Norway, North Africa and Channel Islands.

The principal exports were pitch, machinery, scrap iron and general cargo.



III. SOURCES OF WATER SUPPLY

The water used in the Docks is supplied by the Portsmouth Water Company. Vessels in dock are supplied from hydrants on the quay.

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 HEALTH 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 Health 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; these are subject to variation by the Commander-in-Chief, should the necessity arise.

- (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:-

III. SUPPLY OF WATER

The water used in the basin is supplied by the Government Water Company. Vessels in dock are supplied from hydrants on the quay.

With regard to the supply of drinking water to ships arriving at and leaving the port, the following provisions are taken into account and applied.

When the water is turned on it is allowed to run through the hydrant 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 ascertained the hose is disconnected, the water allowed to run through, and the hose replaced in the hose, 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 HEALTH REGULATIONS, 1923

1. Arrangements for dealing with Declaration of Health.

Declarations of Health, which must be filed 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 inland vessels requiring special attention, the telegraphic address "Port Health" suggested by the Ministry of Health has been adopted by the Port Sanitary Authority.

3. Meeting Stations.

Under Article 10 of the Port Health Regulations 1923 the following meeting stations have been established, with the concurrence of the King's Harbour Master and the Commissioners of Customs and Excise: there are subject to variation by the Commander-in-Chief, should the necessity arise.

(a) OUTER MEETING STATION.
An area about half a mile north-west of Mather's Quay.

(b) INNER MEETING STATION.
The upper wharves of Portmarch Harbour.

This agreement is subject to the following exceptions:-

(1) That the meeting 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 infectious ships not within a standing exception.

(2) That a standing exception from the above under Article 10 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 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.

(11) 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 Custom 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 infectious diseases are removed to the City Infectious Diseases Hospital by means of the Municipal Ambulance and Medical Car Service, and cases of smallpox are removed to the smallpox hospital at Crabwood.

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.

Accommodation is available at the docks for the medical examination of suspected cases if necessary.

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.

Arrangements are made at the Venereal Diseases Clinic, Saint Mary's 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 diseases occurring upon the voyage but disposed of prior to the vessel's arrival.

V. MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS

Vessels arriving from abroad are examined periodically by the Port Sanitary Inspector. Rat disinfection is carried out by the Rodent Control Section of the Health Department.

When necessary rat guards are placed on ropes between ships and the quays. The Port is not approved for the deratisation of ships. One deratisation certificate was issued under the agreement between the Portsmouth and Southampton Port Sanitary Authorities.

- (1) has failed as a host or harbored insects in the weekly return of insects as suggested by the evidence, but "regains" all well during the voyage, or arrives with no insects on board, under a written notice to the contrary has been delivered to the Quarantine Officer or to the Officer of the Medical Officer of the Port Sanitary Authority.
- (2) has on board a case of minor infectious diseases, namely, chickenpox, measles, scarlet fever, diphtheria, whooping cough, erysipelas, tetanus, diphtheria, pneumonia, tuberculosis, mumps or cerebro-spinal fever.

(3) That when necessary the Port Sanitary Authority will convey the Quarantine Officer to the vessel and place referred to in (1) above, free of expense to the owner.

4. Arrangements for dealing with cases of infectious diseases, the cases of infectious diseases are removed to the City Infectious Diseases Hospital by means of the Municipal Ambulance and Medical Officer, and cases of smallpox are removed to the smallpox hospital at Gwynedd.

Control 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. Accommodation is available at the house for the medical examination of suspected cases if necessary.

Persons 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.

Arrangements are made at the Venereal Diseases Clinic, Saint Mary's 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 diseases occurring upon the voyage but disposed of prior to the vessel's arrival.

V. MEASURES AGAINST VENEREAL DISEASES

Venerable arriving from abroad are examined periodically by the Port Sanitary Inspector. But disinfection is carried out by the Robert Control Section of the Health Department.

When necessary red flags are placed on ropes between ships and the quay. The Port is not reported for the duration of such one disinfection certificate was issued under the agreement between the Government and Southampton Port Sanitary Authority.

RATS DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR

TABLE E
(in vessels)

<u>Number of Rats</u>							<u>Total</u>
Black .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 *
Brown .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Species not recorded	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Examined .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Infected with plague	..	..	..	..	..	..	-

* Estimated 20 other bodies not recoverable.

TABLE F

RATS DESTROYED IN DOCKS, QUAYS, WHARVES, WAREHOUSES

<u>Number of Rats</u>							<u>Total</u>
Black .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Brown .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	118
Species not recorded	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Examined .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Infected with plague	..	..	..	..	..	..	-

VI. HYGIENE OF CREWS' SPACES

TABLE J

<u>Nationality of Vessel</u>	<u>No. Inspected during year</u>	<u>Defects of original construction</u>	<u>Structural defects through wear and tear</u>	<u>Dirt, vermin and other conditions prejudicial to Health</u>
British	32	-	-	7
Other Nations	91	-	-	22

VII. FOOD INSPECTION

The importations of foodstuffs are small in amount, these being chiefly tomatoes, onions, potatoes, cauliflowers, citrus fruits, pears, peaches and nuts.

During April, 1,400 crates of cauliflowers were condemned at the Camber by the Veterinary Officer. In order to avoid the heavy Customs dues, it was necessary to put the cauliflowers back aboard the ships which arrived at the Camber from France, several days overdue, on account of engine trouble.

In August, consignments of pears of Italian origin were found to be contaminated with metallic poisons, presumably the result of anti-parasitic spray. Close co-operation between the Chief Sanitary Inspector, King's Harbour Master and staff, H.M. Customs and Excise staff and the Port Sanitary Inspector, ensured that shifts of sanitary inspectors examined every cargo landed. The fruit was only allowed to proceed to a checked destination with the invoice bearing a warning that the consignee must satisfactorily cleanse the fruit. Medical Officers of Health of the areas to which consignments were despatched were also notified. Altogether, a vigilant supervision was maintained 24 hours a day for 3 weeks.

DATA DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR

TABLE 2
(in thousands)

					Number of rats
					Black
					Brown
					Species not recorded
					Examined
					Infected with plague
Total					

Estimated 20,000 rats not recoverable.

TABLE 3

DATA DESTROYED IN DOGS, CATS, WHARVES, WATERSIDE

					Number of rats
					Black
					Brown
					Species not recorded
					Examined
					Infected with plague
Total					

VI. HISTORY OF CHINA, BEARS

TABLE 4

Nationality of Vendor	No. Inspected during year	History of original connection	Estimated rats through year and year	First, second and other conditions
Chinese	38	-	-	Y
Other	61	-	-	23

VII. FOOD INSPECTION

The inspection of foodstuffs are small in amount, these being chiefly tomatoes, onions, potatoes, cauliflower, other fruits, beans, peaches and nuts.

During April, 1,400 crates of cauliflower were condemned at the Garden by the Veterinary Officer. In order to avoid the heavy Customs dues, it was necessary to put the cauliflower back aboard the ships which arrived at the Garden from France, several days overdue, on account of engine trouble.

In August, consignments of beans of Italian origin were found to be contaminated with metallic poison, presumably the result of anti-plague spray. Close co-operation between the Italian Sanitary Inspector, King's Harbour Master and staff, S. L. Gardner and British staff and the Port Sanitary Inspector, ensured that while of sanitary inspection examined every cargo landed. The result was only allowed to proceed to a checked destination with the invoice bearing a sanitary stamp. The consignments must satisfactorily eliminate the health of the beans of health of the beans to which consignments were deposited were also notified. Although, a vigilant inspection was maintained at home a day for 2 weeks.

Shell-fish - There is no oyster-laying within the area of the Port Health Authority.

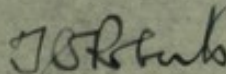
During the year no action was taken under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations 1937, the Public Health (Preservations, etc., in Food) Regulations 1925 to 1940, and the Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations 1926, the Public Health (Shellfish) Regulations 1934, and the Food and Drugs Act 1938 (Section 39).

The number of livestock landed at the docks from the Isle of Wight was 342 (136 cattle, 2 calves, 52 horses and 152 pigs). No clinical evidence of the existence of any contagious or notifiable diseases was found and all animals were able to proceed to their destinations.

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, and to record my appreciation of the excellent service willingly given me by the Port Sanitary Inspector.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,



Medical Officer of Health,
City and Port of Portsmouth.

30th March, 1950.

Shell-fish - There is no oyster-laying within the area of the Port Health Authority.

During the year no action was taken under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations 1937, the Public Health (Importation etc., in Food) Regulations 1938 to 1940, and the Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations 1938, the Public Health (Shellfish) Regulations 1934, and the Food and Drugs Act 1938 (Section 30).

The number of livestock landed at the docks from the 1st of May was 342 (134 cattle, 2 calves, 22 horses and 182 pigs). No clinical evidence of the existence of any contagious or notifiable diseases was found and all animals were able to proceed to their destinations.

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, and to record my appreciation of the excellent service willingly given me by the Port Sanitary Inspector.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. J. L. L.

Medical Officer of Health,
City and Port of Portsmouth.

30th March, 1939.