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Contributors

River Blythe Port Health Authority.

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A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for 1962



RIVER BLYTH PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

RIVER BLYTH PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Port Medical Officer of Health

for YEAR 1962

WATERLOO HOUSE,
WATERLOO ROAD,
BLYTH.

January, 1963.

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

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Once again it is my privilege to place before you the Annual Report on the work of the Port Health Administration for the Port of Blyth, for the year, 1962.

As in preceding years this report is presented in accordance with the instructions issued by the Minister of Health—Form Port 20, and Circular 33/52. Detailed information will be found in the Sections I to XVI.

The total number of vessels which arrived during the year was 3,463 including Fishing Vessels. This is a slight decrease on the previous year. Foreign Vessels (Foreign and Coastwise) numbered 1,075 including Fishing Vessels. The number of arrivals direct from Foreign Ports was a slight decrease on the previous year.

The amount of Coal and Coke Shipped from the Port during the year was 5,932,451 tons, this also includes Bunker Coal. This is a slight decrease on the previous year. Imports discharged at the Port were: Timber, 25,653 loads, Cement 22,979 tons, Roofing Tiles and Sundries 6,793 tons.

PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1952

The above Regulations became operative from the 1st October, 1952, and deal with the Infectious Diseases, now to be known as Quarantinable Diseases, sanitary control of ships and persons, Deratting Certificates, etc. Certificates issued will be found in the appropriate Tables.

INSPECTION OF VESSELS

The work of dealing with nuisances and defects (structural and otherwise) will be found in the appropriate tables included in 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, also the 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

MEMBERS OF AUTHORITY AT 31st DECEMBER, 1962

Chairman: COUNCILLOR J. HUDSPITH

Vice-Chairman: COUNCILLOR E. BREADIN

ALDERMAN F. RAFFERTY

COUNCILLOR J. HAIG

ALDERMAN MRS. L. M. SUMMERS

COUNCILLOR A. H. PAYNE

ALDERMAN A. WALTON, J.P.

COUNCILLOR MRS. M. PURVES

COUNCILLOR G. COLPITTS

COUNCILLOR A. RUTHERFORD

COUNCILLOR W. COX

COUNCILLOR MRS. M. E. THOMPSON

SECTION I—STAFF

Table A

Name of Officer	Nature of Appointment	Date of Appointment	Qualifications	Any other Appointments held
MISS L. OWEN ...	Clerk to the Authority	11th Sept., 1960	A.C.I.S.	Town Clerk's Staff, Borough of Blyth.
DR. R. J. P. R. CAMPBELL	Medical Officer of Health	1st October, 1949	M.B., Ch.B.	General Practice.
DR. R. CRAIG ...	Deputy Medical Officer of Health	1st April, 1957	M.B., Ch.B.	General Practice.
MR. NORMAN F. GODFREY	Public Health Inspector	1st February, 1957	Public Health Inspectors Certificate R.S.I. Meat and Food Cert. R.S.I.	None.
MR. ROBERT H. CRAMP	Rodent Officer	11th January, 1952		None.
MISS K. IRELAND ...	Office Clerk	7th December, 1959		None.

Dr. R. J. P. R. Campbell's address:—Waterloo House, Waterloo Road, Blyth, Northumberland.

Telephone No.: BLYTH 3226.

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 during the Voyage Infectious Diseases on board
			By the M.O.H.	By the Public Health Inspector	
Foreign Ports ...	606	170,711	32	606	—
Coastwise Ports ...	2,857	2,509,185	35	2,857	—
TOTALS ...	3,463	2,679,896	67	3,463	—

FISHING VESSELS—				No.	Tonnage
Foreign	...	...	...	397	20,933
Coastwise	...	...	...	12	510

Crews

Foreign	Coastwise	Fishing	Total
3,013	44,116	4,384	51,513

SECTION III

Character of Shipping and Trade during the year 1962

Table C

Passenger Traffic	...	{	Number of Passengers INWARDS	60
			Number of Passengers OUTWARDS	...	...	...	118
			Passengers on Temporary Shore Leave	...	...	...	Nil.

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

Cargo Traffic	...	{	Principal Imports	...	...	{	Mining Timber	...	18,779 loads
							Other Timber	...	6,874 loads
							Cement	...	22,979 tons
							Roofing Tiles	...	2,024 tons
							Sundry	...	4,769 tons
		{	Principal Exports	...	...	{	Coal & Coke (Cargo)	5,876,179 tons	
							(Bunkers)	56,272 tons	
							Fuel Oil (Bunkers)	3,357 tons	
							Sundry	...	1,619 tons

Fish landed was valued at £36,187.

Principal Ports from which Ships arrive:—

FOREIGN PORTS—

BELGIUM	...	Antwerp, Brussels, Ghent, Nieuwpoort.
DENMARK	...	Aalborg, Aarhus, Copenhagen, Esbjerg, Koge, Odense, Randers, Skive, Svendborg, Vejle.
FAEROES	...	Klaksvik, Sorvag, Torshavn.
FINLAND	...	Abo, Hamina, Helsinki, Himanka, Kemi, Kotka, Mantyluoto, Topila.
FRANCE	...	Bayonne, Breste, Calais, Dieppe, Dunkirk, Nantes, Rouen, St. Malo, Treport, Granville.
GERMANY	...	Bremen, Cuxhaven, Flensburg, Gluckstadt, Hamburg, Haren-Ems, Itzehoe, Kiel, Leer, Lubeck, Osten, Rendsburg, Schulau, Schwartzenhuiten, Stade.
HOLLAND	...	Amsterdam, Delfzijl, Dordrecht, Groningen, Harlingen, Katwijk, Noordijk, Ommel, Kampen, Schoorl, Schveningen, Terneuzen, Vlaardingen, Zaandam, Zwartsluis, Ymuiden.
ITALY	...	Livorno.
NORWAY	...	Aalvik, Bergen, Haugesund, Odda, Oslo, Stavanger.
PANAMA	...	Panama.
POLAND	...	Gdnyia, Stettin, Swinouisce, Wladyslawawa.
PORTUGAL	...	Lisbon, Setubal.
SPAIN	...	Bilbao.
SWEDEN	...	Christinehamn, Gefle, Halmstad, Gothenborg, Karlskrona, Lerberget, Lidkoping, Malmo, Stockholm, Vastervik.

SECTION IV

Inland Barge Traffic

There is no barge traffic at the Port.

SECTION V

Water Supply

Samples have been taken regularly from points on the West Staithes, North and South Side, South Harbour and Blyth Harbour Commissioners Waterboat 110 were submitted for bacteriological examination and of these 22 were found to be unsatisfactory.

Of the above samples submitted to the Laboratories 71 were taken during the routine monthly sampling and of these only 7 were found to be slightly unsatisfactory.

However during the month of July as a result of this regular sampling, heavy contamination was found to be present in some of the hydrants on the South Staithes. Use of the specific hydrants was then discontinued and systemic sampling commenced to locate the source of contamination. It was during this period that of the 39 samples submitted to the laboratories 14 were found to be highly unsatisfactory. With the full co-operation of the Newcastle & Gateshead Water Co., and Blyth Harbour Commission, the source was finally located and eliminated and since then all samples submitted have been satisfactory.

SECTION VI

Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952

No change.

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 Bedlington Local Authorities, is responsible for the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.

3.—NAME OF SMALLPOX CONSULTANT AVAILABLE:—

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

No change.

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

Although during the year there were no actual cases of Notifiable Infectious disease in the port, notification was received from the Port Medical Officer of Swansea Port Health Authority on the 18th August, that a case of suspected Paratyphoid Fever landed from the M.V. Birdwood, which was proceeding to Blyth, had been confirmed. On receipt of the Telegram, full quarantine precautions were immediately put in hand every co-operation being accorded by the H.M. Customs, Pilots, Blyth Harbour Commission and the Police. The Public Health Laboratories were contacted re the provision of serum and submission of specimens if necessary. However, on arrival of the vessel it was found that the man had had little contact with the crew, having only signed on and then reported sick. No symptoms of the disease were found after medical examination of the crew. Strict surveillance was maintained during the remainder of the vessel's stay in port, but there were no adverse developments. During investigation it was discovered that the man in question had been in contact with cases on another ship trading in the Middle East area.

Observation on the occurrence of Malaria in ships

No cases of Malaria have been reported during the year.

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 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.

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 when caught are examined and facilities are provided by the Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle upon Tyne for detailed bacteriological examination of any specimens when necessary.

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 & HERRON,
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	—
Brown Rats	—
Species not known	—
Sent for examination	—
Infected with Plague	—

The total number of brown rats recovered from the Quayside after poison baits have been put down was 530.

All rats recovered are examined and where any abnormalities are noted are sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle upon Tyne for further detailed examination.

Table F

**Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year 1960
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)					
—	—	—	—	—	113	113

**Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates
issued during the year 1962**

Net Tonnage	No. of Ships	No. of Deratting Certificates issued			After Trapping Poisoning, &c.	No. of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued	Total Certificates issued
		After Fumigation with					
		HCN	Sulphur	HCN and Sulphur			
Ships up to 300 tons ...	36	—	—	—	—	36	36
Ships from 301 tons to 1,000 tons ...	39	—	—	—	—	39	39
Ships from 1,001 tons to 3,000 tons ...	34	—	—	—	—	34	34
Ships from 3,001 tons to 10,000 tons ...	4	—	—	—	—	4	4
Ships over 10,000 tons	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	113	—	—	—	—	113	113

SECTION XIII
Inspection of Shlps 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 1,319	Nil	219	Defects remedied
Do. ... M/V 1,735	Do.	136	Do.
Do. ... F/V 409	Do.	—	—
TOTAL ... 3,463	Do.	355	Do.

SECTION XIV
Public Health (Shell-fish Regulations) 1934 and 1948

No change.

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 Nil. (See Table C, Section III).

SECTION XVI
Miscellaneous

Mortuary—No change.

Food Inspection—No change.

NATIONALITIES OF SHIPS

British...	...	...	...	2,702
German	...	...	...	208
Dutch ...	...	...	...	98
Swedish	...	...	...	29
Norwegian	...	...	...	6
Danish	...	...	...	4
Finn ...	...	...	...	3
Faeroes	...	...	...	2
Panamain	...	...	...	2
TOTAL	...	...	...	3,054

FISHING VESSELS

Polish ...	...	...	...	...	301
Dutch ...	...	...	...	...	90
British...	...	...	...	...	12
German	...	...	...	...	5
Norwegian	...	...	...	...	1
					409
GRAND TOTAL FOR THE YEAR					3,463

VESSELS BOARDED

The following table gives a list of vessels boarded during the year by the Medical Officer of Health or Public Health 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
13. 1.62	M.V. Queensgate (British)	Methil	Engineer	Influenza
17. 1.62	M.V. Corbrae (British)	Limerick	Mate	Influenza
17. 1.62	S.S. Lord Citrine (British)	London	Mate	Influenza
18. 1.62	S.S. Pompey Light (British)	Portsmouth	2 Seamen	Influenza
27. 1.62	M.V. Truus (Dutch)	Perth	2 Seamen	Influenza
27. 1.62	S.S. Birte Oldendorff (German)	Amsterdam	Seaman	Injury to shoulder
27. 1.62	S.S. Birte Oldendorff (German)	Amsterdam	Seaman	V.D.
8. 2.62	S.S. Capt. J. M. Donaldson (British)	London	Seaman	Influenza
8. 2.62	M.V. Hille Oldendorff (German)	Hamburg	Seaman	V.D.
28. 2.62	S.S. Hudson Sound (British)	London	2 Seamen	Scabies
6. 3.62	M.V. Annelise Christopherson (German)	Glasgow	Seaman	V.D.
18. 3.62	M.V. Leven Fisher (British)	Belfast	Mate	Accident to foot
11. 4.62	M.V. Moira M. (British)	Leith	Chief Engin- eer	Accident
7. 4.62	M.V. Melissa M. (British)	London	Seaman	Accident
28. 6.62	W.L.A. 110, (Pole)	Sea	Seaman	Migraine
28. 6.62	W.L.A. 118 (Pole)	Sea	Seaman	Injured Hand
20. 7.62	S.Z.N. 45 (Pole)	Sea	Seaman	Accident to eye
30. 7.62	S.C.H. 87 (Dutch)	Sea	Boy	Accident to eye
8. 9.62	W.L.A. 138 (Dutch)	Sea	Seaman	Dental treatment
14. 9.62	W.L.A. 135 (Pole)	Sea	Seaman	Fractured Ribs
17. 9.62	W.L.A. 137 (Pole)	Sea	Seaman	Groin in ury
30. 9.62	M.V. Arabritt (Swede)	Rotterdam	Seaman	Accident to foot
30. 9.62	M.V. Sanguity (British)	Belfast	Master	Pleurisy
1.10.62	M.V. Arabritt (Swede)	Rotterdam	Seaman	Accident to foot
8.10.62	S.S. Sir Joseph Swann (British)	London	Mate	Accident to eye

Date	Name of Vessel and Nationality	Where from	Rating	Sickness
12.10.62	W.L.A. 138 (Pole)	Sea	2 Seamen	Dental treatment
2.11.62	S.S. Lord Citrine (British)	London	2nd Mate	Acute Bronchitis
12.11.62	M.V. Greenland (British)	London	Bosun	Accident to head
13.11.62	M.V. Maythorn (British)	Coleraine	2nd Eng.	Throat infection
16.11.62	M.V. Osborne Queen (British)	Goole	Seaman	Accident to eye
10.12.62	M.V. Greenland (British)	London	2nd Eng.	Chickenpox
10.12.62	M.V. Tynewood (British)	Poole	Chief Eng.	Influenza
24.12.62	M.V. Celebrity (British)	Exmouth	Cook	Accident
24.12.62	M.V. Sandringham Queen (British)	Antwerp	2nd Mate	Pleurisy

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

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

18 Rodent Control Certificates were issued during the year.

The charges for the issue of Deratting and Deratting Exemption Certificates were increased from 1st September, 1961, so that some coasting vessels have requested to be issued with Rodent Control Certificates. This latter type of Certificate is not valid outside British waters.

VESSELS FOUND HAVING STRUCTURAL OR SANITARY DEFECTS

			Structural Defects		Sanitary Defects		TOTAL
			Foreign	Coastwise	Foreign	Coastwise	
British Steam	...	...	12	59	8	136	215
British Motor	...	...	13	38	16	60	127
British Sail	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
Foreign Steam	...	...	—	—	4	—	4
Foreign Motor	...	...	1	1	3	4	9
Foreign Sail	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	...	...	26	98	31	200	355

It was found necessary to carry out disinfestation of crew's quarters on 4 vessels during the year. This was carried out by the Officers of the Authority.

DEFECTS

	Work in hand	Work completed	Total
Fresh water tanks repaired or renewed	—	7	7
Fresh water tanks cleaned and cement washed	—	39	39
Fresh water systems repaired	—	14	14
Sanitary tanks repaired or renewed	—	10	10
Sanitary pipes repaired or renewed	—	13	13
W.C's discharging on quay	—	11	11
W.C's repaired or renewed	—	19	19
Showers repaired and renewed	—	10	10
Wash Basins repaired or renewed	—	8	8
Washing up sinks renewed	—	3	3
Central heating systems repaired	—	13	13
Crews' accommodation cleaned and painted	—	24	24
Officers' accommodation cleaned and painted	—	18	18
Crews' accommodation treated for condensation	—	3	3
Galleys cleaned and painted	—	29	29
Galley stoves repaired or renewed	—	17	17
Provision stores cleaned out and painted	—	2	2
Refrigerators repaired or cleaned	—	10	10
Scupper pipes cleared	—	10	10
Scupper pipes repaired or renewed	—	14	14
Port lights repaired or renewed	—	57	57
Disinfestation for vermin of bedding and accommodation	—	4	4
Refuse deposited on quay	—	9	9
Emissions of smoke	—	11	11
TOTALS	—	355	355

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.

1962	From Infected Ports to Blyth		From Suspected Ports to Blyth		TOTAL
	Direct	Indirect	Direct	Indirect	
January ...	—	—	—	—	—
February ...	—	—	—	2	2
March ...	—	—	—	—	—
April ...	—	—	—	—	—
May ...	—	—	—	—	—
June ...	—	—	—	—	—
July ...	—	—	—	—	—
August ...	—	—	—	—	—
September ...	—	—	—	—	—
October ...	—	—	—	—	—
November...	—	—	—	—	—
December ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	—	—	—	2	2

Wm. Dresser & Sons Ltd.
Crown Street, Darlington
