

[Report 1949] / Medical Officer of Health, River Tees Port Health Authority.

Contributors

River Tees Port Health Authority.

Publication/Creation

1949

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1949

RIVER TEES PORT HEALTH
AUTHORITY

SIXTY-THIRD
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

H. & F. Stokeld, Printers, Grange Road,
MIDDLESBROUGH.
1950.

RIVER TEES PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

LIST OF MEMBERS, 1949-1950.

Middlesbrough :

Alderman L. G. Allen, J.P.
 Alderman J. Bolton.
 Alderman W. Randall.
 Councillor W. Breckon.
 Councillor F. J. Longstaff.
 Councillor J. Nugent.
 Councillor J. W. Nunn.
 Alderman E. Harford.

Stockton-on-Tees :

Alderman W. Milburn Worth.
 Alderman J. C. Hudson, J.P.
 Councillor R. T. Griffiths.
 Councillor C. Hammond.

Stockton R.D.C. :

Councillor F. B. Battersby.
 Councillor E. A. Ward.

Thornaby :

Alderman E. E. Brennan.
 Councillor C. Anderson.

Redcar :

Alderman J. S. Dixon.
 Alderman Chaplin.

Eston :

Councillor Harry Healey.
 Councillor Chas. Johnson.
 Councillor J. R. Ginty.

Billingham :

Councillor W. A. McArthur.
 Councillor A. G. Skillings.
 Councillor O. Evitts.

STAFF OF THE PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY,

1949.

Clerk to the Board—G. W. W. BARNLEY.

Deputy Clerk—T. A. BANKS.

Medical Officer—C. L. ELDER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer—J. C. BIRCHALL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officer—A. MEARNS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (commenced 1.5.49).

Assistant Medical Officer—R. J. DONALDSON, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., D.P.H.
 (commenced 1.5.1949—left 30.11.1949).

Port Health Officer—A. NIELSON JONES, C.R.S.I., Cert. Master Mariner.

Assistant Port Health Inspector—G. A. RICHARDS, C.R.S.I., Cert. Master Mariner.

Assistant Port Health Inspector—C. R. ENGLISH, C.R.S.I., Cert. Master Mariner
 (commenced 1st November).

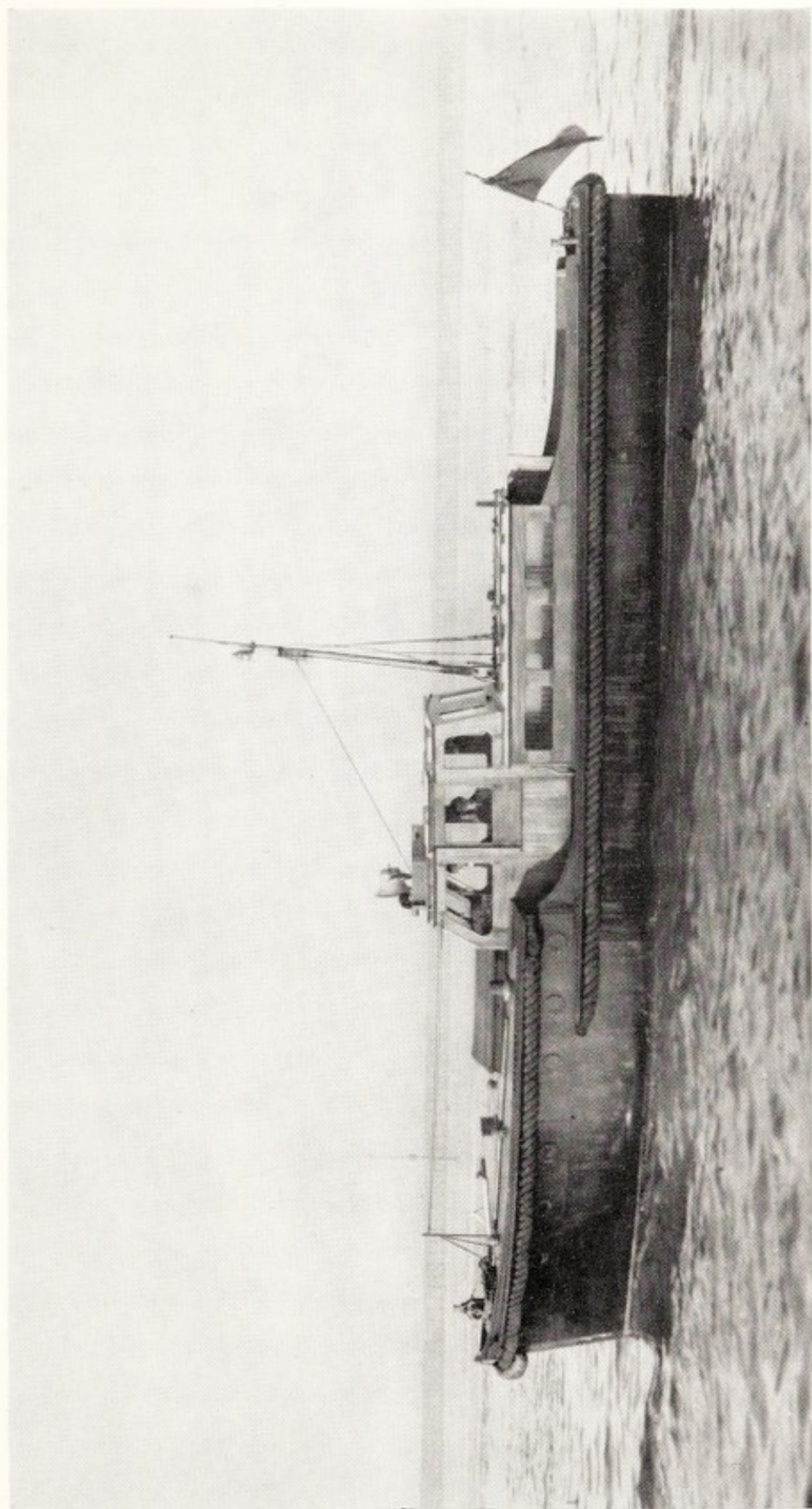
Rat Searcher—T. WARWICK.

Assistant Rat Searcher—J. BUCKTON.

Clerk/Shorthand Typist—MRS. M. TESTER.

Launch Coxswain—E. GUY.

Launch Deck Hand—T. HOMER.



RIVER TEES PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY
LAUNCH "MERCIE II"



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RIVER TEES PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

26, SOUTHFIELD ROAD,
MIDDLESBROUGH,
FEBRUARY, 1950.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
RIVER TEES PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the 63rd Annual Report of the River Tees Port Health Authority, for the year ended 31st December, 1949. Details are given in the body of the report regarding the scope of the work of the Authority. The staff have continued to give close supervision in order to safeguard against the possible introduction of sea-borne infectious diseases, to ascertain the sanitary condition of vessels entering the port; and the purity of foodstuffs imported.

The number of vessels entering the port, particularly from foreign ports, has continued to increase, and the figures for 1949 show an increase over those for 1948, both in regard to numbers and tonnage. Experience of inspection of vessels during the year has shown that the accommodation for crews on all new ships is vastly improved on that provided in pre-war vessels. Most of the older vessels have now had this accommodation re-constructed and improved, and in many cases to a standard comparing favourably with that of new vessels.

Few vessels reaching this port now remain with the old type of open fore-castle so common pre-war. There has also been a general improvement in cleanliness of crews' accommodation, although in many instances this has left a lot to be desired. Lack of cleanliness has been more noticeable still on British vessels than on foreign vessels.

There has also been a marked decrease in the number of vessels arriving in the port infested with rats and vermin since the war.

The port continued to be recognised as an approved port under the Aliens Order 1920.

Whilst there was a marked rise in the number of British passengers arriving in the port, there was a decrease in the number of Aliens compared with the figures for 1948.

The new launch, *Mercie II*, was finally delivered in April, 1949. The staff had been considerably handicapped in their work, since the old launch *Mercie I* had been declared no longer seaworthy. The new launch has proved highly satisfactory, much more economical in running than the old steam launch, and has facilitated the work of the medical and inspectorial staff, since its arrival. Further details about the Launch are given in the report.

Our relations with the Port Authorities continue to be cordial, and I wish to record my grateful thanks to the Chief Preventive Officer of Customs and his staff, the Harbourmaster and his staff, the Chief Immigration Officer and his staff, and the Pilot Master and Pilots for their ready assistance at all times.

My thanks are also due to the Chairman and Members of the Port Health Authority, for their interest and support during the year, and to the staff for their conscientious and loyal service.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

Charles L. Elder

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE A.

I. AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT DURING THE YEAR.

		Number	Tonnage	No. Inspected		Number Reported to be defective	Number of Vessels on which defects were remedied	No. of Vessels on which defects were found and reported to Ministry of Transport Surveyors	No. of Vessels reported as having, or having had during the voyage infectious disease on board
				By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Port Health Inspector				
FOREIGN	Steamers ...	990	2,251,183	153	987	79	75	—	19
	*Motor ...	998	541,308	34	985	3	3	—	2
	Sailing ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Fishing ...	3	404	—	3	—	—	—	—
TOTAL FOREIGN...		1,991	2,792,895	187	1,975	82	78	—	21
COASTWISE	Steamers	508	247,795	10	483	8	6	—	1
	*Motor	981	238,526	7	953	5	5	—	—
	Sailing ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Fishing	9	1,460	—	9	—	—	—	—
TOTAL COASTWISE ...		1,498	487,781	17	1,445	13	11	—	1
TOTAL FOREIGN AND COASTWISE ...		3,489	3,280,676	204	3,420	95	89	—	22

* Includes mechanically propelled vessels other than steamers.

II. CHARACTER OF TRADE OF PORT.

TABLE B.

(A).—PASSENGER TRAFFIC DURING THE YEAR.

No. of Passengers	Cabin Class only	Transmigrants
INWARDS—		
British	311	Nil
Aliens	125	Nil
OUTWARDS—		
British	416	Nil
Aliens	167	Nil

Does not include ships' personnel arriving and departing, nor does it include passengers arriving and leaving with the same vessel.

Figures for British passengers show a marked increase over 1948, whereas Aliens show a decrease on previous years figures.

82 British passengers were medically inspected.

(B).—CARGO TRAFFIC.

IMPORTS INTO THE RIVER TEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st OCTOBER, 1949.

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

ORES :						<i>Tons</i>
Iron	...	...	...	...	...	2,560,254
Manganese	...	...	...	...	...	174,574
Chrome	...	...	...	...	...	7,770
IRON AND STEEL :						
Pig Iron	...	...	...	...	...	8,180
Billets, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	8,625
Manufactured	...	...	...	...	...	10,582
Scrap	...	...	...	...	...	335,226
Machinery	...	...	...	...	...	1,599
Loam and Sand	...	...	...	...	...	18,555
Chemical Manures	...	...	...	...	...	50,300
Fuel Oils	...	...	...	...	...	23,967
Creosote Oil	...	...	...	...	...	50,660
Petrol, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	15,838
Corn	...	...	...	...	...	37,120
Provisions	...	...	...	...	...	1,724
Sugar	...	...	...	...	...	6,149
Paper	...	...	...	...	...	51
Wood	...	...	...	...	...	2,269
Magnesite	...	...	...	...	...	5,036
Chemicals	...	...	...	...	...	1,468
Glass	...	...	...	...	...	37
Bags	...	...	...	...	...	2,263

					<i>Tons</i>
Phosphate Rock	...	...	...	...	60,753
Sundry Goods	...	...	...	...	2,642
Sulphur (Crude)	...	...	...	...	14,955
TOTAL IMPORTS					3,400,597 <i>Tons.</i>

EXPORTS FROM THE RIVER TEES DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st OCTOBER, 1949.

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

IRON AND STEEL :					<i>Tons</i>
Pig Iron	...	...	...	...	8,062
Rails and Fishplates	...	...	...	...	51,142
Castings	...	...	...	...	39,947
Angles, Bars, Plates, etc.	...	...	...	...	248,103
Bridgework	...	...	...	...	892
Joists	...	...	...	...	4,629
Scrap	...	...	...	...	3,226
Galvanised Sheets	...	...	...	...	6,354
Machinery	...	...	...	...	26,654
Carriage and Wagonwork	...	...	...	...	1,463
Wire (of all descriptions)	...	...	...	...	18,515
Manufactured (of all kinds other than the above)	...	...	...	...	10,640
TOTAL					419,627 <i>Tons.</i>
Cargo Coal	...	...	...	...	261,048
Bunker Coal (over 500 Tons)	...	...	...	...	47,593
Coke	...	...	...	...	4,430
G. B. Slag	...	...	...	...	7,887
Salt	...	...	...	...	3,234
Sulphate of Ammonia, etc.	...	...	...	...	263,551
Chemical and Chemical Products (other than Sulphate of Ammonia)	...	...	...	...	27,807
Pitch and Tar	...	...	...	...	48,926
Creosote Oil	...	...	...	...	22,920
Benzole, etc.	...	...	...	...	8,726
Petrol, etc.	...	...	...	...	27,001
Slag (Rough)	...	...	...	...	86,480
Slag Wool	...	...	...	...	2,008
Glass and Earthenware	...	...	...	...	1,340
Paint, etc.	...	...	...	...	5,097
Paper	...	...	...	...	564
Cement	...	...	...	...	319
Sundry Goods	...	...	...	...	21,530
Corn	...	...	...	...	802
TOTAL EXPORTS					1,260,890 <i>Tons.</i>

(C). MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS.

ANNUAL RETURN BY THE MEDICAL INSPECTOR OF ALIENS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1949.

	Total	Number inspected by the Medical Inspector	Number subjected to detailed examination by the Medical Inspector	Certificates issued.					Trans-migrants.
				Lunatic Idiot or M.D.	Undesirable for Medical reasons	Physically incapacitated	Suffering from Acute Infectious Disease	Landing necessary for adequate Medical Examination	
(a) Total Number of Aliens landing at the Port ...	*125	55	10	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Aliens refused permission to land by the Immigration Officer	‡20	6	14	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Transmigrants ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Aliens arriving at the Port ...	145	61	24	—	—	—	—	—	—

* This figure includes a number of seamen under contract arriving at the Port as passengers and leaving as members of the crew.

‡ These were all Stowaways.

In addition, 401 Alien passengers arrived and were granted temporary shore leave during the vessel's stay in Port.

ALIENS ORDER, 1920.

The Port was recognised on the 4th June, 1947, as an approved Port for the landing of Alien passengers. The majority of the 65 aliens authorised to land were from Scandinavian Ports and were spending short holidays in this country. They were interviewed by the Medical Inspector and no certificates were issued prohibiting landing on medical grounds.

COUNTRIES FROM WHICH VESSELS ARRIVE.

Iron and other ores are imported from Sweden, Norway, Spain, North and West African Ports, Brazil, India and Canada.

Corn and Cereals are transhipped from Hull and Newcastle.

Timber from Baltic Ports.

Potash from North Africa and Germany.

Groceries and provisions arrive from London and sugar from Kings Lynn and Boston.

Fruit and vegetables from Holland.

(III). 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. Occasionally ships laid at the buoys in the river are supplied from two water boats. These boats are kept under constant supervision ; the tanks cleaned out weekly and periodically inspected and samples of water taken frequently.

There is also a small tank on a sand barge belonging to the Middlesbrough Sand and Gravel Company which is used occasionally. This tank is kept under close observation and is cleaned out prior to use.

(IV). PORT HEALTH REGULATIONS.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR DEALING WITH DECLARATIONS OF HEALTH.

1. These are collected each morning from the Customs House.
2. The Declarations of Health 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 1949 was 734.

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 the Regulations. Messages are also received by morse signalling from the Tees Bay to the lightkeepers on the break-water 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.**—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 :—Plague, Cholera, Yellow Fever, Typhus or Smallpox.

4A. 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. Particulars of any standing exemption from the provisions of Article 14.

Arrangements have been made with H.M. Customs Boarding Officers to telephone the Port Medical Officer immediately in any case where an answer to the question in the Declaration of Health is given in the affirmative and the vessel is held in quarantine until visited by the Port Medical Officer.

6. The provisions of Article 16 of the principle Regulations have been carried out without difficulty during the year.

7. **ARRANGEMENTS FOR WAITING ROOMS FOR MEDICAL EXAMINATION, CLEANSING AND DISINFECTION OF SHIPS, PERSONS AND CLOTHING :—**

- (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 West Lane Isolation 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) Accommodation is reserved at West Lane Isolation 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 for such districts.

8 & 9. **ARRANGEMENTS FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF RATS FOR PLAGUE.**

Specimens of rats caught on ships and wharves are sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Northallerton, which reports 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 Laboratory.

10. **ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TREATMENT AND DIAGNOSIS OF VENEREAL DISEASE.**

The Special Treatment Centre is at the General Hospital and all seamen found to be suffering from these diseases are directed to attend for treatment.

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 following gives the nationality of those treated during the past year :—

SEAMEN TREATED AT THE SPECIAL TREATMENT CENTRE, MIDDLESBROUGH GENERAL HOSPITAL, 1949.

Total number of Seamen who attended ...	...	488
British Seamen ...	...	157
British Commonwealth Seamen ...	...	41
Foreign Seamen ...	...	287
Eire ...	...	3

Nationality of Seamen.		Number treated.
British (Great Britain & Northern Ireland only)	...	157
Eire	...	3
British Commonwealth—		
India and Pakistan	...	28
Malta G.C.	...	1
South Africa	...	1
West Indies	...	6
Foreign—		
America	...	2
Belgium	...	1
Brazil	...	1
Burma	...	2
China	...	1
Denmark	...	28
Estonia	...	18
Finland	...	33
France and Colonies	...	3
Germany	...	3
Greece	...	12
Holland	...	27
Italy	...	4
Lithuania	...	1
Norway	...	29
Poland	...	6
Portugal	...	2
Spain	...	4
Sweden	...	86
Yugoslavia	...	12
Israel	...	5
Latvia	...	5
Luxemburg	...	1
Russia	...	1
West Africa	...	4
East Africa	...	1

TOTAL ... 488

11. Arrangements for the interment of the dead. There is a mortuary at the riverside. Arrangements for burial are carried out by the Ship's Agents.

12. PARROTS (PROHIBITION OF IMPORTS) REGULATIONS.

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

TABLE C.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS LANDED FROM VESSELS.

	Number of cases during 1949		Number of vessels concerned	Average for previous five years.
	Passengers	Crew		
Chicken Pox	—	3	2	1.4
Measles	—	—	—	.4
Influenza	—	5	5	2
Diphtheria	—	1	1	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	.6
German Measles	—	—	—	—
Malarial Fever	—	10	7	3.2
Mumps	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	1
Tuberculosis	—	2	2	.4
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	1	1	—
TOTALS	—	22	18	9.0

TABLE D.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS OCCURRING ON VESSELS
during the voyage, but disposed of prior to Arrival.

Disease.	Number of cases during 1949		Number of vessels concerned.	Average for previous five years.
	Passengers	Crew		
Chicken Pox	—	—	—	.2
Dysentery	—	—	—	.2
Malarial Fever	—	13	6	13.6
Influenza	—	1	1	.8
Measles	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	1	1	1
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	.2
Tuberculosis	—	1	1	.4
Erysipelas	—	—	—	.2
Mumps	—	—	—	.2
German Measles	—	—	—	.2
Anthrax	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	.4
Smallpox	—	—	—	.8
Typhoid Fever	—	5	1	.6
TOTALS	—	21	10	18.8

INFLUENZA.

S/S "Polcirkeln". Arrived at the Port on the 7th January. One of the crew was found to be suffering from Influenza and was medically attended on board.

S/S "Baron Murray." Arrived at the Port on the 12th January. One of the crew had been admitted to Hospital at Dover suffering from Influenza.

S/S "Borneo." Arrived at the Port on the 4th February. One of the crew was found to be suffering from Influenza and was medically attended on board.

S/S "Nikos T." Arrived at the Port on the 8th August, from Pepel. One of the crew was found to be suffering from Influenza and was medically attended on board.

S/S "Johilla." Arrived at the Port on the 11th October from Tampa via Liverpool. One of the crew was found to be suffering from Influenza and was medically attended on board.

MALARIAL FEVER.

S/S "Hartbridge". Arrived at the Port on the 10th January from Freetown. Three of the crew had suffered from Malarial Fever and were treated on board during the voyage.

S/S "Rosedale Park." Arrived at the Port on the 11th April from Pepal. One of the crew was found to be suffering from Malarial Fever and was medically attended on board.

S/S "Ramsey." Arrived at the Port on the 6th July from Takoradi. One of the crew had suffered from Malarial Fever on the voyage and received treatment on board.

S/S "Farningham." Arrived at the Port on the 13th July from Takoradi. One of the crew was found to be suffering from Malarial Fever and was removed to Hospital for treatment.

S/S "Epiros." Arrived at the Port on the 26th July from Pepal and Freetown. One of the crew was found to be suffering from Malarial Fever and was removed to Hospital for treatment.

S/S "Aldebaron." Arrived at the Port on the 2nd August from Takoradi. Two of the crew were removed to Hospital suspected to be suffering from Malarial Fever.

S/S "Meridian." Arrived at the Port on the 16th August from Pepal. Two of the crew were admitted to Hospital suffering from Malarial Fever.

S/S "Goalpara." Arrived at the Port on the 16th August from East Africa via Sunderland. One of the crew was removed to Hospital at Sunderland suffering from Malarial Fever.

S/S "Rocky Mountains Park." Arrived at the Port on the 25th August from Pepel. Two cases of Malarial Fever were removed to Hospital for treatment. Six cases were dealt with on board during the voyage.

S/S "Empire Martaban." Arrived at the Port on the 7th September from Takoradi. A case of suspected Malarial Fever had been dealt with on board during the voyage.

S/S "Vasco". Arrived at the Port on the 11th October from Hull. A case of Malarial Fever had been removed to Hospital at Liverpool.

S/S "Harberton." Arrived at the Port on the 31st December from Pepel. One of the crew suffering from Malarial Fever was medically attended on board.

CHICKEN-POX.

S/S "Itinda." Arrived at the Port on the 12th January from India via London. One of the Indian crew was found to be suffering from Chicken-pox and was admitted to Hospital for treatment.

S/S "Carpentaria." Arrived at the Port on the 23rd April from India via London. Two of the Indian crew were found to be suffering from Chicken-pox and were admitted to Hospital for treatment.

TUBERCULOSIS.

S/S "Clan Angus." Arrived at the Port on the 14th February from Stavanger via Tyne. One of the Indian crew was found to be suffering from Tuberculosis and was repatriated to India.

S/S "Benrinnes." Arrived at the Port on the 9th March from Far East via Hull. One of the Chinese crew was found to be suffering from Tuberculosis and was medically attended on board. Patient was returning to China with ship.

S/S "Snar." Arrived at the Port on the 11th June from La Goulette. One of the crew had been admitted to Hospital at Gibraltar suffering from Tuberculosis.

DIPHThERIA.

S/S "Moldavia." Arrived at the Port on the 13th April from Bougie. One of the crew was found to be suffering from Diphtheria and was removed to the Isolation Hospital.

TYPHOID FEVER.

S/S "Cape Nelson." Arrived at the Port on the 8th August from New Orleans via London. Five of the crew had been landed and admitted to Hospital at New Orleans suspected to be suffering from Typhoid Fever.

SCARLET FEVER.

S/S "Tilsington Court." Arrived at the Port on the 9th December from Narvik. One of the crew was found to be suffering from Scarlet Fever and was removed to Hospital.

PNEUMONIA.

S/S "Clan Kennedy." Arrived at the Port on the 27th December from Cochin via London. One of the Indian crew had been admitted to Hospital in London suffering from Pneumonia.

RETURN OF CASES OF SICKNESS OR INJURY
found on vessels entering the Port.

Accidents	...	...	...	...	1
Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	2
Abscess on Leg	...	...	...	...	1
Boils	...	...	...	...	2
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	1
Chickenpox	...	...	...	...	3
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	1
Eye infection	...	...	...	...	1
Head injuries	...	...	...	...	1
Heart trouble	...	...	...	...	2
Hernia	...	...	...	...	3
Haemorrhoids	...	...	...	...	1
Influenza	...	...	...	...	5
Jaundice	...	...	...	...	1
Kidney trouble	...	...	...	...	1
Knife wounds	...	...	...	...	1
Malarial Fever	...	...	...	...	10
Removed to Hospital for observation	...	...	...	...	2
Rupture	...	...	...	...	1
Septic throat	...	...	...	...	2
Septic leg	...	...	...	...	1
Scabies	...	...	...	...	1
Sciatica	...	...	...	...	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	1
Tonsilitis	...	...	...	...	1
Venereal Disease	...	...	...	...	32
TOTAL				...	80

Of the above, 43 were treated at Hospital or at the Clinic, 36 were given medical treatment on board and one was sent home for treatment.

**NUMBER OF CASES OF SICKNESS OR INJURY
dealt with before arrival at the Port.**

Cerebral Haemorrhage	...	...	...	1
Malarial Fever	...	...	...	13
Influenza	...	...	...	1
Venereal Disease	...	...	...	6
Stomach trouble	...	...	...	1
Stroke	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	1
Suspected Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	5
Tumour	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	1
TOTAL				31

Of the above, 16 were dealt with at sea. Ports at which the remainder were dealt with :—

Dover	...	1	Gibraltar	...	2	Liverpool	...	1
Colombo	...	1	New Orleans	...	5	Hull	...	1
Lisbon	...	1	London	...	2	Sunderland	...	1

MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS.

(1) (a). In Ships in the Port.

All ships entering the Port are examined for evidence of rats by the Rat Searchers, who are whole-time Officers of the Port Health Authority. Where rat indications are discovered, traps are set and specimens caught are sent for bacteriological examination. If necessary, orders for deratisation are served and this is carried out by fumigation.

(b) The Rat Searchers spend part of their time searching the wharves and quays and obtain specimens for bacteriological examination. The owners of the docks and wharves employ recognised rat catchers.

(2). 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 found dead after fumigation, are examined for signs of disease and any found dead are sent for bacteriological examination.

(3) (a) 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. H.C.N. by the liquid method, sealed from 4-6 hours.
2. H.C.N. by the Zyklon "B" method (Cyanosorb).
3. Burning of sulphur, 3 lbs. per 1,000 cu. ft. space, sealed from 6-8 hrs.
4. Salfakose, 1½ lbs. per 1,000 cu. ft. 6 hours sealed.

(b) Premises in the vicinity of the docks or quays are deratised by periodical trapping and poisoning and occasionally by fumigation with hydrogen cyanide gas.

(4). All vessels are searched on arrival in the Port by the Authority's Rat Searchers, particular attention being given to vessels arriving from foreign ports. The Searchers spend part of their time examining the wharves for the detection of rat prevalence.

(5) (a) None of the existing buildings are strictly rat-proof.

(b) (i) It is found that new vessels are, to a large extent, rat-proof. In older vessels, suggestions for rat-proofing are made to the companies' superintendents when necessary.

(ii) The buildings are kept under constant supervision and suggestions for improving rat-proofing are made from time to time as required.

RATS DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR.

TABLE (E).

(1) On Vessels.

Number of Rats	Jan.	Feb.	Mr.	Apr.	May	Jun.	July	Au.	Sep.	Oct.	Nv.	Dec.	Total in Year
Black ...	51	260	17	44	28	28	25	82	36	45	19	9	644
Brown ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Species not recorded ...	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Examined Bacteriologically	2	6	3	1	4	2	1	4	1	2	2	1	29
Infected with Plague ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Mice Destroyed 82.

TABLE (F).

(2) In Docks, Quays, Wharves and Warehouses.

Number of Rats	Jan.	Fb.	Mr.	Ap.	May	Jun.	July	Au.	Sep.	Oct.	Nv.	Dec.	Total in Year
Black ...	1	3	3	—	1	1	1	1	1	—	3	1	16
Brown ...	31	19	20	27	15	27	19	19	17	16	16	16	242
Species not recorded ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Examined Bacteriologically	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	16
Infected with Plague ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

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	Number of such Vessels fumigated with S.O.2	Number of Rats killed	Number of such Vessels fumigated with H.C.N.	Number of Rats killed	Number of such vessels on which trapping, poisoning, etc. were employed	Number of Rats killed	Number of such vessels on which measures of Rat destruction were not carried out
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE H*.

Deratisation Certificates and Deratisation Exemption Certificates issued during the year.

NET TONNAGE	No. of Ships	No. of Deratisation Certificates issued.					No. of De- ratiation Exemp- tion Certifi- cates issued (8)	Number Total Certifi- cates issued (9)
		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	98	—	—	—	—	—	98	98
Ships from 301 tons to 1,000 tons	22	1	—	—	—	1	21	22
Ships from 1,101 tons to 3,000 tons	55	5	—	—	—	5	50	55
Ships from 3,001 tons to 10,000 tons	90	16	—	—	—	16	74	90
Over 10,000 tons	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	265	22	—	—	—	22	243	265

* Applicable only to those Ports approved by the Minister of Health for the issue of Deratisation Certificates and Deratisation Exemption Certificates in accordance with the provisions of Article 28 of the International Sanitary Convention, 1926. (Form Port 11).

HYGIENE OF CREW'S SPACES.

TABLE J.

Classification of Nuisances.

Nationality of vessel	Number inspected during the year	Defects of original construction	Structural defects through wear and tear	Dirt, vermin and other condition prejudicial to health.
British ...	1,773	7	101	48
Other Nations	1,647	—	8	18

GENERAL SANITARY SUPERVISION.

During the year, 95 informal or verbal notices dealing with 182 nuisances were served.

BRITISH.

Verminous quarters	...	...	...	...	43
Accommodation requiring painting	...	...	...	...	12
Defective or leaking ports	...	...	...	...	10
Defective W.C. seats	...	...	...	...	9
Leaking overhead decks	...	...	...	...	7
Defective W.C. flush pipes	...	...	...	...	9
Defective radiators and heating apparatus	...	...	...	...	7
Defective W.C. pans	...	...	...	...	5
Dirty W.C. and washing accommodation	...	...	...	...	5
Choked scuppers	...	...	...	...	4
Defective ventilation	...	...	...	...	4
Defective accommodation doors	...	...	...	...	3
Defective galley stoves	...	...	...	...	3
Defective stove funnels	...	...	...	...	2
Defective bathroom showers	...	...	...	...	2
Fresh water tanks requiring cleaning	...	...	...	...	2
Dirty mattresses	...	...	...	...	1
Defective bathroom steampipe	...	...	...	...	1
Scuppers to fit	...	...	...	...	1
Defective forecastle deck	...	...	...	...	1
Defective galley flue pipe	...	...	...	...	1
Defective dead light	...	...	...	...	1
Food lockers to provide	...	...	...	...	1
Washing accommodation to provide	...	...	...	...	1
Defective crash panels	...	...	...	...	1
Leaking forecastle shellplating	...	...	...	...	1
Defective forecastle bulkhead	...	...	...	...	1
Oil lamps to secure	...	...	...	...	1
Partition to erect in forecastle	...	...	...	...	1
Leaking house pipe in forecastle	...	...	...	...	1
Mess tables to secure	...	...	...	...	1
Defective deck head lining	...	...	...	...	1
Defective W.C. storm valve	...	...	...	...	1
Defective flooring in bathroom	...	...	...	...	1
Defective fresh water service pipe	...	...	...	...	1
Choked W.C.	...	...	...	...	1
Defective hot press	...	...	...	...	1
Defective geyser	...	...	...	...	1
Galley steam pipe to lag	...	...	...	...	1
Defective galley cupboard	...	...	...	...	1
Defective galley skylight	...	...	...	...	1
Sanitary tank to fit	...	...	...	...	1

TOTAL BRITISH ... 153

FOREIGN.

Verminous quarters	...	...	...	...	8
Accommodation requiring painting	...	...	...	...	2
Defective or leaking ports	...	...	...	...	1
Defective W.C. seats	...	...	...	...	1
Leaking overhead decks	...	...	...	...	2
Defective radiators and heating apparatus	...	...	...	...	1
Defective W.C. pans	...	...	...	...	2
Dirty W.C. and washing accommodation	...	...	...	...	1
Choked scuppers	...	...	...	...	1
Defective ventilation	...	...	...	...	1
Dirty quarters	...	...	...	...	5
Dirty mattresses	...	...	...	...	1
Defective bathroom steampipe	...	...	...	...	1
Dirty food lockers	...	...	...	...	1
Dirty forecastle paintwork	...	...	...	...	1
TOTAL FOREIGN					29

NATIONALITY OF FOREIGN VESSELS.

Dutch	...	...	...	801	U.S.A.	...	...	2
Swedish	...	...	...	319	Turkish	...	...	2
Norwegian	...	...	...	221	Russian	...	...	2
Danish	...	...	...	103	South African	...	...	2
German	...	...	...	40	Israeli	...	...	1
Finnish	...	...	...	30	Faroese	...	...	1
Greek	...	...	...	29	Eire	...	...	1
French	...	...	...	26	Indian	...	...	1
Panama	...	...	...	18	New Zealand	...	...	1
Spanish	...	...	...	13	Polish	...	...	1
Italian	...	...	...	13	Icelandic	...	...	1
Swiss	...	...	...	9	Honduran	...	...	1
Portuguese	...	...	...	5				
Canadian	...	...	...	4				
TOTAL								1,647

VESSELS TREATED FOR VERMIN INFESTATION.

January 10th	S/S "Hartbridge."	Accommodation sprayed with insecticide.
17th	S/S "Bluestone."	Crews' quarters sprayed with insecticide.
22nd	S/S "Indian Endeavour."	Accommodation fumigated with H.C.N.
7th	S/S "Lodestone."	Accommodation fumigated with H.C.N.
19th	S/S "Basis."	Crews' quarters and galley sprayed with insecticide.

VESSELS TREATED FOR VERMIN INFESTATION—*continued.*

March	11th	S/S "Lake Geneva."	Crews' quarters sprayed with insecticide.
	12th	S/S "Heronspool."	Crews' quarters sprayed with insecticide.
	16th	S/S "Hartbridge."	Crews' messroom, pantry and provision store-room sprayed with insecticide.
	21st	S/S "Dimitrios A. Kydoniefs."	Crews' quarters sprayed with insecticide.
	21st	S/S "Kalev."	Crews' quarters sprayed with insecticide.
April	2nd	S/S "San George."	Crews' quarters sprayed with insecticide.
	4th	S/S "Fort Buffalo."	Crews' quarters sprayed with insecticide.
	4th	S/S "Clan Mackay."	Crews' quarters sprayed with insecticide.
	5th	S/S "Heronspool."	Accommodation fumigated with H.C.N.
	11th	S/S "Rosedale Park."	Accommodation sprayed with insecticide.
	28th	S/S "Hydraios."	Crews' quarters sprayed with insecticide.
May	6th	S/S "Avismoat."	Accommodation sprayed with insecticide.
	18th	S/S "Hendonhall."	Accommodation fumigated with H.C.N.
June	11th	S/S "Tempo."	Accommodation and galley sprayed with insecticide.
July	2nd	S/S "Macville."	Crews' quarters sprayed with insecticide.
	6th	S/S "Ramsey."	Accommodation sprayed with insecticide.
	11th	S/S "Matheran."	Provision store-room sprayed with insecticide.
	18th	S/S "Grandyke."	Accommodation sprayed with insecticide.
	18th	S/S "Marie Skou."	Crews' quarters sprayed with insecticide.
August	8th	S/S "Nikos T."	Crews' quarters sprayed with insecticide.
	17th	S/S "Admiral Coderington."	Accommodation fumigated with H.C.N.
Sept.	5th	S/S "Rosedale Park."	Crews' quarters and pantry sprayed with insecticide.
	6th	S/S "Merchant Royal."	Pantry sprayed with insecticide.
	12th	S/S "Langleetarn."	Crews' quarters sprayed with insecticide.
	22nd	S/S "Fort Grouard."	Crews' quarters sprayed with insecticide.
	24th	S/S "Innesmoor."	Crews' quarters sprayed with insecticide.
October	4th	S/S "Baron Geddes."	Accommodation sprayed with insecticide.
	14th	S/S "Kalev."	Crews' quarters and galley sprayed with insecticide.
	21st	S/S "Fort Glenora."	Crews' quarters sprayed with insecticide.
	24th	S/S "Leon De Nervo."	Crews' quarters and messrooms sprayed with insecticide.
Nov.	2nd	S/S "Dentonia Park."	Crews' messrooms sprayed with insecticide.
	7th	S/S "Fernmoor."	Crews' quarters sprayed with insecticide.
	29th	M/V "McGregor Laird."	Accommodation fumigated with H.C.N.
	30th	S/S "Sea Fisher."	Pantry and galley sprayed with insecticide.
Dec.	9th	S/S "Athenic."	Crews' messrooms sprayed with insecticide.
	19th	S/S "Fort Nisqually."	Provision storeroom sprayed with insecticide.
	20th	S/S "Alcyone Angel."	Crews' messrooms sprayed with insecticide.
	27th	S/S "Triton."	Messrooms, stewards' cabins and hospital accommodation sprayed with insecticide.

CASES OF ILLNESS OR INJURY ON BOARD VESSELS.

Reported or dealt with during the year 1949.

Date	Name of Vessel	Where from	Nature of illness	Remarks.
Jan. 7	Saivo	Wabana ...	Cerebral Haemorrhage	Died on voyage. Body landed to mortuary.
7	Polcirkeln ...	Narvik ...	Suspected influenza	Attended by Doctor on board.
10	Hartbridge ...	Freetown ...	Malaria (3 cases) ...	Treated on board during voyage.
12	Itinda	India via London	Chicken pox ...	Removed to West Lane Hospital.
12	Baron Murray ...	Freetown ...	Influenza	Landed to Hospital at Dover.
Feb. 4	Borneo	Wilhelmshaven	Influenza	Attended by Doctor on board.
14	Clan Angus ...	Stavanger via Tyne	Susp. Tuberculosis	Repatriated to India.
16	Obra	Calcutta via London	Venereal Disease ..	Referred to Clinic.
16	Obra	Calcutta via London	For observation ...	Removed to West Lane Hospital for observation.
19	Baron Elcho ...	Casablanca ...	Venereal Disease .. (2 cases)	Referred to Clinic.
22	Musko	Oxelosund ...	Accident	Removed to General Hospital.
28	Hogmarso ...	Oxelosund ...	Venereal Disease .. (3 cases)	Referred to Clinic.
28	Fogdo	Oxelosund ...	Suspected septic throat.	Attended by Doctor on board.
March 3	Virginia	Cyprus via Aalborg	Venereal Disease ...	Referred to Clinic.

CASES OF ILLNESS ON BOARD VESSELS—*continued.*

Date	Name of Vessel	Where from	Nature of illness	Remarks.
March 7	Harberton ...	Lagoulette ...	Venereal Disease ...	Referred to Clinic.
8	Ashgate ...	Oxelosund ...	Venereal Disease ...	Referred to Clinic.
9	Benrinnes ...	Far East via Hull	Tuberculosis ...	Treated on board. Patient returning to China.
10	Surname ...	Emden ...	Influenza ...	Treated on board.
14	Flamenco ...	Huelva ...	Head injuries ...	Treated by Dr. on board.
21	Kalev ...	La Garoucha	Suspected V.D. ...	Referred to Clinic.
28	Bestum ...	Benisaf via Dover	Venereal Disease ...	Dealt with on voyage.
April 4	Fort Buffalo ...	Takoradi ...	Venereal Disease ...	Referred to Clinic.
7	Hulua Thorden	Narvik ...	Rupture ...	Attended by Dr. on board.
11	Rosedale Park ...	Pepel ...	Suspected Malaria	Visited by Deputy Medical Officer of Health.
12	Kiela ...	Lagoulette ...	Venereal Disease ... (2 cases)	Referred to Clinic.
13	Moldavia ...	Bougie ...	Susp. Diphtheria	Diagnosed as Diphtheria at West Lane Hospital.
14	Joost ...	Kiel via Grangemouth	Venereal Disease ...	Referred to Clinic.
16	Wolanda ...	Emden ...	Venereal Disease ...	Referred to Clinic.
19	Braemar Castle ...	Hamburg via Cardiff.	Venereal Disease ...	Referred to Clinic.
19	Fort Aklavik ...	Colombo via Lagoulette	Stomach trouble	Landed to Hospital at Colombo.
19	Clan MacLeod ...	Rotterdam ...	Jaundice ...	Treated on board.

CASES OF ILLNESS ON BOARD VESSELS—*continued.*

Date	Name of Vessel	Where from	Nature of illness	Remarks.
April 23	Carpentaria ...	India via London	Chickenpox (2 cases) ...	Seen by Deputy Medical Officer of Health and removed to West Lane Hospital.
26	Polcirkeln ...	Narvik ...	Venereal Disease ...	Referred to Clinic.
May 2	A.M. Nurminen...	Bizerta ...	Heart trouble ...	Seen by Deputy Medical Officer of Health and removed to General Hospital.
2	Lievin ...	Djedjelli ...	Abscess on leg ...	Treated by Dr. on board.
6	Avismoat ...	Takoradi ...	Stroke ...	Landed to Hospital at Lisbon.
11	Mabella ...	Hamburg ...	Venereal Disease (2 cases) ...	Treated on board during voyage.
11	Nordic ...	Bone ...	Venereal Disease ...	Referred to Clinic.
June 3	Ledbury ...	Sfax via Rotterdam	Tonsilitis ...	Admitted to West Lane Hospital.
7	Empire Martaban	Takoradi ...	For observation ...	Admitted to West Lane Hospital for observation.
11	Snar ...	Lagoulette ...	Tuberculosis ...	Landed to Hospital at Gibraltar.
14	Jalakrishna ...	India via Antwerp	Venereal Disease ...	Referred to Clinic.
16	Fort Sturgeon ...	Lagoulette via Gibraltar	Not known ...	Landed to Hospital at Gibraltar. Subsequently died.
25	Bonaventure ...	Freetown ...	Boils ...	Treated by Dr. on board.
July 1	Nordic ...	Lagoulette ...	Venereal Disease (2 cases) ...	Referred to Clinic.

CASES OF ILLNESS ON BOARD VESSELS—*continued.*

Date	Name of Vessel	Where from	Nature of Illness	Remarks
July 6	Ramsey ...	Takoradi ...	Malaria ...	Treated on board during voyage.
13	Farningham ...	Takoradi ...	Susp. Malaria ...	Admitted to West Lane Hospital.
21	Raycreek ...	Coastwise ...	Septic leg ...	Attended by Dr. Pedlow.
22	Greathope ...	Melilla ...	Scabies ...	Treated at General Hospital.
26	Epiros ...	Pepel ...	Malaria ...	Admitted to West Lane Hospital.
27	Guian ...	Bizerta ...	Sciatica ...	Attended by Dr. on board.
27	Mimer ...	Antwerp ...	Venereal Disease ... (3 cases)	Referred to Clinic.
August 2	Alde Baron ...	Takoradi ...	Suspected Malaria (2 cases)	Admitted to West Lane Hospital for observation.
8	Nikos T. ...	Pepel ...	Hernia (2 cases) ...	Attended by Dr. on board.
8	Nikos T. ...	Pepel ...	Influenza ...	Attended by Dr. on board.
8	Nikos T. ...	Pepel ...	Haemorrhoids ...	Attended by Dr. on board.
8	Cape Nelson ...	New Orleans via London	Suspected Typhoid (5 cases)	Landed to Hospital at New Orleans.
11	Alstern ...	Otterbacken ...	Venereal Disease ...	Referred to Clinic.
15	Goalpara ...	East Africa via Sunderland	Kidney trouble ...	Attended by Dr. on board.
16	Meridian ...	Pepel ...	Malaria (2 cases) ...	Admitted to West Lane Hospital.
16	Goalpara ...	East Africa via Sunderland	Malaria ...	Landed to Hospital at Sunderland.
22	Birgette Skou ...	Lulea ...	Venereal Disease ...	Referred to Clinic.

CASES OF ILLNESS ON BOARD VESSELS—*continued.*

Date	Name of Vessel	Where from	Nature of illness	Remarks.
Aug. 25	Rocky Mountains Park	Pepel ...	Malaria (2 cases)	Admitted to West Lane Hospital.
25	Rocky Mountains Park	Pepel ...	Malaria (6 cases) ...	Treated on voyage.
Sept. 7	Empire Martaban	Takoradi ...	Suspected Malaria	Dealt with on voyage.
8	Polcirkeln ...	Lulea ...	Appendicitis ...	Admitted to North Ormesby Hospital.
20	Dimitrios Inglessis	Bona ...	Sus. Appendicitis...	Examined by Deputy Medical Officer of Health.
24	Innesmoor ...	Bona ...	Venereal Disease ... (2 cases)	Referred to Clinic.
27	Persian Coast ...	Kiel ...	Heart trouble and nerves	Sent home for treatment.
Oct. 11	Johilla ...	Tampa via Liverpool	Influenza ...	Treated by Dr. on board.
11	Vasco ...	Hull ...	Malaria ...	Landed to Hospital at Liverpool.
21	Fort Glenora ...	Lagoulette ...	Venereal Disease ...	Referred to Clinic.
24	Leon De Nervo	Lagoulette ...	Knife wounds ...	Treated at North Ormesby Hospital.
27	Nordic ...	Bougie ...	Eye infection ...	Treated at General Hospital.
29	Langleetarn ...	Bone ...	Suspected Hernia	Sent home for treatment.
Nov. 19	Magna Pete ...	Rotterdam ...	Boils ...	Treated by Dr. on board.
25	City of Hong Kong	Antwerp ...	Venereal Disease ...	Landed at Hull.
25	Reiger ...	Coastwise ...	Venereal Disease ...	Referred to Clinic.
25	Eginhard ...	Kiel via Blyth	Sore throat ...	Treated by Dr. on board.

CASES OF ILLNESS ON BOARD VESSELS—*continued.*

Date	Name of Vessel	Where from	Nature of Illness	Remarks
Nov. 28	Sylvian Coast ...	London ...	Not Diagnosed ...	Examined by Doctor on board.
Dec. 8	Venetian ...	Haifa via London	Venereal Disease ...	Referred to Clinic.
9	Tilsington Court	Narvik ...	Scarlet Fever ...	Removed to West Lane Hospital.
23	Bjorko ...	Oxelosund via Immingham	Bronchial trouble	Treated by Fed. Doctor.
27	Clan Kennedy ...	Cochin via London	Tumour ...	Landed to Hospital at London.
27	Clan Kennedy ...	Cochin via London	Pneumonia ...	Died in Hospital at London.
29	City of Poona ...	Antwerp ...	Venereal Disease ...	Referred to Clinic.
29	Basis ...	Antwerp ...	Venereal Disease ... (2 cases)	Treated on board during voyage.
31	Harberton ...	Pepel ...	Malaria ...	Examined by Fed. Doctor.

(VII). FOOD INSPECTION.

Consignments of foodstuffs have been systematically examined during the year. These consist of :—Fruit, vegetables, wheat, tea, sugar, syrup, canned meat and groceries. They were all found to be in good condition.

(1). It was not found necessary to take any action under the Public Health (Imported Foods) Regulations, 1937, the Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations, 1926, and the Public Health (Preservatives, etc. in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1940.

(2). Shell-fish. In 1932 the River Tees Port Health Authority made regulations under the Public Health Act, 1896, prohibiting the sale or offering for sale any mussels, cockles, periwinkles or other shell-fish taken from within the district unless and until such shell-fish have been re-laid for such a period as may be directed.

There are no beds laid in the Tees Estuary. The River Police keep the collecting of shell-fish from the banks of the river under observation. All shell-fish in the area are liable to pollution.

No action has been taken during the year under the Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations, 1934, or the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

(3). It was not found necessary to take any samples of food for analytical or bacteriological examination during the year.

Samples of water are taken monthly from the water boats supplying vessels with water.

MOTOR LAUNCH "MERCIE II."

This launch was delivered by the builders, Messrs. Brooke Marine of Lowestoft, in April, and is giving very satisfactory service. She is very much more economical running than the old steam launch and is a great advantage to the medical and inspectorial staffs in carrying out the work of the Port.

The launch is built of steel with wood superstructure and is powered by a Gardner Diesel engine, giving her a speed of 9 to 10 knots. The accommodation comprises a fore-cabin for the use of the crew, from which there is a water-tight door leading to the engine room which, in turn, leads to the wheelhouse and control room abaft which is the cabin for use of medical and inspectorial staff which can also be adapted for stretcher cases as and when required. This cabin opens into the cockpit. Lavatory accommodation is provided at the after end of the fore cabin on the port side. Electric lighting is fitted and heating is provided by a Tilley pressure fire.

The dimensions of the Launch are as follows :—length overall, 45 ft. 0 ins., L.W.L. 44 ft. 0 ins., Beam 10 ft. 0 ins., Mean draft 3 ft. 0 ins.

