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**Contributors**

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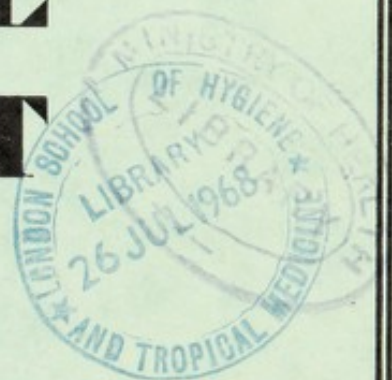
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# ANNUAL REPORT

*of the*  
Medical Officer of Health  
*for 1955*



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RIVER BLYTH PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY



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# RIVER BLYTH PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

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## ANNUAL REPORT of the Medical Officer of Health for 1955

WATERLOO HOUSE,  
WATERLOO ROAD,  
*January, 1956.*

*To the Chairman and Members of the River Blyth Port Health Authority.*

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the work of the Port Health Administration at the Port of Blyth for the year 1955.

As in the preceding year, this report is presented in accordance with the instructions issued by the Ministry of Health—Form Port 20, and the tabular information is in the sequence laid down by that Form.

The total number of vessels which arrived during the year was 3,573, including Fishing Vessels, and is a slight increase on the previous twelve months. Foreign vessels (Foreign and Coastwise) numbered 776, including Fishing Vessels. This also is a slight increase on the previous twelve months.

The amount of Coal and Coke shipped from the Port during the year was 5,284,536 tons ; this is a slight reduction on the year 1954. Imports discharged were : Mining and other Timber, 13,539 loads ; Cement, 51,334 tons ; Roofing Tiles, &c., 4,038 tons. Total imports were slightly less than in the previous year.

### **Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.**

The above Regulations became operative from the 1st October, 1952, and deal with Infectious Diseases, now to be known as Quarantinable Diseases, sanitary control of ships and persons, Deratting Certificates, &c.

The certificates issued will be found in the appropriate tables.

### **Inspection of Vessels.**

The work of dealing with nuisances and defects on vessels will be found itemised in the appropriate tables attached to the Report.

I again record with pleasure the kind assistance received from time to time from the Blyth Harbour Commission, River Pilots, H.M. Customs Officers, Immigration Officer, and Ministry of Transport Surveyors for their help and co-operation with the staff of the Port Health Authority.

R. J. P. R. CAMPBELL, M.B., Ch.B.,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

**RIVER BLYTH PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY**

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**MEMBERS OF AUTHORITY at 4th June, 1955**

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Chairman : ALDERMAN A. WALTON, J.P.

Vice-Chairman : COUNCILLOR A. RUTHERFORD

ALDERMAN G. COLPITTS

COUNCILLOR J. BELL

„ E. BREADIN  
„ J. W. KENNEDY  
„ P. MAW  
„ A. H. PAYNE

COUNCILLOR E. PURVIS

„ M. K. ROACH  
„ W. B. ROBSON  
„ MRS. L. M. SUMMERS

**SECTION I—Staff**  
**Table A**

Name of Officer	Nature of Appointment	Date of Appointment	Qualifications	Any other Appointments held
Mr. W. T. HARRISON ....	Clerk to the Authority	1st September, 1944	A.C.I.S.  M.B., Ch.B.  M.B., Ch.B.  Sanitary Insp. Certificate R.S.I. Meat and Food Cert. R.S.I.	Deputy Town Clerk, Borough of Blyth. Town Clerk's Staff, Borough of Blyth. General Practice.
Miss L. OWEN ....	Deputy Clerk to the Authority	1st October, 1947		
Dr. R. J. P. R. CAMPBELL	Medical Officer of Health	1st October, 1949		
Dr. A. M. TAIT ....	Deputy Medical Officer of Health	1st July, 1951		General Practice.
Mr. JOHN DILKS ....	Sanitary Inspector	15th June, 1928		None
Mr. ROBERT H. CRAMP ....	Rodent Officer	11th January, 1952		None.
Miss ANN HARRIS ....	Office Clerk	1st March, 1954		None.

Dr. R. J. P. R. Campbell's address :  
WATERLOO HOUSE, WATERLOO ROAD, BLYTH, NORTHUMBERLAND.  
Telephone No. : BLYTH 226.

**SECTION II**  
**Amount of Shipping entering the District during the year**  
**Table B**

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected		Number of Ships reported as having or having had Infectious Disease on board during the Voyage
			By the M.O.H.	By the Sanitary Inspector	
Foreign Ports ....	214	211,781	32	214	Nil
Coastwise Ports ....	3,268	2,091,745	58	3,266	Nil
TOTALS ....	3,482	2,303,526	90	3,480	Nil

FISHING VESSELS—	No.	Tonnage
Foreign ....	89	7,625
Coastwise ....	2	52

**Crews**

Foreign	Coastwise	Fishing	TOTAL
10,293	41,718	1,387	53,398



**SECTION III**  
**Character of Shipping and Trade during the year 1955**

**Table C**

Passenger Traffic ....	{	Number of Passengers INWARDS ....	68
		Number of Passengers OUTWARDS ....	143
		Passengers on Temporary Shore Leave ....	87

There is no regular passenger traffic at this Port. (See Table for Aliens.)

Cargo Traffic ....	{	Principal IMPORTS ....	Mining Timber ....	10,327 loads
			Other Timber ....	3,212 „
			Cement ....	51,334 tons
			Roofing Tiles ....	3,160 „
			Sundry ....	878 „
		Principal EXPORTS ....	Coal & Coke (Cargo) 5,162,792 „	
			„ (Bunkers) 121,744 „	
				5,284,536 „
			Fuel Oil (Bunkers) ....	4,172 „
			Sundry ....	20 „

FISH LANDED : Value £14,200.

The following are the Ports from which vessels have arrived :—

**FOREIGN PORTS—**

NORWAY ....	Bergen, Aalsund, Harum, Christiansand, Oslo, Haugesund, Sauda, Frederikstad.
SWEDEN ....	Göteborg, Helsingborg, Limhamn, Nyborg, Oscarshamn.
DENMARK ....	Copenhagen, Aarhus, Vejle, Elsinore, Odense, Kolding, Hobro, Bolborg, Struer, Kyndby, Fredericia.
HOLLAND ....	Antwerp, Ymuiden, Rotterdam, Amsterdam, Dordrecht, Groningen, Delfzijl, Zeebrugge.
GERMANY ....	Emden, Bremen, Hamburg, Lübeck, Kiel, Altona.
BELGIUM ....	Ostend, Antwerp, Bruges, Nieuport.
FRANCE ....	Dunkirk, Boulogne, Calais, St. Malo, Rouen, Ghent, Granville, Treport.
FINLAND ....	Esbjerg, Iceland, Akureyri.
POLAND ....	Danzig.
FAROE ISLES ....	Faroe.

## **SECTION IV**

### **Inland Barge Traffic**

There is no barge traffic at the Port.

## **SECTION V**

### **Water Supply**

1.—(a) The Port is supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company on the south side and the Tynemouth Corporation on the north side of the River.

#### **(b) Shipping**

Water mains are laid along the loading and waiting berths. A plentiful supply of water is available throughout the Harbour, with the exception of several jetties, at which ships are supplied with fresh water direct from the Water Boats.

Ships in Dry Dock for repair receive a supply of fresh water from the Blyth Dry Docks and Shipbuilding Co. Ltd.

2.—Six samples were sent for examination during the past year, and the result of the examinations was found to be satisfactory. Samples were collected from Water Points 9, 10, 11, and 12 on the north side, and Water Points 5 and 6 on the south side.

3.—Hydrants and hosepipes are frequently examined, and the Harbour Commissioners' employees take precautions against contamination by regular inspection and the careful storage in cabins provided for the purpose.

4.—One Water Boat is in regular service ; this is the property of the Harbour Commissioners and is frequently examined, especially when in Dry Dock for overhaul. It is of iron construction, and is maintained in a hygienic condition.

## **SECTION VI**

### **Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952**

The above Regulations came into force 1st October, 1952, and supersede the Port Health Regulations, 1933 and 1945, which are now revoked.

1.—LIST OF INFECTED AREAS. This is compiled from the List of Seaports and Airports, Part I, issued by the Ministry of Health each week, as the weekly Record of Quarantinable Diseases. Special forms are compiled, P.S. 10, from the information available, and issued from the Port Health Office each week to the H.M. Customs and Excise and to the River Pilots.

2.—(a) RADIO MESSAGES. Radio messages to ships can be sent through Cullercoats Radio Station, Northumberland.

(b) Notification to the Health Authority is now sent direct to the registered telegraphic address : "PORTHEALTH, Blyth," if any seamen or passengers on any vessel should require medical attention. Wireless messages are received at the Cullercoats Station which is situated about seven miles from Blyth. Flamborough is the nearest land signal station. On occasions Shipping Agents receive wireless messages and if they concern the Authority are transmitted to the appropriate officer.

3.—Messages are on occasions received through River Pilots or H.M. Customs who will pass any information to the Port Health Authority.



4.—MOORING STATIONS. Should any ship on arrival be suspected or infected, such ship would be berthed at its normal place of mooring. If after medical examination further quarantine is necessary it will be sent to a mooring station. The Harbour Master has consented to make an emergency mooring station at any part of the River, should the circumstances demand such action. There is no mooring station or berth outside the River.

5.—(a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases is at Moor Park Infectious Diseases Hospital, North Shields.

(b) Surveillance and follow up of contacts are carried out according to Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952. All contacts are supervised and the Medical Officer at the next Port informed. Contacts allowed to leave are supplied with prepaid post cards for the purpose of notifying change of address within 14 days of disembarkation. Their names are forwarded to district Medical Officers of Health.

(c) The cleansing and disinfection of ships is carried out at their respective berths, or when they are in Dry Dock. In cases of Infectious Disease, disinfection of crews' quarters, &c., is usually done with an approved insecticide.

Facilities for cleansing and disinfection of clothing and other articles exist at Moor Park Infectious Diseases Hospital, and the Hospital has arranged to carry out any such work for the Authority.

## SECTION VII

### Smallpox

1.—The Northern Regional Hospitals Board have made arrangements for the admission of Smallpox cases to the Langley Park Isolation Hospital, Co. Durham (Telephone No. : Chester-le-Street 3207). The Doctor in charge of this Hospital will be Dr. Gavin Miller, of Sacriston, Co. Durham. His Telephone No. is Sacriston 232.

2.—The Northumberland County Council are responsible for the ambulance service. Dr. A. Donaldson, the Medical Officer for the Blyth and Bedlingtonshire Local Authorities, is responsible for the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.

3.—NAMES OF SMALLPOX CONSULTANTS AVAILABLE :—

Dr. J. R. BEAL,

109, Great North Road, Gosforth, 3,  
Newcastle upon Tyne.

Telephone No. : Gosforth 5-2240.

Dr. WILSON MINNS,

16, Rectory Drive, Gosforth, 3,  
Newcastle upon Tyne.

Telephone No. : Gosforth 5-4282.

4.—FACILITIES FOR LABORATORY DIAGNOSIS OF SMALLPOX. Laboratory facilities are provided at the General Hospital, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, 4.

## SECTION VIII

### Venereal Disease

Information is given freely to seamen of all ranks during the normal inspection of ships. Facilities are offered at three clinics in the North of England.

Notices with the time and date for treatment at the local clinic are left in the crews' quarters when officials of the Port Health Authority are on board during their times of inspection.

The following are the times for treatment at these clinics :—

Preston Hospital, North Shields, Borough of Tynemouth.—Males, Tuesdays and Fridays, 5 to 7 p.m. ; Females, Wednesdays, 5 to 7 p.m. ; Fridays, 2 to 4 p.m.

General Hospital, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne.—Males, daily 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon, and 2 to 7 p.m. ; Females, daily 9.30 to 12 noon, and 3 to 7 p.m.

The Blyth V.D. Clinic at 22, Stanley Street, is now closed.

## SECTION IX

### Cases of Notifiable and other Infectious Diseases 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	Nil
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports, but have been disposed of before arrival....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases landed from other ships .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

## SECTION X

### Observation on the occurrence of Malaria in Ships

The trade of the Port is principally with Scandinavia and the low countries. On very rare occasions there may be ships from South America and the Mediterranean or India. Over a period of years no case of Malaria has been reported.

## SECTION XI

### Measures taken against Ships infected with or suspected of Plague

Inquiries as to the prevalence of rats are made on all ships in Port, whether they are in possession of Deratting Certificates or Deratting Exemption Certificates or not, and a systematic inspection is carried out on all ships arriving directly or otherwise from foreign ports.

Where necessary, a systematic search for evidence of infestation is carried out on all vessels.

## SECTION XII

### Measures against Rodents in Ships from Foreign Ports

1.—On arrival at the Port vessels are examined and if there is any evidence of rats notice is at once served on the Master. The Port Health Authority have their own official Rodent Operator. Particular attention is given to vessels arriving directly or indirectly from infected areas.



2.—Rats caught were examined, and all specimens appeared healthy. None showed any abnormal lesions, and none were therefore sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle upon Tyne.

3.—When a vessel is found to be infested with rats notice is served on the Master requesting fumigation. He, through his Agent, gets in touch with an authorised firm of fumigators to carry out the work. The chief and most popular method is by Hydrogen Cyanide. The standard required for International purposes is strictly adhered to. Sulphur Dioxide is now rarely used.

When vessels are undergoing fumigation every precaution is taken, such as posting of notices on the ships, also the fencing off of the gangways to render the process as free as possible from accidents. The minimum period for exposure for this gas is two hours, generally four to six in practice, and this effects a considerable saving of time compared with the older method of Sulphur Dioxide.

Contractors who carry out fumigations HCN at this Port are :—

Messrs. A. MILBURN & CO. LTD.,  
Mill Dam,  
South Shields.

Messrs. BARBER & HERON,  
Templetown,  
Tyne Dock,  
South Shields.

4.—In the construction of modern vessels considerable progress has been made in the provision of rat-proof compartments. Bulkheads and partitions are usually steel, and with a minimum of timber, it is difficult for rodents to find harbourage. Modern Naval Architecture is coping with the problem satisfactorily.

**Table E**  
**Rodents destroyed during the year in Ships from Foreign Ports**

Category	Number
Black Rats .....	265
Brown Rats .....	—
Species not known .....	—
Sent for examination .....	—
Infected with Plague .....	—

All specimens recovered have been examined macroscopically, and these were found free from any abnormal lesions.

The total number of brown rats recovered from the Quayside after poison baits had been put down was 1,452.



**Table F**

**Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year 1955  
for Ships from Foreign Ports**

No. of Deratting Certificates issued					Number of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued	Total Certificates issued
After Fumigation with		After Trapping	After Poisoning	Total		
HCN	Other Fumigant (state method)					
—	—	1	—	1	90	91

**Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates  
issued during the year 1955**

Net Tonnage	No. of Ships	No. of Deratisation Certificates issued				No. of Deratisation Exemption Certificates issued	Total of Certificates issued
		After Fumigation with			After Trapping, Poisoning, &c.		
		HCN	Sulphur	HCN and Sulphur			
Ships up to 300 tons ..	27	—	—	—	—	27	27
„ from 301 tons to 1,000 tons ..	40	—	—	—	—	40	40
„ from 1,001 tons to 3,000 tons ..	20	—	—	—	—	20	20
„ from 3,000 tons to 10,000 tons	3	—	—	—	1	4	4
„ over 10,000 tons	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ....	91	—	—	—	1	91	91

**SECTION XIII**  
**Inspection of Ships for Nuisances**

**Table G**  
**Inspection and Notices**

Nature and Number of Inspections	Notices Served		Result of Serving Notices
	Statutory Notices	Other Notices	
Routine Inspections      S.S. 2,054	—	132	Work done and Nuisances abated
Do.      M.V. 1,428	—	25	Do.
Do.      F.V. 91	—	—	Do.
TOTAL      ....      3,573	—	157	Do.

**SECTION XIV**

**The Order made by the Authority under the Public Health (Shellfish) Regulations, 1934 and 1948, came into operation on the 11th September, 1947.**

The area covered by the Order is :—

The area of the River Blyth lying between the High Water marks on either side of the River and extending from the mouth of the River to a point where the Railway Bridge of the British Railways crosses the River.

**SECTION XV**

**Medical Inspection of Aliens**

This is not an approved Port for the landing or inspection of Aliens.

The number of Aliens who arrived at the Port was 50. (See report attached.)

**SECTION XVI**

**Miscellaneous**

During the year the mortuary which had become obsolete was demolished. The Authority will now use the new mortuary which was built by the Blyth Borough Council.

Where death has been due to infectious disease, the body will be removed to this mortuary and the necessary instructions issued to those responsible for burial.

Where the relatives cannot undertake the burial arrangements the onus will rest on Blyth Borough Council or Bedlingtonshire U.D.C. in accordance with the National Assistance Act, 1948.

## FOOD INSPECTION

There has been no importation of food or grain at the Port, therefore no action was necessary under the following Acts or Regulations :—

Food and Drugs Acts, 1938–1950.  
 Public Health (Preservatives, &c., in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1948.  
 Public Health Regulations, 1924–1928.  
 The Salvaged Goods Order, 1948.  
 Food and Drugs (Whalemeat) Regulations, 1949–1950.  
 Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937–1948.

### NATIONALITIES OF SHIPS

British	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2,795
German	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	158
Dutch	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	215
Norge	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	46
Finnish	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	62
Danish	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	51
Swedish	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	121
Costa Rican	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	14
Faroese	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Panamanian	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Bulgarian	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Greek	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Port Rican	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
French	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	5
Polish	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Icelandic	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Spanish	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Belgian	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Turkish	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
								<u>3,482</u>

### Fishing Vessels

British	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Faroese	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Icelandic	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Dutch	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	87
								<u>91</u>
GRAND TOTAL FOR YEAR								<u>3,573</u>



## VESSELS BOARDED

The following table gives a list of vessels boarded during the year by the Medical Officer of Health or Sanitary Inspector on account of disease on board during the voyage or whilst in Port.

All cases set out below received attention and treatment.

Date	Name of Vessel and Nationality	Where from	Rating	Sickness
1955				
Jan. 11	Yewtree (British)	London	Sailor	Accident to leg.
" 12	Moorwood (British)	London	Sailor	Varicose Ulcer
" 12	Camroux III (British)	London	Captain	Accident to foot
" 14	Foch Rose (British)	Dover	Mess Boy	Scalds
" 18	Speciality (British)	London	Sailor	Accident to hand
" 18	Gouwe (Dutch)	Hamburg	Sailor	Dental Caries
" 25	Vigsnes (Norge)	Grangemouth	Two Sailors	V.D.
" 27	Kingsgate (British)	Hull	Sailor	V.D.
" 31	Copthall (British)	London	Fireman	Lacerated leg
Feb. 7	Paula Voegoang (German)	Kiel	Fireman	Accident to hand
" 13	Dania (Danish)	Grangemouth	Captain	Influenza
" 21	Hildegard (Finnish)	Copenhagen	Sailor	Eye trouble.
Mar. 2	Friesland (Swedish)	Amsterdam	Cook	Abcess.
" 8	Conlea (British)	Grimsby	Captain	Haemorrhage.
" 9	The Baron (British)	London	Fireman	Drowned.
" 12	Pentland Firth (British)	Tyne	Mate	Fractured hand.
" 21	Runmaro (Swedish)	London	Sailor	Accident to foot.
May 8	Angeja (Dutch)	Ostend	Mate	Accident to leg.
" 12	Blyth Explorer (British)	Rotterdam	Two Sailors	Influenza.
" 13	Gapern (Swedish)	Rotterdam	Fireman	Fractured rib.
" 14	Martine (Dutch)	Tyne	Sailor	Accident to hand.
" 20	Lady Charrington (British)	London	Mate	Head injury.
" 24	Ingerous (Finnish)	Gravesend	Sailor	Ear trouble.
" 29	Sir W. Walker (British)	London	2nd Mate	Septic hand.
June 14	Apricity (British)	Leith	Captain	Head injuries.
" 22	Patrick M. (Costa Rican)	King's Lynn	Engineer	Accident to hand.
July 14	Patrick M. (Costa Rican)	King's Lynn	Fireman	Burns.
" 16	Spitzerdeop (German)	Billingham	Woman	Stomach trouble.
" 17	Waterland (British)	Odense	Sailor	Dental Caries.
" 27	Denbe Dale (British)	Gibraltar	Sailor	Fractured leg.
Sept. 18	Bushwood (British)	London	Steward	Accident.
" 21	Erika H. Fisser (German)	Billingham	Two Sailors	Jaundice and Dental Caries.
" 26	Vigsnes (Norge)	Hull	Sailor	Accident.
Oct. 4	Hera (Finnish)	Hartlepool	Sailor	V.D.
" 7	Trema (German)	Middlesbrough	Two Sailors	Eye trouble and accident to hand.
" 8	Adeny (Finnish)	Antwerp	Sailor	Accident to hand.
" 15	Sandhoe (British)	Grangemouth	Cook	Accident to hand.
Nov. 4	Hudson River (British)	London	Sailor	Accidental death.
" 22	Ardgryfe (British)	Ipswich	Mate	Dermatitis.
" 23	Fidelia (Finnish)	Tyne	Sailor	Influenza.
" 24	John Evelyn (British)	Leith	Sailor	V.D.
" 24	Mendip (British)	Poole	Fireman	Stomach trouble.
" 30	Sarpen (Finnish)	Hull	Sailor	Influenza.



### Vessels Boarded—continued

Date	Name of Vessel and Nationality	Where from	Rating	Sickness
1955				
Dec. 9	Dina (Dutch)	London	Galley Boy	Cut hand.
„ 13	Garpen (Swedish)	London	Sailor	Dental Caries.
„ 19	Camroux II (British)	London	Engineer	Injured thumb.
„ 21	Corminster (British)	London	2nd Mate	Accident to foot.
„ 22	Equator (Dutch)	Neoness	Sailor	V.D.
„ 22	Mimona (Norge)	Rochester	Sailor	Accident.
„ 22	Copthall (British)	Tyne	Sailor	Accident.

### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

#### Prevention of Damage by Pests (Application to Shipping) Order, 1951

19 Rodent Control Certificates were issued during the year.

### NOTES ON SOME CASES REPORTED

18th January, 1955. S.S. Gouwe (Dutch). After arrival from Hamburg a sailor was reported sick. After medical examination he received treatment for Dental Caries.

13th February, 1955. S.S. Dania (Danish). The Master was reported unwell on arrival from Grangemouth. He was later examined and found to be suffering from Influenza. He received treatment during the vessel's stay in Port, and was practically recovered when the ship sailed.

16th March, 1955. M.V. Castle Harbour (British). A crew of Chinese were flown from Singapore for this vessel, which was intended for the Far East after sailing from this Port. All were examined by the Port Medical Officer and found to be in good health and free from any signs of infection.

12th May, 1955. S.S. Blyth Explorer (British). Some time after this vessel had Dry Docked, two sailors were reported sick, and on examination were found to be suffering from Influenza. They received appropriate treatment and were completely recovered before sailing.

16th July, 1955. M.V. Spitzerdeop (German). A woman member of the crew, after arrival from the Tees, was reported sick. After examination she was found to be suffering from stomach trouble and received further treatment.

21st September, 1955. M.V. Erika H. Fisser (German). A sailor was reported sick after arrival from the Tees and, after examination by the Federation Doctor, was given treatment for Jaundice. He was greatly improved before sailing.

23rd November, 1955. S.S. Fidelia (Finnish). One member of the crew was found to be ill after arrival from the River Tyne. He was later found to be suffering from Influenza. He was given treatment during the vessel's stay in Port.

12th December, 1955. S.S. Fanny (Finnish). A sailor was found to be sick after arrival from the port of Hull. On examination he was diagnosed as suffering from Appendicitis. He was removed to Hospital for an operation.

#### VESSELS FOUND HAVING STRUCTURAL OR SANITARY DEFECTS

	Structural Defects		Sanitary Defects		TOTAL
	Foreign	Coastwise	Foreign	Coastwise	
British Steam ....	—	58	—	68	126
British Motor ....	—	13	—	12	25
British Sail ....	—	—	—	—	—
Foreign Steam ....	—	1	1	4	6
Foreign Motor ....	—	—	—	—	—
Foreign Sail ....	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ....	—	72	1	84	157

Two vessels had structural alterations carried out in the crews' quarters, and improvements consisted of better washing facilities and sanitary conveniences.

Four vessels were found to be verminous in the crews' quarters, galleys, and mess rooms. Fumigation and insecticides were the chief means of dealing with these pests. It should be pointed out that recommendations are made from time to time to Masters and other Officers as to the efficacy of DDT preparations, also the need to carry quantities of insecticides.



### Defects (continued)

	Work in hand	Work completed	TOTAL
Forecastles to clean and paint out	—	13	13
Forecastles to repair	—	7	7
Port Lights to renew and repair	—	23	23
Radiators to repair	—	15	15
Galleys to repair	—	12	12
Fresh Water Tanks to repair and Cement wash	—	12	12
Bogie Funnels to renew	—	6	6
Officers' Rooms to paint out	—	4	4
Sanitary Tanks to repair	—	4	4
Mess Rooms to repair, clean and paint out	—	3	3
Wash Room to repair	—	1	1
Refrigerators to repair and clean out	—	6	6
Scuppers to clean out and repair	—	6	6
Accommodation to reconstruct	—	1	1
Bathroom to repair	—	4	4
Ventilators to renew	—	3	3
Pantry to repair	—	1	1
Stewards' and Radio Officers' Rooms to repair	—	2	2
Sanitary Pipes to repair and clean	—	3	3
Food Lockers to repair	—	2	2
Lavatory Basin to renew	—	8	8
New W.C.s to fix	—	3	3
W.C.s to repair	—	10	10
W.C.s flushed on to Quay	—	8	8
	—	157	157

## VESSELS ARRIVING FROM INFECTED OR SUSPECTED PORTS

The following table gives the number of vessels boarded in Blyth by the Officers of the Port Health Authority, on account of them coming directly or indirectly from Foreign Ports, infected or suspected of being infected with CHOLERA, PLAGUE, YELLOW FEVER, SMALLPOX, TYPHUS FEVER, or RELAPSING FEVER.

1955	FROM INFECTED PORTS TO BLYTH		FROM SUSPECTED PORTS TO BLYTH		TOTAL
	Direct	Indirect	Direct	Indirect	
January ....	—	1	—	—	1
February ....	—	—	—	1	1
March ....	—	—	—	2	2
April ....	—	1	—	2	3
May ....	—	—	—	5	5
June ....	—	—	—	2	2
July ....	—	—	1	1	2
August ....	—	—	—	1	1
September ....	—	—	—	4	4
October ....	—	—	—	4	4
November ....	—	—	—	2	2
December ....	—	—	—	1	1
TOTAL ....	—	2	1	25	28

## LATRINES IN DOCK AREA

At the time of compiling this report the Latrines have not been improved, as promised by the British Transport Commission.

In last year's report I stated that the Commission had decided to give priority to the work of improving the Latrines.





