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KNARESBOROUGH
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.



MEDICAL OFFICER'S
ANNUAL REPORT,

FOR THE
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 1905.

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1906.



KNARESBOROUGH

Rural District Council.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year ended December 31st, 1905.

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

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in laying before you my Seventh Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health for the Knaresborough Rural District, for the year ended December 31st, 1905.

The estimated population of the district up to the **Population.** middle of the year 1905, is 8655. The chief increase has been in Pannal, Forest Moor, and Killinghall.

The number of births registered in the district during **Births.** the year was 180, viz., 94 males and 86 females. The annual birth rate is 20·9 per thousand of the estimated population. This is the lowest recorded birth-rate for the district. It is very much below that for England and Wales, which was 27·2, although this is also the lowest ever recorded.

Deaths. The deaths registered in the district in 1905 numbered 100. This is five less than the previous year, and gives the very low death rate of 11·55 per thousand of the estimated population. The death rate for England and Wales for the same period was 15·2 (the lowest on record).

Deaths under one Year of age The deaths in children under one year of age were 26 in number. This is exactly double of that for the previous year. The infantile mortality for the year was 144·4 per thousand births registered. This is exceedingly high compared with that for England and Wales for the same period, which was 128 per thousand births. The great increase from last year does not appear to be due to any particular or preventable cause, as is well shown in Table V. One half of the deaths were in children under one month, and 10 of these did not survive one week. When these premature and weakly infants are deducted the mortality from preventable causes is not so black as it might at first sight appear.

Causes of Death. Between the ages of 1 and 25 the number of deaths was 19; between 25 and 65 the number was also 19; and in persons over 65 there were 36 deaths. The principal causes of death were:—Phthisis and other tubercular diseases, 14; Heart Diseases 10; Bronchitis, 10; Pneumonia, 8; Cancer, 7; Whooping Cough 3; Diphtheria 2; Scarlet Fever, 2; and Measles, 1. See Table IV.

Zymotic diseases caused 10 deaths. This gives a zymotic death rate of 1·15 per thousand per annum. The zymotic death rate for England and Wales for the same period was 1·52 per thousand.

Phthisis and other Tubercular Diseases. Phthisis and other tubercular diseases caused 14 deaths. The deaths under this heading have been increasing during the past few years, the numbers being 1902, 5; 1903, 9; 1904, 11. The chief increase is in tubercular diseases of other organs of the body other than tubercular diseases of

the lungs. There were 3 deaths in children under one year of age from this cause. These were probably due to feeding children on milk derived from cows suffering from tuberculosis.

The number of deaths from Cancer was 7. This is **Cancer.** about the average number of deaths from this cause annually in the district.

There were no deaths from Diarrhœa during the year. **Diarrhœa.** The death rate in the district from it has been very favourable for the last few years. The leaflet I drew up some time ago, with a view to the prevention of this disease, is being distributed by the Registrars of Births.

The number of Infectious Diseases notified during the **Diseases** year was 36, as compared with 58 last year. They were as **Notified.** follows:—Scarlet Fever, 20; Diphtheria, 7; Erysipelas, 4; Enteric Fever, 3; and Continued Fever, 2.

The Scarlet Fever cases were less than half that of the **Scarlet** previous year. Follifoot and Killinghall suffered most from **Fever.** it. Isolated cases occurred in several of the other parishes. Two deaths were due to it. The number of patients from the district treated in the hospital were 9.

There were 7 cases of Diphtheria, 2 of which proved **Diphtheria.** fatal. Six of these occurred in Killinghall and one in Knaresborough Outer. The use of Antitoxin during the last few years has been very beneficial in lowering the death rate of this disease. As its expense places it to a certain extent out of the reach of the poorer people, I think it would be to the benefit of the district if your Council provided it in such cases.

There were only 3 cases of Enteric Fever during the **Enteric** year. **Fever.**

**Whooping
Cough.**

There were 3 deaths from Whooping Cough. This disease was not prevalent during the year. Any cases that occurred were the continuation of the outbreak during the end of the year 1904.

Measles.

There was a severe outbreak of Measles at Pannal and Killinghall in the early part of the year. The remainder of the district was fairly free from the disease. One death was caused by it.

Small Pox.

We had no Small-Pox during the year.

**Sewerage
and
Drainage.**

A scheme of 1462 yards of sewer has been carried out in Forest Moor. This has been a much needed work, and is being taken advantage of by the builders, as there has been a great increase of buildings in that part lately.

The much needed scheme for Pannal has been submitted to the Local Government Board. The village of Pannal (particularly that portion situated in Follifoot) being the part most in need of it.

The village of Kettlesing, in the parish of Felliscliffe, is much in need of drainage, and can, I believe, be done at very little expense.

The village of Follifoot also requires attention.

**Water
Supply.**

At Plompton private works are in hand for the supply of water to Plompton Square and the neighbouring farms. The progress of these works is very slow, in fact, they seem to have been at a standstill for some time. I have been complaining of the water supply here for over five years. I hope the promises your Council have had may soon be fulfilled.

Last year I reported that the means of conveying the water from its source to the village of Kettlesing required improvement. At its source the spring is very good. The

water from it is conveyed in pipes to a neighbouring field, where it runs into a cattle trough, The overflow pipe runs from this trough to the next field, where it again empties into another trough, and so on until finally after passing through a series of troughs it is supplied to the village.

A short extension of water main in Pannal has been the only portion of the district which has had a new supply of water during the year.

The water supply of the rest of the district is at present satisfactory.

There are 9 Slaughter Houses registered in the district. **Slaughter Houses.**
These are in a satisfactory condition.

There are 84 Cowsheds on the register. These also **Cowsheds.**
are in a satisfactory condition. One of these has been the cause of complaint during the year. Some improvements have been carried out and others promised.

The number of Factories and Workshops in the district **Factories and Workshops**
is 74, viz., Domestic Workshops, 10; Retail Bakehouses, 6; Laundries, 2; Factories, 12; Work Places, 9; and other Workshops, 35.

No defect of sanitation of workshops has been found. **Sanitation of Workshops**
Under this heading are (1) Cleanliness—No action required; (2) Air Space—This was sufficient; (3) Ventilation—This was fairly good, no action considered necessary; and (4) Drainage of Wet Floors—None.

There are 6 Retail Bakehouses in the district. The sanitary **Sanitation of Bake-houses.**
condition of these was satisfactory. They comply with the Act as regards closets, drains, water cisterns of w.c.'s, sleeping places, and limewashing. It was not necessary to give any notice to limewash.

**Und'gr'nd
Bakeho'ses.**

There are no Underground Bakeries in the district.

**Safety
from Fire.**

This portion of the Act does not apply to any Factory-
Workshop in the district.

**Home
Work.**

There is no Home Work in the District within the
meaning of the Act.

I have the honour, Gentlemen, to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

W. J. FORBES,

Medical Officer of Health.

March 6th, 1906.



TABLE III.
Infectious Diseases notified during 1905.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.		BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED.				Deaths of Non-Residents in Public Institutions.	Deaths of Residents in public Institutions beyond District.	Net Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.		NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Cases notified in whole District.					No. of cases removed to Hospital.	
	1.	2.	No.	Rate per 1000.	Under 1 year.	At all Ages.	No.	Rate per 1000.			Rate per 1000 Births registered.	No.		Rate.	12.	13.	At all Ages	Under 1.		1 to 5.
1895	8866		291	32.8	42	171	171	19.28						Small-pox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
1896	9700		318	32.7	54	167	167	17.21						Cholera .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
1897	10000		361	36.1	50	149	149	14.90						Diphtheria.....	7	2	4	...	1	...
1898	10500		393	37.4	65	195	195	18.57						Memb. Croup..	...	...	...	...	...	...
1899	11400		375	32.9	59	213	213	18.68						Erysipelas	4	...	...	...	...	4
1900	12000		464	38.6	61	216	216	18.00	1		217	18.08		Scarlet Fever..	20	6	12	...	2	9
1901	7150		202	28.2	30	119	119	16.60	1		117	16.30		Typhus Fever.	...	...	...	...	...	...
1902	7550		192	25.4	19	100	100	13.20	...		100	13.20		Enteric Fever.	3	...	...	1	2	...
1903	8100		183	22.6	12	89	89	10.98	...		86	10.60		Relapsing fever	...	...	...	...	...	...
1904	8130		204	25.1	13	108	108	13.28	...		105	12.91		Contin'd fever.	2	...	...	1	1	...
														Puerperal fever	...	...	...	...	...	...
														Plague .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
* Average for years 1895-1904.														Totals.....	36	8	16	2	10	9
1905	8655		180	20.9	26	104	104	12.01	4	0	100	11.55								

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water)—37,390. Total population at all ages—7,102. Number of inhabited houses—1,488. Average No. of persons per house—5. (At census of 1901). Isolation Hospital—Harrogate and Knaresborough joint.

* The statistics in columns 1895 to 1900 are for the district previous to the Harrogate extension. Those under 1901 to 1903 are for the district previous to the Knaresborough extension. Those under 1904 and 1905 are for the district as it now stands. Averages of these would be useless and misleading.

TABLE IV.

KNARESBOROUGH RURAL DISTRICT.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during Year 1905.

Causes of Death.	Death at the subjoined age of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	
Measles	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	4
Whooping-cough	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	2
Epidemic Influenza	3	2	...	...	...	...	1	...
Erysipelas	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Phthisis, Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	7	...	1	1	1	4	...	...
Other Tubercular Diseases...	7	3	4	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease...	7	...	...	...	...	2	5	...
Bronchitis	10	3	1	...	...	...	7	...
Pneumonia	8	2	...	1	...	4	...	...
Alcoholism Cirrhosis of Liver	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Premature Birth.....	4	4	...	...	...	..	...	...
Heart Diseases	10	...	...	...	...	6	4	...
Accidents.....	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Suicides	1	..	...	...	...	...	1	...
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ...	2	...	1	...	1	...	...	..
All other Causes	28	9	2	1	...	...	16	...
All Causes	100	26	11	6	2	19	36	6

TABLE V.

KNARESBOROUGH RURAL DISTRICT.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1905.

Deaths from stated Causes in weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total deaths under One Year
All Causes.												
Certified	10	1	2	13	2	3	2	1	2		2	25
Uncertified...										1		1
Whooping Cough.....	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	3
Gastritis .....	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Premature Birth	3	...	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Injury at Birth	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Atrophy Debility	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tuberculous Peritonitis.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	2
Other Tuberculous Dis.	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Convulsions	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis	1	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	3
Pneumonia .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Other Causes.....	2	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	5
All causes	10	1	2	13	2	3	2	1	2	1	2	26

TABLE C.—1905.

Medical Officer of Health.—W. J. FORBES, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.
Sanitary Inspector }
Building Surveyor }—WILLIAM LUPTON.

WATER SUPPLY—

Quality.—Good.

Action on Lead.—None.

Any extensions or change during 1905?—Portions in Pannal Parish.

Any inadequacy in any part?—Plompton.

SEWERAGE—

Is the district systematically sewered?—Portions.

Is rainfall from roads excluded?—Front Streets.

Extensions or Improvements during 1905.—Sewers, 1462 yards
 Knaresborough Outer; Manholes 20; 2 Flushing Chambers;
 Ventilating Shafts—None.

Any inadequacy, and where:—Pannal, Kettlesing, Scotton, and Follifoot.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL—

System adopted—Broad Irrigation.

Any extensions in 1905?—No.

Any complaint in neighbourhood of sewage works?—No.

SCAVENGING.

Are the privy-middens, ash-places, &c., cleansed by Sanitary staff, by Contractors, or by Owners and Tenants?—Owners and Tenants.

Any Inadequacy of Scavenging?—No.

ADOPTIVE ACTS—

Acts adopted during 1905 (or parts),—None.

Any diseases added to Notification schedule, *e.g.*, Measles, Chicken-pox, &c.?—No.

Any system of voluntary notification of Phthisis?—No.

BYE-LAWS—

Any adopted or sanctioned during 1905.?—Under the Public Health Act, 1875.—No.

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

REGULATED BUILDINGS, TRADES, &c.—

Common Lodging Houses — None. Cannal Boats — None.
 Slaughter Houses—Number in District, 9; Number on Register, 9; Number of Inspections made, 13; General Condition, Satisfactory. Legal Proceedings (if any), None. Cowsheds—Number in District, 84; Number on Register, 84; Number of Inspections made, 38; General Conditions Satisfactory. Legal Proceeding (if any), None. Offensive Trades—None.

COWSHEDS—

Give date of Regulations in force under D.C.M. Order.—July. 9th 1902.

Any special inspection made during 1905.—No.

Any systematic veterinary inspection of Cows.—No.

Any action taken by outside Authorities, *e.g.*, under “Milk Clauses” concerning milk supplied from the district?—Complaint from Leeds.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE—

What disinfecting apparatus is available and where is it situate?—Steam Disinfecter, Isolation Hospital.

How are dwellings disinfected?—Alformant Lamp, Sulphur and Spray (Formalin).

Any placards or handbills issued during 1905.—No.

SCHOOLS—

Number closed during 1905 on account of sickness, 7; Total duration of such closure, 15 weeks.

Any ailment or contagious disease associated particularly with school life during 1905?—No.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT.

Any cases of anthrax in factories or workshops during 1905.—No.

MIDWIVES ACT, 1902—

Number of Cases of Puerperal Fever occuring in the practice of Midwives.—No.

Number of such midwives disinfected by Sanitary Authority under Rule E.. 5 of the Central Midwives Board.—No.

DWELLINGS—

Number of Houses built during 1905—89.

General Character—66 Cottages, 23 Residential.

Any occupied houses unfit for habitation?—No.

Any overcrowding of persons in houses?—No.

Any action taken under the Housing of the Working Classes Acts?—One hut closed.

Is house-to-house inspection systematically made?—Yes.

Are records kept?—Yes.

NUISANCES.

Total Number of Nuisances in hand at close of 1904—19. At close of 1905—7. Reported during 1905—76. Abated during 1905—88.

Total Number of Legal Notices served for Abatement of Nuisances during 1905—1, others by letter.

Total Number of Summonses or other Legal Proceedings—None. Number of Sink wastes disconnected during 1905—6 and all new houses.

Number of Sink wastes trapped during 1905—2

Number of Closets newly constructed during 1905—1 to each new house. Kinds—Chiefly w.c.

Number of Closets reconstructed during 1905—3. Kinds—1 w.c. 2 Privies.

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.

Has there been any poisoning during 1905 attributable to arsenical beer?—No. Ptomaines?—No.—Lead-contaminated water?—No.

Smoke observation taken—4. Legal Notices—None.

Burial Grounds—Number in District—14. Any Need for (a) Extension?—No; (b) Closure?—No.

Mortuaries—Number in District (a) for accidents—None. (b) Other—None.

BIRTHS DURING 1905—Males, 94; Females, 86; Total 180. Number illegitimate, included in above—No Information. Number of Still Births (not included)—No Information.

DEATHS DURING 1905—(1) Gross Deaths, *i.e.*, Total actually registered in the district, without any correction—104. (2) Nett Deaths on which the rates are calculated—Males, 48; Females 52; Total 100.

Number uncertified, included in the above.—1

Sanitary Requirments of District, and Suggestions of Medical Officer of Health:—See body of Report.

