



FALKLAND ISLANDS



Medical and Sanitary Report

for the year ended 31st December 1964



ANNUAL MEDICAL AND SANITARY REPORT

FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1964.

I. ADMINISTRATION.

A. Staff.

<i>Office</i>	<i>Occupant(s)</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Senior Medical Officer	R. S. Slessor, O.B.E., M.B., Ch.B.	Whole year	
Medical Officers	J. H. Ashmore, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.	Whole year	On leave 11.5.64 - 8.10.64
	C. S. Cunningham, M.B., Ch.B.	Whole year	
	I. M. Maclean, M.B., Ch.B.	From 1.2.64 till 18.11.64	Locum Tenens. On leave from 20.10.64
	R. E. Palmer-Field, M.B., Ch.B.	From 2.11.64	
Nurse Matron	Miss M. Brown, S.R.N., S.C.M.	Whole year	
Nursing Sisters	Mrs. R. Fleuret	Whole year	
	Miss D. Ainsworth, S.R.N., S.C.M.	Till 1.7.64	On leave from 20.4.64 till resignation
	Miss M. B. Halliday, R.G.N., S.C.M.	Whole year	
	Mrs. E. A. Stewart, S.E.N., S.C.M.	Whole year	
District Nurse	Mrs. R. Bennett,	Whole year	
Staff Nurses	Miss P. Berntsen	Whole year	
	Miss E. Aldridge	Whole year	
	Miss G. McKay	From 12.2.64	
Clerk	B. W. Shorey	Whole year	
Caretaker			
Fox Bay	C. Perry	Whole year	
Caretaker- gardener	A. Ashley	Till 7.3.64	Resigned
	R. Boughton	From 13.3.64	

DENTAL STAFF.

Colonial Dentist	D. Carr, B.D.S., L.D.S.	Whole year	
Camp Dentist	I. E. Barnes, B.D.S., L.D.S.	Whole year	
Dental Technician	A. Steel	Till 20.4.64	Resigned.

K. E. M. HOSPITAL DOMESTIC STAFF.

The domestic work in the hospital has been done by a cook, three maids, one part-time maid and one laundress.

STAFF CHANGES.

MEDICAL STAFF. Repeated advertisements in the British medical press for a medical officer for Darwin were eventually successful, and Dr. Palmer-Field arrived in the Colony in November. From late February till mid-October, Dr. Maclean acted as locum tenens at Darwin.

Dr. Ashmore was on overseas leave from May till October; it proved impossible to recruit a locum tenens for him.

Dr. Cunningham was stationed at Fox Bay throughout the year.

The S.M.O. visited South Georgia and Signy Island in April, and was in Stanley for the rest of the year.

DENTAL STAFF. The Colonial Dentist, Mr. Carr, paid an official visit to South Georgia in June. Mr. Barnes, the Camp Dentist, has been on tour around the islands throughout the year.

Mr. Steel, the Dental Technician, had to resign for domestic reasons. It has proved impossible to recruit a successor to him.

NURSING STAFF. The hospital has had its full complement of nursing sisters throughout the year.

II. STATISTICAL RETURNS.

(A) FINANCIAL.

(a) Personal Emoluments	...	£16,282
(b) Other Charges	...	£19,308
		Total £35,590

Percentage of Local Government Ordinary Expenditure 11.21%

Revenue	1957/58	1958/59	1959/60	1960/61	1961/62	1962/63	1963/64
Medical	3,260	3,977	4,104	3,792	3,989	3,935	3,396
Dental	1,190	1,281	274	1,140	1,005	880	682
	£4,450	£5,258	£4,378	£4,932	£4,994	£4,815	£4,078

(B) VITAL STATISTICS.

				<i>Rate per 1000.</i>
Population (estimated on 31.12.64)	...	2,102		
Births (live)	...	42		19.69
Stillbirths	...	1		
Deaths (adult)	...	12	}	6.09
Neo-natal deaths	...	1		

III. PUBLIC HEALTH.

The general health of the population was exceptionally good, and that in spite of the winter, which seemed long, cold and sunless.

There were no epidemics.

The programme of immunisation against diphtheria, whooping-cough and tetanus and against smallpox, tuberculosis and poliomyelitis was carried out as usual.

IV. HYGIENE AND SANITATION.

In Stanley and in the Camp Settlements, almost all houses now have water closets, the sewage being water-borne to the sea.

WATER SUPPLY. In Stanley, chlorinated, filtered water is available to all houses. A new high-level tank has been completed and came into use in November.

DAIRIES. There are two privately-owned dairies in Stanley. They provide an adequate supply of milk throughout the year.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES. There are two slaughter-houses in Stanley, both privately-owned.

V. K.E.M. HOSPITAL.

The King Edward VII Memorial Hospital is the only hospital in the Colony. It is pleasantly situated on rising ground overlooking the harbour. There are thirty-two beds, which are more than sufficient for the needs of the Colony. The hospital has recently been re-decorated and vinyl flooring has been laid in the main corridors. The effect is restful and pleasant.

During the year, one hundred and twenty-three patients were admitted. Table 1 shows one hundred and twenty-four admissions. The extra case was a baby which died soon after birth.

In 1964, thirteen patients were referred to consultants in the British Hospital, Montevideo. Nine of the cases required major operations which could not be undertaken here.

VI. MEDICAL SERVICES IN THE CAMP.

For medical purposes, the Falklands are divided into three areas - (a) Stanley and the North Camp, (b) Lafonia and (c) the West Falkland. Although the Medical Service is provided with land-rovers and horses, and the air service is always at its disposal, inclement weather conditions occasionally make land or air travel hazardous or impossible. It is therefore desirable that there should be a medical officer resident in each area.

Most Camp residents can communicate with their doctor by telephone or radio-telephone and much use is made of both communication systems to advise on the treatment of the minor ailments and injuries that arise.

The Medical Department supplies all settlements with a stock of the most-used medicines, tablets and dressings.

The two de Havilland Beaver float-planes of the Government Air Service are used extensively for the transport of medical officers and patients.

VII. PRISONS AND ASYLUMS.

The gaol in Stanley is the only one in the Colony.

There is no mental Hospital. Any case requiring institutional care has to be sent to Britain. No such case occurred in 1964.

VIII. METEOROLOGICAL.

	1962.	1963.	1964.
Total annual rainfall	21.21 inches	20.81 inches	24.19 inches
Mean daily sunshine	4.50 hours	4.1 hours	4.0 hours
Maximum temperature	70.20 °F.	69.6 °F.	70.0 °F.
Mean day maximum temperature			47.3 °F.
Minimum temperature	25.80 °F.	24.60 °F.	17.8 °F.
Mean night minimum temperature			36.9 °F.
Mean relative humidity	84.2 %	83.9 %	84.9 %
Mean wind speed	14.7 knots	15.3 knots	15.3 knots
Calms (mean per month)	7.7	6.3	2.35.

IX. DEPENDENCIES.

South Georgia is the only inhabited island of the Falkland Islands Dependencies. Dr. Orr was stationed at King Edward Point, South Georgia till November, when his tour ended.

Three Japanese medical officers were registered to practise in the Dependencies, and were stationed at Leith and Grytviken during the whaling season.

The Senior Medical Officer and the Colonial Dentist visited South Georgia in the course of the year.

X. BRITISH ANTARCTIC TERRITORY.

Four medical officers spent the year at British Antarctic Survey Bases - Stonington Island, Adelaide Islands, Argentine Islands and Halley Bay.

Two medical officers were licensed to practise in the Territory.

TABLE I.
RETURN OF DISEASES AND DEATHS,
KING EDWARD VII MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 1964

Disease.					In-Patients.		
					In hospital on 1.1.64.	Total Admissions.	Deaths.
002	Pulmonary tuberculosis	...	...	2		
088	Herpes zoster	...	...		1	
163	Carcinoma of lung	...	...		1	
215	Cervical polyp	...	...		1	
221	Pilonidal cyst	...	...		1	
241	Asthma	...	...		1	
260	Diabetes mellitus	...	...		3	
310	Anxiety neurosis	...	...		1	
311	Hysteria	...	...		1	
322.2	Alcoholic gastritis	...	...		1	
325	Mental deficiency	...	...		1	
334	Cerebral thrombosis	...	...		1	
345	Disseminated sclerosis	...	...	1		
350	Parkinsonism	...	...		1	
370	Conjunctivitis	...	...		1	
381	Corneal ulcer	...	...		1	
420.1	Coronary infarction (admitted as 720)					1	
422.2	Myocardial degeneration	...	...		2	1
444	Hypertension	...	...		1	
461	Haemorrhoids	...	...		1	
470	Coryza	...	...		3	
490	Pneumonia	...	...	1	5	
501	Bronchitis	...	...		2	
510.1	Tonsillitis	...	...		3	
540	Gastric ulcer	...	...	1	3	
543	Gastritis	...	...		1	
550.0	Appendicitis	...	...		5	
550.1	Perforated appendix		...		1		
550.1	Post-operative appendix abscess		...		2		
560	Inguinal hernia	...	...		1	
571	Gastro-enteritis	...	...		4	
572.2	Colitis	...	...		1	
578	Post-vagotomy diarrhoea	...	...		1	
587	Pancreatitis	...	...		2	
613	Hydrocoele	...	...		1	
614	Orchitis	...	...		1	
624	Salpingitis	...	...		1	
634	Menorrhagia	...	...		1	
648.3	False labour, puerperium	...	...	2	4	
650	Abortion	...	...		4	
660	Normal labour	...	...		28	
<i>Carried forward</i>					7	94	2

Disease.					In-Patients.		
					In hospital on 1.1.64	Total Admissions	Deaths.
<i>Brought forward</i>					7	94	2
660.2	Low forceps delivery	...	...		1	
676	Delivery with perinaeal tear	...	...		12	
692.1	Abscess abdominal wall	...	...		1	
701	Eczema	...	...	1		
720	Septic arthritis	...	...	1	1	
756.0	Hypertrophie pyloric stenosis	...	...		1	
762.5	Atelectasis with prematurity	...	...		1	1
776	Prematurity	...	...		1	
784.5	Haematemesis NOS	...	...		1	
788.8	P.U.O.	...	...		1	
793	Observation	...	...		1	
794	Senility	...	...	3	3	2
N800	Fractured skull	...	...		1	
N820	Fractured femur	...	...	1		
N823	Fractured tibia and fibula	...	...	1	1	
N831	Dislocation acromio-clavicular joint	...	...		1	
N847	Sprain	...	...		1	
N882	Wound of wrist	...	...		1	
N927	Multiple bruises	...	...		1	
<i>Total</i>					14	124	5

TABLE II.

RECORD OF OUT-PATIENTS' AND DOMICILIARY CASES, 1964.

Disease.	O.P.D.		DISTRICT		
	New	Old	New	Old	Deaths
002 Pulmonary Tuberculosis		19			
016 Tuberculosis of kidney		2	1		
030 Gonorrhoea	2				
088 Herpes Zoster	1		7		
092 Infective hepatitis	1		1		
096 Herpes labialis	2		1		
130.1 Oxyuriasis	5		6		
131 Tinea cruris	2				
134.3 Thrush			1		
193 Cerebral tumour				1	
221 Pilonidal cyst	2				
225 Exostosis (occipital)	1				
241 Asthma	1	3	2		
243 Urticaria	8		3		
240 Allergic disorder	11				
252 Thyrotoxicosis			1		
260 Diabetes mellitus		5	1		
272 Diabetes insipidus				1	
286.7 Vitamin K deficiency				1	
287 Obesity	1	2			
291 Anaemia	7		2		
307 Alcoholic psychosis				1	
318.3 Neurasthenia	15		6		
322.1 Chronic alcoholism	1			6	
325 Mental deficiency				1	
331 Cerebral haemorrhage			1		1
353.1 Epilepsy		2		1	
354 Migraine	1	2			
366 Neuritis NOS	10		1		
370 Conjunctivitis	12		3		
371 Blepharitis	5		1		
372 Stye	2		2		
380 Refractions	71		12		
387 Chronic glaucoma			1	1	
388 Meibomian cyst	1				
390 Otitis externa	9		2		
396 Impacted cerumen	21		6		
396 Eustachian catarrh	1				
420.1 Coronary infarction		1			
422.2 Myocardial degeneration	2		1		3
444 Hypertension	2	14		1	
450.0 Endarteritis obliterans			2		
453.2 Chilblains	7		3		
<i>Carried forward</i>	204	50	67	14	4

Disease.				O.P.D.		DISTRICT		
				New	Old	New	Old	Deaths
<i>Brought forward</i>				204	50	67	14	4
460	Varicose veins, ulcer	...	...	10	6	2		
461	Haemorrhoids	...	...	4	6	2		
463	Phlebitis	...	...	2		3		
470	Coryza	...	...	49		100		
471	Sinusitis	...	...	15				
472	Pharyngitis	...	...	42		2		
473	Tonsillitis	...	...	26		11		
474	Laryngitis	...	...	2		1		
490	Pneumonia	...	...			1		
501	Bronchitis NOS	...	...	1	3	3		
502.1	Chronic bronchitis with emphysema				1	2		2
510.0	Hypertrophy of tonsils	...	...	3				
511	Quinsy	...	...			1		
515	Nasal polyp	...	...			1		
519.0	Pleurisy	...	...			2		
533.1	Teething	...	...			1		
536	Gingivitis	...	...	1				
543	Chronic gastritis	...	...	3	1			
544.2	Dyspepsia NOS	...	...	26		13		
560	Inguinal hernia	...	...	3	1			
560.2	Umbilical hernia	...	...			1		
571.1	Gastro-enteritis	...	...	17		25		
573	Constipation	...	...	8		7		
584	Cholelithiasis	...	...	1	1	1		
585	Cholecystitis	...	...			1		
605	Cystitis	...	...	8		3		
607	Urethritis NOS	...	...	6				
613	Hydrocoele	...	...	1			1	
614	Orchitis	...	...	1		1		
630	Cervical erosion	...	...	1				
630.2	Bartholin's abscess	...	...			1		
634	Cystocoele, rectocoele	...	...	1	6			
634	Disorders of menstruation	...	...	6	4			
635	Menopausal symptoms	...	...	2				
660	Normal labour	...	...			1		
690.8	Boils NOS	...	...	28		2		
691	Septic finger, toe	...	...	13		5		
695	Impetigo	...	...	1		1		
696	Warts	...	...	7		1		
701	Eczema	...	...		2			
703.7	Dermatitis NOS	...	...	18	4			
705.2	Erythema nodosum	...	...	1				
706	Psoriasis	...	...		1			
709	Corns	...	...	3				
712	Ingrowing toenail	...	...	4				
714.1	Acne	...	...	8	3			
714.2	Sebaceous cyst	...	...	4				
724	Articular rheumatism	...	...	2	5		2	
<i>Carried forward</i>				532	94	262	17	6

Disease.					O.P.D.		DISTRICT		
					New	Old	New	Old	Deaths
<i>Brought forward</i>					532	94	262	17	6
726	Lumbago	...	...	...	10		5		
726.3	Rheumatism, fibrositis	...	...	...	17	10	4		
730	Periostitis	...	...	...	1				
733	Seal finger	...	...	...	2				
734	I.D.K.	...	...	...	1		1		
735	Prolapsed disc	...	...	...		1			
740	Bunion	...	...	...	1	1			
741	Bursitis, ganglion, tenosynovitis	...	...	...	7		2		
747	Hallux valgus	...	...	...	1				
748	Talipes equinovarus (congenital)	...	...	...	1				
749	Hammer toe	...	...	...	1				
752	Hydrocephalus	...	...	...				1	
758.6	Marfan's syndrome	...	...	...				1	1
783	Epistaxis	...	...	...			3		
786	Nocturnal enuresis	...	...	...	1	1			
791	Headache	...	...	...	10				
794	Senility	...	...	...			1		
N807	Fracture of ribs	...	...	...	1				
N813	Fracture of radius, ulna	...	...	...	3				
N825	Fracture of metatarsal	...	...	...	1				
N831	Dislocation of shoulder	...	...	...	1				
N834	Dislocation of finger	...	...	...	1				
N838	Dislocation of toe	...	...	...	1				
N845	Sprain	...	...	...	30		4		
N852	Concussion	...	...	...	1				
N908	Lacerations	...	...	...	60		7		
N913	Foreign body in finger	...	...	...	1		1		
N918	Superficial injury	...	...	...	53		2		
N929	Bruises NOS	...	...	...	11		5		
N930	Foreign body in eye	...	...	...	12		3		
N945	Burns	...	...	...	7		1		
N990	Drowning	...	...	...			1		1
					768	107	302	19	8
Special conditions and examinations without sickness									
Y00.0	Medical examinations	...	...	...	94				
Y00.5	Well baby and child care	...	...	...	45	122			
Y06	Pre-natal care	...	...	...	42				
Y40	Vaccination against Smallpox	...	...	...	254		18		
Y41	Inoculation against Diphtheria,	}			32		12		
Y42	whooping cough,								
Y45	tetanus								
Y43	Inoculation against tuberculosis	...	...	...	42				
Y46	Inoculation against typhoid	...	...	...	2				
Y49	Vaccination against poliomyelitis 1st and 2nd or third injections	...	...	...	60		44		
<i>Totals</i>					1271	229	376	19	8

TABLE III.
STATISTICS OF CAUSES OF DEATH ACCORDING TO
SEX AND AGE GROUPINGS.

	Under 24 hours	20 - 24	50 - 54	55 - 59	60 - 64	65 - 69	70 - 74	75 - 79	80 - 84	Total
MALE										
331 Cerebral haemorrhage ...			1							1
420.1 Coronary infarct ...						1				1
422.2 Myocardial degeneration								1		1
502.1 Chronic bronchitis ...								1	1	2
758.6 Marfan's syndrome ...		1								1
762.5 Atelectasis pulmone ...	1									1
794 Senility ...								1	1	2
N990 Drowning ...		1								1
	1	2	1	-	-	1	-	3	2	10
FEMALE										
422.2 Myocardial degeneration					1	1		1		3
	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	3

TABLE IV.
K. E. M. HOSPITAL — OPERATIONS, 1964.

MAJOR.					
Appendicectomy	...	6	Orcbidectomy	...	1
Exploratory laparotomy	...	1	Radical cure of hydrocoele	...	1
Salpingectomy	...	1	Haemorrhoidectomy	...	1
Hernioplasty	...	1	Dissection of tonsils	...	3
Total			15		
MINOR.					
Excision of sebacious cyst	...	3	Suture of wound	...	2
Ligature of varicose veins	...	4	Drainage of abscess	...	8
Dissection pilonidal sinus	...	3	Reduction of dislocation	...	1
Removal of toe-nail	...	1	Wiring acromio-clavicular joint	...	1
Excision of verrucae	...	5	Reduction of fracture	...	2
Amputation of finger, toe	...	2	D and C.	...	3
Total			35		
OBSTETRIC					
Low forceps delivery	...	1			
Total operations			51		

TABLE V.
SUMMARY OF X-RAY EXAMINATIONS, 1964.

Skull	...	4	Shoulder	...	10
Jaw	...	1	Arm	...	4
Nose	...	1	Elbow	...	4
Spine	...	6	Wrist, hand	...	18
Chest	...	182	Finger, toe	...	11
Ribs	...	2	Pelvis	...	2
Abdomen	...	8	Hip-joint, femur	...	2
Gall-Bladder	...	3	Knee	...	6
Barium meal, enema	...	14	Leg, ankle	...	19
I.V.P.	...	3	Foot	...	4
Total			304		

DENTAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1964.

The following summary is made from the report submitted by Mr. D. G. Carr, Colonial Dentist.

1. SUMMARY OF WORK DONE IN STANLEY :

(a) *Oral Surgery.*

Extractions	...	...	...	405
Surgical extractions	...	...	...	7
Apicectomy	...	...	...	2
Alveolectomy	...	...	...	3
Splinting subluxed tooth	...	...	...	1

(b) *Conservative Treatment.*

Fillings	...	...	...	1568
Periodontal treatment	35
Root fillings	3

(c) *Orthodontics.*

Removable appliances	5
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(d) *Prosthetics.*

Full dentures	72
Partial dentures	35
Denture repairs	65

(e) *X-ray Examinations* 146

(f) *General anaesthetics* 16

2. GENERAL.

The year under review has been very satisfactory, except in regard to the making of dentures — the department has been without a dental mechanic since mid-April.

New laboratory equipment — an electric furnace, a denture processing bath and the installation of butane gas burners and blow-lamps — has increased the efficiency of the laboratory.

During the year, 2,345 appointments were made, of which 280 were cancelled at short notice or not kept. This is a slight improvement on 1963, but it is still deplorable.

Mr. Carr visited North Arm, Darwin and Fitzroy in March to attend patients who required dentures. In June, he visited South Georgia, and treated all who required dental attention.

The following summary is made from the report submitted by Mr. I. E. Barnes, Camp Dentist.

Settlement	Dates, 1964					Fillings	Extractions	Periodontal treatment	Dentures	Denture repairs	Fitting of dentures
Fox Bay West	1.	1.	-	18.	1.	104	20	7	7		
Beaver Island	22.	1.	-	23.	1.	18	3				
Teal Inlet	25.	1.	-	16.	2.	86	7	7	7		
Fox Bay West	18.	2.	-	19.	2.						X
Douglas Station	20.	2.	-	2.	3.	70	6	2	10		
Gibraltar Station	5.	3.	-	13.	3.	41	8		9	1	
Johnsons Harbour	15.	3.	-	28.	3.	43	4	2	3	1	
Green Patch	30.	3.	-	6.	4.	32	8	7		1	
Gibraltar Station	8.	4.	-	12.	4.						9
Douglas Station											10
Darwin School	13.	4.	-	13.	5.	155	18	1		6	
Goose Green											
North Arm	5.	5.	-	6.	5.						X
Port Stephens	13.	5.	-	8.	6.	141	17	4		4	
Weddell Island	11.	6.	-	16.	6.	29	1				
Roy Cove	18.	6.	-	2.	7.	97	19	1			
Hill Cove	16.	7.	-	27.	7.	150	31	7		1	
Stanley	29.	7.	-	25.	8.						
Johnsons Harbour											X
Gibraltar Station											
Port Howard	25.	8.	-	2.	10.	228	27	7		7	
Pebble Island	5.	10.	-	19.	10.	71	22	4		6	
Keppell Island	21.	10.	-	1.	11.	10	29				
Chartres	2.	11.	-	13.	11.	89	10	5		2	
Darwin School	19.	11.	-	6.	12.	75	9		O		
Goose Green	7.	12.	-	31.	12.	U	U	U	U	U	U
						1439	239	54	36	29	X

O = Orthodontic appliance.

U = Work not yet completed. Details in next report.

X = Numbers not stated.

GENERAL.

In his report, Mr. Barnes makes the following points :

1. The general state of teeth in the Camp is good.
2. The majority of adults in the Camp, and almost all the children, visit the dentist for a check.
3. There are many dentures required in the West Falkland and it will not be possible to supply them till a dental mechanic is again employed in Stanley.
4. Bad flying weather led to the loss of about four weeks' work.