

Contributors

River Tees Port Health Authority.

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1937



THE RIVER TEES PORT
HEALTH AUTHORITY

FIFTY-FIRST

Annual Report.

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

J. BISSELL & FOSTER, LTD. PRINTERS, 4-8 ALBERT MEWS, MIDDLESBROUGH.

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THE RIVER TEES PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

LIST OF MEMBERS, 1937—1938.

Middlesbrough Corporation

Representatives :

Alderman S. A. Sadler, J.P.

(Chairman)

Alderman W. J. Bruce, J.P.

Councillor A. Elstrop, J.P.

Councillor W. H. Crosthwaite.

Councillor W. Eckert.

Councillor H. French.

Councillor H. D. Levick, J.P.

F.R.C.S.

Councillor J. Taylor.

Stockton Corporation Representatives :

Alderman R. Spark

Alderman C. W. Allison.

Alderman J. Goldston.

Alderman E. Pickworth.

Thornaby Corporation

Representatives :

Alderman E. E. Brennan.

Councillor P. M. Newrick.

Eston U.D.C. Representatives :

Councillor E. J. Blanchard.

Councillor G. Brown.

Councillor J. Evans.

Stockton R.D.C. Representatives :

Councillor A. E. Ward.

Councillor C. H. Parkinson.

Redcar Corporation

Representatives :

Alderman C. Harris.

Councillor J. S. Dixon.

Billingham U.D.C. Representatives :

Councillor T. Hallmark.

Councillor Mrs. A. Martin.

Councillor Ireland.

STAFF OF THE PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY, 1937.

Clerk to the Board.—G. W. W. BARNLEY.

Deputy Clerk.—T. A. BANKS.

Medical Officer.—C. V. DINGLE, M.D.

Deputy Medical Officer.—C. METCALFE BROWN, M.D., Medical Officer of Health, C.B. of Middlesbrough.

Sanitary Inspector.—A. N. Jones, C.R.S.I.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector.—R. J. KNOTT.

Rat Searcher.—T. WARWICK.

Launch Hands.—One Engineer and one Deck Hand.

THE RIVER TEES PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

*To the Chairman (Alderman S. A. Sadler, J.P.) and Members of
The River Tees Port Sanitary Authority.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting the FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT on the work of the River Tees Port Health Authority for the year ending December 31st, 1937.

The number of vessels entering the Port during the past year shows an increase on that of the previous year. 3357 Inspections were made, against 3041 in 1936.

TABLE A.

1.—AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT DURING THE YEAR.

		Number	Tonnage	NUMBER 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 -	—	—	141	1,403	67	67	30
	Motor -	—	—	30	286	2	2	
	Sailing -	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	Fishing -	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Total Foreign		1,393	2,311,689	171	1,689	69	69	
COASTWISE	Steamers -	—	—	136	1,019	8	8	Nil.
	Motor -	—	—	52	647	5	5	
	Sailing -	—	—	—	2	—	—	
	Fishing -	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Total Coastwise		1,929	1,028,974	188	1,668	13	13	
Total Foreign and Coastwise		3,322	3,340,663	359	3,357	82	82	30

* These figures do not include vessels passing from Middlesbrough to Stockton.

† These figures include vessels arriving at Stockton from Sea.

‡ Tonnage inward and outward supplied by H.M. Customs.

CHARACTER OF TRADE OF PORT
TABLE B.

(A.)—PASSENGER TRAFFIC DURING THE YEAR.

No. of passengers	Cabin class only	Transmigrants
INWARDS ...		
British	654	Nil.
Aliens	76	Nil.
	730	
OUTWARDS ...		
British	150	Nil.
Aliens	52	Nil.
	202	

The River Tees is not an accredited Aliens Port. The passenger traffic is and to from London and Eastern North Sea Ports

(B.)—CARGO TRAFFIC.

IMPORTS INTO THE RIVER TEES FOR THE YEAR
ENDING 31st OCTOBER, 1937.

(Figures supplied by courtesy of the General Manager of the Tees Conservancy Commission.)

ORES :	<i>Tons.</i>
Iron ...	2,276,223
Manganese ...	99,698
Chrome ...	5,966
IRON AND STEEL :	
Pig Iron ...	15,489
Billets, Blooms, C.S. Bars.	37,908
Manufactured...	4,323
Scrap ...	73,269
Machinery ...	6,141
Loam ...	35,256
Sand (of all kinds)...	17,116
Cement ...	14,240

Manures (chemical)	...	...	...	...	18,636
Oil, etc.	...	...	...	...	2,657
Cresote Oil	...	...	...	...	19,504
Petrol	...	...	...	...	8,409
CORN :					
Wheat	...	...	...	...	40,608 = 180,478 qrs.
Barley	...	...	...	...	771 = 3,854 qrs.
Maize	...	...	...	...	7,303 = 34,079 qrs.
Oats	...	...	...	...	808 = 5,385 qrs.
Peas and Beans	...	...	...	...	95 = 426 qrs.
Flour and Meal	...	...	...	...	4,379 = 35,032 sacks
Cattle food	...	...	...	...	988
Provisions	...	...	...	...	10,044
Sugar and Glucose	...	...	...	...	8,029
Paper	...	...	...	...	1,602
Spelter and Zinc	...	...	...	...	3,526
Wood	...	...	...	...	29,007 loads
Magnesite (of all kinds)	...	...	...	...	5,633
Chemicals and Chemical Products	...	...	...	...	10,590
(other than Chemical Manures)					
Glass and Earthenware	...	...	...	...	710
Bags (empty)	...	...	...	...	5,665
Phosphate Rock	...	...	...	...	35,909
Sulphur (Crude)	...	...	...	...	8,738
Sundry Goods	...	...	...	...	17,966
" "	...	...	...	...	1,276 = 6,174 cases
Total	...	...	...	...	2,829,482 tons
Last year	...	...	...	...	2,493,603 tons
Increase	...	...	...	...	335,879 tons

EXPORTS FROM THE RIVER TEES FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st OCTOBER, 1937.

(Figures supplied by courtesy of the General Manager of the Tees Conservancy Commission)

IRON AND STEEL :						Tons
Pig Iron	...	...	...	...	...	89,613
Rails and Fishplates	...	...	...	...	...	84,449
Castings	...	...	...	...	...	47,914
Angles, Bars and Plates	...	...	...	...	...	151,823
Bridgework	...	...	...	...	...	990
Girders and Joists	...	...	...	...	...	27,890
Scrap	...	...	...	...	...	3,380
Galvanized Sheets	...	...	...	...	...	24,401
Machinery	...	...	...	...	...	7,203
Carriage and Wagonwork	...	...	...	...	...	188
Wire (of all descriptions)	...	...	...	...	...	11,158
Manufactured (of all kinds other than the above)	...	...	...	...	...	149,862
Coal and Coke	...	...	...	...	...	435,355
Slag Basic (or Phosphate Powder)	...	...	...	...	...	17,660
Salt	...	...	...	...	...	23,016
Sulphate of Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	215,371
Chemicals and Chemical Products (other than Sulphate of Ammonia)	...	...	...	...	...	165,958
Pitch and Tar	...	...	...	...	...	107,586
Cement (of all kinds)	...	...	...	...	...	9,183
Creosote Oil	...	...	...	...	...	39,149
Benzole	...	...	...	...	...	25,615
Petrol	...	...	...	...	...	94,906
Paper	...	...	...	...	...	1,570
Paints, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	3,239
CORN :						
Bran	...	...	...	...	...	1,118
Flour	...	...	...	...	...	3,000=24,000 sacks
Slag (rough)	...	...	...	...	...	302,138
Glass and Earthenware	...	...	...	...	...	605
Sundry Goods	...	...	...	...	...	30,950
" "	...	...	...	...	...	1507=7 989 Cases
Total						2,076,797 tons
Last Year						1,969,848 tons
Increase						106,949 tons

Countries from which Vessels arrive.

Iron and other ores are imported from Norway and Baltic Ports, Spain, Africa North (Bona, Oran, Algiers), West (Pepal), and India.

Corn and cereals are transhipped from Hull.

Groceries from London, other foods from Rotterdam, Antwerp.

With the exception of vessels carrying ore, the majority entering this Port have previously called at one or more home ports before arrival here.

SOURCE OF WATER SUPPLY.

(A.)—FOR THE PORT. The water is drawn from the Middlesbrough supply, which is maintained by the Tees Valley Water Board. This water is kept under constant supervision and is abundant and of good quality.

(B.)—FOR SHIPPING. Vessels draw their water supply from hydrants on the wharves: the town supply serving these hydrants. Very exceptionally ships laid up at the buoys in the river or not going to a wharf are supplied from tanks on two of the river tug boats, having a capacity of 60 and 45 tons respectively. These tanks are cleaned out before being used. There is also a very small tank on a sand barge which is very exceptionally used. This tank is kept under observation and cleaned out prior to use.

WATER TAKEN ON BOARD AT FOREIGN PORTS. On account of several cases of a Dysenteric type being reported on vessels trading between this and North and West African Ports which had taken a supply of water at these ports samples were obtained of this water and a bacteriological examination made. The bacterial content was high in all cases but none were of an Excremental type. Some non-lactose fermenting bacilli were present in one sample but on further subcultural test they were not found to belong to the Dysentery Group. The opinion of the analyst was that the water was not ideal for drinking but may be regarded as reasonably safe.

PORT SANITARY REGULATIONS.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR DEALING WITH DECLARATIONS OF HEALTH.

(1.) These are collected each morning from the Customs House.

(2.) The Declarations are handed to the Customs Officer or Inspector of the Port Health Authority whoever is first to board the ship. The number of Declarations of Health received during 1937 was 801. No night service of inspection is maintained, except in the case of vessels signalling their need for special attention or having infectious disease on board. Messages by wireless are received from the Cullercoats receiving station and are generally delivered direct to the Port Medical Officer.

(3.) The Shipping Agents have agreed to the prompt transmission to the Medical Officer of any messages received by them under Article 6 of the Regulations. Messages are also received by Morse signalling from the Tees Bay to the Lightkeepers on the breakwater and are telephoned to the Medical Officer. The appropriate flag and light signals are being observed. The Customs Officers and Pilots co-operate readily in notifying the Medical Officer of any suspicious illness on board vessels entering the Port.

3a—BOARDING OF VESSELS. All vessels reporting sickness on board are boarded by the Medical Officer and Inspector ; other vessels are boarded as soon as practicable.

(4)—MOORING STATIONS DESIGNATED UNDER ARTICLE 10. There is a mooring station outside the docks situated in the river at the Eston No. 4 Buoys. This station is for vessels infected or suspected on account of :-

(4a.)—PLAGUE, CHOLERA, YELLOW FEVER, TYPHUS OR SMALLPOX. Ships entering the port with a case of infectious disease other than the above are allowed to proceed to their place of mooring, but are quarantined until visited and declared clear.

(5.)—The regulations under Article 16 have been adhered to and application for the consent of the Medical Officer have been obtained in a very few cases where the regulations have not been observed.

(6.)—ARRANGEMENTS FOR WAITING-ROOMS FOR MEDICAL EXAMINATION, CLEANING AND DISINFECTION OF SHIPS, PERSONS AND CLOTHING, ETC.

- (A.) There is no accommodation for waiting-rooms. Disinfection of ships for the prevention of infectious disease is carried out by the Port Health Staff.
- (B.) Bedding and clothing are either burnt or removed to the Infectious Diseases Hospital for disinfection.
- (C.) Members of the crew are also removed to this hospital and are accommodated in a building reserved for this purpose whilst they are bathed and their clothes disinfected.
- (D.) There is a separate ward at the Infectious Diseases Hospital for any infectious disease case admitted from the Port.
- (E.) Ambulances are available for the removal of such cases.
- (F.) All contacts are kept under daily supervision and the Medical Officer of the next port of call is intimated. The names and addresses given by persons allowed to leave under Article 16 are forwarded to the Medical Officer of Health of such districts.

(7 and 8.)—ARRANGEMENTS FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF RATS FOR PLAGUE. Specimens of rats caught on ships and wharves are sent monthly to the Clinical Research Ass. Lt. (London) who report on post-mortem and cultural examinations. All rats destroyed are examined by the Rat Searcher for evidence of disease. Pathological specimens are examined locally or sent to the above association.

(9.)—ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASE. The Municipal Venereal Disease Clinic is at the Municipal Hospital and all seamen found to be suffering from these diseases are advised to attend.

Notices printed in various languages giving full particulars of the services of the Clinic are left on board the vessels. Special notices have been sent to all Consuls, Vice-Consuls, Shipping Agents and the Missions to Seamen drawing their attention to the facilities available to seamen for the treatment of these diseases. The attendance at the Clinic has increased during the year, being 154 men, compared with 133 in the previous year. The following gives the nationality of those treated during the past year :

**COUNTY BOROUGH OF MIDDLESBROUGH,
MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL.**

***Number of Seamen treated at the Special Treatment Centre
during 1937.***

<i>Nationality.</i>	<i>Number.</i>
British	65
British Indian	21
Maltese	1
Swedish	20
Norwegian	10
Finn	6
Esthonian	5
Danish...	1
Latvian	9
Italian	3
Greek ...	6
German	2
Chinese	2
Ceylonese	1
Malayan	1
Hungarian	1
	154

(10.)—ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE INTERMENT OF THE DEAD. There is a mortuary on the riverside. Inquests are held when necessary, and the arrangements for burial are carried out by the ship's Agents

Parrots (Prohibition of Import) Regulations.

There were 4 instances of parrots found on board vessels and in every case written undertakings were given that the birds would either be destroyed or not landed.

TABLE C.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS LANDED FROM VESSELS

Disease	No. of cases during 1937		No. of Vessels concerned	Average for previous five years
	Passengers	Crew		
Chicken-pox	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	1.6
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ...	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	.2
Diphtheria	Nil.	1	1	.2
Dysentery	Nil.	1	1	.2
German Measles	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	.2
Influenza	Nil.	1	1	.2
Measles	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	.8
Malaria	Nil.	1	1	.8
Mumps	Nil.	4	1	Nil.
Pneumonia	Nil.	1	1	.2
Trachoma	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	.6
Tuberculosis	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	.6
Typhoid Fever	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	.4
Relapsing Fever	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	.2
Scarlet Fever	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	.6
Totals	Nil.	9	6	6.8

DYSENTERY.

S.S. "Manaar" from Calcutta arrived in this port on February 9th. 4 Natives had been landed at Colombo suffering from dysentery.

S.S. "Modasa" from Calcutta arrived in the port on February 10th. One of the native crew was found to be suffering from dysentery and was removed to hospital.

S.S. "Madura" from Beira via Hull arrived in this port on November 1st; one passenger suffering from dysentery had been landed at Plymouth.

S.S. "Tregothnan" from Oran, arrived in this port on September 3rd. The crew were examined by the Port Medical Officer and one man was removed to the Infectious Diseases Hospital suffering from suspected dysentery. Bacteriological examination was negative.

S.S. "Pandia" from Algiers, arrived in this port on September 11th. The crew were examined by the Port Medical Officer and one man was removed to the Infection Diseases Hospital suffering from suspected dysentery. Bacteriological examination was negative.

S.S. "MacGregor" from Bona, arrived in this port on October 11th. The crew were examined by the Port Medical Officer and one of the crew was removed to the Infectious Diseases Hospital suffering from suspected dysentery. Bacteriological examination was negative. In each case the quarters were disinfected and fresh water tanks emptied, cleansed and limewashed.

MALARIA.

S.S. "Elgo" from Helsingborg arrived in the port on March 6th. One of the crew was found to be suffering from malaria and was removed to the Municipal Hospital.

S.S. "Inventor" from Dakar, arrived in this port on March 13th. One of the crew had been landed at Dakar suffering from malaria.

MUMPS.

S.S. "Warfield" from Antwerp, arrived in this port on May 3rd. The crew were examined by the Port Medical Officer and 4 natives were found to be suffering from mumps. They were removed to the Infectious Diseases Hospital. Bedding, clothes and quarters were disinfected.

S.S. "Modasa" from Antwerp, arrived in the port on September 27th. One of the passengers had been landed at Port Said suffering from mumps.

TYPHOID FEVER.

S.S. "City of Exeter" from East Africa via London and Hull, arrived in this port on May 21st. One passenger suffering from enteric fever had been landed at London.

S.S. "Benmohr" from British Colombia via Immingham, arrived in this port on November 6th. One suspected case of typhoid fever was landed at Yokohama.

S.S. "Manaar" from Calcutta via Dundee, arrived in the port on December 17th. One of the native crew had been landed at Dundee suffering from typhoid fever. 2 suspected cases were removed to the Infectious Diseases Hospital here. Water tanks were emptied, cleansed and limewashed, and crew kept under observation daily during vessel's stay in the port. Bacteriological examination negative.

DIPHTHERIA.

S.S. "Sigrid" from Narvik, arrived in this port on August 11th. One of the crew was found to be suffering from diphtheria and was removed to the Infectious Diseases Hospital.

ERYSIPELAS.

S.S. "City of Exeter" from Hull, arrived in this port on August 16th. One passenger had been landed at London suffering from erysipelas.

TUBERCULOSIS.

M.V. "Domala" from Hamburg, arrived in this port on August 31st. 6 passengers (naval ratings) had been landed at Plymouth suffering from tuberculosis.

MEASLES.

M.V. "Dumbar Castle" from S. Africa via London, arrived in this port on October 27th. 3 cases of measles had occurred on the voyage.

S.S. "Garth Castle" from S. Africa via London, arrived in this port on December 20th. 1 passenger had suffered from measles during the voyage.

PNEUMONIA.

S.S. "Gleniffer" from far east via Antwerp, arrived in this port on May 31st. One of the crew had been landed at Hong Kong suffering from pneumonia.

S.S. "Ledaal" from Narvik, arrived in this port on December 29th. One of the crew took ill with pneumonia. He was too ill to be removed and was treated on board. The vessel sailed for Blyth and the Medical Officer of Health at Blyth was notified.

DEATHS AT SEA.

There were four deaths at sea before arrival at this port.

S.S. "Mashobra" arrived here on March 16th. A lady passenger had died on the voyage from pernicious anæmia.

S.S. "Querimba" arrived here on October 27th. A seaman had died at sea from heart failure.

S.S. "Matiana" arrived here on November 26th. A native seaman had died at sea from heart failure.

M.V. "Leighton" arrived here on December 13th. The chief officer had died at sea from heart failure.

TABLE D.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS OCCURRING ON VESSELS DURING THE VOYAGE BUT
DISPOSED OF PRIOR TO ARRIVAL.

Disease	No. of cases during 1937		No. of vessels concerned	Average for previous five years
	Passengers	Crew		
Chicken-pox	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	4.4
Dysentery	1	4	2	1.8
Malaria	Nil.	1	1	.2
Influenza	Nil.	6	5	.2
Measles	4	Nil.	2	.4
Pneumonia	Nil.	1	1	.4
Scarlet Fever	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	.2
Smallpox	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	.6
Typhoid Fever	1	2	3	3.4
Trachoma	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	.2
Tuberculosis	Nil.	6	1	.4
Erysipelas	1	Nil.	1	Nil.
Mumps	1	Nil.	1	Nil.
Total	8	20	17	12.2

*Return of Cases of Sickness or Injury found on Vessels entering
the Port.*

Asthma	...	...	...	...	1
Abdominal Abscess	...	...	...	...	1
Abdominal Pains	...	...	...	...	2
Abdominal Distention	...	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	1
Colitis	...	...	...	...	6
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	1
General Debility	...	...	...	...	1
Gastric Ulcer	...	...	...	...	2
Hæmaturia	...	...	...	...	1
Injury	...	...	...	...	3
Influenza	...	...	...	...	1
Mumps	...	...	...	...	4
Malaria	...	...	...	...	
Otitis Media	...	...	...	...	1
Rheumatism	...	...	...	...	2
Septic Finger	...	...	...	...	1
Stroke	...	...	...	...	1
Septic Heel	...	...	...	...	1
Vomiting	...	...	...	...	1
Venereal Disease	...	...	...	...	18
					—
					52
					—

Of the above, 50 were treated at hospital
and at the clinic.

2 were sent to their homes.

*Return of cases of Sickness or Injury dealt with before arrival
at this Port.*

Appendicitis	...	...	...	4
Arthritis	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	2
Chill	...	...	...	1
Colitis	...	...	...	1
Dysentery	...	...	...	5
Diabetes	...	...	...	1
Eczema	...	...	...	1
Enlarged Spleen	...	...	...	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	1
Epileptic Fits	...	...	...	2
Gastritis	...	...	...	1
Heatstroke	...	...	...	2
Injury	...	...	...	10
Influenza	...	...	...	6
Infected Hip	...	...	...	1
Malaria	...	...	...	1
Mumps	...	...	...	1
Measles	...	...	...	4
Pernicious Anæmia	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	2
Poisoned hand	...	...	...	1
Rheumatism	...	...	...	3
Rupture	...	...	...	1
Stomach trouble	...	...	...	1
Stoppage of urine	...	...	...	1
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	3
Venereal Disease	...	...	...	19
Scabies	...	...	...	1
Hæmorrhoids	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	6
				86

25 of the above were dealt with at sea.

Ports at which the preceding were dealt with.

Aden, 2	Dakar, 1	Limerick, 1	Port Said, 1
Alexandria, 1	Dundee, 3	London, 23	Stavanger, 1
Boston, 1	Freetown, 1	Leixoes, 1	Shanghai, 1
Bombay, 1	Genoa, 1	Marseilles, 1	St. Vincent, 1
Casablanca, 1	Gibraltar, 1	Manchester, 1	Southampton, 1
Copenhagen, 1	Hull, 2	Narvik, 2	Venice, 2
Colombo, 1	Hongkong, 1	Philadelphia, 1	Yokohama, 2
Durban, 1	Koppervik, 1	Plymouth, 2	

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MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS.

All ships entering the Port are examined by the Rat Searcher, who is a whole-time Officer of the Port Health Authority. If necessary, orders for deratisation are served, this being carried out by fumigation. The ships are prepared for fumigation under the supervision of the Authority's Officers. The fumigation is carried out by well-known firms who specialise in this work. The fumigants used are :—

- (1.) Burning of Sulphur, 3 lbs. per 1,000 cu. ft. space, sealed for 6 to 8 hours.
- (2.) H.C.N. by the liquid method, sealed for 4 to 6 hours.
- (3.) H.C.N. by the Zyklon "B" method.
- (4.) Salfakose, $1\frac{1}{8}$ lbs. per 1,000 cu. ft., 6 hours sealed.

The Rat Searcher spends part of his time searching the wharves and quays and obtains specimens for bacteriological examination. The owners of the docks, wharves, etc., employ recognised rat catchers.

Rat guards are placed on hawsers mooring vessels to the wharves. Tarring of mooring ropes is also carried out in certain cases.

All rats, whether trapped or dead from fumigation, are examined for signs of disease and any found dead are sent for bacteriological examination.

No rats from ships or the shore were found infected with plague during the past year. There are very few warehouses on the docks and wharves on the River Tees and none have been erected in recent years. None of the existing buildings are strictly rat-proof.

Fatal Case of Poisoning following fumigation by Cyanide.

On February 28th, the S.S. Modasa was fumigated for the destruction of rats. All the usual steps and precautions were taken. The crew did not return to the ship until 8 hours after fumigation and 5 hours after the opening of all ports, hatches, etc., and after all parts of the ship had been tested by the Copper Benzodine acetate test. The crew removed all their bedding and boxes, etc., into the open air where the clothes and bedding were shaken. The carpenter did not return to the ship until three hours later and was instructed to leave his port holes and door open all night and to shake his bedding and clothes. On the following morning he was found dead in his cabin, the port holes and door were closed and there was an electric fire burning. The finding at the inquest was death from cyanide poisoning.

(1) ON VESSELS.

In addition 174 Mice were caught and destroyed.

(2)—IN DOCKS, QUAYS, WHARVES AND WAREHOUSES.

[illegible]

TABLE G.

MEASURES OF RAT DESTRUCTION ON PLAGUE "INFECTED" OR "SUSPECTED" VESSELS OR VESSELS FROM PLAGUE-INFECTED PORTS ARRIVING IN THE PORT DURING THE YEAR.

Total Number of such Vessels arriving. 1	Number of such Vessels fumigated by S.O.2. 2	Number of Rats killed. 3	Number of such Vessels fumigated by H.C.N. 4	Number of Rats killed. 5	Number of such Vessels on which trapping, poisoning, etc., were employed 6	Number of Rats killed. 7	Number of such Vessels on which measures of Rat destruction were not carried out 8
30	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1*	13	29

The above consisted of iron ore carrying vessels from North African Ports. They were inspected and found to be free from rat infestation.

*In this case the M.O.H. at Cardiff, the next port of call, was notified and vessel was fumigated at that Port.

TABLE H.

DERATISATION CERTIFICATES AND DERATISATION EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES ISSUED DURING THE YEAR.

DERATISATION AND DERATISATION EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES ISSUED DURING THE YEAR.								
NET TONNAGE.	No. of Ships.	No. of Deratisation Certificates issued.					Number of Deratisation Exemption Certificates issued.	Total Certificates issued
		After Fumigation with			After Trapping, Poisoning, etc.	Total		
		H.C.N.	Sulphur	H.C.N. and Sulphur				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Ships up to 300 tons	55	—	—	—	—	—	55	55
from 301 tons to 1,000 tons	25	—	—	—	—	—	25	25
from 1,001 „ to 3,000 tons	64	—	5	—	—	5	59	64
from 3,001 „ to 10,000 tons	82	5	18	—	—	23	59	82
over 10,000 tons	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	226	5	23	—	—	28	198	226

VI. HYGIENE OF CREW'S SPACES.

TABLE J.

CLASSIFICATION OF NUISANCES.

NATIONALTY OF VESSEL.	Number inspected during the year	Defects of original Construction.	Structural Defects through wear and tear.	Dirt, vermin, and other conditions prejudicial to health.
BRITISH - -	2,199	Nil	36	28
OTHER NATIONS -	2,158	Nil	12	6

GENERAL SANITARY SUPERVISION.

During the year 82 verbal notices dealing with 82 nuisances were served, all of which were complied with.

These related to :—

Dirty forecastles	...	...	...	...	...	10
Foul closets	...	...	...	...	...	10
Dirty wash places	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective ports	...	...	...	...	...	12
Verminous forecastles	...	...	...	...	...	20
Defective W.C.'s seat	...	...	...	...	...	2
Leaking decks	...	...	...	...	...	6
Defective stairs to forecastle	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective flues	...	...	...	...	...	6
Food stored in washplace	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective house-pipe	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective soil pipe	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective deck heads	...	...	...	...	...	4
Defective skylights	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective drainage	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective stove	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective bunks	...	...	...	...	...	1

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VERMINOUS VESSELS.

April	26	S.S. "Collegian "	Reported to Port of London Health Authority
June	2	S.S. "Daleby "	Treated with blow lamp and Solution D.
"	19	S.S. "River Fisher "	Treated with insecticide.
July	1	S.S. "Clintonia "	Fumigated.
"	5	S.S. "Baron Graham "	Reported to Tyne Port Health Authority.
"	6	S.S. "Janis Faulbaums "	Forecastle treated with insecticide.
"	15	S.S. "City of Paris "	" " "
"	21	M.V. "Gresham "	Forecastle fumigated.
Aug.	12	S.S. "Heworth "	Treated with insecticide.
Sept.	1	S.S. "Kerma "	" " "
"	6	S.S. "Neath Abbey "	Bunks dismantled, treated with blow lamp and insecticide.
"	10	S.S. "Baluchistan "	Treated with insecticide.
"	15	S.S. "Lorca "	" " "
"	17	M.V. "Durenda "	Forecastles fumigated.
"	20	S.S. "Umtata "	Treated with insecticide.
"	24	S.S. "Aghios Georgios "	Forecastle slightly verminous, treated with insecticide.
Oct.	9	S.S. "Linwood "	" " " "
"	14	S.S. "Benwyvis "	" " " "
Nov.	3	S.S. "Gyda "	" " " "
"	8	S.S. "Clan MacPhee "	" " " Fumigated.
Dec.	8	S.S. "Yorkbrook "	" " Treated with insecticide.

Tonnage of Vessels Entering the Port.

(Kindly supplied by the General Manager of the River Tees Conservancy.)

Year ending Oct. 31st.	Number of Vessels	Registered Tonnage
1928	3,278	3,820,763
1929	3,529	4,075,385
1930	3,416	3,924,554
1931	2,961	3,100,254
1932	3,031	2,716,248
1933	3,148	2,964,054
1934	3,494	3,425,708
1935	3,611	3,582,909
1936	3,855	3,812,522
1937	4,222	4,082,260

CASES OF ILLNESS OR INJURY ON BOARD VESSELS.

Reported or dealt with during the year 1937.

Date.	NAME OF VESSEL.	Where from.	Nature of Illness.	Remarks.
Jan. 5	Clan Macwhirter	Glasgow ...	Venereal disease ...	Admitted to M.H.
" "	"	"	2 natives suffering from venereal disease	Referred to clinic.
" "	"	"	2 natives suffering from venereal disease on voyage ...	Landed at Durban & Aden.
" 11	Ronnskar ... s.	Casablanca	Broken shoulder ...	Landed at Casablanca.
" 16	Clare Grammers-torf ... s.	Coastwise ...	2 seamen with broken legs ...	Landed at Limerick.
" 19	Querimba s.	Calcutta ...	1 native seamen suffering from rheumatism ...	Landed at Marseilles.
" 25	City of Kobi s.	Dunkirk ...	Asthma (native)	Admitted to M.H.
" 25	Umtali ... s.	Hamburg ...	Arthritis (native) ...	Landed at London.
" 25	Johan Blumonthal s.	Copenhagen	Eczema ...	Landed at Copenhagen.
" 26	Butishire ... s.	Seirra Leone	Otitis Media (native)	Admitted to M.H.
" 27	Mahseer ... s.	Boston ...	Influenza ...	Landed at Boston.
Feb. 8	Statesman s.	Rotterdam	Venereal disease ...	Admitted to M.H.
" 9	Manaar ... s.	Calcutta ...	Dysentery (4 natives)	Landed at Colombo.
" 9	Custodian ... s.	Liverpool ...	Venerealdisease(nat.)	Landed at London.
" 10	Modasa ... s.	Calcutta ...	Dysentery (native)	Admitted to M.H.
" 10	"	"	Hæmaturia (native)	Admitted to M.H.
" 10	"	"	Injured hand (native)	Admitted to M.H.

M.H.—Municipal General Hospital.

N.O.H.—North Ormesby General Hospital.

Eston Hospital—Infectious Diseases Hospital.

West Lane Hospital—Infectious Diseases Hospital.

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

Date.	NAME OF VESSEL.	Where from.	Nature of Illness.	Remarks.
Feb. 15	Braa ... s.	Stavanger ...	Influenza (2 seamen)	Landed at Stavanger.
„ 18	City of Oran s.	Hull ...	Gastritis (native) ...	Landed at Hull.
„ 24	Veni ... s.	Koppervik ...	Influenza	Landed at Koppervik.
„ 25	Somali ... s.	Antwerp ...	Venereal disease (nat.)	Landed at Shanghai.
„ 26	Clan Mactaggart	Antwerp ...	Heatstroke (2 seamen)	Landed at Freetown.
„ 26	„	„	Venereal disease (nat.)	Admitted to M.H.
Mar. 1	Umkuzi ... s.	S. Africa ...	Septic finger (native)	Admitted to M.H.
„ 4	Coatsworth s.	Algiers ...	Stroke	Admitted to N.O.H.
„ 5	City of Oran s.	Laid up ...	General debility (nat.)	Admitted to M.H.
„ 6	Elgo ... s.	Helsingborg	Malaria	Admitted to M.H.
„ 8	Ronny ... s.	Rouen ...	Rheumatism ...	Admitted to M.H.
„ 13	Inventor ... s.	Dakar ...	Malaria	Landed at Dakar.
„ 15	Alma Dawson s.	Bougie ...	Injured eye ...	Landed at Genoa.
„ 16	Mashobra ... s.	Antwerp ...	Pernicious anæmia (passenger) ...	Died at sea.
„ 16	„	„	Vomiting (native) ...	Admitted to M.H.
„ 22	City of Salisbury s.	Hamburg ...	Abdominal Abscess	Admitted to M.H.
„ 24	Bangalore ... s.	Antwerp ...	Stomach trouble ...	Landed at London.
„ 25	Kabinga ... s.	Dunkirk ...	Venereal disease (nat.)	Landed at Manchester.
„ 27	Glynwen ... s.	Coastwise ...	Broken arm ...	Treated on board.
„ 31	Otte H. ... s.	Algiers ...	Acute rheumatism	Admitted to M.H.

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

Date.	NAME OF VESSEL.	Where from.	Nature of Illness.	Remarks.
April 3	Adjutant ... s.	Gibraltar ...	Influenza ...	Admitted to M.H.
" 5	Ingerfine ... s.	Narvik ...	Influenza ...	Landed at Narvik.
" 12	Mulbera ... s.	Bombay ...	Enlarged spleen ...	Landed at London.
" 12	Magdapur ... s.	Havre ...	Gastric ulcer (native)	Admitted to M.H.
" 12	"	"	Venereal disease(nat.)	" "
" 23	Nagpore ... s.	Hamburg ...	Venereal disease(nat.)	Landed at London.
" 26	Mahsud ... s.	Boulogne ...	Fractured skull (nat.)	Landed at London.
" 26	Maclaren ... s.	Lisbon ...	Injuries ...	Landed at Gibraltar.
May 3	Warfield ... s.	Antwerp ...	Mumps (4 natives)	Admitted to West Lane.
" 3	Umvoti ... s.	Antwerp ...	Abdominal pain ...	Admitted to M.H.
" 21	City of Exeter s.	E. Africa via Hull ...	Enteric fever (pass.)	Landed at London.
" 27	Durenda ... s.	Antwerp ...	Venereal disease(nat.)	Referred to Clinic.
" 31	Umtali ... s.	London	Injuries (native) ...	Landed at London.
" 31	Gleniffer ... s.	Antwerp	Pneumonia ...	Landed at Hong Kong.
" 31	"	"	Crushed hand ...	Landed at London.
June 1	Nowshera ... s.	Antwerp ...	Chill (native) ...	Landed at Dundee.
" 4	Umvuma ... s.	Antwerp ...	Rheumatism ...	Landed at London.
" 4	"	"	Colic ...	" "
" 7	Observer ... s.	Liverpool ...	Bronchitis ...	Admitted to M.H.
" 8	Atlantic ... s.	Pepel ...	Venereal disease ...	Sent home for treatment.
" 12	Manipur ... s.	Calcutta ...	Venereal disease ...	Landed at London.

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

Date.	NAME OF VESSEL.	Where from.	Nature of Illness.	Remarks.
June 12	Umtata ... s.	Hamburg ...	Septic heel ...	Admitted to M.H.
" 17	City of Simla s.	Laid up ...	Recurrent abdominal pain ...	Admitted to M.H.
" 17	City of London s.	"	Abdominal distention	Admitted to M.H.
" 21	Miranda ... s.	Kirkeness ...	Venereal disease ...	Referred to clinic.
July 5	City of Norwicks.	Dunkirk ...	Poisoned hand (nat.)	Landed at Aden.
" 5	Baron Graham s.	Algiers ...	Burns ...	Landed at Alexandria.
" 5	"	"	Venereal disease ...	Landed at Philadelphia.
" 20	Lahore ... s.	Antwerp ...	Venereal disease (3 natives) ...	Landed at Bombay.
Aug. 9	Tregenna ... s.	Vizagapatam	Appendicitis (2)	Landed at London.
" 9	"	"	" (2)	Landed at Venice.
" 11	Sigrid ... s.	Narvik ...	Diphtheria ...	Admitted to West Lane.
" 16	City of Exeter s.	Hull ...	Erysipelas (passeng.)	Landed at London.
" 24	Astronomer s.	Liverpool ...	Venereal disease ...	Treated on board.
" 24	City of Paris s.	Hamburg ...	Venereal disease (2)	Treated on board.
" 26	Marsa ... s.	La Goulette	Venereal disease ...	Referred to clinic.
" 31	Dcmala ... m.	Hamburg ...	Tuberculosis (6) ...	Landed at Plymouth.
Sept. 3	Tregothnan s.	Oran ...	Colitis (suspected dysentery) ...	Admitted to West Lane.
" 6	Lancastrian Frince ... s.	Hull ...	Damaged foot ...	Sent home.
" 11	Pandia ... s.	Algiers ...	Colitis (suspected dysentery) ...	Admitted to Eston Hos.

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

Date.	NAME OF VESSEL.	Where from.	Nature of Illness.	Remarks.
Sept. 13	City of Exeter s.	Hamburg ...	Gastritis ...	Admitted to Mun. Hos.
„ 15	Lorca ... s.	La Goulette	Venereal disease (2)	Referred to clinic.
„ 21	Pacific ... s.	Dakar ...	Bronchitis ...	Landed at St. Vincent.
„ 21	„	„	Venereal disease ...	Referred to clinic.
„ 27	Modasa ... s.	Antwerp ...	Mumps (passenger)	Landed at Port Said.
„ 27	„	„	Bronchitis ...	Landed at London.
„ 27	„	„	Venereal disease ...	Referred to clinic.
„ 27	Dimluce Castle s.	S. Africa via London ...	„	Landed at London.
Oct. 11	MacGregor ... s.	Bona ...	Colitis (suspected dysentery) ...	Admitted to West Lane
„ 25	Angeja ... M.	Coastwise	Injured leg. ...	Landed at London.
„ 27	Dunbar Castle M.	S. Africa via London ...	Measles 3 ...	Treated on board.
„ 27	Querimba s.	Mombassa via Hull ...	Heart failure ...	Died at sea.
Nov. 1	Madura ... s.	Beira via Hull	Dysentery (passeng.)	Landed at Plymouth.
„ 1	Storviken ... s.	Boston U.S.A.	Venereal disease(2)	Referred to clinic.
„ 6	Benmohr ... s.	B.C. via Immingham	Suspected typhoid	Landed at Yokohama.
„ 6	„	„	Venereal disease ...	„ „
„ 12	Zena ... s.	Bona ...	Venereal disease ...	Referred to clinic.
„ 15	Pandia ... s.	Algiers ...	Stoppage of urine	Landed at Leixoes.
„ 26	Matiana ... s.	E. Africa via Hull	Diabetes (native) ...	Landed at London.

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

Date.	NAME OF VESSEL.	Where from.	Nature of Illness.	Remarks.
Nov. 26	Matiana .. s.	E. Africa via Hull	Epileptic (native) ...	„ „
„ 26	„	„	Infected hip (native)	„ „
„ 26	„	„	Coronary thrombosis	Died at sea.
„ 30	Jura ... s.	Algiers ...	Rupture (native) ...	Treated on board.
Dec. 13	Leighton ... M.	R. Plate via Liverpool	Heart failure ...	Died at sea.
„ 13	Glenaffaric ... M.	Antwerp ...	Venereal disease ...	Referred to clinic.
„ 13	„	„	Hæmorrhoids ...	Landed at London.
„ 13	„	„	Influenza ...	„ „
„ 14	Warfield ... s.	Antwerp ...	Venereal disease ...	Landed at Hull.
„ 17	Manaar ... s.	Calcutta via Dundee ...	Typhoid fever (nat.)	Landed at Dundee.
„ 17	„	„	Fits (native) ...	„ „
„ 17	„	„	Colitis (suspected typhoid) 2 natives ...	Admitted to West Lane
„ 20	Garth Castle s.	S. Africa via London & Antwerp ...	Measles (passenger)	Treated on board.
„ 20	„	„	Scabies ...	„
„ 20	„	„	Venereal disease (2)	Landed at Southampton.
„ 21	Everards ... s.	Bizerta ...	Venereal disease ...	Referred to clinic.
„ 22	Varangfjell s.	Kirkenes ...	Rheumatism ...	Treated on board.
„ 29	Ledaal ... s.	Narvik ...	Pneumonia ...	Treated on board.

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FOOD INSPECTION.

Consignments of food arrive each week

From LONDON. Groceries, tinned goods, fruit, bacon, lard, flour, etc.

„ ANTWERP. Tinned milk, fresh vegetables, etc.

„ ROTTERDAM. Tinned milk, bacon, vegetables, eggs, tinned meat, etc.

These have all been systematically inspected and were found to be in good sound condition.

SHELLFISH REGULATIONS.

In 1932, the River Tees Port Sanitary Authority passed regulations under the Public Health Act of 1896, prohibiting the sale or offering for sale of any mussels, cockles, periwinkles, or other shellfish taken from within the district unless and until such shellfish shall have been relaid for such a period as may be directed.

There are no beds laid in the Tees Estuary. The River Police keep the collecting of shellfish from the banks of the river under observation, but it is difficult to prevent sundry persons collecting them or to prove that they are intended for human consumption.

There has been no outbreak of enteric fever traceable to the eating of contaminated shellfish during the past year.

STEAM LAUNCH "MERCIE."

This vessel, owned by the Port Health Authority, is employed for inspection work on the river and enables the inspecting officials to visit any ships lying between Gray's Yard at Graythorpe and the Stone Bridge at Stockton, a distance of twelve miles. The launch has been laid up for several months owing to a leaking boiler. This has now been repaired and the launch is in working order.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES V. DINGLE.

PORT MEDICAL OFFICER.

