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**Contributors**

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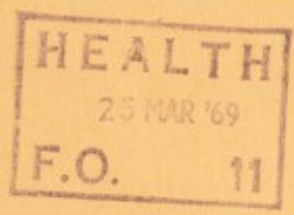
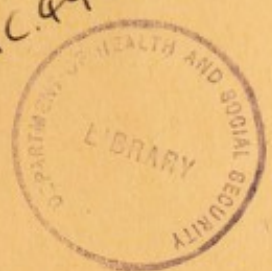
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# Annual Report


OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR 1968



RIVER BLYTH PORT OF HEALTH AUTHORITY



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**RIVER BLYTH PORT OF HEALTH AUTHORITY**

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
of the  
**Port Medical Officer of Health**

for YEAR 1968

WATERLOO HOUSE,  
WATERLOO ROAD,  
BLYTH.

January, 1969.

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 1968.

As in preceding years this report is presented in accordance with the instruction 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 1,584 including Fishing Vessels. This is slightly below last year's figure. Foreign Vessels trading Foreign and Coastwise numbered 217 including Fishing Vessels, which is a decrease on last year. The number of arrivals direct from Foreign Ports was substantially the same.

The amount of Coal and Coke shipped from the Port during the year was 2,868,744 tons; this also includes Bunker Coal.

There has been an increase of almost 50,000 tons in the export of coal as compared with last year and also an increase in the amount and variety of imports and exports particularly to and from Foreign Ports.

Imports discharged at the Port were: Timber 13,063 loads, Iron 2,939 tons, Steel Bars 3,139 tons, Sand 2,521 tons, Steel Wire 1,222 tons, Paper 2,690 tons and Sundries 3,871 tons.

**PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1966**

The above Regulations became operative from the 1st April, 1966, 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 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**

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### **MEMBERS OF AUTHORITY AT 31st DECEMBER, 1968**

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Chairman: COUNCILLOR M. A. MCGUCKIN

Vice-Chairman: COUNCILLOR J. HAIG

ALDERMAN E. BREADIN

COUNCILLOR J. HUDSPITH

ALDERMAN MRS. M. PURVES

COUNCILLOR W. R. INCE

ALDERMAN A. RUTHERFORD, J.P.

COUNCILLOR J. E. TEASDALE

ALDERMAN MRS. L. M. SUMMERS

COUNCILLOR J. MOUNSEY

COUNCILLOR G. COLPITTS

COUNCILLOR MRS. E. THOMPSON.



## SECTION I—STAFF

**Table A.**

Name of Officer	Nature of Appointment	Date of Appointment	Qualifications	Any other Appointment 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 M. WALKER ...	Office Clerk	1st March, 1965		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 ...	86	50,199	22	86	—
Coastwise Ports ...	1,441	1,174,701	34	1,441	—
TOTALS ...	1,527	1,224,900	56	1,527	—

FISHING VESSELS—				No.	Tonnage
Foreign	...	...	...	19	1,610
Coastwise	...	...	...	38	1,182

Crews					
Foreign	Coastwise	Fishing	Total		
934	18,887	345	20,166		

### SECTION III

#### Character of Shipping and Trade during the year 1968

Table C

		British	Alien	Common-wealth
Passenger Traffic ...	Number of Passengers INWARDS ...	12	30	Nil
	Number of Passengers OUTWARDS...	10	32	Nil
	Passengers on Temporary Shore Leave	Nil	Nil	Nil
	There is no regular passenger traffic at this Port (see table for Aliens).			
Cargo Traffic ...	Principal Imports ...	Mining Timber ...	...	1,781 loads
		Other Timber ...	...	11,282 „
		Steel Bars, etc. ...	...	3,139 tons
		Steel Wire ...	...	1,222 „
		Pig Iron ...	...	2,939 „
		Paper ...	...	2,690 „
		Sand ...	...	2,521 „
		Sundries ...	...	3,871 „
	Principal Exports ...	Coal ...	...	2,868,744 „
		Barley ...	...	13,270 „
		Graphite ...	...	2,237 „
		Scrap Iron ...	...	15,029 „
		Sundries ...	...	7,589 „

Fish landed was valued at £78,063.

Principal Ports from which Ships arrive:—

#### FOREIGN PORTS—

BELGIUM	...	Antwerp, Ghent.
DENMARK	...	Aalvik, Aarhus, Copenhagen, Fredrikshaven, Marstal, Svendborg.
FAEROES	...	Klakksvik, Thorshavn.
FINLAND	...	Kemi, Kimito, Toppila.
FRANCE	...	Cannes, Dunkirk, St. Malo, St. Nazaire.
GERMANY	...	Brake, Bremen, Duisberg, Emden, Hamburg, Haren-Ems, Kiel, Lubeck, Mulheim, Rendsburg, Stade.
GREECE	...	Piraeus.
HOLLAND	...	Bergan, Delfzijl, Dordrecht, Grogingen, Hoogkirk, Joure, Leeuwarden, Rotterdam, Scheveningen, Zaandam.
ICELAND	...	Reyjavik.
ITALY	...	Civita, Vecchia, La Spezia, Livorno.
NORWAY	...	Haugesund, Kritiansand, Larvik, Mo-i-Rana, Orehoved, Oslo, Sandesfjord, Sandnes.
PANAMA	...	Panama.
POLAND	...	Gdynia, Wladyslawawa.
SPAIN	...	La Ciutid, Malaga, Passajes.
SWEDEN	...	Gefle, Goteborg, Gruvon, Halmstad, Karlskrona, Karlstade, Kristenstad, Norkoping, Uddevalla, Vargon, Wastervik.
U.S.S.R.	...	Leningrad.



## **SECTION IV**

### **Inland Barge Traffic**

There is no barge traffic at the Port.

## **SECTION V**

### **Water Supply**

78 routine samples of water were submitted for bacteriological examination, of these only two submitted from North and West Quays, South Harbour, were found to be unsatisfactory but indicated such heavy contamination that further samples were submitted from all the hydrants on these quays. Seven of these showed such heavy contamination that it was decided to stop supplying vessels from these points until the source of the contamination could be found and eliminated. After consultation with the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company and the Engineer of the Blyth Harbour Commission thorough cleansing of the whole system, including the dismantling and sterilising of all hydrants, was carried out after which further specimens showed the contamination to have been totally eliminated and the supply to vessels was then recommenced.

During the latter period, 33 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and 20 were found to be unsatisfactory.

## **SECTION VI**

### **Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1966**

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 the hospital will be Dr. Gavin Millar, of Green Ridge, Farnley Mount, Durham. His Telephone No. is 2395.

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,  
South Rigg, Humshaugh,  
Hexham.  
Home Telephone No.:  
Humshaugh 317.

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

## SECTION X

### 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.—For some years now there has been no instance of a major infestation of rats on any vessel to the extent of requiring wholesale fumigation. If any such instance occurred, the shipping agents would arrange for the fumigation to be carried out by one of the approved firms mentioned below. The whole process would be supervised by Officers of the Authority.

In the case of fumigation by Hydrogen Cyanide or Methyl Bromide, strict precautions have to be observed to safeguard all the persons involved and the whole process carried out in accordance with the Regulations.

Contractors approved for the carrying out of the above services in this Port are:—

MESSRS. CONTRA PEST SERVICES LTD.,

Rekendyke Lane,

South Shields.

Tel. No.: South Shields 63388.

MESSRS. RENTOKIL LABORATORIES LTD.,

6 Regent Street,

South Shields.

Tel. No.: South Shields 4921.

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 the 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 396.

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 1968 for Ships from Foreign Ports**

No. of Deratting Certificates issued				Number of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued	Total Certificates issued
HCN	After fumigation with Other Fumigant (state method)	After Trapping	After Poisoning		
—	—	—	—	11	11

**Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year 1968**

Net Tonnage	No. of Ships	No. of Deratting Certificates issued				Number of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued	Certificates issued Total
		After fumigation with			After Trapping, Poisoning, etc.		
		HCN	Sulphur	HCN and Sulphur			
Ships up to 300 tons ...	13	—	—	—	—	13	13
Ships from 301 tons to 1,000 tons ... ..	25	—	—	—	—	25	25
Ships from 1,001 tons to 3,000 tons ... ..	15	—	—	—	—	15	15
Ships from 3,001 tons to 10,000 tons ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ships over 10,000 tons...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	53	—	—	—	—	53	53



**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 209	Nil	58	Defects remedied
Do.	...	M/V 1,318	Do.	138	Do.
Do.	...	F/V 57	Do.	—	Do.
TOTAL	...	...	Do.	196	—

**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 30 (see Table C, Section III).

**SECTION XVI**

**Miscellaneous**

**Mortuary**—No change.

**Food Inspection**—

There was a slight decrease in the amount of Barley exported this year.

**NATIONALITIES OF SHIPS**

British	...	...	...	...	1,329
Danish	...	...	...	...	12
Dutch	...	...	...	...	92
Faeroes	...	...	...	...	7
German	...	...	...	...	55
Liberian	...	...	...	...	1
Norwegian	...	...	...	...	17
Panamanian	...	...	...	...	2
Swedish	...	...	...	...	12
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	1,527



### FISHING VESSELS

British	...	...	...	...	38
Dutch	...	...	...	...	17
Faeroes	...	...	...	...	1
German	...	...	...	...	1
TOTAL					57
GRAND TOTAL FOR THE YEAR					1,584

### 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 Vessels and Nationality	Where from	Rating	Sickness
2.1.68	M.V. Corbeach (British)	Rochester	Ch. Off.	Influenza
2.1.68	M.V. Queensland (British)	London	Bosun	Influenza (died in hospital)
2.1.68	M.V. Marika (Finnish)	Kent	Seaman	Septic sore throat
10.1.68	M.V. Hudson Light (British)	London	Master	Influenza
16.1.68	M.V. Maythorn (British)	Carrickfergus	Ch. Eng.	Influenza
			Ch. Off.	Influenza
20.1.68	M.V. Ferryhill (British)	Aberdeen	Ch. Off.	Influenza
9.2.68	M.V. Craigmore (British)	Belfast	Master	Broken ankle
9.2.68	M.V. St. Aidan (British)	Tyne	Cook	Heart attack
3.4.68	M.V. Stalybridge (British)	Tyne	Seaman	Dental abscess
16.4.68	M.V. St. Aidan (British)	London	2nd Eng.	Gastric Influenza
22.4.68	M.V. Corchester (British)	London	Master	Influenza
			Ch. Off.	Fibrositis
27.4.68	S.S. Cormist (British)	Dunkirk	Seaman	Accident to hand
31.5.68	M.V. Corbank (British)	London	Seaman	Accident to leg
14.7.68	F.V. SCH64 Frank Vrouluk (Dutch)	Sea	Seaman	Pneumonia
16.7.68	M.V. Spray (British)	Aberdeen	Seaman	Accident to hand
5.8.68	M.V. Chelwood (British)	London	Ch. Off.	Accident to arm
27.8.68	M.V. Craigmore (British)	Rotterdam	Ch. Eng.	Injury to back
29.8.68	M.V. Henfield (British)	London	Ch. Off.	Injury to head
3.10.68	M.V. Flotte (German)	London	Seaman	Dental treatment
10.10.68	M.V. Seniority (British)	Leith	Ch. Eng.	Injury to hand
23.10.68	M.V. Portsmouth (British)	Rouen	Steward	Burns
6.11.68	S.S. Cormain (British)	London	Ch. Off.	Injury to back
11.11.68	M.V. Varanes (Norwegian)	Mo-i-Rana	Seaman	Injury to leg
18.11.68	M.V. Corbank (British)	London	Radio Off.	Heart attack
24.11.68	M.V. Waterland (British)	London	Donkeyman	Heart attack
26.12.68	S.S. Lord Citrine (British)	London	Steward	Accident Fractured Ribs

### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

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

Eight 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 ... ..	—	7	—	51	58
British Motor ... ..	1	13	18	87	119
British Sail ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Foreign Steam ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Foreign Motor ... ..	1	—	13	5	19
Foreign Sail ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTALS ... ..</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>196</b>

It was not found necessary to carry out any disinfestations of crews' quarters on vessels during the year.

## **DEFECTS**

	Work in Hand	Work completed	Total
Fresh water tanks repaired or renewed ... ..	—	8	8
Fresh water tanks cleaned and cement washed ... ..	—	8	8
Oil in fresh water system cleared ... ..	—	1	1
Sanitary tanks repaired or renewed ... ..	—	7	7
Sanitary pipes repaired or renewed ... ..	—	2	2
Galley Sink waste repaired ... ..	—	2	2
W.C.s discharging on to quay ... ..	—	10	10
W.C.s repaired or renewed ... ..	—	9	9
Fuel pump in Galley replaced to eliminate noise ... ..	—	1	1
Wash up sinks repaired or renewed ... ..	—	1	1
Showers repaired or renewed ... ..	—	7	7
Central heating systems repaired ... ..	—	9	9
Crews' accommodation cleaned and painted out ... ..	—	7	7
Officers' accommodation cleaned and painted out ... ..	—	5	5
Leaking accommodation repaired ... ..	—	4	4
Galleys cleaned and painted out ... ..	—	9	9
Galley stoves repaired or renewed ... ..	—	7	7
Galley equipment repaired or renewed ... ..	—	8	8
Galley benches renewed ... ..	—	1	1
Refrigerators cleaned out or repaired ... ..	—	12	12
Food stores cleaned out ... ..	—	11	11
Scupper pipes cleared ... ..	—	9	9
Scupper pipes repaired or renewed ... ..	—	8	8
Port lights repaired or renewed ... ..	—	25	25
Refuse deposited on to quay ... ..	—	11	11
Smoke emissions ... ..	—	3	3
Ventilating systems repaired or renewed ... ..	—	11	11
<b>TOTAL ... ..</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>196</b>



### 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, Typhus Fever or Relapsing Fever.

1968			From Infected Ports to Blyth		From Suspected Ports to Blyth		TOTAL
			Direct	Indirect	Direct	Indirect	
January	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
February	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
March	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
April	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
May	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
June	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
July	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
August	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
September	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
October	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
November	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
December	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	...	...	—	—	—	—	—



## FOOD INSPECTION

The Principal Acts of Parliament and the Regulations affecting the work of the Authority are :—

Local Government Act, 1933.  
Public Health Act, 1936.  
Public Health Officers (Port Health Districts) Regulations, 1959.  
Merchant Shipping (Crew Accommodation) Regulations, 1953.  
Dangerous Drugs Regulations, 1964.  
Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations, 1926.  
Preservatives in Food Regulations, 1962.  
Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937 and 1948.  
Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924-1952.  
Food and Drugs (Whalemeat) Regulations, 1960-1961.  
Food and Drugs Act, 1955.  
Antioxidant in Food Regulations, 1958.  
Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960-1961.  
Food Hygiene (Docks, Carriers, etc.) Regulations, 1960.  
Colouring Matter in Food Regulations, 1957.  
Arsenic in Food Regulations, 1959-1960.  
Fluorine in Food Regulations, 1959.  
Labelling of Food Order, 1953.  
Lead in Food Regulations, 1961.  
Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963.  
Mineral Hydrocarbons in Food Regulations, 1963.  
Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1966.  
Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations, 1953.  
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 and 1954.  
Poison Rules, 1960.  
Hydrogen Cyanide (Fumigation of Ships) Regulations, 1951.  
Prevention of Damage by Pests (Application to Shipping) Order, 1951.  
Prevention of Damage by Pests (Application to Shipping) (Amendment No. 2) Order, 1956.  
The Poisons (Fluoroacetamide and Fluoroacetanilide) Rules, 1964.  
Clean Air Act, 1956.  
Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) (Vessels) Regulations, 1958.



G. Robinson & Co. — Bedlington