

[Report 1946] / Medical Officer of Health, Tyne Port Health Authority.

Contributors

Tyne Port Health Authority.

Publication/Creation

1946

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/dpccu3fp>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

1946.

Tyne Port Health Authority.

ANNUAL
REPORT

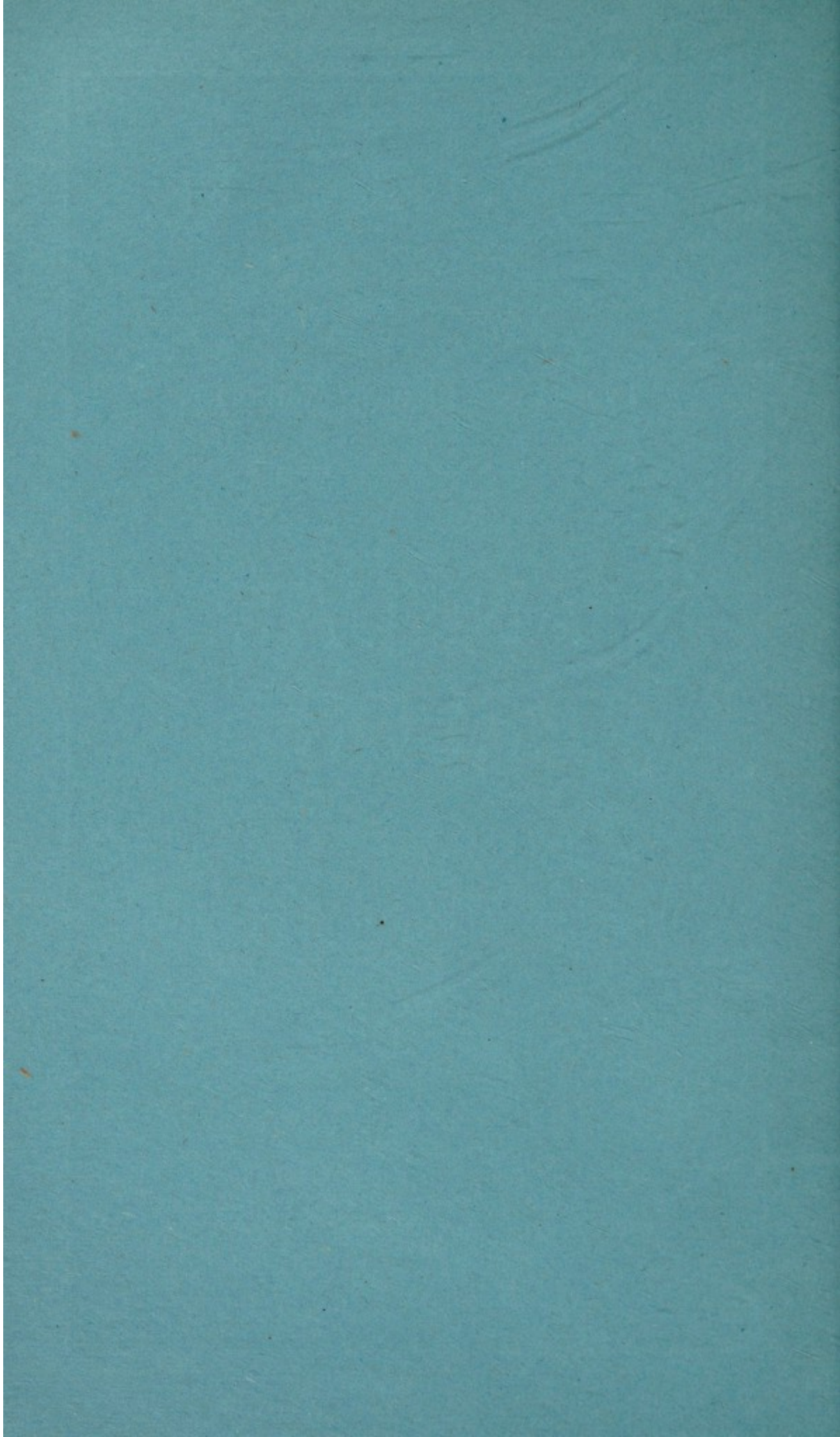
OF THE

Medical Officer of Health.



NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE:
CO-OPERATIVE PRINTING SOCIETY, RUTHERFORD STREET;
ALSO AT MANCHESTER AND LONDON.

1947.



1946.

Tyne Port Health Authority.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health.



NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE:
CO-OPERATIVE PRINTING SOCIETY, RUTHERFORD STREET;
ALSO AT MANCHESTER AND LONDON.

Officers and Staff.

Medical Officer of Health	T. L. J. COXON, M.D., B.S., B.Hy., [D.P.H.]
Clerk to the Authority	J. ENGLISH.
Treasurer	J. GOODBURN RAINE.
Chief Sanitary Inspector	N. PARK, CERT. R.S.I.
Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector	H. M. COATS, CERT. R.S.I.
Food Inspector	*R. O. BURN, CERT. R.S.I.
Sanitary Inspector	*W. B. WEATHERSTON, CERT. R.S.I.
Clerk, Mill Dam Office	E. M. GLENNY.
Ratsearcher	J. H. ROBINSON.
„	H. BURN.
Launches	J. W. RAY (Senior Coxswain).
„	J. COLTHERD (Coxswain).
„	J. W. WEST.
„	R. S. BURN.

* Certificate of Meat and Other Foods.

OFFICES OF THE AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health :	Mill Dam, South Shields. Tel. South Shields 65.
Chief Sanitary Inspector :	Mill Dam, South Shields. Tel. South Shields 65.
Clerk to the Authority :	145 Pilgrim Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 1 Tel. Newcastle 22796.

Tyne Port Health Authority.

MILL DAM,

SOUTH SHIELDS,

JULY, 1947.

THE CHAIRMAN,

VICE-CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS

of the Tyne Port Health Authority.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

In presenting my Annual Report for the past year, 1946, I have mainly to report a gradual resumption of what may be termed, the normal working of the Authority.

The emergency problems, following on the cessation of hostilities, have passed over fairly smoothly, and providentially, the extensive preventive measures effected for the limitation of refugee borne disease were never called upon to act, though I have little doubt that, had the influx of distressed, displaced or refugee persons been on a grand scale, these measures would have been largely effective.

1946 saw a slight improvement over 1945 in the actual amount of tonnage moving in the river, but unfortunately, the actual increase was totally made up of coastwise shipping. Foreign trade is still at a low level, and with the coal situation being so bad, no immediate improvement can be expected.

Coal was always the Tyne exporters' high card, and in its absence little else can be substituted.

Food imports from abroad include a considerable increase in the amount of fresh and dried fish and fish products, but a big diminution in other food stuffs. A detailed account of the total food importation into the Port appears later in the statistical part of this Report.

Present problems of urgency are ; the employing of a suitable service of waterboats to shipping and a greater and more effective co-ordination between port and shore authorities and dock owners, on the question of reduction of the rat population and destruction of harbourage.

This Authority has not the necessary resources to tackle this problem by itself, but must largely restrict its activities to examination and advice.

The Staff employed by you is still below the normal complement, and it is not my intention at the moment to apply for the vacancies to be filled until the supply of trained sanitary inspectors is greater than at the present time.

What Staff we have work well and harmoniously, and are worthy of high praise. I should not like to allow this opportunity to pass without thanking them on your and my behalf for the excellent way in which they have carried out duties made much heavier by shortage of numbers.

They in return join with me in thanking you as a Committee for your constant sympathy and support to them in this past year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. L. J. COXON.

TYNE PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year ended 31st December, 1946.

I. AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT DURING THE YEAR 1946.

TABLE A.

	Number.	Tonnage.	Number inspected.		Number reported to be defective	Number of vessels on which defects were remedied.	Number of vessels on which defects were found & reported to Ministry of War Transport Surveyors	Number of vessels reported as having or had during the voyage infectious disease on board
			By the Medical Officer of Health.	By the Sanitary Inspectors.				
FOREIGN—								
Steamers	779	1,168,099	248	732	142	77	3	9
*Motor	294	490,638	114	273	25	8	1	2
Sailing .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fishing	72	708	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total Foreign.....	1,145	1,659,445	362	1,005	167	85	4	11
COASTWISE—								
Steamers	3,310	3,208,014	189	2,724	197	149	5	9
*Motor	686	362,760	61	540	29	21	..	..
Sailing	1	125	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fishing .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTAL COASTWISE	3,997	3,570,899	250	3,264	226	170	5	13
TOTAL FOREIGN AND COASTWISE	5,142	5,230,344	612	4,269	393	255	9	24

* Includes mechanically propelled vessels other than steamers.

Total number of vessels visited by Inspectors :—

British Ships.

Steam	2,881	
Motor	583	
Sail	—	
Fishing	—	
	—————	3,464

Foreign Ships.

Steam	575	
Motor	230	
Sail	—	
Fishing	—	
	—————	805
Re-visits		942
		—————

5,211

Total number of crews of vessels visited by Inspectors :—

British Ships.

British White	63,731	
British Coloured	4,059	
Alien White	536	
Alien Coloured	544	
	<hr/>	68,870

Foreign Ships.

British White	468	
British Coloured	69	
Alien White	21,267	
Alien Coloured	110	
	<hr/>	21,914
		<hr/>
		<u>90,784</u>

Total number of passengers of vessels visited by Inspectors :—

British Ships.

British	193	
Alien	21	
	<hr/>	214

Foreign Ships.

British	5,524	
Alien	10,455	
	<hr/>	15,979
		<hr/>
		<u>16,193</u>

Tonnage of vessels visited by Inspectors :—

Steamers

British	3,318,950	
Foreign	668,671	
	<hr/>	3,987,621

Motor Ships.

British	494,680	
Foreign	305,402	
	<hr/>	800,082
		<hr/>
		<u>4,787,703</u>

The Nationalities of Vessels inspected were as follows :—

British	3,464
Belgian	3
Canadian	7
Chinese	1
Columbian	1
Danish	75
Dutch	93
Egyptian	2
Eire	4
Finnish	13
French	5
Greek	14
Icelandic	10
Jugo-Slav	2
Norwegian	296
Panamanian	12
Polish	8
Russian	9
Swedish	236
United States America	14
Total	<u>4,269</u>

The Number of Re-visits made during the year were as follows :—

In connection with the issuing of Deratisation and Deratisation Exemption Certificates (Form Port 11)	592
In connection with sickness	50
In order to have defects remedied	300
Total	<u>942</u>

The number of Vessels inspected during each year for the last 10 years has been as follows :—

1937 Vessels	7,880
Fishing Vessels	334
Re-visits	1,669
	<u>9,883</u>

1938	Vessels	7,459	
	Fishing Vessels	230	
	Re-visits	1,477	
			9,166
1939	Vessels	6,929	
	Fishing Vessels	181	
	Re-visits	1,395	
			8,505
1940	Vessels	5,475	
	Fishing Vessels	14	
	Re-visits	1,421	
			6,910
1941	Vessels	3,126	
	Fishing Vessels	—	
	Re-visits	1,333	
			4,459
1942	Vessels	2,898	
	Fishing Vessels	—	
	Re-visits	882	
			3,780
1943	Vessels	2,868	
	Fishing Vessels	—	
	Re-visits	838	
			3,706
1944	Vessels	2,791	
	Fishing Vessels	—	
	Re-visits	708	
			3,499
1945	Vessels	3,359	
	Fishing Vessels	5	
	Re-visits	842	
			4,206
1946	Vessels	4,269	
	Fishing Vessels	—	
	Re-visits	942	
			5,211

II.—CHARACTER OF TRADE OF PORT.

TABLE B.

(A) PASSENGER TRAFFIC DURING THE YEAR 1946.

No. of Passengers.	Ist Class.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.	Trans-migrants.
Inwards	*15,559	..	..	Nil.
Outwards	*15,662	..	..	Nil.

* This Total includes 1st, 2nd and 3rd Class.

TABLE SHOWING PASSENGER TRAFFIC FOR 1937 & 1938
(PRE-WAR) & 1944, 1945 & 1946 (POST-WAR).

Year.	PASSENGERS. 1st, 2nd and 3rd Class.		Transmigrants.	
	Inwards.	Outwards.	Inwards.	Outwards.
1937.....	22,104	21,556	779	234
1938.....	26,656	27,220	664	207
1944.....	62	.....	..	..
1945.....	3,504	5,372	..	..
1946.....	15,559	15,662	..	..

(B) CARGO TRAFFIC.

Total tonnage entering the port has shown no substantial increase over last year. Indeed, the amount of foreign trade shipping has actually shown some decrease.

1938	Foreign	4,467,047	
	Coastwise	4,876,114	
			9,343,161
1945	Foreign	1,678,968	
	Coastwise	3,219,116	
			4,898,084
1946	Foreign	1,659,445	
	Coastwise	3,570,899	
			5,230,344

Through the courtesy of the General Manager of the Tyne Improvement Commission I am able to give the following report on the import and export trade of the Tyne Ports.

PRINCIPAL IMPORTS.

General Merchandise—

1946 : 1,553,283 tons.

Included in the above are :—	<i>Tons.</i>
Iron Ore	360,543
Oil Fuel and other Oils	266,650
Timber	239,229
Grain	172,253
Provisions	111,297
Cement	91,642
Petroleum Spirit.....	69,293
Fruit and Vegetables	39,478
Iron and Steel Manufactures and Scrap	38,425
Metals and Minerals (excluding iron ore)....	37,242

PRINCIPAL EXPORTS.

General Merchandise.

1946 : 526,490 tons.

Included in the above are :—

	<i>Tons.</i>
Sulphate of Ammonia	151,139
Iron and Steel Manufactures	61,997
Pitch	19,559
Textiles	9,561
Lead Goods	8,975

COAL AND COKE SHIPMENTS.

1946.

	<i>Tons.</i>
Cargo.....	5,586,674
Bunkers	456,122
Coke	65,550
Total	<u>6,108,346</u>

(c) PRINCIPAL PORTS FROM WHICH VESSELS ARRIVE.

Principal ports trading normally with the Tyne are mainly Scandinavian and Baltic Ports, though a considerable number of vessels engaged in East African and Mediterranean food trade arrive with fruit and vegetable products. Oil and petrol tankers from Abadan, Curacao and Texas discharge at Jarrow Oil Wharf.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS.

Annual return by the Medical Inspector of Aliens for the year ended 31st December, 1946.

	TOTAL.	Number In-spected by the Medical In-spector.	Number sub-jected to detailed ex-amination by the Medical In-spector.	CERTIFICATES ISSUED.					Trans-migrants
				Lunatic Idiot or M.D.	Undesir-able for medical reasons.	Physi-cally incapa-citated.	Suffering from acute infec-tious disease.	Landing neces-sary for adequate medical exami-nation.	
(a) Total number of Aliens land-ing at the Port	9,547	4,197	644	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Aliens refused permission to land by Immi-gration Officer	27	Nil	27	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Transmigrants	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total Aliens arriv-ing at the Port	9,547	4,197	671	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Total number of vessels carrying Alien passengers 339
 Number of Vessels dealt with by the Medical Inspector ... 326

Pre-war passenger services to Scandinavia are slowly being re-established, the main difficulty at the present time being that of acquiring new and suitable ships by the various companies. Passenger traffic is heavy and is taxing the limited capacities of the mail boats to the full.

1947 plans to put in commission regular North Sea crossings of at least two further vessels are fully matured.

Passenger figures have jumped up from the previous year from approximately 9,000 to 31,000 and, with increased sailings, should in a couple of years about equal the peak period of 1938, with a total in the region of 51,000.

The type of passenger remains as always before the war, that of a high character.

III. WATER SUPPLY.

Source of Water Supply for—

1. THE PORT.

The water supply for the Tyne Ports is obtained from the following sources:—Newcastle & Gateshead Water Co., Sunderland & South Shields Water Co. and Tynemouth Water Co.

2. SHIPPING.

Vessels may obtain fresh water direct from hydrants from all these supplies; also from 9 waterboats which obtain their supply from the above companies.

The following hydrants are at the disposal of vessels for a direct supply of fresh water:—

- (a) At North Shields Fish Quay, the fishing fleet, foreign and coastwise, obtain their supply direct from the hydrants.
- (b) At North Shields, above Smith's Dock, there are five hydrants, each with a separate meter, where the waterboats obtain their supply from the Tynemouth Water Co.
- (c) On the south side, at Tyne Dock, there are hydrants on No. 2 and No. 3 jetties, where the waterboats obtain their supply direct from the mains. All vessels in this area obtain their fresh water from the waterboats.

- (d) In the mid-Tyne area, there are hydrants at Howdon and Wallsend, where waterboats obtain their supply of fresh water. All vessels requiring fresh water in this area obtain it from waterboats.
- (e) In the Newcastle and Gateshead area there are hydrants fitted with hose up to 100 feet with meter attachment.
- (a) At Newcastle Quay there are 22 hydrants available for the supply of fresh water from the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co. Vessels are supplied with drinking water on application to the Quay-master. The only difficulty they have experienced in supplying water direct from these hydrants has been in the case of very large vessels after discharging cargo at high water. The water tanks of these exceptional vessels have been as much as 40 feet above the level of the hydrant and more than 300 feet away. In these cases the vessels are supplied by water boats.
- (b) At Tyne-Tees Co.'s Wharf, Johnson's Cement Wharf and King Edward Wharf there are hydrants fitted with hose and meter attachment for the supply of fresh water.
- (f) Dunston, Elswick and Derwenthaugh area.
- (a) Dunston Staiths (L. & N.E.R.). These staiths are fully provided with hydrants and connecting hose at six berths for the supply of fresh water to vessels.
- (b) Elswick Staiths. Hydrant and hose connections are provided on the wharf for the supply of fresh water to vessels.
- (c) Vickers Armstrong Ltd. Provision is made for the supply of fresh water to vessels where hydrants and hose are available.

3. NUMBER OF WATERBOATS AND THEIR SANITARY CONDITION.

There are 9 waterboats available for the supply of fresh water to vessels at Tyne Ports. The following is a list of vessels and owners :—

<i>Name of Waterboat.</i>	<i>Name of Owner.</i>
" Thomas and Alice "	Messrs. S. Pascoe & Co.
" Tyne "	" "
" I'll Try "	" "
" Medway "	W. Clark.
" Royal Sovereign "	Fenn Bros.
" Britannia "	A. Gibson.
" Crystal Fountain "	Aitken & Co.
" Daydream "	V. A. Curry.
" Alice "	" "

Further comments on the supply of water to shipping in the river are superfluous. The need for improvement in the method of supply is urgent, and I append an extract from the previous year's report as giving an accurate picture which still exists.

“ Waterboats are under private ownership and are, in most cases, long past their first youth.

The construction of these vessels is that of a large barge or wherry with large wood-lined water tanks served by raised hatches and furnished with long hoses, pumps, etc. The freeboard is very low and the gunwale and hatch combings are too low to give full protection from high washes and choppy river conditions. Furthermore, inadequate deck storage accommodation for hoses etc. render the possibilities of contamination rather great.

Consequently, great care must be exercised by the boats' crew, and constant supervision given by the Port Health Officer. The quantity of water supplied by boats during war years for the purpose of drinking, domestic and boiler use, can be put down as about 170,000 tons ; of this less than 20% is utilised for culinary and domestic use.

Under peace conditions the quantity required is considerably greater, the percentage remaining the same.

Owing to the fact that the supply is carried by the same craft no differentiation can be exercised as to quality supplied. The quality has of course to be A.1 drinking water, which in view of the increasing demand by housing and industry in the district for better water facilities, imposes a further and unnecessary strain on the water companies.

The time should certainly be approaching when this aspect of the port's facilities should be taken over by the Tyne Improvement Commission, whereby a service of more up-to-date craft could be introduced and separate boats reserved for the supply of boiler water alone.

As the service is at the present time, insistence on chlorination is essential in every waterboat.”

IV. PORT HEALTH REGULATIONS, 1933 AND 1945.

1. ARRANGEMENTS FOR DEALING WITH DECLARATIONS OF HEALTH.

Declarations of Health are supplied to Masters of vessels by the pilots, officers of H.M. Customs and Sanitary Officers on arrival. In the case of regular traders supplies of Declarations are issued to cover the period of three months.

Declarations are collected and examined by Officers of H.M. Customs or the Sanitary Officer, whichever is first on board, and Forms P.S.2 or P.S.2A are left as receipt by the respective Officers.

In cases where questions 1 to 6 are answered in the negative, the vessel is allowed to proceed, but when answered in the affirmative the Port Health Authority is at once notified and pratique withheld until the Medical Officer has visited the vessel.

2. BOARDING OF VESSELS ON ARRIVAL.

All vessels reporting sickness are boarded on arrival by the Medical Officer and Chief Inspector.

Vessels from infected ports reporting sickness are sent direct to the appropriate mooring station for medical examination. All other vessels are boarded and examined on arrival at their appointed berths.

3. NOTIFICATION TO THE AUTHORITY OF INWARD VESSELS REQUIRING SPECIAL ATTENTION (WIRELESS MESSAGES, LAND SIGNAL STATIONS, INFORMATION FROM PILOTS, CUSTOMS OFFICERS, ETC.)

Masters of vessels requiring special attention on arrival are able to get in communication with the Port Health Authority by Wireless (Telegraphic Address—Portelth, South Shields), giving particulars and probable time of arrival.

Pilots report any sickness on passing H.M. Customs Hailing Station, who in turn are in direct telephonic communication with the Mill Dam Office.

4. MOORING STATIONS DESIGNATED UNDER ARTICLE 10.

(a) *Within Docks.*

(b) *Outside Docks.*

It has been arranged with H.M. Customs and Tyne Improvement Commission to adopt the following scheme in reference to moorings other than the Quarantine Station at Jarrow Slake, which will remain as heretofore for dealing with infected vessels arriving direct from sea.

(a) Tyne Dock.

(b) Dunston.

Northumberland Dock.

Newcastle Quay.

Albert Edward Dock.

Jarrow Slake.

At each of these places arrangements have been made by the Medical Officer of Health with the Dock Masters concerned to provide isolation buoys when required. At any other place of mooring, discharging or loading in the Tyne area, the Medical Officer will designate a place of mooring station when required.

In order to prevent unnecessary delay in shipping in the Port the following procedure should be carried out :—

(1) Any ship with cholera, plague, yellow fever, typhus or small-pox on board shall proceed to the mooring station at Jarrow Slake.

(2) Where a ship, whether foreign or home trade, arrives at the Tyne from a Foreign port, and it appears in answer to questions or otherwise that :—

(a) During the voyage, or last six weeks of voyage, there has been on the ship a death from illness suspected to be any of the five above-mentioned diseases, she shall proceed to the appointed mooring station nearest her ordinary berth.

- (b) During the voyage or last six weeks of same, plague has occurred or been suspected amongst rats or mice on the ship, or sickness or death not attributable to poison or other methods of destruction has occurred amongst the rats or mice on the ship, she shall proceed to her appropriate mooring station nearest her ordinary berth.
- (c) The ship has
- (1) called at a port or seaboard included in the weekly return of infected or suspected ports or seaboard but reports "all well" during the voyage, and arrives with no sickness on board, unless a written notice to the contrary has been delivered to the Customs Officer or on behalf of the Medical Officer ; or
 - (2) has on board a case of minor infectious disorder, namely, chicken-pox, measles, scarlet fever, diphtheria, enteric fever, pneumonia, tuberculosis, mumps, cerebro spinal fever, erysipelas, malaria or dysentery she shall be permitted to proceed to her ordinary place of mooring, loading or discharge, and be granted modified pratigue there, the Medical Officer being informed.

5. PARTICULARS OF ANY STANDING EXEMPTIONS FROM THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 14.

Under Article 14, any vessel arriving and having on board a case of minor infectious disorder, namely, chicken-pox, measles, scarlet fever, diphtheria, enteric, pneumonia, tuberculosis, mumps, cerebro spinal fever, erysipelas, malaria or dysentery, she will be permitted to proceed to her ordinary place of mooring, loading or discharge, and be granted modified pratigue there, the Medical Officer being informed.

6. EXPERIENCE OF WORKING OF ARTICLE 16.

Boarding of tradesmen's representatives before the granting of pratigue has occurred from time to time, and in order to prevent this practice, warnings have been issued to all offenders that subsequent infringements would be the subject of stringent action.

Warnings, but no legal actions were undertaken during 1946.

7. WHAT, IF ANY, ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR :—

- (a) *Premises and waiting rooms for medical examination.*

Examination rooms are available at Mill Dam Offices, South Shields. Alien examination, in conjunction with H.M. Immigration Officers, takes place on board passenger vessels and mail boats.

A female assistant is in attendance.

(b) *Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons and clothing and other articles.*

Disinfection of infected quarters is carried out by the Tyne Port Health Authority's Staff.

Bedding, clothing and other articles are dealt with at the Steam Disinfection Stations belonging to the Riparian Authorities.

Arrangements have been made for the cleansing of persons at the City Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

(c) *Premises for the temporary accommodation of persons for whom such accommodation is required for the purpose of the Regulations.*

Persons for whom accommodation is required for the purpose of the Regulations are sent to the City Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

(d) *Hospital accommodation available for plague, cholera, yellow fever, small-pox and other infectious diseases.*

Arrangements have been made for the reception of all infectious diseases at Newcastle, Gateshead, North Shields and South Shields Infectious Hospitals.

(e) *Ambulance transport.*

Transport of cases by water is carried out by the Authority's Launches. Cases of land transport by motor ambulance.

(f) *Supervision of contacts.*

Contacts may be sent to the City Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, or dealt with on board.

8. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE BACTERIOLOGICAL OR PATHOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF RATS FOR PLAGUE.

These examinations are carried out at the Bacteriological Laboratory of the King's College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

9. ARRANGEMENTS FOR OTHER BACTERIOLOGICAL OR PATHOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

These examinations are also carried out at the Bacteriological Laboratory of the King's College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

10. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASE AMONG SAILORS UNDER THE INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS.

The Masters of all vessels are asked to report any case of venereal disease occurring amongst their crew, when instructions are given for the treatment of venereal disease at the local clinics. Particulars of the location and times of clinics are supplied by the Officers of the Authority.

11. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE INTERMENT OF DEAD.

When death occurs on board ship at Tyne Ports the body is removed to the nearest mortuary and arrangements made for the interment.

12. OTHER MATTERS, IF ANY, REQUIRING OR RECEIVING ATTENTION.

Nil.

TABLE C.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS LANDED FROM VESSELS.

Disease.	No. of Cases during the Year.		No. of Vessels concerned.	Average No. of Cases for previous 5 years.
	Passengers.	Crew.		
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.....	—	—	—	.2
Chicken Pox.....	—	2	2	2.2
Cholera.....	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria.....	—	—	—	2.8
Suspected Diphtheria ..	—	1	1	.8
Dysentery.....	—	—	—	.4
Enteric.....	—	—	—	.2
Erysipelas.....	—	1	1	.2
Malaria.....	—	—	—	.6
Recurrent Malaria.....	—	2	1	.8
Measles.....	—	2	2	.2
Mumps.....	—	—	—	.8
Para-typhoid.....	—	—	—	—
Plague.....	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia.....	—	—	—	1.0
Influenzal Pneumonia ..	—	—	—	.2
Rubella.....	—	—	—	1.4
Relapsing Fever.....	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever.....	—	—	—	1.0
Suspected Scarlet Fever.	—	—	—	.2
Small Pox.....	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis.....	—	—	—	1.0
Suspected Tuberculosis .	—	2	2	.4
Typhus.....	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough.....	—	—	—	—
Yellow Fever.....	—	—	—	—

TABLE D.

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

Disease.	No. of Cases during the Year.		No. of Vessels concerned.	Average No. of Cases for previous 5 years.
	Passengers.	Crew.		
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.....	—	—	—	.4
Chicken Pox	—	—	—	4.4
Cholera	—	—	—	.2
Diphtheria	—	—	—	.8
Suspected Diphtheria ..	—	1	1	—
Dysentery.....	—	—	—	5.0
Enteric	—	1	1	2.0
Suspected Enteric	—	1	1	.4
Erysipelas.....	—	—	—	.2
Malaria	—	13	5	75.4
Suspected Malaria	—	—	—	7.0
Recurrent Malaria	—	1	1	1.8
Measles	—	—	—	.8
Mumps	—	—	—	1.4
Suspected Mumps.....	—	—	—	.2
Para-typhoid	—	—	—	.2
Plague	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	1	1	2.6
Suspected Pneumonia ..	—	—	—	1.0
Rubella	—	—	—	.4
Relapsing Fever.....	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever.....	—	—	—	.8
Suspected Scarlet Fever.	—	—	—	.4
Small Pox	—	1	1	—
Suspected Small Pox .	—	2	1	—
Tuberculosis	—	3	3	1.6
Suspected Tuberculosis .	—	—	—	1.8
Typhus	—	1	1	—
Suspected Typhus	—	1	1	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—
Yellow Fever	—	—	—	—

CHICKEN POX

Date. 1946.	Name of Vessel.	From.	On Voyage.	On or after Arrival.	Remarks.	Notes on Arrival at Tyne.
Jan. 19	s.s. "Firelight" ..	London	—	1	Medically attended at London	
May 10	s.s. "Stuart Queen"	Sunderland	—	1		City Hosp. I.D.
			—	2		

SUSPECTED DIPHTHERIA.

April 16	s.s. "Gothia"	Emden	—	1		Deans Hosp.
May 30	s.s. "Galacum" ..	Emden	1	—	Hospital at Emden.	All well.
			1	1		

ENTERIC.

Dec. 12	s.s. "Glenpark" ..	Sydney, Freemantle, Suez, Antwerp and Avonmouth	1	—	Hospital at Fre- mantle.	All well.
			1	—		

SUSPECTED ENTERIC.

April 3	m.s. "British Faith"	Abadan	1	—	Hospital at Port Said	All well.
			1	—		

ERYSIPELAS.

Jan. 18	s.s. "Yersin"	Blyth.....	—	1		Removed to hosp.
			—	1		

MALARIA.

Date. 1946.	Name of Vessel.	From.	On Voyage.	On or after Arrival.	Remarks.	Notes on Arrival at Tyne.
Mar. 19	s.s. "Sheaf Holme"	Rio de Janeiro and Liverpool	1	—	Hospital at Liver- pool	All well.
April 15	s.s. "Lovaas"	Lagos and Dakar	2	—	At Dakar	All well.
Aug. 22	s.s. "Stagpool"	Colombo, Aden, Port Said and Gibraltar	1	—	Recovered	All well.
Sept. 2	s.s. "Wave Knight"	Abadan, Suez and Sheerness	1	—	Hospital at Abadan	All well.
Oct. 3	m.s. "Mary Kingsley"	Calabar, Lagos, Takoradi, Freetown, Las Palmas and London	8	—	Medically attended on voyage	All well.
			13	—		

RECURRENT MALARIA.

Mar. 1	s.s. "Riversdale Park"	St. John, N.B.	—	1		Examined at Tyne.
Mar. 8	s.s. "Riversdale Park"	At Tyne	—	1		Removed to Hosp.
July 5	m.s. "Erodona" ..	Santos	1	—	Left at Curacoa	All well.
			1	2		

MEASLES.

Mar. 21	s.s. "Yamaska Park"	Halifax, N.S.	—	1		City Hosp. I.D.
July 15	Tug "Empire Aid"	Portsmouth and Harwich	—	1		City Hosp. I.D.
			—	2		

PNEUMONIA.

May 22	m.s. "San Cipriano"	Curacoa and Sheerness	1	—	Died at Naples	All well.
			1	—		

SMALL POX.

June 17	s.s. "Stanpark" ..	Koilthattan, Phila- delphia, Baltimore and Hamburg	1	—	Died at Koilt- hattan	All well.
			1	—		

SUSPECTED SMALL POX.

Date. 1946.	Name of Vessel.	From.	On Voyage.	On or after Arrival.	Remarks.	Notes on Arrival at Tyne.
June 17	s.s. "Stanpark" . .	Koilthattan, Phila- delphia, Baltimore and Hamburg	2	—	Landed at Koilt- hattan	All well.
			2	—		

TUBERCULOSIS.

May 11	m.s. "Esso Cadillac"	Houston, Texas City and Hull	1	—	Left at Hull	All well.
July 1	m.s. "Menestheus"	Shanghai, Singapore, Port Said, Malta, Gibraltar and Ports- mouth	1	—	Left at Gibral'tar	All well.
Dec. 9	s.s. "Empire Gannet"	Sfax, Leith and Aberdeen	1	—	Left at Aberdeen	All well.
			3	—		

SUSPECTED TUBERCULOSIS.

May 1	s.s. "Waldo Hill"	Aarhus	—	1	Proceed- ing to London for ob- serva-tion	To hosp.
Aug. 20	s.s. "Mahout" . . .	Rangoon, Calcutta, Barcelona, Valencia and Bilbao	—	1		
			—	2		

TYPHUS.

Aug. 19	s.s. "Easdale"	Yokahama, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Abadan and Sheerness	1	—	Left Colombo	All well.
			1	—		

SUSPECTED TYPHUS.

Aug. 19	s.s. "Easdale"	Yokahama, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Abadan and Sheerness	1	—	Left at Abadan.	All well.
			1	—		

PSITTACOSIS.

Parrots (Prohibition of Import) Regulations, 1930.

6 vessels arrived at Tyne Ports with 9 parrots and 7 budgerigars on board. These birds all appeared to be in a healthy condition.

No cases of Psittacosis (Parrot Disease) occurred during the year.

VESSELS ARRIVING FROM INFECTED OR SUSPECTED PORTS.

Vessels arriving at Tyne from Infected Ports were boarded by Medical Officer and Inspectors of the Tyne Port Health Authority, as under :—

Name of Port.		Direct to the Tyne.	To the Tyne Indirect.
Alexandria	§†*	..	8
Algiers	†	..	1
Bombay	†	..	1
Bordeaux	*	1	..
Bremen	*	2	..
Casablanca	†*	7	13
Cochin	§†	..	1
Colombo	†	..	1
Dar es Salaam	†	..	1
Durban	†*	..	4
Freetown	†*	1	7
Gibraltar	†	1	..
Haifa	§†	..	6
Hamburg	*	74	10
Houston	*	..	2
Keil	*	1	..
Lagos	†	..	2
Melilla	*	2	2
Mombasa	†	2	1
Naples	*	..	2
New Orleans	*	..	2
New York	*	1	1
Port Said	§*	2	23
Sfax	†	2	1
Shanghai	†	..	1
Suez	†	..	3
Tunis	*	..	3
Total		96	96

§ Plague. † Small Pox. ‡ Cholera. * Typhus.

GENERAL SICKNESS ON BOARD VESSELS ARRIVING AT TYNE PORTS DURING THE YEAR 1946.

The subjoined Table gives a return of cases of Sickness* reported by Masters of Vessels as having occurred during the Voyage, or coming under the notice of the Tyne Port Officials in each month of the year 1946.

1946	Chicken Pox.	Diphtheria.	Suspected Diphtheria.	Enteric.	Suspected Enteric.	Erysipelas.	Malaria.	Recurrent Malaria.	Measles.	Pneumonia.	Small Pox.	Suspected Small Pox.	Tuberculosis.	Suspected Tuberculosis.	Typhus.	Suspected Typhus.	Accidents.	Abscesses, Bolls and Carbuncles.	Apoplexy.	Appendicitis.	Asthma and Bronchitis.	Blood Poisoning.	Blood Pressure.	Constipation.	Debility.	Diarrhoea.	Diseases of Bladder
January	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	††5	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
February	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	†4	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
March	..	..	..	..	..	..	†1	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
April	..	..	†1	1	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	1
May	†1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	†1	..	..	1	1	..	..	4	..	†1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
June	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	†1	2	..	..	..	..	†3	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
July	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	†1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
August	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	†1	1	1	††5	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
September	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
October	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	\$13	..	†1	..	..	2	..	..	1	1	..
November	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
December	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	1	..
TOTALS	†2	2	†2	1	1	1	†13	3	†2	†1	†1	2	3	†2	1	1	||46	9	††2	5	5	2	.2	1	5	3	2

GENERAL SICKNESS ON BOARD VESSELS ARRIVING AT TYNE PORTS—continued.

1946	Diseases of Bones and Joints.	Diseases of Ear.	Diseases of Eye.	Diseases of Chest.	Diseases of Glands.	Diseases of Heart.	Diseases of Kidney.	Diseases of Nervous System.	Diseases of Skin.	Diseases of Stomach.	Diseases of Teeth and Gums.	Diseases of Throat.	Febtile Catarrh.	Food Poisoning.	Gastritis.	Gall Stones.	Hernia.	Influenza.	Jaundice.	Non-defined.	Paralysis.	Pleurisy.	Rheumatism and Neuritis.	Ringworm.	Scabies.	Veneral.	Totals.
January .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	3	6	..	..	..	..	3	..	3	..	..	..	..	5	4	39
February ...	1	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	5	23
March .....	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	1 †5	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	4	33
April .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	18	33	
May .....	..	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	12	35
June .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	5	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	19	43	
July .....	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	11	21
August .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	23	
September ...	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	20	37	
October .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	1	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	10	44	
November....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	1	2	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	10	25
December ...	..	..	..	..	1	†1	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	2	40	62	
TOTALS ..	1	3	4	2	3	†1	1	1	10	20	10	†12	19	2	1	1	8	7	3	8	1	1	8	1	15	155	418

*The names of the diseases during the voyage are given as reported by the Masters of the vessels.

†Removed to Isolation Hospital.

‡ 6 Deaths.

|| 12 Deaths.

V. MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS.

1. STEPS TAKEN FOR THE DETECTION OF RODENT PLAGUE.

(a) *In ships in the port.*

All rats captured or killed on board ship are examined before being cremated. Suspected rats are sent to King's College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne for bacteriological examination. In cases where this examination proves positive, specimens are also sent to the Ministry of Health.

(b) *On quays, wharves, warehouses, etc., in the vicinity of the port.*

Not applicable.

2. MEASURES TAKEN TO PREVENT THE PASSAGE OF RATS BETWEEN SHIPS AND THE SHORE.

Rat guards are placed on all mooring ropes ; also a wrapping of canvas coated with gas tar. Gangways are limewashed and strips of canvas coated with gas tar tacked down on gangways.

3. MEASURES OF DERATISATION OF

(a) *Ships.*

Fumigation by sulphur di-oxide, hydrogen cyanide and other approved methods.

(b) *Premises in the vicinity of docks or quays.*

Not applicable.

4. MEASURES TAKEN FOR THE DETECTION OF RAT PREVALENCE IN SHIPS.

Vessels are examined by our Inspectors and Ratsearchers.

5. RAT-PROOFING.

(a) *To what extent are docks, wharves, warehouses, etc., rat proof?*

The Tyne Port Health Authority have no jurisdiction over docks, wharves, warehouses and shore premises. Measures have been taken by the Shore Authorities in the construction and provision of new sheds on the quaysides, with the result that rat harbourage has been considerably reduced.

(b) *Action taken to extend rat-proofing.*(i) *in ships.*

When on examination rat harbourage is discovered this matter is pointed out to the Owners' Superintendent, when we advise him to eliminate same as far as possible by substituting metal sheathing and expanded metal in place of wooden casings and sheathings.

(ii) *on shore.*

Not applicable.

RATS DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR 1946—*continued.*

TABLE F.

(2) ON SHORE.

The docks, wharves and warehouses at the Tyne Ports come under the jurisdiction of the shore authorities and no reports are available.

TABLE G.

MEASURES OF RAT DESTRUCTION ON PLAGUE "INFECTED" OR "SUSPECTED" VESSELS FROM PLAGUE INFECTED PORTS ARRIVING IN THE PORT DURING THE YEAR 1946.

Total number of such Vessels arriving.	Number of such Vessels Fumigated by S.O.2.	Number of Rats Killed.	Number of such Vessels Fumigated by H.C.N.	Number of Rats Killed.	Number of such Vessels on which Trapping, 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.
Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

TABLE H.
 DERATISATION CERTIFICATES AND DERATISATION EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES ISSUED
 DURING THE YEAR 1946.

Net Tonnage.	No. of Ships.	Number 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	9	
Ships up to 300 tons	25	9	..	..	..	9	25
Ships from 301 to 1,000 tons	44	8	..	..	..	8	44
Ships from 1,001 to 3,000 tons	84	34	2	..	..	36	84
Ships from 3,001 to 10,000 tons	143	53	1	..	..	54	143
Ships over 10,000 tons .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTALS	296	104	3	..	..	107	296

VI. HYGIENE OF CREWS' SPACES.
 TABLE J.
 (CLASSIFICATION OF NUISANCES.)

Nationality of vessels.	Number inspected during the year.	Defects of original construction.	Structural defects through wear and tear.	Dirt, Vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health.
British	3,464	9	187	234
Other Nations	805	4	25	36

SANITARY DEFECTS.

Inspection of crews' accommodation continues a most important part of the Port Health Inspector's duties.

Whilst revealing numerous instances of the continuance of defects, which, with improved supervision by responsible officers and a responsive crew, should never occur, there are indications in the inspections that owners and superintendents are showing a happier spirit and a more earnest desire to give satisfactory accommodation to the personnel on board.

The standard of sanitary arrangements, messing facilities, etc., is definitely improved from what it was 10 years ago.

During the war the imposition of black-out on ships, and the necessity for providing extra accommodation for gunners, etc., made very essential good ventilation of quarters and improved sanitary conveniences, in order to make the overburdened accommodation tolerable.

A considerable tonnage of old shipping escaped the enemy's attention rather better than did the more modern vessels so that we are still faced with the problem, chiefly constructional, of adapting obsolescence to modern standards.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VESSELS USING THE PORT DURING 1946
IS AS FOLLOWS :—

Steamers	4,089	
Motor Vessels	980	
Sailing Vessels	1	
*Fishing Vessels	72	(*Excluding coast- wise or local fishing trawlers).
TOTAL	5,142	

THE NUMBER OF VESSELS ON WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND ARE
AS UNDER :—

British—Steam	290	
Motor	48	
		338
Foreign—Steam	49	
Motor	6	
		55
TOTAL		393

THE NUMBER OF VESSELS ON WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED
ARE AS UNDER :—

British—Steam	210	
Motor	27	
		237
Foreign—Steam	16	
Motor	2	
		18
TOTAL		255

DEFECTS OF VESSELS INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING :—

		<i>Defects.</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>
		(a)	(b)
<i>Forecastles</i>	dirty	103	79
	neglected paintwork ...	137	110
	verminous	116	78
	litter to remove	3	—
	defective mosquito netting	6	2
	inadequate	1	—
	unsatisfactory	—	1
	flooded	1	—
	<i>Officers' Quarters</i> ..	verminous	1
<i>Sleeping Quarters</i> .	dirty	—	1
	neglected paintwork ..	2	1
	verminous	1	—
	bedding to renew	1	—
<i>Alleyways</i>	neglected paintwork ..	2	—
<i>Pantry</i>	dirty	1	—
	verminous	7	2
	defective steam coil in geyser	2	2
<i>Galley</i>	dirty	4	1
	verminous	4	5
<i>Storerooms</i>	dirty	3	—
	verminous	1	2
	inadequate	1	—
<i>Messrooms</i>	dirty	4	—
	neglected paintwork ..	3	—
	defective tables	3	—
	provisions of tables	—	1
	inadequate seating	1	—
	inadequate	1	—
	flooded	1	1
	unsatisfactory	2	—
<i>Clothes Lockers</i> ...	defective	2	2
	inadequate	2	—
<i>Food Lockers</i>	defective	1	1
	interior rusty	1	1
	vegetable locker offen- sive	1	1
	inadequate ventilation .	1	—
	<i>W.C.'s</i>	dirty	17	12
	neglected paintwork ..	4	3
	foul or choked	14	7
	defective	17	11
	defective flush	29	21
	inadequate flush	1	—
	seats to repair	26	16
	inaccessible in bad weather	1	—

		<i>Defects.</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>	
		(a)	(b)	
<i>Washrooms</i>	dirty	6	1	
	neglected paintwork ..	3	3	
	defective taps & fittings	3	—	
	restoration of washplace	1	1	
	inadequate	2	—	
<i>Drying Room</i>	dirty	1	1	
<i>Dampness due to</i> ..	condensation	1	1	
	deckhead leakages.....	58	41	
	leaking sideplates	1	2	
	leaking hawse or chain pipes	5	1	
	defective tank top.....	4	5	
	deficient or obstructed floor drainage.....	1	—	
	choked scuppers	16	12	
	leakage from steering gear flat	1	1	
	leaky telegraph casings.	—	1	
	choked waste pipes ...	6	4	
	defective rudder post..	2	1	
	defective spring cock ..	1	—	
	<i>Defects of</i>	ports, sky or decklights	85	63
		bulkheads	4	2
		floors	3	4
doors		19	12	
bunks		7	5	
scuppers		1	—	
lathe mattresses		1	2	
spurling pipes		1	1	
steam pipes		21	7	
service pipes.....		7	3	
soil pipes.....		9	5	
supply pipes		4	1	
oil pipes		1	—	
exhaust pipes		1	1	
valves		2	4	
pump.....		4	3	
refrigerating machinery		1	1	
<i>Boiler</i>		defective	1	1
		defective boiler flue ...	1	—
<i>Ventilation</i>	inadequate	6	4	
	defective	3	1	
<i>Heating</i>	inadequate	5	2	
	defective	15	14	
	defective stoves & pipes	15	4	
	provision of ash tray...	—	1	
<i>Lighting</i>	inadequate artificial ...	1	1	
	defective artificial	3	—	
	inadequate natural	1	—	
Provision of water supply	5	1		

	<i>Defects.</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>
	(a)	(b)
Defective or uncleanly water storage	16	17
Water supply not pumped to tanks	1	—
Misappropriation of crews' spaces	3	1
Meat safes to be made usable	1	1

RECOMMENDATIONS—(a) Suggested by your Inspectors.

(b) Carried out.

	(a)	(b)
Installation of pedestal W.C.'s	2	—
„ clothes lockers	8	3
„ food lockers	3	—
„ electric light	1	—
Provision of washrooms	3	—
„ messrooms	4	1
Forecastle to convert into 2-berth rooms ..	1	—

It must be noted that the defects remedied in Column (b) do not necessarily refer to the number of defects noted in Column (a), but refer to the number of defects of such nature observed and dealt with in the period 1st January to 31st December, 1946.

VII. FOOD INSPECTION.

(1) No legal actions were taken under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations 1937, the Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations, 1926, and the Public Health (Preservatives, &c., in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1940.

(2) There are no Shell Fish Beds within the jurisdiction of the Tyne Port Health Authority.

TYNE COMMISSION QUAY, NORTH SHIELDS.

Foodstuffs imported from Norway :—

OSLO.

	Tons.	Cwts.		Tons.	Cwts.
Fish	529	15	Beer	—	1
Canned Fish	1	10	Bilberries	29	10
Margarine	1	10	Provisions	5	10

BERGEN.

	Tons.	Cwts.		Tons.	Cwts.
Fish	6,873	—	Stockfish	738	—
Canned Fish	951	—	Herrings	4,357	10
Cod Liver Oil	127	4	Herring Oil	5	—
Salt Herrings	18	10			

SUTHERLAND QUAY.

Foodstuffs imported from Canada :—

	Tons.	Cwts.		Tons.	Cwts.
Fruit Juice	26	16	Canned Salmon	37	12
Eggs	717	8	Meat	1,888	9
Flour	4,501	6			

GATESHEAD QUAY.

Foodstuffs imported from London :—

	Tons.	Cwts.		Tons.	Cwts.
Stearine	14	13	Provisions.....	114	2
Syrup	1,395	6	Sugar.....	933	13
Coffee	26	19	Dates.....	91	16
Bovril	80	12	Glucose	135	6
Beer	104	7	Peas.....	251	13
Canned Meat	1	7	Suet	1	17
Tea	183	6	Flour	85	—
Figs	7	2	Prunes.....	54	—
Semolina	4	—	Biscuits	6	5
Canned Salmon.....	6	14	Canned Fish	17	18
Citric Acid	23	10	Pearl Barley.....	50	—
Rice	54	—	Pepper	3	17
Salt	4	4	Cod Liver Oil	1	5
Vegetable Fat	12	15	Confectionery.....	4	18
Split Peas	72	—	Nuts	1	1
Drugs	—	11	Beans	42	1
Cereals	1	—			

Foodstuffs imported from Rotterdam :—

	Tons.	Cwts.		Tons.	Cwts.
Lettuce	168	10	Radishes	2	4
Asparagras	—	5	Peaches	1	5
Melons	8	17	Cucumbers	46	7
Tomatoes	291	15	Grapes.....	74	16
Pears	84	8	Caraway Seeds.....	—	12
Guerkins in brine	36	9	Fruit Pulp	444	9
Onions	808	4	Onions in brine	5	8

Foodstuffs imported from Channel Islands :—

	Tons.	Cwts.		Tons.	Cwts.
Tomatoes	4,379	6	Grapes.....	3	7

DUNSTON FLOUR MILLS.

		Tons.	Cwts.
From Canada	Wheat	22,051	11
„ Hull	Wheat	1,273	7
„ King's Lynn	Wheat	10,281	16

FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

	Tons.	Cwts.		Tons.	Cwts.
Fresh Fish	3	7	Fruit Pulp	—	10

ADVICE AS TO SICKNESS

on shipboard and other matters continue to be received and forwarded to the Health Department of other British Port Health Authorities.

SMOKE NUISANCE.

The Inspector reports that it has not been necessary to take action against Masters of steamers for the evolution of dense smoke during 1946.

PLAGUE, CHOLERA, YELLOW FEVER AND SMALLPOX

No cases of plague, cholera, yellow fever or smallpox occurred in the Port during the year 1946.

DERATISATION AND DERATISATION EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES.

Under the International Sanitary Convention of Paris, 1926, the following certificates were issued during the year 1946.

Deratisation Certificates	107
Deratisation Exemption Certificates.....	189
	<hr/>
TOTAL	296
	<hr/>

LAUNCHES.

Both Launches have been in service during the period under review, but owing to the strain of continuous service during the war years of No. 1, considerable mechanical repairs are now due which will entail an expenditure of approximately £700, mainly due to fitting a new engine and its accessories.

Bodywork and general water worthiness have been well maintained in both cases.

ACCOMMODATION.

Once again I must stress the importance of securing more extensive accommodation.

It remains a matter of extreme urgency and must receive every possible priority over other questions.

Conversion of existing buildings does not seem possible owing to the general unsuitability of all premises so far inspected, and the project of building must now be undertaken seriously. Suitable sites are available on either sides of the river for the erection of a headquarters at once in keeping with the dignity of the Authority and the multifarious duties of the Staff.

The limitation of present accommodation in respect of space, overcrowding and lack of essential privacy, has become intolerable and will be made worse as more and more members of the Staff return.

CO-OPERATION WITH OUTSIDE AUTHORITIES.

As much of the success of the work of this Authority depends on the co-operation which it receives from outside sources, I would wish to express my keen appreciation of the help received.

In addition to the assistance of officials of the corporations and councils of those authorities who form part of our Joint Board, I would particularly like to thank the Officers of the Tyne Improvement Commission, His Majesty's Collector of Customs, His Majesty's Inspector of Immigration, the Principal Officer of the Board of Trade, and their respective staffs.

Finally, I would like to place on record my gratitude to my own Staff for the quality of their work and the loyalty they have shown.

Mr. Park and the entire staff deserve well the best thanks of the Authority.

T. L. J. COXON, M.D., B.S., B.HY., D.P.H.

MILL DAM,
SOUTH SHIELDS,
JULY, 1947.

