

**[Report 1967] / Medical Officer of Health, Workington Port Health District.**

**Contributors**

Workington (England). Port Health District.

**Publication/Creation**

1967

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/nh36cdnh>

**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](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

AC 4482(2)

1

WORKINGTON  
PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

# Annual Report


of

The Port Medical Officer

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



FOR THE YEAR 1967



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2018 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30294046>

MEMBERS OF THE WORKINGTON  
PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

---

*Chairman:*

COUNCILLOR J. E. MILLER.

(Workington Borough)

COUNCILLOR J. G. BARNETT (Cockermouth R.D.C.)

„ J. BROWN (Cockermouth R.D.C.)

„ W. J. CONNOR (Workington Borough )

„ T. G. EDWARDS (Workington Borough)

„ C. F. JOHNSTON (Ennerdale R.D.C.)

„ J. SINCLAIR (Workington Borough)

„ J. R. WHITE (Workington Borough)

„ W. C. WHALLEY (Workington Borough)

ALDERMAN W. A. WALKER (Workington Borough)

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
TOWN HALL,  
WORKINGTON.

*January, 1968.*

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

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1967. The report is prepared in accordance with the Ministry of Health Form Port 20 dated October, 1952.

There were no changes in the operation of the Port during the year but there was some variation in activity (7 more vessels arrived but imports fell by 281,884 tons and exports by 7,537 tons.) The main imports were ore and related substances and petroleum but the import of wood pulp and fertiliser for the first time is indicative of a broadening of the type of material imported.

No case of infectious disease was notified from the Port during the year and no major sanitary problems arose in connection with the ships or harbour installations. No live rats were recovered from any ship and no trace of infestation was found on any vessel.



## SECTION I—STAFF.

<i>Name of Officer.</i>	<i>Nature of Appointment.</i>	<i>Date of Appointment.</i>	<i>Any Other Appointments Held.</i>
George McKay Porter, Solicitor	Clerk.	March, 1959	Town Clerk, Borough of Workington.
James L. Hunter, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Port Medical Officer of Health.	July, 1950	Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Workington Western Area Medical Officer, Cumberland County Council.
Ronald E. Fletcher, M.B., Ch.B.	Deputy Port Medical Officer.	October, 1941	Private Practitioner
*†† Donald A. Fogg,	Port Health Inspector	December, 1964	Chief Public Health Inspector, Borough of Workington.
*Charles E. Pearson	Assistant Port Health Inspector	November, 1948	Assistant Public Health Inspector, Borough of Workington.

\*Holds the statutory qualifications as a Public Health Inspector.

†Holds the Meat and Other Foods Certificate of the R.S.H.

‡Holds the Smoke Inspectors Certificate.

Address and Telephone Number of the  
Port Medical Officer:—

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

TOWN HALL, WORKINGTON.

PHONE: WORKINGTON 2251.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: PORTEALTH, WORKINGTON.

## SECTION II.

## SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT DURING THE YEAR.

<i>Ships from</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Net 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 Inspectors.</i>	
Foreign Ports	88	142,265	3	85	Nil
Coastwise	224	62,978	—	31	Nil
Total	312	205,243	3	116	Nil

## SECTION III.

## CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR.

*Passenger Traffic:*

Number of passengers Inwards ... 10

Number of passengers Outwards ... —

*Cargo Traffic:*

The number of vessels arriving increased by 7 as compared with 1966, imports decreasing by 281,884 tons.

## IMPORTS.

*Coastwise:*

	<i>Tons.</i>
Bricks and Ganister ...	1,989
Steel Scrap ...	782
Petroleum ...	72,892
Pig Iron ...	3,471
Coal ...	2,175
General Cargo ...	30
	<hr/> 81,339 <hr/>

*Foreign:*

Ore ...	221,997
Pig Iron ...	6,783
Wood Pulp ...	4,662
Aluminium Ingots ...	2,472
Fertiliser ...	1,792
	<hr/> 237,706 <hr/>

TOTAL IMPORTS ... 319,045

Exports decreased by 7,537 tons as compared with 1966.

## EXPORTS.

<i>Coastwise:</i>					<i>Tons.</i>
Coke Breeze	...	...	...	...	1,318
Steel Fish Plates	...	...	...	...	390
Steel Sleepers	...	...	...	...	938
Steel Rails	...	...	...	...	2,009
Ingot Moulds	...	...	...	...	4,226
Pig Iron	...	...	...	...	3,008
Pitch	...	...	...	...	932
Tar	...	...	...	...	852
Bricks	...	...	...	...	102
General Cargo	...	...	...	...	321

---

14,096

---

## *Foreign:*

Steel Sleepers	...	...	...	...	5,137
Ingot Moulds	...	...	...	...	22,539
Pitch	...	...	...	...	2,077
General Cargo	...	...	...	...	1,990
Sole Plates	...	...	...	...	3,128
Steel Rails	...	...	...	...	978
Coke Breeze	...	...	...	...	4,208
Filler Bricks	...	...	...	...	39
Fire Clay	...	...	...	...	345

---

40,441

---

TOTAL EXPORTS ... ... 54,537

---

## *Ports from which Ships arrived.*

### Foreign—88.

Belgium	...	...	...	Antwerp	...	...	...	2
Brazil	...	...	...	Macapa	...	...	...	3
France	...	...	...	Lorient	...	...	...	1
Holland	...	...	...	Ymuiden	...	...	...	8
				Rotterdam	...	...	...	1
Italy	...	...	...	Oristano	...	...	...	4



Norway	...	...	...	Husnes	...	...	...	5
				Kirkenes	...	...	...	39
				Moirana	...	...	...	7
				Larvik	...	...	...	2
				Mosjoen	...	...	...	2
				Tofte	...	...	...	3
				Odde	...	...	...	1
South Africa	...	...		Port Elizabeth	...	...	...	3
Spain	...	...	...	Almeria	...	...	...	1
Sweden	...	...	...	Husum	...	...	...	3
Russia	...	...	...	Poti	...	...	...	3

*Coastwise—224.*

Arklow	...	...	1	Heysham	...	...	24
Ardrossan	...	...	4	Holyhead	...	...	8
Avonmouth	...	...	2	Letterkenny	...	...	1
Ayr	...	...	1	Liverpool	...	...	10
Barrow	...	...	3	Londonderry	...	...	3
Barry	...	...	3	Manchester	...	...	2
Belfast	...	...	15	Mostyn	...	...	2
Birkenhead	...	...	2	Newport	...	...	2
Coleraine	...	...	1	Oban	...	...	1
Cork	...	...	1	Preston	...	...	6
Douglas	...	...	3	Runcorn	...	...	3
Drogheda	...	...	2	Ramsay	...	...	3
Dublin	...	...	6	Sharpness	...	...	1
Dundalk	...	...	1	Stanlow	...	...	74
Faslane	...	...	6	Waterford	...	...	2
Fleetwood	...	...	3	Weston Point	...	...	5
Garston	...	...	3	Whitehaven	...	...	3
Greenock	...	...	10	Warren Point	...	...	1
Galway	...	...	1	Fishing Grounds	...	...	2
Glasgow	...	...	3				

SECTION IV—INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC.

There has been no change in the position regarding inland barge traffic as no navigable inland waterway connects with the Port.

SECTION V—WATER SUPPLY.

There has been no change in the supply of water to the Port, samples taken have all been satisfactory and the arrangements for filling of ships tanks, etc., works smoothly.

## SECTION VI—PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS 1952.

The passing of world-wide information re infected areas, radio messages, etc., received from ships and information regarding mooring stations continues as outlined in my 1965 report.

There has been no change in the arrangements for dealing with hospital accommodation, surveillance of contacts of infectious disease and any disinfections which may be required.

## SECTION VII—SMALLPOX.

The arrangements for the isolation of suspect or real cases are covered by the hospital service. The reception hospital is the Langley Park Isolation Hospital near Durham.

The local consultant in the disease is Dr. D. G. Davies, Public Health Laboratory Service, Carlisle.

Eleven crew members have been re-vaccinated by the Port Medical Officer during the year.

## SECTION VIII—VENEREAL DISEASE.

Free confidential treatment for Venereal Disease is provided by a Local Medical Practitioner appointed by the Regional Hospital Board (Dr. R. N. R. Grant, 82 John Street, Workington). Treatment can be obtained by appointment (phone Workington 2997).

Treatment is also obtainable at the West Cumberland Hospital, Whitehaven, and the Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle.

On arrival at the Port the Master of each vessel is supplied with detailed information as to the free treatment which is available and advised that early specialist treatment is advisable in all cases. Posters in the dock area also give this information.



# 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	—	—	—	—
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival	—	—	—	—
Cases landed from other ships	—	—	—	—

# SECTION X—OBSERVATIONS ON THE OCCURENCES OF MALARIA IN SHIPS.

There have been no cases of malaria reported during the year.

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

No ships infected or suspected for plague arrived at the Port during the year and so it has not been necessary to take any action.

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

No rats were recovered from any vessel entering the Port nor was any evidence of infestation found during the year.

All ships are examined for the presence of rats and, where deratting Certificates require to be renewed, detailed inspection of the whole vessel is carried out as routine.

The dock area is periodically examined so as to maintain the whole area as free of rats as is possible. Test baiting and other precautionary measures have not shewn traces of rats during the current year.

Bacterial and pathological examination of any rats caught would be dealt with by the Public Health Laboratory, Carlisle. In the event of a ship requiring deratting a commercial contractor, either Rentokil of Carlisle or Hivey of Liverpool, would be employed.

The modern construction of most of the vessels using the port has, in almost all cases, resulted in a high standard of rat-proofing being built into the vessels and so there is little need to ask for any further precautions being taken. The habit of some crews of leaving store rooms for long periods without a "turn over" seems to be dying out and so the familiar nesting places are not available to rodents and infestations are removed before they reach unmanageable proportions.

TABLE E.

Rodents destroyed during the year in Ships from Foreign Ports.

<i>Category.</i>						<i>No.</i>
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.*

<i>Number of Deratting Certificates Issued</i>					<i>Number of Deratting Exemption Certificates Issued.</i>	<i>Total Certificates Issued.</i>
<i>After fumigation with</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>After</i>	<i>After</i>	<i>Total.</i>		
<i>H.C.N.</i>	<i>Fumigant.</i>	<i>Trapping.</i>	<i>Poisoning.</i>			
—	—	—	—	—	19	19

## SECTION XIII—INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES

TABLE G.

## INSPECTIONS AND NOTICES.

<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	45	Nil	15		Work required carried out
Foreign	71	Nil	9		Work required carried out
	116	Nil	24		

The 24 notices cover the following defects, nuisances or other conditions prejudicial to health:—

	<i>British.</i>	<i>Other Nationalities.</i>
Dirty galley .....	5	1 Panamanian
Dirty pantry .....	—	1 Panamanian
Dirty provision store .....	6	1 Norwegian
		1 Dutch
		1 German
		1 Panamanian
Defective, choked or dirty toilets	9	1 Dutch
Smoking in galley .....	—	1 Dutch
Broken portlight .....	—	1 Norwegian
Choked food store ventilators ...	3	
Leaking deck head .....		1 Irish
		1 Dutch
No hot water to washhand basin	2	
Cockroach infestation .....		1 Greek
	25	12

A Greek vessel was found to be very heavily infested with cockroaches but as it was only in the Port a short time only preliminary measures could be taken. The vessel, however was proceeding to Hull and the Hull and Goole Port Health Authority were informed as to the conditions found and the action taken. Subsequently we were advised that the necessary measures had been completed and the vessel cleared of infestation.

The number of vessels that entered the Port during 1967 was 312 as compared with 305 in the previous year. The following table gives the numbers arriving since 1958.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Total Net Tonnage.</i>	<i>Total Cargo Tonnage.</i>
1958	503	313,097	585,922
1959	418	303,251	685,774
1960	544	475,216	1,046,696
1961	464	288,194	588,909
1962	416	267,802	667,936
1963	424	274,154	611,994
1964	428	346,684	808,881
1965	418	320,180	764,383
1966	305	246,552	663,003
1967	312	205,203	373,582

The number, by nationalities, of the vessels entering Port were as follows:—

<i>Nationality.</i>	<i>No. of Ships.</i>
British ... ..	153
Norwegian ... ..	55
Dutch ... ..	50
German ... ..	21
Danish ... ..	14
Swedish ... ..	5
Panamanian ... ..	1
Finnish ... ..	1
U.S.S.R. ... ..	1
French ... ..	1
Irish ... ..	3
Greek ... ..	2
Nicaraguan ... ..	2
Liberian ... ..	2
South African ... ..	1
	<hr/> 312 <hr/>

#### SECTION XIV—PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL FISH)

##### REGULATIONS, 1934 AND 1948.

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

#### SECTION XV—MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS.

The Port is not approved for the landing of Aliens.

#### SECTION XVI—MISCELLANEOUS.

The foreshore, which extends nine miles within the boundary of the Port Health District, has been regularly visited and there has been no cause to take any action regarding pollutions, etc. during the year. The carcasses of one cow, a grey seal, and a porpoise, which were washed up during the year, were properly buried to prevent nuisances.



For the first time for eleven years whale carcasses have been found on the beach. These were properly disposed of in co-operation with H.M. Customs Authority, in one case the jaw bones were removed and sent to the British Museum at their request. Fortunately in both cases they laid on gravel sections of the beach and so were easily disposed of. In one case a mechanical digger was used but the other had to be buried by hand as it was in such a position that a mechanical digger could not gain access to the beach.

The dockers strike early in the year caused two Norwegian vessels to be held up in the port for a considerable period and special arrangements had to be made for the collection and disposal of their accumulated refuse. Similar problems arose when H.M.S. Wasperton visited the Port and in each case paper refuse sacks and stands were provided for the ships use, the sacks being collected and disposed of on the refuse tip daily.

Perlite from Italy, which was previously imported through Silloth, is now being dealt with at Workington and considerable quantities of wood pulp for Messrs. Thames Board Mills new factory is arriving from Sweden.

Negotiations have taken place during the latter part of the year regarding the import of Irish Cattle on the hoof. Schemes were proposed re lairage and the general conduct of such trade, but unfortunately for us the shippers finally decided that Silloth should be developed for this trade.

The development of a deep water port for West Cumberland is under discussion at the present time, and several meetings at County level have taken place at which the various advantages and disadvantages of the four Cumberland Ports, Whitehaven, Workington, Maryport and Silloth, have been presented by the respective authorities. It is expected that a decision will be taken in the near future and it is hoped that Workington may be chosen for such development and, should this occur, we can look forward to a real expansion of the work of the Port Health Authority.

Relationships with the Secretary and Manager of the Workington Harbour and Dock Company Limited, Mr. J. Z. Bridgewater, his staff and with the officers of H.M. Customs have, as always, been cordial. I wish to thank them for their



kind co-operation. Thanks too are due to the sea-going officers who are always helpful to our port health inspectors. It is with great regret I refer to the death of one of them, Captain J. A. Jeffrey, by accident in Workington roads.

I wish also to thank the port health inspectors for their continued good work during the year, including the composition of this report.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Members,

Your obedient Servant,

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

Port Medical Officer.



kindly acknowledge the receipt of the enclosed and the  
enclosed which is being forwarded to you for your  
information. It is with great regret that I have to  
inform you that the same has been forwarded to  
the proper authorities for their consideration.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,  
James L. Hunter, N.S., C.E., D.P.H.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Members,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES L. HUNTER, N.S., C.E., D.P.H.

For Medical Officer

