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HEALTH
30 MAR '71
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WORKINGTON.
PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY


Annual Report

of

The Port Medical Officer

A. HARGREAVES, MB., ChB., D.P.H.

FOR THE YEAR 1970



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MEMBERS OF THE WORKINGTON
PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR J. E. MILLER

(Workington Borough)

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

.. P. BENTLEY (Workington Borough).

.. J. BROWN (Cockermouth R.D.C.)

.. W. J. CONNOR (Workington Borough).

.. J. E. FRYER (Workington Borough).

.. G. SHORT (Workington Borough).

.. J. B. STALKER (Ennerdale R.D.C.)

.. W. C. WHALLEY (Workington Borough).

ALDERMAN W. A. WALKER (Workington Borough).

TOWN HALL,

WORKINGTON

February, 1971.

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

Mr. Chairman and Members,

It is with pleasure that I present to you my Annual Report for the year 1970. This is the year when a full account is rendered in accordance with Form Port 20 of October, 1952, which requires an expanded report every five years.

Though the numbers of vessels arriving at the Port has shown a steady downward trend over the last five years, the figures show that the weight of imports has increased by about a quarter in the period, though the recession of 1967 produced a very low figure roughly one third of this year's. Exports however have been more than halved during the period, the main factor being a very large reduction in coastal export of coal, ingot moulds and steel products. The introduction of imports not connected with the Steel Works (some 24,000 tons of Perlite and Sulphur) shows a welcome broadening of the use of the dock to other industries.

The general hygiene of ships has continued to improve and very few vessels of the older type with tween decks and small hatches arrive, the purpose built vessel not only facilitates cargo handling but also protects the living quarters from much of the dirt and dust associated with the cargoes handled. Rats and insects are very seldom met with and general hygiene has improved very rapidly over the last five years.

No infectious disease has been found on vessels this year and the campaign to provide a free vaccination service has been very successful, Captains usually ask for their crews to be brought up to a fully protected state by vaccination when they arrive in the port.

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.
Antony Hargreaves, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.D.	Port Medical Officer of Health.	Appointed November, 1969	Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Workington. Urban Districts of Cockermouth, Maryport, Keswick and Rural District of Cockermouth. 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	Deputy Chief 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.

‡Hold 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	133	291,628	3	135	Nil
Coastwise	161	32,687	—	23	Nil
Total	294	324,315	3	158	Nil

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

Passenger Traffic:

Number of passengers Inwards	—	1
Number of passengers Outwards	—	0

Cargo Traffic:

The number of vessels arriving decreased by 24 as compared with 1969, imports increasing by 296 tons.

IMPORTS.

Coastwise.

	<i>Tons</i>
Petroleum	49,311
Rock Salt	513
Bricks and Ganister	1,813
Scrap Steel	405
	52,042

Foreign.

Ore	846,742
Perlite	18,103
Pig Iron	8,570
Sulphur	5,919
Ingot Moulds	1,931
	881,265
Total Imports	933,307

Exports decreased by 13,435 tons as compared with 1969.

EXPORTS.

Coastwise.

	<i>Tons</i>
Coal	2,025
Rails	2,062
Sole Plates and Fish Plates ...	489
Pig Iron	110
	<hr/>
	4,686
	<hr/>

Foreign.

Ingot Moulds	27,495
Soleplates and Fishplates	3,578
General Cargo	636
	<hr/>
	31,709
	<hr/>
Total Exports	36,395
	<hr/>

Ports from which Ships arrived.

Foreign—133.

Brazil	Macapa	1
France	Bayonne	3
Germany	Hamburg	1
Holland	Rotterdam	18
	Amsterdam	1
Italy	Oristano	13
Morocco	Casablanca	2
Norway	Mo-I-Rana	16
	Kirkenes	48
Poland	Gdansk	1
	Danzig	1
	Stettin	1

Russia	Murmansk	6
	Poti	1
South Africa	Port Elizabeth	1
Spain	Almeria	3
Sweden	Oxelosund	7
	Oslo	1
West Africa	Pont Noire	3
	Nouadhibou	4
Finland	Turku	1

Coastal—161

Aberdeen	1	Heysham	33
Ardrossan	1	Holyhead	6
Ayr	1	Larne	1
Ballina	1	Liverpool	2
Barrow	1	Londonderry	2
Belfast	10	Manchester	3
Birkenhead	2	Oban	2
Cardiff	1	Port Patrick	1
Cork	1	Red Bay	1
Douglas	2	Runcorn	8
Drogheda	1	Sea	2
Dublin	2	Swansea	3
Dundalk	1	Silloth	1
Galway	1	Stanlow	34
Glasgow	3	Weston Point	2
Greenock	30	Whitehaven	1

The number of vessels entering the Port during 1970 was 294 as compared with 318 in the previous year. The following table gives the numbers arriving since 1961.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Total Net Tonnage.</i>	<i>Total Cargo Tonnage</i>
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
1968	359	276,093	739,885
1969	318	345,772	982,841
1970	294	324,315	469,702

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

<i>Nationalities.</i>	<i>No. of Ships.</i>
British	182
Norwegian	37
German	17
Dutch	26
Danish	13
Irish	1
Cypriot	1
Liberian	4
Bulgarian	1
Greek	6
Panamanian	1
French	3
Faroese	1
Nicaraguan	1
	<hr/>
	294
	<hr/>

SECTION IV—INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC.

Only coastal and foreign going vessels are handled, there being no navigable inland waterway leading to the Port.

SECTION V—WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply for the Borough of Workington and for the Port is derived from the catchment area of Crummock Lake. The West Cumberland Water Board is responsible for the treatment and distribution of the supply and for the control of the gathering ground which extends over some 25 square miles of the Lakeland Fells some 10 miles from Workington.

The water being from an upland lake, is soft and slightly acid, treatment is carried out at the Cornhow Treatment Works at Loweswater to adjust the Ph value to about 7.0, to chlorinate the water and for the fluoridation of the supply by the addition of Sodium silico fluoride. The results of tests carried out by the Board and by the Borough Council have regularly shown a satisfactory supply with the correct levels of residual chlorine and no significant contamination.

The dock side hydrants, hoses and hose connecting boxes are all regularly flushed and no evidence has been found of any contamination. There is no necessity for the use of water boats, on the few isolated occasions when vessels have required water while anchored off the port use has been made of the drinking water tanks on the tug to transport sufficient water for immediate use.

Many vessels coming from abroad have facilities for processing their own drinking water and sampling has proved this water very satisfactory.

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

LIST OF INFECTED AREAS.

The World Health Organisations Weekly Epidemiological Record is received directly by the H.M. Customs Officers and any information regarding Ports from which vessels are expected to arrive is immediately transmitted to the Pilots.

RADIO MESSAGES.

When within a range of about 20-30 nautical miles vessels can be contacted directly from the Pier Head, the tug or the pilot cutter—outside this range communication can be established via Port Patrick radio station.

All incoming wireless messages are routed via the Workington Harbour and Dock Board who inform the appropriate officials by telephone.

NOTIFICATION OTHER THAN BY RADIO.

The Authority has a telegraphic address and messages received by this means are transmitted directly by telephone to the official on duty at the time.

MOORING STATIONS.

Mooring stations are provided in Workington Roads and in the case of Infected or suspect ships these would be used prior to docking after clearance. If the vessels are in the Port they would be breasted off the dock side or the berth would be isolated.

The officials of the Workington Dock and Harbour Company and the Dock Police are well aware of the strict precautions which are necessary should a vessel be found to be suspected and they would all work under the direct control of the Port Health Authority's Officers.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

This would be provided by the West Cumberland Group of Hospitals as required, except in the case of Smallpox (see Section VII).

SURVEILANCE AND FOLLOW UP ON CONTACTS.

The Port Medical Officer is the Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Workington and also Western Area Medical Officer for Cumberland County Council. The Port Health Inspectors are also Public Health Inspectors for the Borough of Workington so surveillance of vessels and follow up of contacts presents no problems. Should any contact have travelled outside Workington then the local Medical Officers of Health would be informed and contact established.

Cleaning and Disinfection of Ships and Persons would be undertaken by the Local Authorities Staff, steam disinfection of clothing and other articles being carried out at one of the local hospitals.

SECTION VII—SMALLPOX

Langley Park Isolation Hospital near Durham would be used if any case of smallpox or suspected smallpox was reported in the district. Transport of such a case is the responsibility of the Cumberland County Council the ambulance crews being fully protected by vaccination at all times.

Dr. D. G. Davies of the Public Health Laboratory Service, Carlisle, is the local consultant and his laboratory will assist in diagnosis.

The master of every foreign going vessel is advised that a free vaccination service is available so that all crew members are revaccinated within three years.

Seventy-six crew members were vaccinated under this scheme as against 99 in 1969, and 52 in 1968 and 11 in 1967.

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).

This service is provided by appointment, treatment is also available at Workington Infirmary, Wednesday at 1900 hours, at West Cumberland Hospital, Whitehaven, on Monday at 13-30 to 17-00 hours and at Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle.

Masters of vessels are supplied with detailed information as to treatment available on arrival and in all cases advice is given as to the necessity of early specialist treatment. Posters are displayed in the dock area giving this information.

During the year a minimum of five cases are known to have received treatment but as no direct information is available from the clinics the final numbers receiving treatment is not available.

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

TABLE D.

<i>Category</i>	<i>Disease.</i>	<i>Number of cases during the year.</i>		<i>Number of ships concerned.</i>
		<i>Passengers.</i>	<i>Crew.</i>	
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	—	—	—	—

On three vessels cases of sickness and injury were reported by the masters on arrival or during their stay in the port.

<i>Nationality</i>	<i>Complaint/Accident</i>	<i>Treatment.</i>
British	entangled in heaving line	removed to hospital
British	fall into engine room	removed to hospital
British	injured by railway engine on dock	removed to hospital

SECTION X—OBSERVATIONS ON THE OCCURANCE OF
MALARIA IN SHIPS.

There have been no cases of Malaria reported during the year. All vessels carry anti-malarial drugs and Masters are well aware of the necessity of administering regular doses prior to arrival at known or suspect mosquito infested areas.

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

No action has been necessary under this section.

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

The Declarations of Health submitted by masters of foreign going vessels contain a statement as to the date of issue of the current deratting or deratting exemption certificate. This is checked on arrival and when the vessel is subsequently inspected for defects and presence of vermin, signs of rat infestation if present are noted and a full inspection of all spaces carried out after rat guards have been fitted to mooring ropes.

Workington is approved for the issue of Deratting and Deratting Exemption Certificates and this work is extended to Whitehaven and Silloth as required. Arrangements have been made with Rentokil Ltd., who would carry out the deratting of any vessel with the appropriate chemicals immediately on request. No rats have been seen on vessels during the year.

Attention has been paid to the elimination of rats on the dockside areas and this, together with modern construction where due attention has been paid to rat proofing in the design, has led to a very great reduction in the infestation of vessels.

The demand for Rodent Control Certificates has been nil this year—no doubt preference is given to International Certificates as they involve less frequent inspections and enable the vessel to proceed to near foreign ports if the occasion should arise.

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 plaque	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>H.C.N.</i>	<i>Other Fumigant.</i>	<i>After Trapping.</i>	<i>After Poisoning.</i>	<i>Total.</i>		
—	—	—	—	Nil	23	23

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 83	Nil	2		Work required carried out
Foreign 75	Nil	2		Work required carried out
158	Nil	4		

The 4 notices cover the following defects, nuisances or other conditions prejudicial to health:—

	<i>British.</i>	<i>Other Nationalities.</i>
Broken portlight	1	
Dirty galley	1	1 Dutch
Dirty provision store	2	1 Dutch
Dirty accommodation		1 Danish
Choked galley ventilators		1 Dutch
	—	—
	4	4
	—	—

SECTION XIV—PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL FISH)
REGULATIONS, 1934 AND 1948.

There are no shell fish layings or beds 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 Shipping Agent concerned would make all the necessary arrangements regarding burial etc. if a death due to infectious disease occurred or had occurred on board a vessel. The Port Medical Officer would supervise such action and the Port Health Offices would undertake the disinfection of the parts of the vessel involved and also make sure that the personal belongings of the deceased were properly dealt with prior to disposal.

The Port Medical Officer was informed that the Chief Engineer of a Norwegian vessel had been removed to hospital as a suspected Enteric case.

Immediate enquiries were made by the Port Health Inspectors on the basis of possible typhoid fever. Sailing of the vessel was delayed for 24 hours to allow faecal samples to be taken from the catering staff and for all drinking water tanks to be sampled, flushed and chlorinated. Immediate steps were taken as regards General and Personal Hygiene to check spread of any possible infection.

It was confirmed that the Chief Engineer was suffering from Para Typhoid (Type B) but all samples from catering staff proved to be negative. Extensive inquiries regarding the patients movements both during this visit and the previous one, were made and all persons who had been possible contacts advised to report to their own doctors if they felt unwell.

Details of the case and action taken were forwarded to the Master of the vessel at sea and to the Health Authority at Narvik. There were no further cases and we were not informed of any difficulties from Narvik.

Difficulty regarding accumulation of refuse arose during the dock strike in July but the institution of a regular refuse collection service and the use of paper refuse bags over this period took care of the problem.

The usual problem arose regarding the disposal of the carcasses of various animals which have been washed up on the beaches under the jurisdiction of the Authority. It has been found possible in every case to bury the carcasses at an adequate depth either where they rested or by moving them a short distance to a shingle bank on the normally rocky beach.

Once again I would like to thank the Secretary and Manager of the Workington Harbour and Dock Company, Mr. J. Z. Bridgewater, the Harbour and Dock Master, Captain D. C. Thomas and their staffs both in the offices and on the dockside, the officers of H.M. Customs, the Pilots and the various shipping agents for their kind co-operation during the year, and for the ready assistance given to our Port Health Inspectors and myself which has led to the smooth and efficient running of this service throughout the year.

I wish also to thank the Port Health Inspectors for their continued good work during the year and for their help in the composition of this report.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Members,

Your obedient Servant,

ANTONY HARGREAVES, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Port Medical Officer of Health.

Details of the case and the fact were forwarded to the Master of the vessel as set out in the Health Authority at Merivik. There were no further cases and we were not in-
formed of any other cases.

Following the outbreak of the disease, a committee was formed to investigate the cause of the outbreak. It is thought that the outbreak was due to the use of paper cups for the collection of milk and the use of paper cups for the milk.

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