

[Report 1955] / Medical Officer of Health, River Tees Port Health Authority.

Contributors

River Tees Port Health Authority.

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RIVER TEES PORT HEALTH
AUTHORITY



SIXTY-NINTH
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
(ERIC C. DOWNER, M.A., D.P.H.).

H. & F. STOKELD, PRINTERS, GRANGE ROAD,
MIDDLESBROUGH.

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RIVER TEES PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

LIST OF MEMBERS, 1955-1956.

Middlesbrough :

Councillor J. S. Braddy, J.P.
 Councillor W. Breckon.
 Councillor G. A. Cockerline.
 Councillor T. Farthing.
 Councillor H. Robson.
 Councillor W. J. Story.
 Councillor T. Williams.
 Alderman F. J. Longstaff, J.P.

Eston :

Councillor V. H. Bell.
 Councillor W. Rowley.
 Councillor R. S. Young.

Billingham :

Councillor C. Broady.
 Councillor The Rev. J. H. B. Darling.
 Councillor J. Ritchie.

Stockton-on-Tees :

Alderman H. C. Atkinson.
 Councillor L. R. Lewis.
 Councillor Mrs. M. Scott.
 Councillor G. T. Smith.

Stockton R.D.C. :

Councillor F. B. Battersby.
 Councillor W. Hardcastle.

Thornaby :

Councillor C. Anderton.
 Councillor E. E. Shepherd.

Redcar :

Alderman J. S. Dixon.
 Alderman S. G. Shillito.

Chairman 1954-1955 :

C. Anderton, Esq.

Chairman 1955-1956 :

F. J. Longstaff, Esq., J.P.

Clerk :

G. W. W. Barnley, Esq.

Deputy Clerk :

H. L. Cartwright, Esq.

SECTION I.—STAFF.

TABLE A.

Name of Officer	Nature of Appointment	Date of Appointment	Qualifications	Any other appointments held
Eric C. Downer	Port Medical Officer	19. 6. 1950	M.A., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health, County Borough of Middlesbrough. Principal School Medical Officer.
R. Taylor	Deputy Port Medical Officer	1. 6. 1952	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Deputy Medical Officer of Health.
*R. Short	Assistant Port Medical Officer	1. 7. 1953	L.R.C.P. & S.E., L.R.F.P.S.G., D.P.H.	Assistant Medical Officer of Health.
A. Nielson Jones	Chief Port Health Health Inspector	12. 4. 1937	Master Mariner, C.R.S.I., Certificate Meat and Food.	Food Inspector and Rodent Officer.
‡G. Richards	Additional Port Health Inspector	15. 4. 1946	Master Mariner, C.R.S.I.	Assistant Food Inspector and Rodent Officer.
–C. R. English	Additional Port Health Inspector	1. 11. 1949	Master Mariner, C.R.S.I.	Assistant Food Inspector and Rodent Officer.
W. B. Curry	Assistant Port Health Inspector	24. 11. 1955	Ministry of Transport 2nd Mate Certificate.	
T. Warwick	Rat Searcher	October, 1933		
J. Glazebrook	Rat Searcher	29. 6. 1953		
J. Buckton	Launch Coxswain	August, 1927		

A deck boy is also employed on the Launch.

Typing: Part-time clerk/typist by arrangement with Middlesbrough Corporation Health Department.

Address and telephone number of Medical Officer of Health :

Health Department, 26, Southfield Road,
Middlesbrough. Telephone: 3201.

* Resigned 31.5.1955.

‡ Resigned 28.2.1955. Transferred to Middlesbrough Corporation as an additional District Sanitary Inspector.

– Resigned 8.12.1955. Appointed Deputy Harbour Master, River Tees.

TABLE A.

Name of Officer	Position	Date of Appointment	Term of Appointment	Any other appointments held
Eric C. Downer	Port Medical Officer	19. 6. 1955		Medical Officer of Health, County of Middlesbrough, through the Principal School Medical Officer.

RIVER TEES PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

26, SOUTHFIELD ROAD,

MIDDLESBROUGH.

March, 1956.

To THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE RIVER TEES PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY :

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1955.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ERIC C. DOWNER,
Port Medical Officer.

Address and telephone number of Medical Officer of Health:
Health Department, 28, Southfield Road,
Middlesbrough. Telephone: 3201.

Resigned 31.2.1955.
Resigned 28.2.1955. Transferred to Middlesbrough Corporation as an additional District Sanitary Inspector.
Resigned 31.12.1955. Appointed Deputy Harbour Master, River Tees.

SECTION II.—AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR.

TABLE B.

Ships from	Number	Tonnage (Net)	Number inspected		Number of ships reported as having or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board
			By a Medical Officer of Health	By a Port Health Inspector	
Foreign Ports ...	1,772	3,201,298	462	1,769	8
Coastwise ...	2,138	972,541	3	1,892	1
Total ...	3,910	4,173,839	465	3,661	9

SECTION III.—CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR.

TABLE C.

Passenger Traffic ...	{	Number of passengers inwards ...	441
		Number of passengers outwards ...	632
Cargo Traffic ...	{	Principal IMPORTS—Iron ore, manganese and chrome ores, scrap iron, potash, petrol, phosphate, coal, pig iron, sulphur, sugar and sundry goods.	
		Principal EXPORTS—Steel, sulphate of ammonia, coal, pitch, machinery, creosote, slag, coke, chemicals and manufactured goods.	

Principal Ports from which ships arrive—Oxelosund, Narvik, Luleo, Gothenburg, Oslo, Copenhagen, Aarhus, Kotka, Pepel, La Goulette, Bougie, Bona, Freetown, Casablanca, Antwerp, Rotterdam, Hamburg, Rouen, Ghent, Ymuiden, Takoradi, Gefle, Wismar, Wabana, and ports in India, South Africa, China, Australia and New Zealand.

COMPARATIVE SCHEDULE OF THE IMPORTS IN TONS INTO THE RIVER TEES DURING THE
YEARS ENDED 31st OCTOBER 1954 and 1955.

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

Commodity	1954 Tons	1955 Tons	Increase Tons	Decrease Tons
ORES				
Iron, etc.	2,736,687	2,813,215	76,528	...
Manganese	188,128	128,737	...	59,391
Chrome	22,832	28,665	5,833	...
Total Ores	2,947,647	2,970,617	82,361	59,391
IRON & STEEL				
Pig Iron	45,305	58,311	13,006	...
Billets, etc.	1,000	999	...	1
Manufactures	2,486	4,526	2,040	...
Scrap	324,144	308,647	...	15,497
Machinery	1,544	2,328	784	...
Total Iron & Steel	374,479	374,811	15,830	15,498
Coal	635,986	680,263	44,277	...
Coke ... ..	...	4,225	4,225	...
Loam, etc.	14,883	11,470	...	3,413
Chemical Manures	67,586	72,332	4,746	...
Oils, Fuels, etc.	47,057	56,802	9,745	...
Oils, Creosote	50,293	50,876	583	...
Oils, Feedstock, etc.	184,447	178,030	...	6,417
Petrol, etc.	44,190	44,082	...	108
Corn, Wheat, etc.	1,688	...	...	1,688
Provisions	3,915	2,882	...	1,033
Sugar	2,762	3,701	939	...
Paper ... ..	...	...	...	...
Wood	5,898	5,803	...	95
Magnesite ... ..	...	...	...	...
Chemicals	11,429	16,390	4,961	...
Glass	12	23	11	...
Bags	6,151	7,124	973	...
Phosphate Rock	112,679	108,091	...	4,588
Spelter	2,287	1,081	...	1,206
Sulphur	17,505	17,338	...	167
Sundry Goods	12,475	19,199	6,724	...
Totals	4,543,369	4,625,140	175,375	93,604

1955 : Increase over the tonnage imported in 1954 ... 81,771 tons.

COMPARATIVE SCHEDULE OF THE EXPORTS IN TONS FROM THE RIVER TEES DURING THE YEARS ENDED 31st OCTOBER 1954 and 1955.

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

Commodity	1954 Tons	1955 Tons	Increase Tons	Decrease Tons
IRON AND STEEL				
Pig Iron	9,134	11,532	2,398	...
Rails and Fishplates ...	69,912	88,602	18,690	...
Castings	63,352	66,750	3,398	...
Angles, Bars & Plates ...	250,617	301,109	50,492	...
Bridgework	901	6,623	5,722	...
Joists, etc.	13,702	18,403	4,701	...
Scrap	1,348	4,270	2,922	...
Galvanised Sheets ...	7,081	7,030	...	51
Machinery	20,873	29,523	8,650	...
Carriage & Wagonwork...	585	602	17	...
Wire (of all kinds) ...	4,804	11,000	6,196	...
Manufactured (other than the above) ...	11,617	20,996	9,379	...
Total Iron & Steel	453,926	566,440	112,565	51
Coal—Cargo	357,367	268,602	...	88,765
Coal—Excess Bunkers ...	10,724	9,787	...	937
Coke	13,449	20,418	6,969	...
Salt	875	845	...	30
Sulphate of Ammonia ...	322,446	292,812	...	29,634
Chemicals (other than Sulphate of Ammonia)	69,912	75,136	5,224	...
Pitch and Tar	67,531	66,419	...	1,112
Oil—Creosote	27,590	21,234	...	6,356
Oil—Benzole, etc. ...	8,912	8,797	...	115
Oil—Petrol, etc. ...	54,215	66,913	12,698	...
Slag Rough	174,431	184,973	10,542	...
Slag Wool	572	810	238	...
Glass and Earthenware ...	531	868	337	...
Paint, etc.	1,814	1,576	...	238
Paper	108	208	100	...
Cement	75	...	...	75
Corn	142	...	...	142
Sundry Goods	23,080	32,415	9,335	...
Totals	1,587,700	1,618,253	158,008	127,455

Net increase on 1954 ... 30,553 Tons (excluding "allowed" bunker coal).
 "Allowed" Bunker Coal 1954 ... 60,013 Tons. 1955 ... 49,302 Tons.

SECTION IV—INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC.

There is no barge traffic in the River Tees.

SECTION V.—WATER SUPPLY.

- (1) (a) Source of supply for the district—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 obtain their water from hydrants on the wharves, the town supply serving these hydrants. Occasionally ships lying at the buoys in the river are supplied by water boat. The two water boats at present in use are kept under constant supervision; the tanks are cleaned out weekly and the boats are periodically inspected and samples of water taken frequently.
- (2) 23 water samples were taken during the year, mostly from the water boats. Most of these tests were satisfactory. When unsatisfactory reports were received the Owners of the vessels concerned were directed to empty the tanks, clean them out and replenish with fresh water, after which further samples were taken. Samples are also taken from the hydrants.
- (3) Precaution taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes—Hydrants are covered when not in use and hoses stowed in lockers.
- (4) Number and sanitary condition of water boats and powers of control by the Authority—There are at present two water boats operating and their sanitary condition is satisfactory. Powers of control are contained in the Public Health Act, 1936, Sections 3, 141 and 267. This Authority has no local powers over water boats.

SECTION VI.—PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1952.**(1) LIST OF INFECTED AREAS :**

Lists of infected areas are compiled each week from the Weekly Record of quarantinable diseases and copies are supplied to the H.M. Customs Waterguard. These lists are sent by post each Monday morning.

(2) RADIO MESSAGES :

(a) It has not been found necessary up to the present at this port to send permission by radio for ships to enter the district. Arrangements have been made however, to send such messages through Cullercoats Radio station.

(b) Arrangements have been made for radio messages from ships to be sent direct to the Port Medical Officer, either in plain language or in code, using the 1931 International Code of Signals.

(3) NOTIFICATIONS OTHERWISE THAN BY RADIO (REGULATION 14(1)(b)):

Arrangements have been made for messages to be sent by morse code from ships in Tees Bay to the light-keepers on the breakwater and such messages are telephoned to the Medical Officer. Ships with infectious disease on board are then held in quarantine until visited by the Port Medical Officer.

(4) MOORING STATIONS (REGULATIONS 22 to 30):

There is a mooring station in the river situated at Eston No. 4 buoys which is intended for ships which are infected or suspected on account of one of the major infectious diseases. Ships entering the Port with a case or suspected case of infectious disease, other than one of the major infectious diseases are allowed to proceed to their place of mooring, but are quarantined until visited by the Medical Officer of Health and declared clear.

(5) ARRANGEMENTS FOR—

(a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases : Accommodation is reserved at West Lane Isolation Hospital for any infectious disease case admitted from the Port, other than smallpox.

(b) 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 are forwarded to the Medical Officer of Health for such districts.

(c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles: Disinfection of ships for the prevention of infectious disease is carried out by the Port Health Staff. Bedding and clothing are either burnt or removed to West Lane Isolation Hospital for disinfection. Members of the crew or other persons on board are also removed to this Hospital and are accommodated in a building reserved for this purpose whilst they are bathed and their clothes disinfected.

SECTION VII.—SMALLPOX.

(1). Name of Isolation Hospital to which smallpox cases are sent from the district:
Langley Park Hospital (near Durham City).

(2) Arrangements for transport of such cases to that Hospital by ambulance :
In cases of smallpox, vessels concerned would be berthed at the quarantine buoys in the river and cases would be removed by the Authority's launch and transferred to an ambulance belonging to Middlesbrough Public Health Department at the ferry landing.

(3) Name(s) of smallpox consultant(s) available :
These are in accordance with Ministry of Health's regional panel of consultants.

(4) Facilities for laboratory diagnosis of Smallpox :
These facilities are provided at the area public health laboratory.

SECTION VIII.—VENEREAL DISEASE.

The Special Treatment Centre is at the General Hospital, Ayresome Green Lane, Middlesbrough, 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, together with times of treatment, are distributed 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.

**MERCHANT SEAMEN TREATED AT THE SPECIAL TREATMENT
CENTRE, MIDDLESBROUGH GENERAL HOSPITAL, DURING THE
YEAR 1955.**

(Kindly supplied by the Consultants in charge).

During the year 1955, the total number of merchant seamen receiving treatment was 273 ; these were sub-divided as follows:—

British Seamen	...	...	...	79
British Commonwealth	...	...	...	39
Foreign Seamen	...	...	...	155

Of the above number, 224 cases were of recent infection, were diagnosed and commenced treatment at this clinic. The total number of cases have been classified by country, and in the fresh cases by disease as follows:—

	Total No. Cases	Fresh Infections :		
		Syphilis	Gonorrhoea	Others
British Seamen	79	6	14	43
British Commonwealth ...	39	1	9	20
sub-divided :				
Aden	5	—	2	2
India & Pakistan ...	17	1	2	9
Malaya	1	—	—	—
Somaliland	4	—	—	2
South Africa	7	—	2	5
West Africa	1	—	1	—
West Indies	4	—	2	2
Foreign Seamen	155	1	42	88
sub-divided :				
Belgium	1	—	—	—
Denmark	9	—	2	3
Estonia	3	—	3	—
Finland	13	—	5	7
France	1	—	—	1
Germany	11	—	3	8
Greece	20	—	5	13
Holland	25	—	6	14
Israel	1	—	—	—
Italy	1	—	—	1
Lithuania	2	—	—	2
Norway	28	—	7	18
Poland	3	—	2	1
Spain	11	—	4	6
Sweden	19	—	4	9
Yugoslavia	7	1	1	5

SECTION IX.—CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES ON SHIPS.

TABLE D.

Category	Disease	Number of Cases during the year		Number of ships concerned
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports ...	Malaria fever	—	1	1
	Influenza	—	2	2
	Dysentery	—	3	3
	Mumps	—	1	1
	Chicken pox	—	1	1
	Pneumonia	—	1	1
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival ...	Tuberculosis	—	2	2
	Malaria fever	—	1	1
	Chicken pox	—	1	1
Cases landed from other ships	Influenza	—	2	2
	Pneumonia	—	1	1

SECTION X.—OBSERVATIONS ON THE OCCURRENCE OF MALARIA ON SHIPS.

The occurrence of malarial fever on vessels arriving in the Port has again been negligible during the year.

SECTION XI.—MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS INFECTED WITH OR SUSPECTED FOR PLAGUE.

There have not been any vessels arriving in the Port infected with or suspected for plague during the year.

SECTION XII.—MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS.

- (1) Procedure for inspection of ships for rats.—All ships arriving in the Port from foreign ports and as many coastwise vessels as is possible, are inspected by the inspectorial staff and a thorough search is made for indication of rodent infestation by the Searchers. Where indications of rodent infestation are found traps are set and specimens are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination, and in cases where the deratting certificate has expired and indications of rodents are found, the vessel is ordered to be fumigated.
- (2) Arrangements for the bacteriological or pathological examination of rodents.—Arrangements have been made for the bacteriological and pathological examination of rodents at the Public Health Laboratory, Middlesbrough General Hospital. Twenty-six specimens were submitted for examination during the year, all with negative results.
- (3) Arrangements in the district for deratting ships and the methods used.—Deratting of ships at this Port is almost entirely done by fumigation with H.C.N. gas. Cyanosorb is chiefly used but in some cases where outside contractors are employed, liquid cyanide is used. Most of the work is carried out by a local contractor—Messrs. Ben Wright & Co. of Middlesbrough, but occasionally outside contractors are engaged from other ports. Each fumigation is supervised by the inspectorial staff.
- (4) Progress in the rat-proofing of ships.—Ship builders are now giving a good deal of attention to rat-proofing and most new vessels are found to be largely rat-proof. Advice is given from time to time when rat-proofing is not satisfactory.

TABLE E.

RODENTS DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS.

Category	Number
Black rats	443
Brown rats	Nil
Sent for examination ...	26
Infected with plague ...	Nil

In addition 19 black and 38 brown rats were caught and destroyed on wharves. Nine of these were sent for bacteriological examination.

TABLE F.

DERATTING CERTIFICATES AND DERATTING EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES
ISSUED DURING THE YEAR FOR SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS.

No. of Deratting Certificates issued.					Number of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued	Total Certificates issued
After fumigation with		After trapping 3	After poisoning 4	Total 5		
HCN 1	Other fumigant (state method) 2					
9	Nil	Nil	Nil	9	221	230

SECTION XIII.—INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES.

TABLE G.
INSPECTIONS AND NOTICES.

Nature and number of inspections			Notices served		Result of serving Notices
			Statutory Notices	Other Notices	
Foreign going vessels	...	1772	-	29	28
Coastwise	...	2138	-	3	1
Total	...	3910	-	32	29 Remedied. The remainder were dealt with at other ports

GENERAL SANITARY SUPERVISION.

During the year 32 informal or verbal notices dealing with 48 nuisances were served.

Cockroach and other vermin infestation	15
Defective or broken port lights	5
Defective overhead decks	3
Defective W.C. pans	2
Defective messroom table tops	2
Missing drawers in messroom	2
Defective messroom geysers	2
Defective washbasins and waste pipes	2
Insufficient ventilation in bathroom	1
Dirty paintwork	1
Defective skylight	1
Defective flush pipe	1
Dirty galley and food lockers	1
Choked W.C.	1
Accommodation requiring painting	1
Defective galley bench top	1
Defective W.C. flush valve	1
Defective shower bath tap	1
Defective hot water pipe	1
Defective sink waste pipe	1
Defective chain pipe in forcastle	1
Defective sanitary tank	1
Choked bathroom scupper	1
Total	48

**SECTION XIV.—PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL-FISH) REGULATIONS
1934 and 1948.**

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 bank 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 above Regulations, or the Food and Drugs Act 1938, or the Food and Drugs Act 1955.

SECTION XV.—MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS.

- (1) List of Medical Inspectors of Aliens holding Warrants of Appointment :
- Dr. Eric C. Downer, Medical Officer of Health.
 Dr. R. Taylor, Deputy Medical Officer of Health.
 Dr. R. Short, Assistant Medical Officer of Health (to 31.5.1955).

- (2) List of other staff engaged in the work : None.

- (3) Organisation of work :

The Port Medical Officer is notified of all alien passengers, including stowaways arriving in the Port and arrangements are made for the Medical Officer to examine them on board before they are allowed to disembark.

- (4) Nature and amount of aliens traffic :

The majority of alien passengers arriving in the Port are pleasure visitors to this Country, chiefly from the Scandinavian countries. A number also arrive regularly from Denmark bound for the Far East. These passengers are granted temporary shore leave during the vessel's stay in Middlesbrough. Stowaways occasionally arrive from West African ports.

The total number of alien passengers arriving in the Port during the year was 476 (including temporary shore leave passengers).

- (5) Accommodation for medical inspection and examination :

Aliens are generally examined on board, but accommodation is available at the Health Department, 26, Southfield Road, if it should be required. 246 alien passengers landed at the Port during the year. In addition 230 alien passengers not landing at Middlesbrough were granted temporary shore leave.

SECTION XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious disease :

Dead bodies of persons who had died on board from infectious disease would be removed to the mortuary at West Lane Isolation Hospital, from whence they would be buried.

RETURN OF CASES OF SICKNESS OR INJURY FOUND ON VESSELS ENTERING THE PORT.

Venereal Disease	...	...	...	9
Influenza	...	...	...	4
Dysentery	...	...	...	3
Tonsilitis	...	...	...	2
Eye Infection	...	...	...	2
Ulcerated stomach	...	...	...	2
Pneumonia	...	...	...	1
Fractured wrist	...	...	...	1
Crushed foot	...	...	...	1
Suspected malaria	...	...	...	1
Rupture	...	...	...	1
Sprained ankle	...	...	...	1
Eczema	...	...	...	1
Injury to finger	...	...	...	1
General debility	...	...	...	1
Mumps	...	...	...	1
Injury to foot	...	...	...	1
Duodenal ulcer	...	...	...	1
Chicken pox	...	...	...	1
Stomach trouble	...	...	...	1
Acute Hydrocele	...	...	...	1
Poisoned leg	...	...	...	1
Strained back	...	...	...	1
Skin eruption	...	...	...	1
Septic throat	...	...	...	1
Enteritis	...	...	...	1
Abscess on thigh	...	...	...	1
Total	...	...	...	<u>43</u>

Of the above 20 were treated at hospital or at the clinic ; the remainder were treated on board or proceeded home.

CASES OF ILLNESS OR INJURY ON BOARD VESSELS.

Reported or dealt with during the year 1955.

Date	Name of Vessel	Where from	Nature of illness	Remarks.
January 25	Trio	London	Influenza	Seen by M.O.H.
28	Gleddock	Pepel	Susp. tuberculosis Suspected malaria	Put in hospital Las Palmas Dealt with on voyage.
31	Delta	Hamburg	Tonsilitis (2) Cold & diarrhoea	Seen by M.O.H. Removed West Lane Hospital. Landed to hospital, Stock- ton. Returned ship. Died. Pneumonia.
February 4	Ooster Emms	London	Fractured wrist	Attended General Hospital
7	Craftsman	W. Indies via London	Crushed foot	Attended Hospital for X-ray treatment.
10	Melrose	Antwerp	Appendicitis (2)	Landed hospital, Antwerp.
11	Dalia	Takoradi	Eye trouble Suspected malaria Venereal disease	Medically attended on board. Medically attended on board. 5 cases referred to Clinic.
15	Enid Mary	London	Suspected rupture	Medical attention given on board and sent home.
21	Royal	Oxelosund	Venereal disease	Referred to Clinic.
24	Pontfield	Le Havre	Coronary Thrombosis	Died in Le Havre.
28	Cabourne	Ipswich	Sprained ankle	Medically attended on board
28	Kalix	Oxelosund	Eczema	Medically attended on board
28	Ilse	Bougie	Eye trouble Injured finger Backache General debility	Medically attended on board do. do. do.

CASES OF ILLNESS ON BOARD VESSELS—*continued.*

Date	Name of Vessel	Where from	Nature of illness	Remarks.
	Nowshera ...	Clyde ...	Influenza ...	Medcially attended on board.
Feb. 24	Nicolas Michalos	Savannah ...	Dysentery ...	Admitted West Lane Hospital.
March 12	Umgeni ...	South Africa v. Rotterdam	Mumps ...	Deputy M.O.H. in attendance.
15	Holnis ...	Narvik ...	Injured foot ...	Removed General Hospital
16	Khyber ...	India, London, Antwerp	Stomach trouble	Landed Antwerp.
31	Garnes ...	Casablanca ...	Duodenal ulcer ...	Medical attention arranged Proceeding home for treatment.
April 4	Monte Nuria ...	Almeria	Suspected smallpox	M.O.H. in attendance. Removed West Lane Hospital. Vessel quarantined from 1430 to 1700. Diagnosed chicken pox.
7	Trevelyan ...	West Africa v. Hull	Susp. diphtheria	Landed Hull. Diagnosed septic throat.
15	City of Delhi ...	India v. U.K. v. Hamburg	Stomach trouble	Medically attended on board.
May 11	Bessa ...	Christiansund	Acute hydrocele ...	Medically attended on board.
27	Memphis ...	Morphou Bay	Death from heart	attack on voyage.
June 9	Monte Neranco	Bougie ...	Susp. dysentery	Removed West Lane Hospital.
17	Dunwick Head	Nantes ...	Poisoned leg ...	Medically attended on board.

CASES OF ILLNESS ON BOARD VESSELS—*continued.*

Date	Name of Vessel	Where from	Nature of illness	Remarks.
July 1	Clan Buchanan	India v. London	Severe constipation	Medically attended on board.
21	Specialist	S. Africa	Strained back	Medically attended on board.
21	Baron Carsder	Takoradi	Skin eruption	M.O.H. in attendance.
22	Topusko	Casablanca v. Rotterdam	Kidney trouble	Landed Rotterdam.
27	Temple Inn	Conakri	Venereal disease	Treated on voyage. Referred Clinic.
August 3	Georgia	Seven Islands		Corpse landed for shipment to Glasgow.
18	Adelso	Lulea	Sore throat	Temperature 103.5. M.O.H. attending.
26	Vivo	London	Venereal disease	1 case referred to Clinic.
Sept. 2	Avisbay	Pepel	Suspected malaria	Removed West Lane Hosp. Deputy M.O.H. attended. Diagnosed enteritis. Discharged 7.9.1955.
10	Brinio	London	Ulcerated stomach	1 case. Proceeding Holland for treatment.
13	Innamo	Kotka v. Grangemouth	Dysentery and Pneumonia	1 case landed to West Lane Hospital.
October 12	Ampleforth	Gdynia	Venereal disease	1 case referred to Clinic.
19	Avistone	Bougie	Thrombosis	1 case. Death at Bougie Hospital.
23	Ruby	London	Broken wrist	Landed Dover.

CASES OF ILLNESS ON BOARD VESSELS—*continued.*

Date	Name of Vessel	Where from	Nature of Illness	Remarks
Nov. 8	Palmacotta ...	India v. Dundee ...	Venereal Disease ...	Referred Clinic.
23	Luossa ...	Narvik ...	Tuberculosis ...	Landed Lulea. Disinfected cabin.
Dec. 17	City of York ...	S. Africa ...	Chicken Pox ...	Landed Plymouth.
19	Carl Mathies ...	Kotka ...	Gastric ulcer ...	Examined Fed. Doctor. Admitted to North Ormesby Hospital.
24	Yebala ...	Algiers ...	Abscess on thigh ...	Removed Eston Hospital.

INFLUENZA.

M/V "Trio" arrived at the Port on January 25th from London. The Master was found to be suffering from influenza and was given medical treatment on board.

S/S "Nowshera" arrived at the Port on February 21st. One of the crew was found to be suffering from influenza and was given medical attention on board.

PNEUMONIA.

M/V "Delta" arrived at the Port on January 31st from Hamburg. The Captain's child was removed to hospital at Stockton suffering from pneumonia.

MALARIAL FEVER.

S/S "Avisbay" arrived at the Port on September 2nd from Pepel. One of the crew was removed to West Lane Isolation Hospital suffering from suspected malarial fever.

MUMPS.

S/S "Umgeni" arrived at the Port on March 12th. One of the crew was found to be suffering from mumps.

CHICKEN POX.

S/S "Monte Nuria" arrived at the Port on April 4th. One of the crew was removed to hospital suffering from chicken pox.

DYSENTERY.

S/S "Nicolas Michales III" arrived at the Port on February 24th from Savannah. One of the crew was removed to hospital suffering from dysentery.

S/S "Monte Neranco" arrived at the Port on June 9th from Bougie. One of the crew was found to be suffering from dysentery and was removed to hospital.

S/S "Innamo" arrived at the Port on September 13th from Kotka via Grangemouth. One of the crew was removed to hospital suffering from dysentery.

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

Tuberculosis	2
Malarial fever	1
Appendicitis	2
Coronary thrombosis	2
Stomach trouble	1
Septic throat	1
Heart disease	1
Kidney disease	1
Fractured wrist	1
Chicken pox	1

VESSELS TREATED FOR VERMIN INFESTATION.

January	18th.	S/S "Dorington Court".	Galley, pantry and crews' quarters sprayed with insecticide.
February	15th.	S/S "Baxtergate".	Cook's cabin sprayed with insecticide.
	26th.	S/S "Heronspool".	Accommodation sprayed with insecticide.
March	17th.	M/V "Pundua".	Crews' quarters fumigated with H.C.N.
April	1st	S/S "Ben Albanach".	Crews' quarters fumigated with H.C.N.
	12th.	S/S "Landspride".	Accommodation sprayed with insecticide.
May	20th.	S/S "City of Delhi".	Accommodation fumigated with H.C.N.
	9th.	S/S "Starcrest".	Crews' quarters, galley and pantry sprayed with insecticide.
June	16th.	S/S "Sarmiento".	Accommodation fumigated with H.C.N.
	8th.	S/S "Orkla".	Crews' quarters sprayed with insecticide.
	21st.	S/S "Malakand".	Accommodation fumigated with H.C.N.
July	23rd.	S/S "Dabaibe".	Engineer's cabin sprayed with insecticide.
	16th.	S/S "Marengo".	Provision storerooms sprayed with insecticide for ants.
August	5th.	S/S "Kenilworth Castle".	Accommodation fumigated with H.C.N.
September	7th.	S/S "Itaura".	Holds treated with insecticide.
	26th.	S/S "Landspride".	Pantry and steward's messroom sprayed with insecticide.
	28th.	S/S "Empire Merchant".	Crews' galley, pantry and messroom sprayed with insecticide.
October	7th.	S/S "Teviot".	Crews' quarters sprayed with insecticide.
	12th.	S/S "Ampleforth".	Crews' quarters sprayed with insecticide.
	20th.	S/S "Benlomond".	Accommodation fumigated with H.C.N.
November	21st.	S/S "Clan Macbeth".	Accommodation fumigated with H.C.N.
December	24th.	S/S "City of Lyons".	Accommodation fumigated with H.C.N.

NATIONALITY OF FOREIGN VESSELS.

Dutch	...	...	683	Russian	...	...	4
Swedish	...	...	217	South African	...	...	4
German	...	...	182	Portuguese	...	...	4
Danish	...	...	134	Turkish	...	...	3
Norwegian	...	...	115	Indian	...	...	2
Spanish	...	...	37	Belgian	...	...	2
Finnish	...	...	31	Swiss	...	...	2
Costa Rican	...	...	33	Honduran	...	...	2
French	...	...	24	Egyptian	...	...	1
Yugoslav	...	...	23	American	...	...	1
Panamanian	...	...	18	Japanese	...	...	1
Liberian	...	...	16	Faroese	...	...	1
Greek	...	...	9	Israelian	...	...	1
Italian	...	...	5	Eirean	...	...	1

LAUNCH "MERCIE II."

The motor launch "Mercie II" continues to give satisfactory service and is invaluable to the medical and inspectorial staff, particularly for visiting vessels moored at the buoys in the river, and for landing sick persons.

FOOD INSPECTION.

Consignments of foodstuffs have been systematically examined during the year. These consisted of : Canned meats, canned fruit, canned fish, eggs, meat paste, fish paste, tea, desiccated coconut, cheese, margarine, butter, lard, onions, tomatoes, dried peas, fresh fruit, vegetables, sugar, dried fruit, barley, condensed milk, syrup, ground rice, coffee, oatmeal, lentils, tomato puree, biscuits and potatoes.

Six tons eighteen cwts. of potatoes were condemned and destroyed owing to contamination with potassium bi-chromate. The remainder of the foodstuffs were in good condition.

It was not found necessary to take any action under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations 1937 and 1948, the Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations 1926, and the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations 1925-1940.

Twenty-three samples of water were obtained from ships, hydrants and water boats supplying water to ships. Most of these were satisfactory. When otherwise, the water boat or ship was instructed to clean the tank out and a fresh sample was then taken.

Samples of crushed bones are obtained from all such cargoes arriving from India and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for analysis. In none of these samples was any trace of anthrax found.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PEST ACT 1949.

19 Rodent Control Certificates were issued to coasting vessels under this Act.

Shipping at the Port continues to steadily increase, and compared with the year 1938 there was an increase of more than a million net tons and more than seven hundred ships.

		Arrivals.	Net Tons.
1938	...	3,174	3,029,761
1955	...	3,910	4,173,839
Increase	...	<u>736 ships</u>	<u>1,144,078</u>

