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**PORT HEALTH DISTRICT  
OF WORKINGTON**

# *Annual Report*

OF THE

**PORT MEDICAL OFFICER**

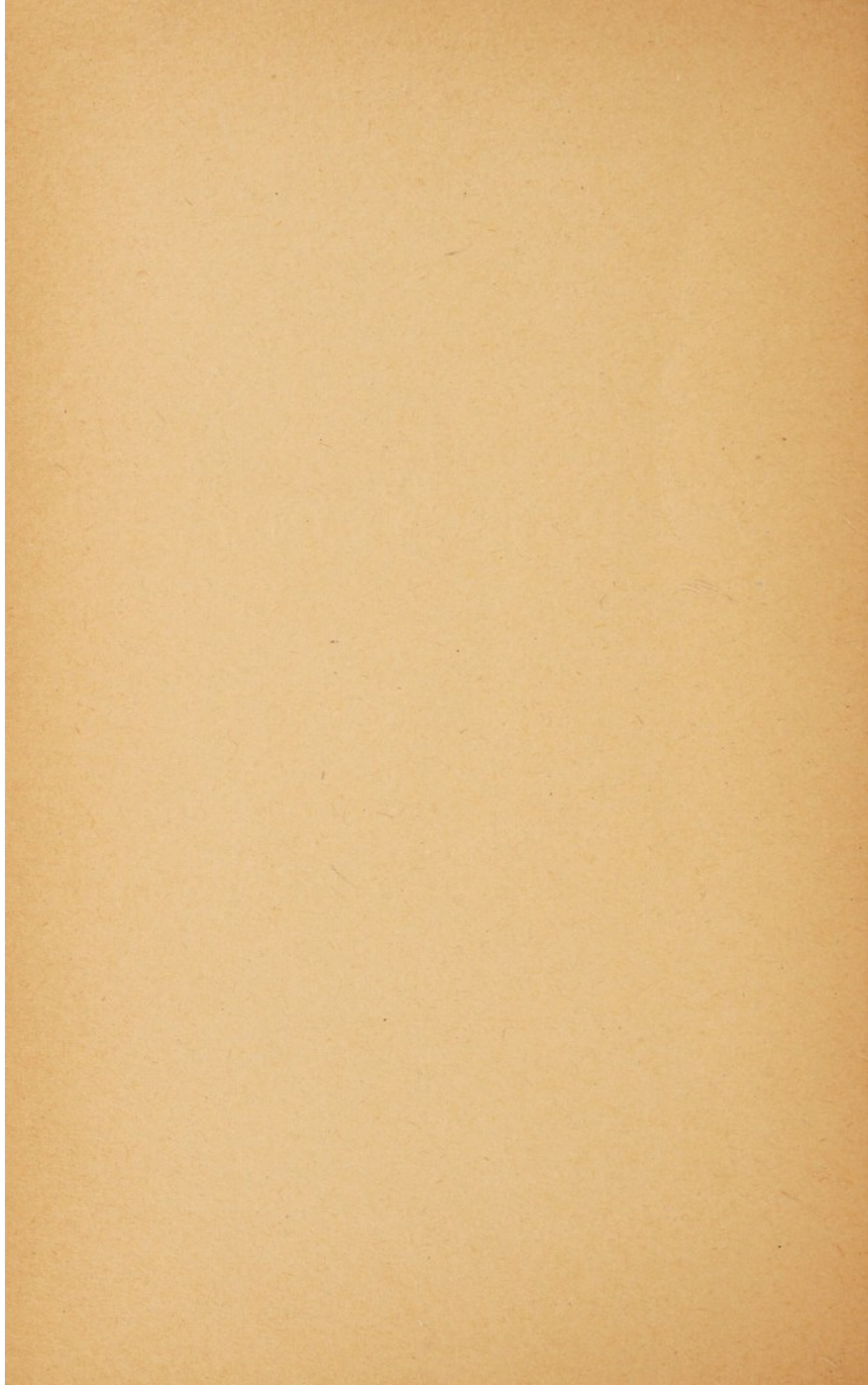
**For the Year 1959**

BY

**JAMES L. HUNTER,  
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.**

*Public Health Department,  
Town Hall, Workington,  
February, 1960.*





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# MEMBERS OF THE WORKINGTON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

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## *Chairman:*

COUNCILLOR J. R. DAVIS

*(Workington Borough)*

COUNCILLOR E. BARRACLOUGH *(Workington Borough)*

„ J. BROWN *(Cockermouth R.D.C.)*

„ A. H. DUNN *(Workington Borough)*

„ H. H. McMANUS *(Workington Borough)*

„ J. C. MOORE *(Workington Borough)*

„ W. ROE *(Ennerdale R.D.C.)*

„ J. STANGER *(Cockermouth R.D.C.)*

„ E. L. D. TOMLINSON *(Workington Borough)*

ALDERMAN W. A. WALKER *(Workington Borough)*

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## STAFF

Clerk ..... G. McKAY PORTER

Port Medical Officer ..... J. L. HUNTER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Port Medical Officer ... R. E. FLETCHER, M.B., Ch.B.

Port Health Inspector ..... R. JAMES

Assistant Port Health Inspector ..... C. E. PEARSON

TOWN HALL,  
WORKINGTON,  
February, 1960.

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Workington Port Health Authority.*

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

My Annual Report for 1959 has again been compiled in accordance with the requirements of Form Port 20 of the Ministry of Health, 1952.

No case of infectious disease was reported during the year, and, generally, the health of seamen arriving in vessels to the Port has been good.

The importation of petroleum products increased by nearly 7,000 tons, but mineral cargoes still constitute the bulk of trade. The only foodstuffs imported during the year were 100 tons of potatoes.

There has been a decrease in the number of coastwise vessels entering the port and a slight increase in vessels from foreign ports. The majority of the latter vessels are of modern construction and specially designed for carrying mineral cargoes, and it is very pleasing to note that the amenities provided for the crews are very good. The old dark, ill-ventilated and overcrowded fo'castles in the bowels of the ship with no heating, no lockers, etc., have vanished, and each man is now provided with a cabin, clean bedding, lockers, comfortable chairs, messrooms and recreation rooms.

#### STAFF.

There has been one change of Staff during the year, Mr. G. McKay Porter, Solicitor, was appointed Clerk to the Authority in place of Mr. Russell C. Pharaoh, who resigned in March.

#### SHIPS ENTERING THE PORT DURING THE YEAR.

<i>Ships from.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Tonnage.</i>	<i>Number Inspected.</i>		<i>Number of ships reported as having, or having had, during the voyage, infectious disease on board.</i>
			<i>By the Medical Officer of Health.</i>	<i>By the Port Health Inspector.</i>	
Foreign Ports	97	218,484	14	97	Nil
Coastwise	321	84,767	Nil	292	Nil
Total	418	303,251	14	389	Nil



## CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR.

## Passenger Traffic.

Number of passengers Inwards	...	...	3
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Number of passengers Outwards	...	...	Nil
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(In addition one stowaway arrived).

## Cargo Traffic.

Imports amounted to 685,774 tons as compared with 585,922 tons during the previous year. Iron ore (including manganese ore) was again the chief import, viz.:—

Iron and Manganese Ore	...	627,549 tons
Coal	... ..	1,396 tons
Petroleum	... ..	53,256 tons
Bricks and Ganister	... ..	2,230 tons
Pig Iron	... ..	1,243 tons
Potatoes	... ..	100 tons
		<hr/>
		685,774 tons

Exports amounted to 69,830 tons as compared with 107,638 tons in 1958, viz.:—

Steel	... ..	40,572 tons
Coke Nuts	... ..	5,322 tons
Pig Iron	... ..	5,270 tons
Tar	... ..	4,692 tons
Coal	... ..	1,827 tons
Ingot Moulds	... ..	7,626 tons
Pitch	... ..	2,353 tons
General Cargo	... ..	201 tons
Granulated Slag	... ..	950 tons
Filler Bricks, Tuyeres, etc.	...	1,017 tons
		<hr/>
		69,830 tons

## Ports from which Ships arrived.

## Foreign—97:

Algeria	... ..	Bougie	...	...	1
		Algiers	...	...	13
		Bona	...	...	29



Egypt (Red Sea)	...	Abu-Zenina	...	1
France	...	Lorient	...	1
		Nantes	...	1
Germany	...	Hamburg	...	2
India	...	Bombay	...	1
		Calcutta	...	2
		Vizagapatam	...	2
Norway	...	Kirkenes	...	17
		Moi-Rana	...	3
Russia	...	Poti	...	3
Spanish North Africa	...	Melilla	...	11
Sweden	...	Helsingborg	...	1
		Askarshamn	...	3
		Oxelosund	...	3
		Vasteras	...	1
West Africa (Gold Coast)		Takoradi	...	2
				—
				97
				—

## Coastwise—321.

Ardrossan	...	1	Glasgow	...	9
Ayr	...	1	Greenock	...	36
Bangor	...	1	Heysham	...	19
Barrow	...	13	Holyhead	...	10
Barry	...	2	Larne	...	3
Belfast	...	21	Leith	...	1
Birkenhead	...	29	Limerick	...	1
Bristol	...	1	Liverpool	...	45
Campbeltown	...	1	Londonderry	...	3
Cardiff	...	1	Manchester	...	3
Carrickfergus	...	2	Mostyn	...	1
Connahs Quay	...	6	Newport	...	1
Cork	...	2	Newry	...	2
Dingle	...	2	Partington	...	2
Douglas	...	5	Port Patrick	...	1
Drogheda	...	3	Portsmouth	...	1
Dublin	...	10	Preston	...	3
Dunloaghaire	...	1	Stanlow	...	45
Ellesmere Port	...	1	Silloth	...	1
Fishing Grounds	...	17	Stromness	...	1
Fleetwood	...	1	Warren Point	...	3
Fort William	...	2	Waterford	...	1
Garston	...	1	Wicklow	...	2
Glasson Dock	...	2	From Sea	...	1

### WATER SAMPLES.

Hydrants situated on the dockside supply water to vessels. The water is chlorinated and comes via the mains of Workington Borough. Regular sampling was carried out during the year and proved satisfactory to bacteriological and chemical examination.

Enquiries are made on all vessels as to the source of water on board, and the frequency and method of cleaning out the water tanks.

Five samples of water from foreign going vessels were submitted for examination. Four proved satisfactory and one suspicious of faecal contamination.

In two cases notices were given to empty and clean out the drinking water tanks.

Several vessels have been provided with small plants for processing sea water for drinking purposes. Usually the plants are capable of providing 10 tons of purified water per day. A bacteriological examination of this water proved satisfactory.

### PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1952.

The Regulations have continued to work smoothly in all sections itemised in the report for 1955.

### SMALLPOX.

The reception hospital for cases of Smallpox is now Langley Park Hospital, Co. Durham. The ambulance and laboratory services remain the same as in recent years.

### VENEREAL DISEASE.

Enquiries are made on all vessels in respect of these diseases and printed directions as to procedure for receiving treatment locally are given.

During the year three seamen (2 British and 1 Norwegian) received treatment.

### CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES ON SHIPS.

The Masters of all vessels from foreign ports returned a clean Declaration of Health so far as infectious diseases were concerned, and no sickness seen by the Port Medical Officer was of this nature.

The following cases of sickness or injury were reported by Masters when docking:—



<i>Nationality.</i>	<i>Complaint.</i>	<i>Treatment.</i>
British	Appendicitis	Hospital.
British	Venereal Disease	Local V.D. Clinic.
Norwegian	Stomach	Local Medical Practitioner.
British	Suspected Tumour	Discharged. Proceeded home.
Norwegian	Injured hand	Hospital. Two fingers amputated.
Norwegian	Venereal Disease	Local V.D. Clinic.
German	Diarrhoea and bleeding	Hospital.
British	Suspected mastoid	Hospital.
Norwegian	Influenza	Local Medical Practitioner.
British	Tuberculosis	Discharged. Proceeded home.
British	Venereal Disease	Local V.D. Clinic.
<hr/>		
Norwegian	Died at sea	Removed from vessel to mortuary. Post-mortem re- vealed Pneumonia as cause of death.

#### MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS.

It is said that rats on ships are rapidly diminishing, but so far as the Port of Workington is concerned rats appear to have vanished.

Routine inspections of vessels during the year have failed to procure even one rat to submit to the Laboratory for plague examination.

Slight evidence of rats was found on two foreign-going vessels, but poison baits and traps were laid without success.

Periodical test baiting on ships and dockside buildings have also proved negative.

During the year 23 Deratting Exemption Certificates and 5 Rodent Control Certificates were issued.

According to a recent report by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, in 1951 the black rat was reasonably well established ashore in the London area and in about 40 localities outside it, and occurred sporadically in about 30 other places. In 1956 the black rat had decreased in range and frequency in most areas, and had disappeared from some. The main factors responsible for this decrease are undoubtedly the vigorous international campaign that has taken place during the past few years and the legal necessity for vessels to be in possession of Deratting and Rodent Control Certificates, plus better construction of vessels, dockside buildings, etc., to reduce rat infestation.

## INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES.

<i>Nature and Number of Inspections.</i>		<i>Notices served.</i>		<i>Result of serving Notices.</i>
		<i>Statutory Notices.</i>	<i>Other Notices.</i>	
British	307	Nil	17	1 attention next port. Remainder carried out.
Foreign	82	Nil	6	Carried out.
Total	389	Nil	23	

The twenty-three notices served covered the following defects, nuisances or conditions prejudicial to health:—

	<i>British.</i>	<i>Other Nationalities.</i>	
Dirty crews' quarters .....	3	—	
Dirty messrooms .....	2	—	
Dirty pantries, galleys or storerooms .....	4	2	Indian
Dirty washplaces .....	2	—	
Choked scuppers or sinks	11	4	1 French 1 Spanish 2 Norwegian
Choked and/or dirty waterclosets .....	7	2	Swedish Norwegian
Leaking steampipes .....	1	—	
Defective ventilators or insufficient ventilation ..	—	2	Indian
Defective ports .....	2	—	
Defective sanitary fittings	5	2	1 French 1 Dutch
Dirty water tanks .....	2	—	
Defective water fountains	1	—	
	40	12	

The number of vessels entering the Port during 1959 decreased by 85 as compared with the previous year.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Total Net Tonnage.</i>
1952	491	320,710
1953	533	344,134
1954	504	391,962
1955	578	355,141
1956	540	351,731
1957	608	377,009
1958	503	313,097
1959	418	303,251



The nationalities and number of ships of each nationality of the vessels entering the Port were as follows:—

<i>Nationality.</i>					<i>No. of Ships.</i>
British	...	...	...	...	331
Danish	...	...	...	...	3
Dutch	...	...	...	...	26
French	...	...	...	...	11
German	...	...	...	...	5
Indian	...	...	...	...	2
Norwegian	...	...	...	...	31
Spanish	...	...	...	...	1
Swedish	...	...	...	...	8
					418

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

One notice was served under the Parrots and Miscellaneous Birds (Prohibition of Importation) Order, 1953, respecting one parrot and two budgerigars.

The foreshore under the jurisdiction of the Authority has been periodically inspected. Carcases of one porpoise and two sheep were removed and disposed of during the year.

I wish again to record my thanks to the other members of the Staff for their good work and help throughout the year. I wish also to thank the Officials of the Dock and Harbour for much consideration and help.

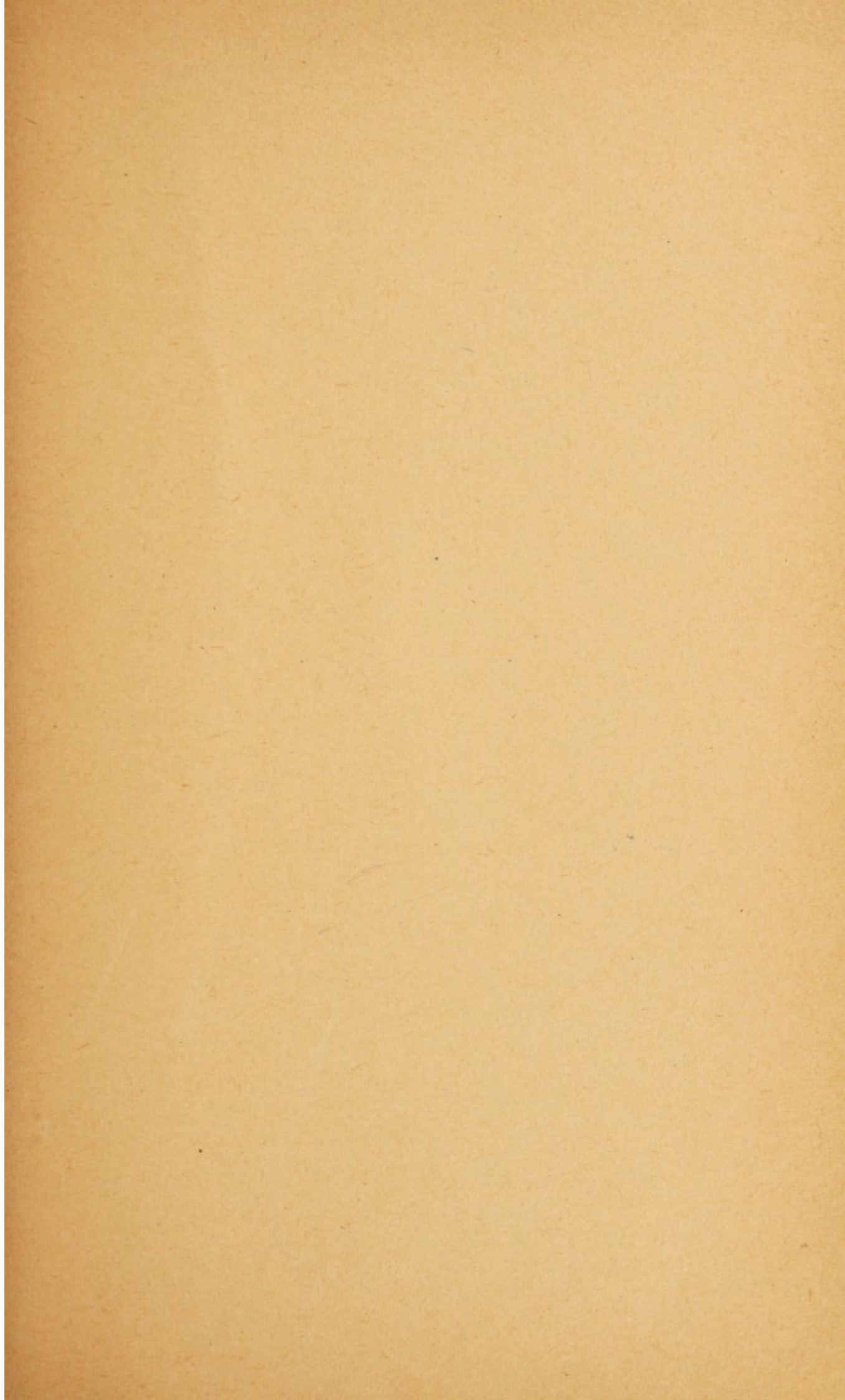
I am,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES L. HUNTER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Port Medical Officer.*





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