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**Contributors**

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KNARESBOROUGH

# Rural District Council.

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## MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT

*For the Year ended December 31st, 1909.*

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

GENTLEMEN,—

I have pleasure in laying before you my Eleventh Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health for the Knaresborough Rural District for the year ended December 31st, 1909.

As there has been no extensive building in the district **Population.** during the year—only 26 houses having been built—there is not much increase in the population to record. The estimated population of this district up to the middle of the year 1909 was 9,620.

There has been a decrease of 17 births in the year on **Births.** that of 1908, only 192 births being registered, viz., 94 males and 98 females. The annual birth rate is therefore only 19·95 per thousand of the estimated population, whereas the birth rate for England and Wales for the same period



is 25·6. This is not only the lowest birth rate recorded for your district but is also the lowest for England and Wales.

#### **Deaths.**

The number of deaths of residents in this district, and of residents in public institutions beyond the district was 91. This is a decrease of 26 on the previous year. The annual death rate for the year was 9·45 per thousand of the estimated population. This is not only the lowest death rate for your district recorded, but is very much lower than that for England and Wales, viz., 14·5, although this is also a record death rate.

#### **Deaths under one Year of age**

The deaths in children under one year of age were 19 in number. Eleven of these were in premature infants and infants debilitated from birth. Pneumonia caused one death; convulsions two; and marasmus one. The remainder were not due to diseases of a preventable nature. The infantile mortality for the year was 98·95 per thousand births registered. For England and Wales during the same period the infantile mortality was 109 (the lowest on record).

#### **Causes of Death at all Ages.**

Between the ages of 1 and 5 the number of deaths was 24; between 5 and 15 there were no deaths; between 15 and 25 there were 9 deaths; between 25 and 65 the number was 30, and in persons over 65 there were 28 deaths. The principal causes of death were:—Heart Diseases, 13; Phthisis, 10; Pneumonia, 7; Bronchitis, 7; Cancer, 3; and Influenza, 2.

#### **Zymotic Diseases.**

Zymotic diseases caused 1 death. This gives a zymotic death rate of 0·10 per thousand per annum of the estimated population. The zymotic death rate for England and Wales for the same period was 1·12, being more than ten times that for your district.

#### **Cancer.**

The number of deaths from Cancer was 3. This shows a very remarkable decrease on previous years. Last year



the number was 18, and in the previous ten years the average number was 7, so that the death rate from this disease shows a very marked improvement. These three cases occurred in the following parishes:—Hampsthwaite, 1; Burton Leonard 1; and Forest Moor, 1.

Phthisis and other tubercular diseases caused 10 deaths. The number of deaths due to this cause in previous years were:—1902, 5; 1903, 9; 1904, 11; 1905, 14; 1906, 13; 1907, 14; and 1908, 5. The means adopted in this district to prevent the spread of this disease are:—The voluntary notification of Phthisis by the medical practitioner in attendance on the patient to the Medical Officer of Health; the compulsory notification of the disease by District Medical Officers under the Poor Law to the Medical Officer of Health; the distribution of leaflets (to cases notified) giving instructions to prevent the spread of the disease; and also the inspection of meat and milk supplies.

**Phthisis  
and other  
Tubercular  
Diseases.**

One case of Gastro-Enteritis is classified under the heading of Diarrhœa.

**Diarrhœa.**

The number of Infectious Diseases notified to me during the year was 18. In previous years the numbers were:—1904, 58; 1905, 36; 1906, 51; 1907, 32; and 1908, 30. They were as follows:—Scarlet Fever, 11; Diphtheria, 6; and Erysipelas, 1.

**Infectious  
Diseases  
Notified.**

Scarlet Fever occurred in the following places;—Goldsborough, 5 cases; Killinghall, 3; Pannal, 2; Knaresborough Outer (Hay-a-Park) 1. The cases were generally of a very mild type, and none of them were fatal. In the case of the Goldsborough outbreak the disease was spread at school.

**Scarlet  
Fever.**

The 6 cases of Diphtheria were distributed as follows: Pannal (Oatlands), 2; Goldsborough, 1; Farnham, 1;

**Diphtheria.**



Follifoot, 1; and Hampsthwaite 1. These were all isolated cases of the disease, and did not spread beyond the patient in either of the 6 cases. There were no deaths from this disease.

**Enteric  
Fever.**

There were no cases of Enteric Fever in the district during the year.

**Whooping  
Cough,**

Many cases of Whooping Cough occurred during the year in different parts of the district, but they were generally of a mild nature. There were no deaths from this cause.

**Measles.**

There were outbreaks of Measles in several parts of the district, but on the whole the number of cases were small.

**Small Pox.**

No case of Small Pox occurred during the year.

**Sewage  
Disposal.**

The drainage of Pannal, which has been in progress during the year, has greatly improved the condition of that parish. Very important extensions of this scheme are to be undertaken early in 1910. When these have been completed I hope the drainage of the other parts of the district will be proceeded with. A scheme has been prepared by your Surveyor for treating the sewage of Ripley, and I have no doubt but this will soon be completed, and so remedy a serious pollution of the river. Another scheme is in preparation for the drainage of Follifoot. At Ferrensby there has been considerable delay in the sanitation of the village owing to the difficulty in securing land for an outlet. At Goldsborough, Lord Harewood's estate agent (Mr. Paget) has promised to improve the sanitation of the village to the satisfaction of your Sanitary Inspector and Medical Officer of Health. At Hampsthwaite the outlet of the village drain into the river has been opened out, and up to the present it is difficult to say whether any sewage reaches



the river in its crude state or not, except when the river rises. At any rate, the greater part of it seems to filter away through the sandy soil in the bottom of the stone culvert, which constitutes the main sewer. Kettlesing, Burton Leonard, Brearton, and Scotton, all require sanitation. During the year 19 cesspools have been abolished in the district. On the whole there has been a marked improvement in the sanitation of the district.

The district as a whole (with the exceptions mentioned below) is well supplied with pure, wholesome water. The water supply at Hampsthwaite, Kettlesing, and Scotton is not satisfactory. Goldsborough also requires attention, but I expect this will be attended to by the land owner (Lord Harewood). **Water Supply.**

There are 13 Slaughter Houses registered in the district. These are regularly visited by your certified Meat Inspector during the time of slaughtering, and the meat inspected. The carcase of a pig was found to be affected in parts with Tuberculosis. The diseased parts were voluntarily destroyed. **Slaughter Houses and Meat Inspection.**

There are 72 Cowsheds registered in the district. Two Cowsheds have been rebuilt, and the general condition of the others as a whole has improved. **Cowsheds.**

I am pleased to see that the Cowkeepers' Association have re-appointed a Veterinary Surgeon to make periodical inspections of their cows and cowsheds. I have no doubt but that such an appointment will assist your Council in getting improvements in the cowsheds and a purer supply of milk.

The number of Factories and Workshops in the district is 72, viz., Factories (including Factory Laundries), 16; Work places (including Workshop Laundries), 11; Retail Bakehouses, 5; Domestic Workshops, 5; and other Workshops 35. **Factories and Workshops.**

**Sanitation  
of Work-  
shops.**

No defect of Sanitation of Workshops as regards cleanliness, air space, ventilation, or drainage of wet floors, was found.

**Retail  
Bakehouse.**

There are 5 Retail Bakehouses in the district. These comply with the Act as regards closets, drains, water cisterns of w.c.'s, sleeping places, and limewashing.

**Under-  
ground  
Bakehouse.**

There are no underground Bakehouses in the district.

**Home  
Work.**

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

I am pleased to be able to place such a favourable report before you.

I have the honour, Gentlemen, to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

W. J. FORBES,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

*February 17th, 1910.*



TABLE III.

Infectious Diseases notified during 1909.

TABLE I. Vital Statistics of the Whole District.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS Registered.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-Residents in Public Institutions.	Deaths of Residents in public Institutions beyond the District.	Net deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.		NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Cases notified in whole District.						No. of cases removed to Hospital.
		No.	Rate per 1000.	Under 1 year.		At all Ages.					No.	Rate.*								
				No.	Rate ‡ per 1000 Births registered.	No.	Rate per 1000													
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11	12.	13.		At all Ages 1.	Un-der 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	
1899	11400	375	32.9	59	157.0	213	18.68	...	...	1	217	18.08	Small-pox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1900	12000	464	38.6	61	131.4	216	18.00	...	...	1	117	16.30	Cholera .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1901	7150	202	28.2	30	148.5	119	16.60	3	3	...	100	13.20	Diphtheria (in-cluding Mem. Group) .....	6	...	...	4	1	1	4
1902	7550	192	25.4	19	99.0	100	13.20	...	...	...	86	10.60	Erysipelas .....	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
1903	8100	183	22.6	12	65.5	89	10.98	5	3	...	105	12.91	Scarlet Fever	11	...	...	11	...	...	8
1904	8130	204	25.1	13	63.7	108	13.28	5	3	...	100	11.55	Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1905	8655	180	20.9	26	144.4	104	12.01	6	4	...	106	11.69	Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1906	9062	253	27.9	17	67.1	112	12.35	13	8	2	106	11.48	Rel'psing fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1907	9230	185	20.0	11	59.4	112	12.13	10	9	3	106	11.48	Contin'd Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1908	9390	209	22.2	16	76.5	115	12.24	...	3	5	117	12.46	Puerperal fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
													Plague .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
													Totals.....	18	...	...	15	1	2	12
* Average ages for years 1890-1908.																				
1909	9620	192	19.9	19	98.9	89	9.25	1	1	3	91	9.45								

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 number of persons per house—5. (At census of 1901). Isolation Hospital—Harrogate and Knaresborough joint, Forest Moor. Total available beds, 50. Number of Diseases that can be concurrently treated, 3. Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District—W.R. Lunatic Asylums; Leeds Infirmary.

\* The statistics for the years 1899 and 1900 are for the district previous to the Harrogate extension. Those for 1901 to 1903 are for the district previous to the Knaresborough extension. Averages of these would be useless and misleading.


 The Union Workhouse is not within the District.



TABLE IV.

## KNARESBOROUGH RURAL DISTRICT.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during year 1909.

Causes of Death.	Deaths at the subjoined ages 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	
Fever—Enteric .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Epidemic Influenza .....	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
Diarrhœa .....	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteritis .....	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever.....	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis).....	8	..	..	..	3	5	..	..
Other Tuberculous diseases	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	..
Cancer, malignant disease...	3	..	..	..	..	2	1	..
Bronchitis .....	7	..	..	..	..	3	4	..
Pneumonia .....	7	1	3	..	1	2	..	..
Premature Birth.....	6	6	..	..	..	..	..	..
Heart Diseases .....	13	..	..	..	1	5	7	..
Accidents.....	3	..	..	..	..	3	..	..
Suicides .....	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
All other causes.....	36	11	2	..	2	8	13	..
All Causes ..	91	19	5	..	9	30	28	1

TABLE V.

## KNARESBOROUGH RURAL DISTRICT.

## INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1909.

Deaths from stated causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	5-6 Months.	7-8 Months.	Total deaths under One Year
All Causes.											
Certified .....	7	2	2	1	12	2	...	2	1	2	19
Uncertified .....											
Gastro-enteritis .....	...	...	...	...	..	1	...	...	...	...	1
Premature Birth.....	4	1	...	1	6	...	...	...	...	...	6
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	..	...	1
Meningitis ( <i>not Tuberculous</i> )	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Convulsions .....	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	2
Pneumonia .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Other Causes .....	3	1	1	...	5	...	...	1	1	...	7
All causes .....	7	2	2	1	12	2	...	2	1	2	19

District of Knaresborough (Rural).—Population (estimated to middle of 1909), 9,620. Births in the year, 192. Deaths in the year of infants, 19. Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 91.



## TABLE C.—1909.

*Medical Officer of Health.*—W. J. FORBES, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.

*Sanitary Inspector* }  
*Building Surveyor* } —WILLIAM LUPTON.

## WATER SUPPLY—

Any development during 1909?—No.

Developments still needed.—Hampsthwaite, Kettlesing, Scotton, and Goldsborough.

Has public supply been continuous?—Yes.

Is the water plumbo-solvent and if so, what corrective treatment is applied?—No.

Any samples tested for lead during 1909?—No.

## SEWERAGE—

Developments during 1909.—660 yards, Pannal.

Developments still needed.—Kettlesing, Follifoot, Scotton, Ferrensby, and Brearton.

Special Sewer Ventilators.—Kind in use, Columns; Number, 6.

Are they satisfactory?—Yes.

Any offensive Manholes?—No.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL—Any complaint as to outfall works?—No.

SCAVENGING—Any inadequacy, and where?—Killinghall, Pannal, and Knaresborough.

BY-LAWS AND REGULATIONS—Any adopted or sanctioned during 1909?—No.

## ADOPTIVE ACTS—

Any steps taken for the consideration, adoption, or application of

(a) Notification of Births Act, 1907.—No.

(b) Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.—No.

(c) Other Adoptive Acts.—No.

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

Common Lodging Houses—None. Canal Boats—None.  
 Slaughter Houses—Number in District, 13; Number on Register 13; Number of Inspections made, each week; General Condition, Satisfactory; Legal Proceedings, None. Cowsheds—No. in District, 72; No. on Register, 72; Total No. of Inspections made, 99; General Conditions, Two rebuilt; General Conditions improved. Offensive Trades—Number in District, 2 (Fellmongers).

## COWSHEDS—

Any special inspection made during 1909?—No.  
 Any milk samples tested for tubercle, and with what result?—No.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE—

Any suspected spread by rats, dogs, cats, fowls, flies or fleas?—No.

## ISOLATION HOSPITAL—

Any observation on adequacy or efficiency?—Efficient.

## SCHOOLS—

Any matter calling for special attention of School Medical Officer?—No.

MIDWIVES ACT, 1902—Are there any uncertified women attending confinements without a doctor?—No.

## DWELLINGS—

Any occupied houses unfit for habitation?—No.  
 Any overcrowding of persons, in houses?—No.  
 Any action taken under the Housing Acts?—No.  
 Is house-to-house inspection systematically made?—Yes.  
 Are records kept?—Yes.  
 Any special activity in house building?—No.  
 Number of Houses built during 1909—26. General character, Cottage and Residential.  
 Do the new houses accord with Bye-Laws?—Yes.  
 Who deals with plans?—Surveyor and Committee.

INFANTILE MORTALITY—What organised effort to control it?—None.

Is Health Visitor appointed by S.A.?—No, by other body? No.



## PREVENTION OF CONSUMPTION.

Any system of notification?—Voluntary.

Any local treatment of Patients on sanatorium lines?—None.

Any Sanitary inspection of Patients' Houses?—Yes.

Any Disinfection of ditto?—Yes.

Any Distribution of Advice?—Yes.

Any Action *re* Spitting?—No.

Any Disinfection of public rooms, vehicles, &c.?—No.

## NUISANCES—

Total No. of Nuisances in hand at close of 1908—22. At close of 1909—20. Reported during 1909—134. Abated during 1909—136.

Total No. of Legal Notices served for abatement of Nuisances during 1909—None.

Total No. of Summonses or other Legal Proceedings—None.

No. of Sink wastes disconnected during 1909—2

Trapped—None.

No. of Closets newly constructed during 1909—1 to each New House. Kinds—w.c.'s.

No. of Closets reconstructed during 1909—11. Kinds—w.c.'s.

## 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 Acts—None. Prosecutions—None.

No. of Smoke observations taken—None. Legal Notices—None. Summonses—None.

BIRTHS DURING 1909—Males, 94; Females, 98; Total 192.

DEATHS DURING 1909—(1) Gross Deaths, *i.e.*, Total actually registered in the district, without any correction—89. (2) NETT DEATHS, on which the rates are calculated—Males, 49; Females, 42;—Total 91. Number uncertified, included in the above—None.

SANITARY REQUIREMENTS OF DISTRICT, AND SUGGESTIONS OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:—See body of Report.