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Contributors

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KNARESBOROUGH
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year ended December 31st, 1915.

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

GENTLEMEN,—

I have pleasure in laying before you my Seveuteenth Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health for the Knaresborough Rural District, for the year ended December 31st, 1915.

The population of the district has not increased **Population** much during the year, as there have been only 7 houses built during that time. The Registrar General estimates the population of the district up to the middle of the year at 8,432, this is slightly less than my estimate (8,789) but it is best for the sake of unifomity to use his estimate in the statistical tables appended to the report.

The number of births registered as belonging to the **Births.** district was 135. This is 13 less than that of the previous year, and gives an annual birth rate of 16·01 per thousand of the estimated population. This is the lowest birth rate of the district of which I have any record. And is very much below that for England and Wales, viz., 21·8, which is also the lowest on record.

Deaths.

The number of deaths of residents in the district and of residents in places outside the district was 111. This is 33 more than the previous year, and gives an annual death rate of 13·15 per thousand of the estimated population. This is very satisfactory when compared with the corresponding rate for England and Wales, which was 15·1.

Deaths under one year of age

There were 13 deaths in children under one year of age. Four were due to premature birth or congenital malformation. The causes of death in the others were: Convulsions, 3; Pneumonia, 2; Bronchitis, 1; Measles, 1; and Whooping Cough, 1. The infantile mortality for the year was 96 per thousand births registered, the corresponding death rate for England and Wales was 110.

Causes of Death at all ages.

Between the ages of 1 and 2 years there were 3 deaths; between 2 and 15 there were 3; between 15 and 25 there were 6; between 25 and 45 there were 7; between 45 and 65 there were 27; and over 65 there were 36. There were 27 deaths in persons 70 years and upwards. The principal causes of death were; Heart Disease, 13; Pneumonia, 10; Cancer, 9; Phthisis and other Tubercular Diseases 9; and Bright's Disease 6.

Zymotic Diseases.

There were three deaths from Zymotic Diseases. This gives an annual death rate of 0·35 per thousand of the estimated population. The corresponding rate for England and Wales was 1·3.

Cancer.

There were 9 deaths from Cancer during the year. These occurred in the following parishes:—Pannal and Follifoot 2 each; Bilton. Knaresborough Outer, Plompton, Scriven, and Scotton 1 each. Of these 7 were in females and 2 males. Last year there were also 9 deaths, 8 females and 1 male.

Phthisis and other Tubercular Diseases.

There were 9 deaths from Phthisis and other Tubercular diseases. This is about the average for the last ten years. During the year 13 cases of Tuberculosis were reported to me.

There was one death from Diarrhœa in a child belonging to your district, but it occurred outside the district where the child had been for some time. We have not had a death from this cause in the district for some years. **Diarrhœa.**

The number of Infectious Diseases notified to me during the year was 62; viz., Scarlet Fever, 41; Diphtheria, 3; Enteric Fever, 2; Erysipelas 1; Phthisis and other tubercular diseases 13; and Ophthalmic Neonatorum, 2. **Infectious Diseases Notified.**

A serious outbreak of Scarlet Fever occurred at one of the boys' colleges situated in your district. This accounted for the majority of the cases during the year. There were no deaths from this disease. **Scarlet Fever.**

There were only 3 cases of Diphtheria during the year. Two occurred at Oatlands and 1 at Killinghall. No deaths were caused by it. **Diphtheria**

Two cases of Enteric Fever occurred. One was at Knox, and one at Nidd. The one at Nidd was probably due to the pollution of the water supply at the Scotton Mill source. **Enteric Fever.**

There were no cases of this disease notified to me. Measles was not very prevalent during the year, One death was caused by it. **Polio-myelitis. Measles.**

Whooping Cough was prevalent during the year and caused two deaths. **Whooping Cough.**

No case of Small-Pox was notified during the year. **Small Pox.**

Two cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were notified but were of a mild nature. **Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**

There has been nothing done in regard to Sewage Disposal during the year. Sewage schemes are necessary at Burton Leonard, Hampsthwaite, Scotton, Knox, Ferrensby, Flaxby, South Stainley and Brearton. **Sewage Disposal.**

There is a good supply of water in the whole district with the exception of the villages of Hampsthwaite, Scotton, Brearton, Flaxby and Nidd. There was no extension of water supply during the year. **Water Supply.**

Slaughter Houses. There are 12 Slaughter Houses registered in the district. The carcass of one, and portions of three other animals were destroyed as being unfit for food owing to this presence of Tuberculosis.

Cowsheds. There are 168 cowsheds in the district. The condition of these has on the whole much improved.

Schools. There are 14 Schools in the district. There were 5 closures of Schools owing to the prevalence of Whooping Cough and Measles.

Scavenging. The Scavenging of Pannal is done by the council. Killinghall and Knaresborough Outer required to be dealt with in a similar manner.

Housing. Under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 338, houses were inspected. Of these none were found to be totally unfit for habitation. The defects were of a slight sanitary or structural nature. There is scarcity of houses in Burton Leonard, Killinghall, and Follifoot.

Factories and Workshops. The number of Factories and Workshops in the district is 72, viz: Factories (including Factory Laundries) 17; Workplaces (including Workshops Laundries), 12; Domestic Workshops, 5; Retail Bakehouses, 2; and other Workshops, 36.

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

Retail Bakehouses. There are 2 Retail Bakehouses in the district. These comply with the Factories and Workshops' Act as regards closets, drains, water cisterns, to W.C.'s sleeping places, and limewashing.

Underground Bakehouses Home Work. There are no underground Bakehouses in the district. There is no "Home Work" in the district within the meaning of the Factories and Workshops' Act.

I have the honour, Gentlemen, to remain,

Your obedient servant,

W. J. FORBES,

Medical Officer of Health

August 9th, 1916.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1915 and previous years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NO. OF CASES NOTIFIED.					Total Cases Removed to Hospital.		
		Uncorrected No.	Nett.		No.	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.		At all Ages	Undr 1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45		45 to 65	
			No.	Rate.					No.	Rate per 1000 Nett Births	No.									Rate.
1.		3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.								

1910	9750	183	...	18.7	98	10.00	2	5	15	81.9	101	10.23	Small Pox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
1911	8209	183	184	22.4	102	12.43	9	9	14	76.0	102	12.45	Cholera .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
1912	8360	170	174	20.8	80	9.56	3	13	12	63.2	90	10.76	Diphtheria (including Mem. croup)	3	1	1	1	...	3	
1913	8575	169	169	19.7	94	10.95	10	5	9	53.2	89	10.35	Erysipelas	1	...	...	...	...	1
1914	8730	144	148	17.7	73	8.36	6	11	8	54.0	78	9.32	Scarlet fever...	41	3	22	16	...	38	
1915	8432	134	135	16.01	111	13.15	16	16	13	96.29	111	13.15	Typhus fever...	...	...	...	1	...	2
													Enteric fever...	...	...	...	...	...	...
													Rel'psing fever	...	...	...	...	...	...
													Continu'd fever	...	...	...	...	...	...
													Puerperal fever	...	...	...	...	...	...
													Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
													Poliomyelitis...	...	...	...	...	...	...
													Ophthalmia	...	...	...	...	...	...
													Neonatorum	2	...	...	...	...	...
													Pulmonary Tuberculosis	10	...	3	...	5	2	
													Other forms of Tuberculosis	3	...	2	...	...	...
													Totals	62	2	5	29	17	6	3
																				43

Area of District in acres (land and inland water)—37,495. Total population at all ages 8,143. Total families or separate occupiers 1,811 (At Census, 1911.) Isolation Hospital or Hospitals, Sanatoria, &c.—Harrogate and Knarborough Joint Isolation Hospital, Thistle Hill, Knarborough Outer.

TABLE III.

Knaresborough Rural District.

Causes of, and Ages at Death, during the Year 1915.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.										Total Deaths in Public Institutions in District.
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards.		
All causes	95	13	3	3	...	6	7	27	36	3	
Measles	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Whooping Cough	2	1	1	..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Influenza	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Phthisis Pulmonary Tuberculosis	7	...	...	...	...	2	1	4	...	...
Other Tuberculos diseases ...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease ...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	6	...
Organic Heart Disease	13	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	7	...
Bronchitis	8	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	4	...
Pneumonia (all forms)	10	2	1	2	...	1	...	4	...	...
Other diseases of respiratory organs	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa and Enteritis	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	1	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth ...	3	3	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Defined Diseases... ..	30	3	1	...	...	...	2	7	17	...
Totals	95	13	3	3	...	6	7	27	36	3	

TABLE IV.

Knaresborough Rural District.

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1915.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at Various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All Causes.									
Certified	2	0	1	3	4	3	2	1	13
Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Whooping Cough ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Convulsions ... ..	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	3
Bronchitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Enteritis ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Premature Birth ... ..	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus	2	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	3
Totals	2	...	1	3	4	3	2	1	13

Nett Births registered during the calendar year 135.

Nett Deaths registered during the calendar year 13.

TABLE C—1915.

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 1915? No.

Any insufficiency, and where? Hampsthwaite, Scotton, Brearton, and Flaxby.

Any Curtainment? No.

Did any wells fail, and where? Scotton.

Any unsatisfactory quality, and where? As above,

Any unchecked plumbo-solvent action! No.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Any developments during 1915? No.

Developments still needed as to (a) Want of sewers.—Burton Leonard, Hampsthwaite, Scotton.

(b) Improvement of defective sewers. No.

Any inadequacy of Sewage Disposal Works or complaints as to smells? No.

No. of sink-wastes disconnected during 1915.—None. Trapped.—11.

Proportion of sink-wastes still needing disconnection.—Untrapped.—

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

No. of Privies with open middens.—307. No. of Pail or Tub Closets.—58.

No. of Privies with covered middens.—1072. No. of Water Closets.—728. Waste-water Closets.—None.

Are proper doors and coverings generally provided? All new ones and those reconstructed.

No. of Privies re-constructed during 1915, as w.c.'s—29.

No. of additional Closets provided for old property in 1915.—
None.

No. of Closets constructed in 1915 for new houses (*a*) w.c.'s 4;
(*b*) other 3.

SCAVENGING.

How is the refuse disposed of (*a*) Destructor, No; (*b*) Tips; Yes
(*c*) Farmers, Yes.

Is there any inadequacy, and where? Killinghall, Knaresborough
Outer, Brearton.

Any change during 1915? No.

NUISANCE INSPECTIONS.

Total No. of Inspections made in 1915.—486.

Informal Notices served.—66. Complied with,—53.

Statutory Notices served.—None.

Total No. of Nuisances in hand at close of 1914.—42; at close of
1915.—208.

Reported during 1915.—355; abated during 1915.—189.

Summonses or other legal proceedings.—None.

REGULATED BUILDINGS, TRADES, &c.

Knackers Yards.—1; Inspections made. 4; general conditon, good.

Have the Council declared any other processes to be offensive
trades? No.

SCHOOLS.

No. of Elementary Schools in District.—14.

No. of Visits to Schools.—5.

Action taken.—School closed in 5 cases.

MILK SUPPLY.

No. of samples taken by Officers S.A. for analysis under F. & D.
Acts.—1; No. adulterated.—None.

do. for bacteriological examination.—None.

What arrangement for Veterinary Inspection of dairy cows?
Inspector appointed.

Any instance of disease attributed to milk in 1915? No.

No. of Cowkeepers in district.—100; No. registered.—100.

No. of Milk Sellers who are also Cowkeepers.—100; No. who are
purveyors only, 1; Total No. registered, 101.

Total No. of Cowsheds, 168; No. of Inspections in 1915, 55;
General Conditions, Improved.

Approximate No. of Milch Cows in District.—1100. Any insufficiency in Milk supply? No.

Legal proceedings under the D.C.M. Orders.—None.

Any Inspection or other action by Districts to which Milk is sent.—No.

OTHER FOODS.

No. of samples (other than Milk) taken by Officer of S.A. for examination under Food and Drugs Acts.—None.

No. of seizures of unsound food.—4; Kind and quantity.—Tuberculous in each case; Prosecutions.—None.

No. of Slaughter Houses.—13; No. registered.—13; Kind and condition.—Generally good.

No. of prosecutions (a) Food and Drugs.—None; (b) Unsound Food.—None; (c) *re* Slaughter Houses.—None.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Any Smoke nuisance, and where.—No.

No. of Smoke observations taken.—None.

ADOPTIVE ACTS.

Acts adopted during 1915.—None.

Any Urban Powers obtained in 1915? No.

Any other Byelaws needed? No.

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

What diseases have been specially prevalent in 1915? Scarlet Fever.

Any special action to combat same? No.

Is Hospital accommodation adequate and sufficient?—Yes.

What arrangement for the supply of antitoxin?—Supplied by order of M.O.H.

Any diseases specially added to notifiable list? No.

Any influences threatening the health of the District? No.

SPECIAL REPORTS AND INVESTIGATIONS.

Mention any subjects which have been specially investigated and reported on during the year.—One suspicious case of Typhus Fever was reported but on investigation proved to be measles.

TUBERCULOSIS.—Procedure after notification

Inspection of patient's home and workshop.—Yes.

Examination for contacts.—No.

Disinfection.—Yes.

Distribution of advice leaflets.—Yes.

Action *re* spitting.—None.

Shelters provided.—None.

Is sputum examined? Yes.

Tuberculosis Dispensaries.—Any suggestions.—No.

BACTERIOLOGY

Is County Laboratory utilized?—Yes.

Any suggestions?—No.

INFANT MORTALITY.

What organised effort to control it?—Leaflet by M.O.H. distributed to Mothers.

Any Baby Clinic, Baby's Welcome, or Mother's League?—No.

Causes of any excessive Infant Mortality in 1915.—None.

VITAL STATISTICS.—Please attach the L.G.B. Tables.

Births during 1915—Males, 63; Females, 72; total 135.

Deaths during 1915—(1) Gross Deaths, *i.e.*, total actually registered in the district without any correction.—111; (2) Nett deaths on which the rates are calculated—Males, 66; Females, 45; total, 111.

No. of uncertified deaths (included above).—None.

MISCELLANEOUS.

What Mortuary accommodation—

(a) for accidents.—None.

(b) for infectious cases other than at hospital.—None.

No. of Burial Grounds.—14.

Any need for extension?—Burton Leonard.

SANITARY STAFF.

What is the present Annual Salary of the M.O.H.?—£100.

Name of Sanitary Inspector—William Lupton; annual salary as Inspector, £120; other appointments held—Surveyor and Building Inspector; salary for such other appointments, £65.

Any Assistants?—One.

Is Staff sufficient?—Yes.

SUPPLEMENTARY REMARKS.—See body or Report.

SUMMARY OF HOUSING WORK DURING 1915.

No. of Houses inspected under Sec. 17 of 1909 Act.—338.

No. found unfit for habitation.—None.

No. of representations made with a view to making closing orders.—None.

General character of defects found.—Slighty sanitary or structural.

Obstructive Buildings.—Any building represented by M.O.H. under section 38 (1) of 1890 Act? No.

Any scarcity of houses, if so, where? Burton Leonard, Killng-hall, and Follifoot.

Any overcrowding of persons in houses, and where? No.

Number of new houses built during 1915 (*a*) Working-class dwellings.—3; (*b*) Other. 4.

Any working-clas dwellings erected during 1915 by Sanitary Authority.—No.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, AND WORK PLACES—

Inspections, 36.

REGISTERED WORKSHOPS—

Factories (including Factory Laundries), 17.

Work Places (including Workshop Laundries), 12.

Domestic Workshops, 5.

Retail Bakehouses, 2.

Other Workshops, 36.

Total number of Workshops on Register, 72.

