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River Tees Port Health Authority.

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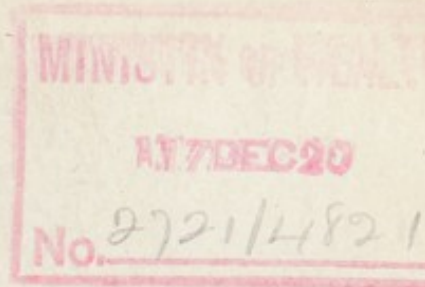
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The River Tees Port Sanitary Authority.

THIRTY-THIRD



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Woolstons Ltd., Printers, 23 & 25, Albert Road, Middlesbrough.

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THE RIVER TEES PORT SANITARY AUTHORITY.

To the Chairman (Councillor Stanley A. Sadler, J.P.), and Members
of the River Tees Port Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT on the work of the Port Sanitary Authority, for the year ending December 31st, 1919.

The year under review being the first complete year after the cessation of the War; there has been a renewal of activities by Merchant Vessels. The number of Vessels entering the Port, shows a small increase compared with the previous year, but is still nearly fifty per cent. below pre war numbers, the greater decrease being in foreign owned vessels, especially Norwegian and Spanish.

It was anticipated that renewed communication with foreign ports would result in considerable importation of infectious diseases, but with the exception of Influenza and Smallpox there have been extremely few cases of infectious diseases in vessels either during the voyage or on arrival in this port.

Inspector Taylor boarded and examined 1,820 vessels arriving in the port during the year, this being an increase of 57 vessels compared with the previous year.

Seventy-four cases of illness and injuries were found on board 64 vessels, and of these, 59 were treated on board, 14 were sent to Hospitals on shore, and one proceeded to his home.

The Infectious Diseases dealt with here consist of following: Influenza, Smallpox 1, and 2 Observation Cases, Malaria 3, Phthisis 1, and 18 Venereal Diseases.

SMALLPOX.—On January 23rd, the S.S. "Eskbridge" arrived from Benisaf, having landed a Seaman suffering from Smallpox at Gibraltar on January 17th. The rest of the crew had been vaccinated, and the vessel disinfected.

After being inspected, the crew were paid off, and allowed to proceed to their homes, the Medical Officers of the various towns being notified of their names and addresses. Two Spanish Sailors who could not give a permanent address, were removed to Hospital here, and kept under observation for 16 days.

On May 19th the S.S. "Manaar" arrived from Calcutta via London, having landed a Lascar suffering from Smallpox at Suez on April 23rd. A further case occurred on May 27th, whilst the vessel was in this port. He was removed to Hemlington Smallpox Hospital, and the Crew were inspected daily for 16 days. No further case occurred.

On June 2nd, a man living in a common Lodging House in the town was reported to be suffering from Smallpox. This man was paid off from the S.S. "Ceuto" at Barrow on May 18th, he had spent three days ashore at Barrow, and arrived here by train on May 21st. The rash appeared on June 1st. The disease was contracted at Almeria, one week before arriving at Barrow. No further cases were known to have been contracted from this man.

PLAGUE AND CHOLERA.—The only vessel having had Plague and Cholera on board during the voyage arrived on February 17th. Two men were landed at Suez with suspected Plague. Four at Port Said with suspected Cholera. Two died at sea on January 13th and 14th from suspected Cholera. On arrival here the vessel was kept under constant medical supervision. The water tanks were emptied and cleaned out and refilled. Rat guards were also fixed to all shore cables.

VENEREAL DISEASES.—A large number of the men are found to be suffering from Venereal Diseases. Treatment for these cases is now available at the Middlesbrough Corporation Venereal Clinic, which is open five times a week at various hours. Notices of this provision, both in English and in foreign languages, are distributed on every ship, and those suffering are beginning to make considerable use of the facilities for getting proper treatment.

FACILITIES FOR PREVENTING THE IMPORTATION AND SPREAD OF DISEASE.—At the present time the Port Sanitary Staff consists of a Clerk and Deputy Clerk, the Port Medical Officer, who is also the Medical Officer of Health to the County Borough of Middlesbrough, and the Port Sanitary Inspector, together with the Engineer and boy on the launch.

The Authorities Floating Hospital has been done away with, and arrangements entered into with the Middlesbrough Corporation for the admission of all port infectious cases into one or other of their hospitals. Smallpox, Plague, or Cholera being sent to the Hemlington Hospital, and other infectious diseases to the West Lane Hospital. All disinfecting of bedding and clothing is carried out at the West Lane and Hemlington Hospitals. The cases are removed from the Ships by the Port Sanitary Authorities Steam Launch, and conveyed to the Newport Landing, and there are met by the Hospital Ambulance.

All vessels entering the river are at once boarded day or night by the Customs Authority, who notify any cases of sickness to the Medical Officer by telephone. The vessels are also boarded by the Port Sanitary Inspector, who obtains each day a list of all new arrivals.

The Customs, Port Sanitary Inspector, and Port Medical Officer are all in direct telephonic communication.

The Port Medical Officer visits all vessels on which infectious or suspected cases are reported. Captains of vessels are warned not to send sick men on shore for Medical treatment, without first having them seen on the Ship by a Medical Practitioner, and in the majority of cases this is done.

The majority of vessels entering this Port are classed as coastwise, i.e.: they have put in at one or other of the South Coast Ports before proceeding here. The exceptions to these are the boats, bringing iron ore direct from Mediterranean Ports, Spain, Norway, and Sweden; and a few boats running regularly from Denmark and Holland and North Sea Ports.

PLAGUE AND DESTRUCTION OF RATS.—During the past year no ships were dealt with here for the destruction of rats. In all cases of Plague infected ships, it is found that the vessel arrives here via London or Hull, and has been quite recently dealt with in one or other of those ports. Rat guards are fixed to the mooring cables of such ships. Under the Rats Act, greater attention will be given in the future to Wharfs, Sheds and Docks, the Port Sanitary Inspector has been appointed as the Officer to administer the Act, and notices to clear them of rats are served upon the owners of the above properties.

The following is a list of the principal foreign ports from which vessels arrive and the trade engaged in : --

MEDITERRANEAN AND SPANISH PORTS.

Vessels arrive direct with cargoes of ore from

Mazarron, Santander, Aguilas, La Calera, Bilbao, Carthagena, Castro Alen, Castro Urdiales, Decido, Salta Cabello, La Goulette, Benisaf, Melilla, Huelva, Almeria, Port Kelat, Hornillo, Bougie, Bizerta, Rivadisella, Algiers, Porman, Abu Zimmar, Sagunto.

NORWEGIAN AND SWEDISH PORTS.

Vessels arrive direct with cargos of ore, timber, etc., or come light here to load from

Narvik, Oxelosund, Kirkenis, Porsgrund, Trondjheim, Gothenberg, Aalinstead, Helsingburg, Krazero.

INDIA, CHINA AND JAPAN.

Vessels all arrive empty via London, Hull, Dundee or Antwerp. They leave with part cargo.

Bombay, Calcutta, Karachi, Yokohama, Tokio, Shanghai.

WEST AFRICAN COAST.

A few vessels arrive empty via Hull or London.

SOUTH AFRICA.

A few vessels arrive empty via Southampton or London.

DUTCH PORTS.

Two or three vessels a month arrive from Rotterdam and Amsterdam with general cargo and food stuffs, and take coal or general cargos back.

CONTINENTAL PORTS.

A number of small vessels trade backwards and forwards regularly from Antwerp, Rouen, Dunkirk, Honfleur, Treport, Calais, Boulogne.

RETURN OF CASES OF ILLNESS, ON BOARD VESSELS,
REPORTED OR DEALT WITH DURING THE YEAR 1919.

DATE	NAME OF VESSEL	WHERE FROM	NATURE OF ILLNESS	REMARKS
Jan. 3	"Torkel" s. ...	Bilbao ..	Rheumatism ..	Treated on board
,, 3	"Lesseps" s. ...	Bilbao ...	Influenza ..	Two Firemen. Treated on board
,, 7	"Willy" s. ...	Rotterdam...	Chill ...	Treated on board
,, 18	"Isbjoon" s. ..	Dieppe ...	Influenza ...	Mess-room Boy. Removed to Hospital
,, 22	"Hild" s. ...	Bilbao ..	Bladdercomplaint	Removed to Holgate
,, 27	,, ...	,, ..	Venereal ..	Removed to Holgate
,, 27	"War Forest" s.	Hornillo ...	Haemmerhoids ...	Treated on board
,, 31	"Eskbridge" s. ...	Benisaf ...	Smallpox ..	Seaman landed at Gibraltar Jan. 17. Crew vaccinated. Vessel disinfected. Two Seamen removed to Sanatorium here for isolation and observation
,, 31	,, ...	,, ..	,,	
,, 31	,, ...	,, ...	,,	
Feb. 5	"Kapland" s. ...	Bilbao ..	Rheumatism ...	Treated on board
,, 13	"Kasan" s. ...	Caen ..	Venereal ..	Removed to Holgate
,, 17	"Japan" s. ...	Bombay and London	Suspected Plague	Landed Two Lascars at Suez Jan. 12, supposed to be suffering from Plague. Landed Four Lascars at Port Said Jan. 14th, supposed to be suffering from Cholera. Lascar died at sea Jan. 13th, and another the following day. Suspected Cholera. Vessel disinfected on arrival at London. Doctor in attendance during vessel's stay in this Port.
,, 17	,, ...	,, ..	,, Cholera	
,, 24	"Glenamoy" s. ...	Alexandria and London	Chill ...	Two Chinamen. Treated on board
Mar. 10	"Bulla" s. ..	Australia via London	Chill ..	Captain. Treated on Board
,, 11	"Glenapp" s. ..	New Orleans & Liverpool	Influenza	Two cases landed at Liverpool

CASES OF ILLNESS ON BOARD VESSELS.—*Continued.*

DATE	NAME OF VESSEL	WHERE FROM	NATURE OF ILLNESS	REMARKS
„ 15	“ Kathleen Lily ” s.	Treport ...	Chill ...	Treated on Board
„ 19	“ Jolantha ” s. ...	Rouen ...	Venereal ...	Removed to Holgate
„ 20	“ Ennisbrook ” s.	Almeria ...	Malaria ...	Treated on board
„ 21	“ Libra „ s. ...	Bilboa ...	Gout ...	„ „
Apr. 2	“ Holmia ” s ...	Gothenburg	Sore Throat ..	„ „
„ 4	“ Freida ” s. ...	Melilla ...	Venereal ...	„ „
„ 12	“ Opawa ” s. ...	Havre ...	Chill ...	„ „
„ 15	“ Lena ” s. ...	Bizerta ...	Chill ...	„ „
„ 15	„ ...	„ ...	Venereal ...	„ „
„ 15	“ Maashavn ” s. ...	La Goulette	Chest complaint	Fireman landed at Gibraltar
„ 24	“ Coysa ” s. ...	Porman ...	Varicose Veins ...	Treated on Board
May 3	“ Culna ” s. ...	Bombay & London	Smallpox ...	Landed five cases of Smallpox at London. Vessel disinfected there. Crew vaccinated.
„ 3	„ ...	„ ...	Injuries ...	Two Lascars treated on board
„ 9	“ Everilda ” s. ...	Benisaf ...	Injuries ...	„ „ „
„ 17	“ Stork ” s. ...	Naples and London	Smallpox ...	Landed boy at London, May 7th. Vessel disinfected. Crew vaccinated
„ 17	“ Chindwara ” s. ...	Calcutta & London	Injuries ...	Two Lascars
„ 19	“ Manaar ” s. ...	Calcutta & London	Smallpox ...	Landed Lascar at Suez, April 23rd, suffering from Smallpox. Vessel disinfected there. Another case developed in this port May 27th. The patient was removed to Hemlington. The Vessel was disinfected and the crew vaccinated.

CASES OF ILLNESS ON BOARD VESSELS.—*Continued.*

DATE	NAME OF VESSEL	WHERE FROM	NATURE OF ILLNESS	REMARKS
„ 23	“ War Field ” s. ...	Calcutta & London	Venereal ..	Treated on board
„ 27	“ Benlomoné ” s. ...	Carthagena	Venereal ...	„ „
„ 30	“ Benavon ” s. ...	W. Africa & London	Malaria ...	Four Seamen landed at Lagoo
„ 30	“ Tollo ” s. ...	Castro ..	Stomach Complaint ...	Treated on board
June 7	“ Arild ” s. ...	Pernau ...	Venereal ...	„ „
July 22	“ Sheaf Dart ” s ...	Decido ...	Dysentery ...	Landed at La Pallice
„ 22	„ ...	„ ..	Rupture ...	„ „
„ 22	“ Rook ” s. ...	Algiers ..	Tuberculosis ...	Removed ashore
Aug. 1	“ Feyenoord ” s. ...	Rivadisella	Gastritis ...	Treated on board
„ 5	“ Boukadra ” s. ...	Benisaf ...	Venereal ...	„ „
„ 11	“ Sanda ” s. ...	Benisaf ...	Sprain ...	„ „
„ 12	“ Glengyle ” s. ...	Antwerp ...	Enteric ...	Landed at Port Said. Water tanks emptied and cleansed. Vessel disinfected.
„ 18	“ Roker ” s. ...	Benisaf ...	Injuries ...	Treated on board
„ 20	“ Colaba ” s. ...	Calcutta via London	Pneumonia ...	Two Lascars. Removed to Holgate
„ 22	“ Nautic ” s. ...	Bilbao ...	Abscess ...	Treated on board
„ 22	„ ...	„ ...	Venereal ...	„ „
„ 24	“ Aslang ” s. ...	Almeria ..	Jaundace ...	„ „
„ 24	„ ...	„ ..	Boils ...	„ „
Aug. 25	“ Trelawney ” s. ...	Hornhillo ...	Injuries ...	Treated on board
„ 25	„ ...	„ ...	Venereal ..	„ „
„ 26	“ Kyro ” s. ...	Wasa ...	Chest Complaint	„ „

CASES OF ILLNESS ON BOARD VESSELS.—*Continued.*

DATE	NAME OF VESSEL	WHERE FROM	NATURE OF ILLNESS	REMARKS
„ 27	“Sonja” s. ..	Bilbao ...	Venereal ...	Removed to Holgate
„ 27	“Ambassador” s.	Lu Goullette	Malaria ...	Treated on board
Sep. 5	“Marsden” s. ...	Bilbao ...	Injuries ..	Seaman died at sea
„ 19	“Wendla” s. ...	Porsgrund ...	Venereal ...	Treated on board
Oct. 3	“Valpen” s. ...	Bilbao ...	Abscess ...	„ „
„ 13	“Gottfrid” s. ...	Bilbao ...	Stomach complaint ..	„ „
„ 16	“Nordland” s. ...	Narvik ...	Erysipelas ..	Removed to Holgate
„ 20	“Ladykirk” s. ...	Bilbao ..	Kidney Disease .	Treated on board
„ 21	“Kelsomoor” s. ...	Bizerta ...	Venereal ...	„ „
„ 23	“Prairial” s. ...	Bougie ...	Injuries ...	„ „
„ 23	“Petingaudet” s.	Bilbao ..	Injuries ...	„ „
„ 29	“Gen. Havelock” s.	Rotterdam	Malaria ..	Passenger proceeded to his home. M.O.H. notified
Nov. 6	“Admiral de Reuytes” s. ...	Hornillo ...	Burns, Diarrhoea Rheumatism, Venereal, Scabies	Six Seamen. Treated on board
„ 11	“Nordland” s. ..	Narvik ..	Burns ...	Treated on board
„ 12	“Oresund” s. ...	Coastwise ...	Blood Poisoning	„ „
„ 18	“Nowshera” s ...	Antwerp ...	Tonsilitis ...	„ „
„ 18	„ ...	„ ...	Chill ...	„ „
„ 20	“Denpark” s. ..	Bilbao ...	Injuries ...	Removed to Infirmary
Dec. 1	“Epsom” s. ...	Bizerta ...	Diarrhoea ...	Treated on board
„ 24	“R. M. Thompson” s	Benisaf ...	Rheumatism ...	„ „
„ 29	“Lisa” s. ...	Boulogne	Venereal ...	Two Seamen
„ 31	“Dalemoor” s. ...	Sagunto ..	Haemorrhoids ...	Passenger. Proceeded home

RETURN OF CASES OF ILLNESS FOUND ON VESSELS
ENTERING THE PORT.

Rheumatism ...	...	4	Gastritis ...	...	1
Influenza ...	...	3	Sprain ...	...	1
Chill ...	...	8	Pneumonia ...	...	2
Bladder complaint ...	...	1	Abscess ...	...	2
Venereal ...	...	18	Jaundice ...	...	1
Haemorrhoids ...	...	2	Boils ...	...	1
Malaria ..	...	3	Chest complaint ...	...	1
Gout ...	...	1	Erysipelas ...	...	1
Sore throat ...	...	1	Kidney disease ...	...	1
Varicose veins ...	...	1	Burns ...	...	2
Injuries ...	...	9	Diarrhoea ...	...	2
Smallpox ...	...	1	Scabies ...	...	2
Stomach complaint ...	...	2	Blood poisoning ...	...	1
Tuberculosis ...	...	1	Tonsilitis ...	...	1

GENERAL SANITARY SUPERVISION.

During the year 51 notices (of which 48 were informal and 3 statutory) dealing with 77 nuisances were served, all of which were remedied. These related to:—

Foul closets	16
Dirty forecastles	34
„ alleyways	4
„ galley	1
„ messrooms	1
Iron deck to coat with cork dust	1
Defective ports	6
„ stoves	2
„ food lockers	1
Foul food lockers	2
Deck stores in crew space	2
Foul water tanks	1
Accumulation of water in forecastle	1
Bathroom in foul condition	1
Decks leaking... ..	4
	77

In some cases more than one nuisance is dealt with by one notice.

The following Table shows the number of vessels of each Nationality inspected and the percentage having Sanitary defects:—

Nationality					Inspected	Insanitary	Percentage
American	...	...	...	...	6	1	16·6
Belgian	...	...	...	...	31	2	6·4
Danish	...	...	...	...	51	0	0·0
Dutch	...	...	...	...	129	2	1·5
French...	...	...	...	...	13	0	0·0
Greek ...	...	...	...	...	5	0	0·0
Japanese	...	...	...	...	22	0	0·0
Norwegian	...	...	...	...	160	8	5·0
Russian	...	...	...	..	2	0	0·0
Swedish	...	...	...	...	135	1	0·74
Italian	...	...	...	...	2	1	50·0
Portuguese	...	...	...	...	1	0	0·0
Spanish	...	...	...	...	18	3	16·6
Finns	...	...	...	...	6	0	0·0
German	...	...	...	...	1	0	0·0
Total Foreign	...	...	...	...	582	18	3·09
British ..	...	...	...	...	1,238	33	2·6

THE TRADE OF THE VESSELS INSPECTED.

1917.				Number Inspected	Number Reported to be Defective	Number of Orders issued
ENGAGED IN FOREIGN TRADE :						
Steamers	...	...	...	1306	76	76
Sailing...	...	...	...	3	0	0
				1309	76	76
ENGAGED IN COASTING TRADE :						
Steamers	...	...	...	602	4	4
Sailing...	...	...	...	90	0	0
				692	4	4
1918.						
ENGAGED IN FOREIGN TRADE :						
Steamers	...	...	...	1045	44	44
Sailing...	...	...	...	3	0	0
				1048	44	44
ENGAGED IN COASTING TRADE :						
Steamers	...	...	...	436	2	2
Sailing...	...	...	...	119	0	0
				655	2	2

1919			Number	Tonnage	Inspected by the Inspector	Numbers Defective	Number of Orders issued
Foreign	Steamers	...	880	1024915	880	41	41
	Sailing	...	29	5086	29	1	1
Total Foreign			909	1030001	909	42	42
Coastwise	Steamers	...	775	598116	775	9	9
	Sailing	...	136	21233	136	0	0
Total Coastwise			911	619349	911	9	9
Total Foreign and Coastwise			1820	1649350	1820	51	51

FOOD INSPECTED.

The quantity of foodstuffs imported was much smaller than in previous years, only one large consignment of fruit arriving direct from a foreign port.

This consisted of 12,000 cases of oranges.

The other foodstuffs examined consisted of nuts, sugar, flour, wheat, tinned meat, rice, margarine, currants, dates, tinned fruit, tinned fish, bacon, cheese, apples, and onions.

These came chiefly from London by coasting steamers, only a small quantity coming from Rotterdam.

All were in good order.

The bulk of the foodstuffs arriving in this Port are discharged at the Tyne and Tees Union Shipping Company's Wharf.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CHARLES V. DINGLE, M.D.,

PORT MEDICAL OFFICER.

