

**[Report 1900] / Medical Officer of Health, Knaresborough R.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Knaresborough (England). Rural District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1900

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/n3aw52zr>

**License and attribution**

This work has been identified as being free of known restrictions under copyright law, including all related and neighbouring rights and is being made available under the Creative Commons, Public Domain Mark.

You can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, without asking permission.

**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>

KNARESBOROUGH  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.




MEDICAL OFFICER'S  
ANNUAL REPORT,  
FOR THE  
YEAR ENDING DEC. 31ST, 1900.

---

KNARESBOROUGH:  
W. PARR, GENERAL AND COLOUR PRINTER, MARKET PLACE.

---

1901.



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2017 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29538646>

KNARESBOROUGH

# Rural District Council.

---

---

## MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT,

*For the year ending December 31st, 1900.*

---

---

*To the Chairman and Councillors of the Knaresborough Rural  
District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the pleasure of presenting to you my Second Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health for the Knaresborough Rural District, for the year ending December 31st, 1900.

Although a portion of your district was incorporated by the Borough of Harrogate towards the latter part of the year, the Tables appended to my report and the various statistics mentioned therein deal with the whole district irrespective of these alterations. I do this for the sake of the statistics (the Medical Officer of Health for Harrogate having kindly furnished me with these for the parts taken over during the last few weeks of the year).

The population of the district estimated to the middle of 1900 was 12,000, more than one-half of this is now included in Harrogate, leaving to your district about 5,500. **Population.**

464 births were registered in the district during the year 1900, viz: 225 males and 239 females. This gives an annual birth-rate of 38·6 per 1,000 of the estimated population. This is the highest birth-rate there has been in the district for over ten years. See Table I. **Births.**

**Deaths.** 216 deaths were registered in the district in 1900, giving an annual death-rate of 18 per 1,000 of the estimated population. This death-rate is slightly higher than the average for the last ten years.

61 deaths were in children under one year of age. This is, I am glad to say, an improvement on last year; indeed, it is the lowest death-rate in infants for the last eight years.

62 deaths were in persons over 65 years. The cause of death in the greater portion of these being old age.

**Causes of Death.** As to the causes of deaths, Diphtheria comes first 19 being due to this cause. Heart Disease caused 17 deaths. Phthisis 15 deaths, being one-third less than last year.

Pneumonia and Bronchitis caused 27 deaths. Cancer was the cause of 9 deaths. The deaths from this disease are on the increase in the district, and they have been more prevalent in the more truly rural parts.

Zymotic Diseases caused 25 deaths, which gives a death-rate for these diseases of 2.08 per 1,000. This is about the average for England and Wales.

**Diseases Notified During 1900.** During the year there have been 139 cases of Infectious Diseases notified. Diphtheria has been very prevalent, 101 cases having been notified. There were 20 cases of Scarlet Fever notified, 11 of Enteric Fever, 5 of Erysipelas, 1 of Continued Fever, and 1 of Puerperal Fever.

The greater portion of these cases occurred in the first half of the year.

Considering the larger number of cases of Infectious Diseases that existed the number of deaths has not been great.

**Drainage.** The drainage of several of the villages is everything but satisfactory. Scotton, Brearton, Follifoot, and Pannal are the most pressing cases, and require your early attention.

During the year there has been a marked improvement **Dairy**  
in the Dairy Farms, several having been re-built or repaired. **Farms.**  
The owners have given more attention to ventilation, light  
and cubic space.

The extension of the Sanitary and Building Bye-Laws **Bye-Laws.**  
to Scotton is urgently required. I hope you will see your  
way to do this at an early date.

The water supply of some of the villages is not altogether **Water**  
satisfactory. This you will be able to remedy in many **Supply.**  
cases by having the Harrogate water laid on. But the  
position of many of the farmers in the district is not so  
easily remedied as they are not within easy distance of  
the Harrogate supply. Their present supply being a pump  
which is so close to the house or perhaps to the fold-yard  
that the water in the well becomes contaminated.

Burton Leonard will shortly have a good supply of  
water. This has been badly needed as there has been a  
great deal of sickness amongst children in the village  
attributable to the impure water.

During the year a great many improvements have  
been made conducive to the health and sanitary state of  
the district; and with the exception of the epidemic of  
Diphtheria (which was imported from a neighbouring district)  
I am pleased to be able to lay such a favourable report  
before you.

I have the honour, Gentlemen, to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

W. J. FORBES,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

TABLE I. For Whole District.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.		DEATHS AT ALL AGES. TOTAL.	
		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate per 1,000.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1890.	8303	198	23.8	25	126.2	117	14.09
1891.	8592	238	27.7	26	109.2	150	17.45
1892.	8685	276	31.7	33	119.6	146	16.8
1893.	8742	268	30.6	50	186.5	168	19.2
1894.	8788	274	31.1	45	164.2	154	17.53
1895.	8866	291	32.8	42	144.3	171	19.28
1896.	9700	318	32.7	54	169.7	167	17.21
1897.	10000	361	36.1	50	138.5	149	14.9
1898.	10500	393	37.4	65	165.4	195	18.57
1899.	11400	375	32.9	59	157	213	18.68
Averages for years 1890-99	9357	299	31.9	45	150.5	163	17.4
1900.	12000	464	38.6	61	131.4	216	18

TABLE III. Infectious Disease notified during Year 1900.

DISEASE.	WHOLE DISTRICT.					
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.				
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15-25	25-65
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	
Cholera ...	...	...	...	...	...	
Diphtheria ...	98	1	31	50	6	
Membranous croup	3	...	3	...	...	
Erysipelas	5	...	...	...	5	
Scarlet fever	20	...	2	13	2	
Typhus fever	...	...	...	...	...	
Enteric fever	11	...	1	3	3	
Relapsing fever	...	...	...	...	...	
Continued fever	1	...	1	...	...	
Puerperal fever	1	...	...	...	1	
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	
Totals	139	1	38	66	11	
					23	

Deaths in Public Institutions.—1.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water.)—37,299.

Total population at all ages.—8,592. Number of inhabited houses.—1,795. Average number of persons per house.—5.—(at Census 1891.)

TABLE IV.

## KNARESBOROUGH RURAL DISTRICT.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1900.

Causes of Death.	Deaths in whole District at subjoined ages.						
	All ages.	Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards.
Measles .. ...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ... ..	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ... ..	2	2	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria & Membranous Croup	19	2	7	9	...	1	...
Enteric Fever ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Epidemic Influenza ... ..	6	...	...	...	1	3	2
Diarrhœa ... ..	6	5	1	...	...	...	...
Enteritis ... ..	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Septic Diseases ... ..	4	3	...	...	...	...	1
Phthisis ... ..	15	1	...	1	3	10	...
Other Tubercular Diseases ... ..	3	1	1	...	...	1	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease ... ..	9	...	...	...	...	7	2
Bronchitis ... ..	13	2	1	...	...	1	9
Pneumonia ... ..	14	10	...	...	1	1	2
Pleurisy ... ..	2	...	...	...	...	1	1
Alcoholism (Cirrhosis of Liver)	4	...	...	...	...	3	1
Venereal Diseases ... ..	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth ... ..	8	8	...	...	...	...	...
Diseases & accidents of parturition	2	...	...	...	...	2	...
Heart Diseases ... ..	17	1	1	1	...	7	7
Accidents ... ..	11	1	3	...	2	1	4
Suicides .. ...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...
Congenital Debility ... ..	13	12	1	...	...	...	...
All other causes ... ..	59	11	2	...	1	12	33
All Causes ... ..	216	61	19	12	8	54	62

Deaths in Public Institutions.—1.



## TABLE C.—1900.

*Medical Officer of Health*—W. J. FORBES, M.B., B.CH.

*Sanitary and Building Inspector.*—WILLIAM LUPTON.

### WATER SUPPLY—

Quality.—Variable. Action on Lead.—Not Tested.

Any extensions or change during 1900?—Part of Knaresbrough Outer.

Any inadequacy in any part?—Burton Leonard (provision now being made). The Villages.

### SEWERAGE—

Is the district systematically sewered?—Portions only.

Is rainfall excluded?—Only from streets.

Extensions or Improvements during 1900?—From Sewage Farm along Stonefall Road Starbeck.

Any inadequacy in any part?—In several villages.

Any special means of ventilation?—No.

Any Rubble Drains, and where?—No.

### SEWAGE DISPOSAL—

System adopted?—Broad Irrigation.

Any complaints?—No.

### SCAVENGING—

Are the privy-middens, ash-places, etc., cleansed by Sanitary Staff, by Contractors, or by Owners and Tenants?—By Contract at Pannal, Bilton and Starbeck, by Owners and Tenants elsewhere.

Number of each type of receptable:—Covered Privy Middens.—Adopted as far as possible.

Pail or Tub Closets?—None. Other.—None.

### ADOPTIVE ACTS—

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890—Section 23, so far as applicable to Rural Districts. Remaining clauses of Section for Bilton, Starbeck and Pannal.

Private Streets Works Act, 1892.—In portions of District.

### BYE-LAWS—

Any adopted or sanctioned during 1900?—Under the Public Health Act, 1875?—No.

Under the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890?—No.

Are they properly enforced?—Yes.

Any Bye-Laws needed?—Extension to other parts desirable.

## REGULATED BUILDINGS, TRADES, &amp;c.—

Slaughter Houses.—Good.

D.C.M. ORDER.—Have any Regulations been framed under Article 13 of this Order?—Yes.

Number of Cowkeepers registered, 120.

Number of Purveyors of Milk registered, 120.

Cowsheds inspected regularly.

Any special action?—To secure better lighting, ventilation and drainage.

Has the Sanitary Authority in emergency during an outbreak of disease provided Nurses for home isolation?—No.

Compensation paid for infected articles destroyed during 1900.—None.

What method of house disinfection is employed?—Fumigation.

## DWELLINGS—

Number of Houses built during 1900.—164.

General Character.—Residential and Cottages.

Any houses unfit for habitation?—8.

Any overcrowding of persons in houses?—2.

Any action taken under the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890?—No.

Any “unhealthy areas”—No.

Back yards,—are they paved or rendered impervious in any part—Not general. How?—Concreted or Asphalted.

Back streets.—are they paved or rendered impervious in any part—New ones Macadam, Asphalted, or paved.

Is house-to-house inspection systematically made;—Yes. And records kept?—Yes.

## NUISANCES—

Total Number of Nuisances in hand at close of 1899.—20. At close of 1900.—71. Reported during 1900.—371. Abated during 1900.—320.

Total Number of Summonses or other Legal Proceedings.—None.

Number of Sink wastes disconnected during 1900.—9.

„ „ trapped during 1900.—9.

Number of Closets newly constructed during 1900.—One to each new house. Kinds.—Chiefly W.C.'s.

Number of Closets reconstructed during 1900.—9 Privies. Kinds.—1 W.C.

## MISCELLANEOUS.—

Any diseases peculiarly endemic in the district?—No.

Any information as to number of deaths from cancer of all kinds during 1900?—9.

Any cancer-houses or localities noted?—No.

Any information as to Number of deaths from Tabes Mesenterica?  
1.

Does the Sanitary Authority provide Anti-toxin (gratis) for diphtheria cases?—No.

Vaccination—Any improvement in efficiency under the new Act?  
Yes.

Is a public Mortuary provided?—No. Any necessity for a public Abattoir?—No.

*What action has been taken in regard to the following matters?*

Seizures of Unsound Food.—None. Prosecutions.—None.

Samples under Sale of Food and Drugs Act.—None.

Prosecutions.—None.

Are Food preservatives much in use in summer time, especially in milk?—None.

Has there been any poisoning attributable to arsenical beer?—  
No.

River pollution.—5 cases remedied.

Smoke Abatement—Number of observations taken.—None.

Summonses issued.—None.

Number of Factories and Workshops Inspected.—None.

Schools—Number in District.—13. Number closed on account of outbreaks of disease.—8. Total duration of closure from this cause—33 weeks.

Burial Grounds—Number in District.—14. Any need for extension?

Any work done by the M.O.H. under the Customs and Inland Revenue Act, 1890, Section 26 (2)?—No.

**BIRTHS**—Males, 225; Females, 239; Total, 464. Number illegitimate, included in the above—? Any information as to Number of Still Births?—No.

**DEATHS**—Males, 110; Females, 106; Total, 216.

Any information as to the proportion of bottle-fed children included in the deaths under 1 year.—No.

*Sanitary Requirements of District, and Suggestions of Medical Officer of Health.*—  
See Report.



