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WEYMOUTH PORT

HEALTH AUTHORITY.



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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

PORT MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR YEAR ENDING

31st DECEMBER 1955.

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E.J. GORDON WALLACE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Port Medical Officer.

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W E Y M O U T H

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Port Health Inspector: Mr. E.V.Abbey, M.S.I.A.

MEMORANDUM

PORT HEALTH DISTRICT

CHIEF:

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MEMBERS:

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Worcester Rural District Council.

J. M. H. H., Esq.
J. T. H. H., Esq.

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Chairman

Medical Officer of Health: Dr. E. J. Cotton

Mr. E. V. Abbey

Port Health Inspector



WEYMOUTH

PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

Health Centre,
Westham Road,
WEYMOUTH.

March 1956.

To The Chairman and Members of the Weymouth Port
Health Authority.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

In accordance with Article 17(5) of the Sanitary
Officers(Outside London) Regulations 1935 and 1951, I have to submit
for your information and consideration my Annual Report for the year 1955.

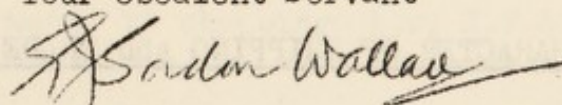
This Report is submitted in the manner specified in
Form Port 20 which accompanied Ministry of Health Circular 33/52 dated
6th November 1952. This indicated that a full report was to be made
in 1955 and thereafter quinquennially while for the intermediate years
only changes which had occurred during the year should be referred to
in Sections I, V, VI, VIII, XIV, XV, and XVI - all marked with an asterisk.

No unusual occurrences took place and it was not
necessary to make any special report during the year.

It is again a pleasure to have this opportunity of
thanking the Members of the Authority for their kindness and consideration,
the Clerk for his ready co-operation, and Mr. E.V.Abbey, Port Health
Inspector, for his willing assistance at all times. I am also most
grateful to the Divisional Marine Manager, British Railways, Capt. T.A.
Hollyoak, Harbourmaster, and the Officers of H.M.Customs for their
continued help.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant



(E.J.GORDON WALLACE)

Port Medical Officer.

SECTION 1 - STAFF *

TABLE A.

Name of Officer.	Appointment Held.	Date of Appointment.	Qualifications and Other Appointments Held.
r. E. J. Gordon Wallace.	Port Medical Officer of Health	1st Jan. 1948	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. M.O.H. Borough of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis. M.O.H. Portland Urban Dist. South Dorset Area Medical Officer, Dorset County Council Physician i/c Westhaven Infectious Disease Hosp.
r. A. C. Ricks.	Deputy Port Medical Officer of Health	1st Apr. 1938.	M.B., B.S. General Medical Practitioner
r. E. V. Abbey	Port Health Inspector.	1st Oct. 1945	Sanitary Inspector's Certificate Master Mariner (Foreign).

Address and Telephone Number of the Medical Officer of Health:

Office - Health Centre, Westham Rd., Weymouth. - Weymouth 1645/6.
Telegraphic Address: 'Portelth', Weymouth.
Home - 211, Dorchester Road, Weymouth. - Weymouth 1513.

SECTION 11 - AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR.

TABLE B.

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected		Number of Ships reported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious Disease on Board.
			By the Med. Officer of Health.	By the Sanitary Inspector	
Foreign Ports	536	337,133	2	522	Nil
Coastwise	205	76,905	2	78	Nil
TOTAL	741	414,038	4	600	Nil

SECTION 111 - CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR.

TABLE C

Passenger Traffic (Number of Passengers INWARDS 68,931 Day Trippers
(Number of Passengers OUTWARDS 76,934 20,776.



SECTION 111 - CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR(Cont.)

TABLE C

Cargo Traffic	(Principal IMPORTS	Fruit; Vegetables; Flowers; Oil; Shellfish.
	(Principal EXPORTS	General Merchandise; Stores.

Principal Ports from which Ships arrive: Antwerp; Gibraltar; Kasko;
 Rotterdam; Rouen; Trinidad.

- - - - -

SECTION IV - INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC.

NIL.

- - - - -

SECTION V * - WATER SUPPLY.

1. Source of supply for (a) the district:

Weymouth - Weymouth Waterworks Company's springs at Empool and
 Sutton Poyntz.

Portland - Portland Urban District's deep borehole at Friar Waddon.

(b) Shipping:

Mains from the Weymouth and Portland supplies.

2. Reports of Tests for Contamination.

Samples are regularly examined at the Public Health Laboratory, Dorchester, from the mains supplies in both Weymouth and Portland, and also from the Weymouth Waterworks Company's springs and the Portland U.D.C. deep borehole. The water supplies for both Weymouth and Portland are chlorinated at source. Reports of all bacteriological examinations are freely available to the Port Medical Officer in his capacity as Medical Officer of Health to the two districts.

3. Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes.

At Weymouth Harbour, the Berthing Master is responsible for the safe custody and cleanliness of the stand pipe for connection to the Water Company's main on the quay. Each ship regularly using the harbour has its own hosepipes.

At Portland, the supply of water to shipping, i.e. R.F.A. tankers, is an Admiralty responsibility.

4. Number and sanitary condition of water boats, and powers of control by the Authority.

No water boats are maintained by the Authority, or by any other civil organisation. In Portland, this is an Admiralty responsibility.

SECTION VI * - PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1952.

1. List of Infected Areas (Regulation 6)

During the first week of each month, the Port Medical Officer prepares a list showing the Country, Seaport and disease concerned, i.e. a copy of Part 1 of the Ministry of Health's Weekly Record of Quarantinable Diseases - and sends a copy of this list to (a) Port Health Inspector, (b) H.M.Customs, Weymouth, and (c) H.M.Customs, Portland.

Each week during the month as new weekly records are received, an amendment list giving details of additions or deletions is sent out. Special information bulletins were sent to H.M.Customs and the Portland Naval Authorities concerning the outbreaks of smallpox in Brittany (January 1955) and Brest(April 1955).

2. Radio Messages (a) Arrangements for sending permission by radio for ships to enter the district (Regulation 13)

This Port is not a 'Radio transmitting port' but should the necessity arise, appropriate messages can be transmitted through Niton Radion, Isle of Wight.

(b) Arrangements for receiving messages from ships and for acting thereon. (Regulation 14 (1)(a) and (2).

From time to time messages are relayed from ships at sea direct to the Port Medical Officer by telephone from Niton Radio, Isle of Wight.

In this connection it is a pleasure to place on record one's high appreciation of the whole hearted co-operation invariably extended by the staff of Niton Radio.

3. Notifications other than by Radio (Regulation 14(1)(b)).

The R.N.Signals Station, Portland, is most co-operative in deciphering and passing on to the Port Medical Officer flag and other signals from ships in the district of the Port Health Authority.

Occasionally messages are received by the Port Medical Officer from shipping agents in either Weymouth or Portland.

"Portelth, Weymouth", is the registered telegraphic address of the Port Medical Officer's office at the Health Centre, Weymouth, where messages can be received and necessary action taken thereon at any time during the day or night.

4. Mooring Stations. (Regulations 22 to 30)

This Port is not regularly used by shipping which might come within the definition of "infected ship" or "suspected ship".

If, however, such circumstances should arise, the ship would be instructed to anchor in Weymouth Bay and would be boarded without delay by the Port Medical Officer.

In the event of it becoming necessary to detain any ship, arrangements would be made with Queens Harbour Master, H.M.Naval Base, Portland, for the ship to tie up to a mooring buoy in Portland Harbour subject to Naval commitments allowing of this to be done.

5. Arrangements for:

- (a) Hospital accommodation for infectious cases - other than Smallpox.

These are admitted to the Westhaven(Infectious Diseases) Hospital, Radipole Lane, Weymouth. Tel. Weymouth 16.

- (b) Surveillance and Follow-up of Contacts.

Arrangements are made for this to be carried out in accordance with Regulation 38 of the Public Health (Ships) Regulations 1952.

- (c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles.

The Port Health Inspector has a supply of disinfectants and modern insecticides for the cleansing and disinfection of ships quarters requiring such treatment which is carried out under his direction.

Delousing of verminous persons and disinfestation of clothing and other articles is carried out by arrangement with the Weymouth Borough Council which has a modern cleansing station and steam disinfector.

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SECTION VII - SMALLPOX.

1. Name of Isolation Hospital to which smallpox cases are sent from the District:

Crabwood Smallpox Hospital, Nr. Winchester, Hants.
Tel. No. Winchester 2121.

2. Arrangements for transport of such cases to that Hospital:

Dorset County Council Ambulance Service, from the Weymouth Ambulance Depot. Tel. No. Weymouth 2661.

Each Ambulance driver/Attendant at this Depot is re-vaccinated every year. The vaccinal state of the Weymouth Corporation disinfector staff is also maintained by annual re-vaccination.

3. Names of Smallpox Consultants available:

Dr. E.J.Gordon Wallace	- Weymouth.
Dr. P. Hughes.	- Weymouth.
Dr. C. Hollins.	- Dorchester.

4. Facilities for laboratory diagnosis of Smallpox.

Suspected material is sent to:

Dr. F.O. McCallum
Virus Reference Laboratory,
Central Public Health Laboratory,
Colindale, London N.W.9.

Tel. No. Colindale 6041.

SECTION VIII - VENEREAL DISEASE.

Male patients can be seen at the V.D.Clinic at la Wyke Road, Weymouth (Portway Hospital Out-patient Department) on Monday mornings from 11.0 a.m.- 12.30 p.m. and on Thursday evenings from 5- 6.30 p.m.

The Specialist V.D.Medical Officer is always prepared to give special facilities to merchant seamen whose available time on shore does not permit them to attend at the usual clinic hours.

In-patient accommodation and treatment is provided for at Westhaven (Infectious Diseases) Hospital, Weymouth.

The Port Medical Officer, or the Port Health Inspector inquires as to the presence of venereal disease on board ships entering the Port and the appropriate information is given to the persons concerned. Printed cards are available for this purpose.

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

TABLE D

Category	Disease	No. of cases during Year		No. of Ships concerned.
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases landed from other ships.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

During the year notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis were received by me (as Borough Medical Officer of Health) in respect of two residents who were members of the crews of two locally based merchant ships (one from each ship)

Following this, 44 members of the crews of both ships attended for chest x-rays and one of these men was referred for further examination at the Chest Clinic.

SECTION X - OBSERVATIONS ON THE OCCURRENCE OF MALARIA IN SHIPS.

N I L.

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

N I L.

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

1. The Port Health Inspector carries out a detailed inspection for rodents on all ships arriving from foreign ports.
2. Arrangements have been made for the bacteriological and pathological examinations of rodents to be carried out at the County Laboratory, Dorchester. No such examinations were carried out during 1955.
3. The Port Health Inspector has been trained in modern methods of rodents control, including "1080"-Sodium fluoroacetate. Small infestations are dealt with by trapping and baiting. Large scale infestations would be dealt with by specialist fumigation firms from Southampton or London.

TABLE E.

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports.

Category				Numbers.
Black rats	...	...	...	Nil.
Brown rats	...	...	...	Nil.
Species not known	...	...	...	Nil.
Sent for examination	...	...	...	Nil.
Infected with Plague	...	...	...	Nil.

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 Cert's issued.	Total Cert's issued
After fumigation with		After Trapping 3	After Poisoning 4 *	Total 5		
H.C.N. 1	Other fumigant (State Method) 2					
-	-	-	-	-	1	1

* State poisons used and number of Certificates issued after each poison.

In addition to the above, five Deratting Exemption Certificates were issued to coastal vessels.

SECTION XI11 - 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	
British	588	Nil	8	8 abated
Foreign	12	Nil	Nil	-
TOTAL	600	Nil	8	8 abated.

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

There are no shell-fish beds or layings within the jurisdiction of the Port Health Authority.

Under the Weymouth(Shell-fish) Regulations 1922, a prohibited area has been prescribed and Notices to the following effect are exhibited at 4 places within the Authority's district, viz.(a) Backwater of Weymouth Harbour, (b) Stone Pier, Weymouth, (c) Littlesea, off Chesil Beach Road, and (d) adjacent to the Admiralty oil tanks, Portland:-

WEYMOUTH PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

Weymouth (Shell-fish) Regulations 1922.

WARNING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:- That any person who, for human consumption, sells or exposes for sale, distributes, offers for sale or has in his possession for the purpose of sale, contrary to the Order, any oysters, cockles, mussels, periwinkles, razor fish, squinns or butter fish, brought from the layings included in the prescribed area, hereinafter described, shall be deemed to be acting in contravention of the said regulations, and liable, on conviction, to a penalty of £100, and to a continuing daily penalty of £50.

PRESCRIBED AREA.

Portland Harbour and so much of the adjacent waters as lies to the west of a straight line drawn from the southern extremity of Redcliff Point to the eastern extremity of Grove Point, including the backwater of Weymouth Harbour.

By Order,

G.G.H.SYMES

Clerk to the Port Health Authority.

SECTION XV * - MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS.

The Port is not approved for the landing of aliens.

SECTION XVI * - MISCELLANEOUS.

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

No difficulty would arise in arranging for such burials in local cemeteries.

WEYMOUTH
PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

WEYMOUTH.

To Dr. E.J. Gordon Wallace,
Port Medical Officer of Health.

March 1956

Sir,

In accordance with the requirements of Article 27(8) of the Sanitary Officers' (Outside London) Regulations 1935 and 1951, I herewith submit particulars of my work during the year 1955 as Port Health Inspector and Assistant Food Inspector to the Weymouth Port Health Authority.

Particulars of Ships Arriving and Inspected in the Port
during 1955.

				Where Inspected.	
				<u>Weymouth</u>	<u>Portland.</u>
British	...	...	...	531	57
Dutch	...	...	...	6	5
Greek	...	...	...	1	-
				<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL				<u>538</u>	<u>62</u>

Number of Inspections made during the Year.

Total number of Vessels inspected	...	...	...	600.
Re-inspections after the giving of notices	...	...	...	10
Revisits to vessels discharging food cargoes	...	...	...	51
Visits under Sect's 19 & 20 of the Public Health (Ships) Regulations	...	...	...	12
				<hr/>
TOTAL				<u>673</u>

FOOD INSPECTION.

Five hundred and seventeen visits and fifty-one re-visits were made to vessels discharging food cargoes during the year.

Twenty-seven(12 lbs.) chips of tomatoes were detained on the 6th June 1955 as being unfit for distribution through the trade. The bottoms of the chips were contaminated with deisel oil, and after sorting the fruit was sold to British Railway employees.

The total number of packages of food landed in the Port during 1955 was:-

	<u>Packages</u>	<u>Weight</u>	
		<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>
Tomatoes	5,574,672	34,816	-
Other produce	730,805	5,757	-
 TOTALS	 6,305,477	 40,573	 -

I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman of the Port Health Authority and to yourself as Port Medical Officer for the support and consideration afforded me during the year; also to the Officers of H.M. Customs Waterguard and Excise, the Naval Stores Officer and staff, Shipping Agents and their staffs, and members of British Railways Executive and Pier Staff for the assistance which has been so willingly accorded to me.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

EDWARD V. ABBEY.

Port Health Inspector.

