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Contributors

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KNARESBOROUGH
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



MEDICAL OFFICER'S
Annual Report,

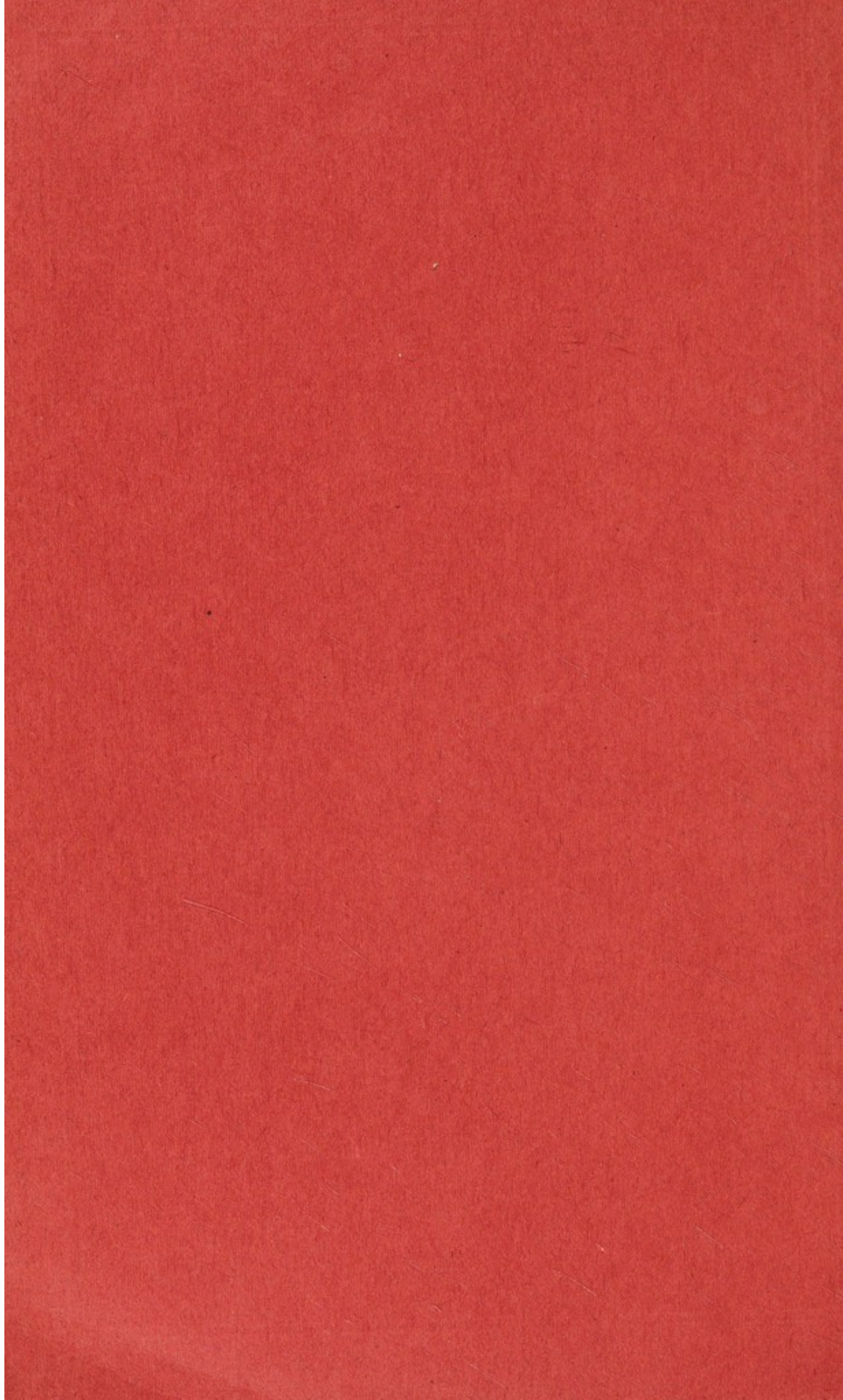
FOR THE

Year ended December 31st, 1925.

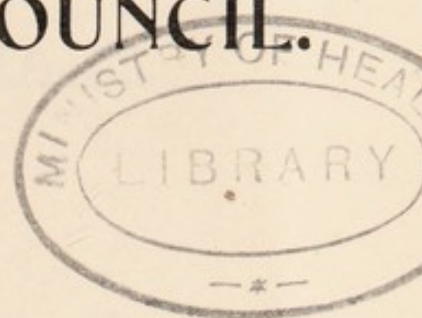
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KNARESBOROUGH
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



Medical Officer's Annual Report

For the Year ending Dec. 31st, 1925.

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

KNARESBOROUGH,

July 16th, 1926.

MADAM, GENTLEMEN,

I herewith beg to lay before you a report upon the health and sanitary condition of your district during the year 1925.

This report also incorporates the Sanitary Inspector's report, and an account of the housing improvements, accomplished during the year.

I am, Madam, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

IAN D. MACKAY, B.A., M.B., C.M.,

Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT.

General Statistics.

Area (acres)	646.
Population (estimated)	5,600.
Number of Inhabited Houses	1,620.
Rateable Value	£26,768.
Sum represented by a 1d. rate	£105.

Vital Statistics.

	Deaths.	Male.	Female.
All Causes	36	51	
Influenza	1	3	
Scarlet Fever	—	1	
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	1	
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	3	8	
Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	1	
Cancer	6	8	
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	3	6	
Heart Disease	1	7	
Arterio-sclerosis (Diseases of Blood Vessels)... ..	1	1	
Bronchitis	4	2	
Pneumonia (all forms)	3	—	
Diabetes	—	2	
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	2	—	
Suicide	1	—	
Violence	2	—	
Total number of Deaths	87		
Death rate per 1,000 of the population per annum	15.3		
Deaths under 1 year of age	4		
Rate of Infant Mortality per 1,000 births registered	40		
Rate for England and Wales	75		
	Births.	Male.	Female.
Total	50	49	
Legitimate	47	47	
Illegitimate	3	2	
Birth rate per 1,000 of the population	17.6		
For England and Wales	18.3		



Infectious Diseases.

DISEASE.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.
Small Pox	—	—
Scarlet Fever	7	7
Diphtheria	3	3
Enteric Fever	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—
Puerpera Fever	—	—
Pneumonia	4	—
Ophthalmia Neanatorum	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	1	—

Tuberculosis.

AGE.	NEW CASES.			
	PULMONARY.		NON-PULMONARY	
	M	F	M	F
1	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	1	—
15	—	2	—	—
20	—	—	—	—
25	—	1	—	—
35	1	1	—	—
45	2	1	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—

Consideration of the above tables, show that Cancer, Tubercle, and diseases of the Heart and Blood Vessels are still responsible for the majority of deaths. There is a satisfactory diminution in the number of those due to Influenza, Bronchitis, and Pneumonia.

While, with the exception of one due to Scarlet Fever, there is a complete absence of deaths due to any of the ordinary Zymotic diseases.

Infant Mortality.—Deaths under one year of age is very satisfactorily reduced from 107·1 per 1,000 births, for last year, to only 40 per 1,000 births, the rate for England and Wales being 75. This improvement, great and satisfactory, points to a better sanitary condition of the town, better housing, better supply of milk, and to the good work done by the Infant Welfare Clinic.

Details of Sanitary Administration, incorporating Nuisance Inspector's Report.

Total number of Inspections made in 1925, for nuisances only	...	...	...	...	...	210
Nuisances reported in 1925	...	...	...	...	...	60
Nuisances in hand at end of 1924	...	...	...	...	...	5
Total Nuisances requiring abatement	...	...	...	...	...	65
Nuisances abated during 1925	...	...	...	...	...	58
Nuisances outstanding at end of 1925	...	...	...	...	...	7
Informal Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	60
Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	3
Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	56

No legal proceedings were required.

One filthy house was cleansed.

One notice was served under Sec. 46 of P.H.A., 1875.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are three in the district. All three are registered, and they were inspected thirty-six times, and were found to be kept in good condition.

Offensive Trades.

None carried on in the district.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The new developments in 1925 were in Stockwell Road and High Bond End.

Requirements are, new sewers for Crag Top Estate.

No defective sewers had to be renewed. There was no sewer inadequacy, except as already stated, and no complaints were received. There are still some sink wastes needing disconnection.

There are no privies with open middens. There are three privies with covered middens. With this exception all houses have water closets.

Four privies were re-constructed as W.C.'s in 1925. Two W.C.'s were provided as additional closets for old property.

In 1925 fifty-seven new W.C.'s were constructed for new houses. No closets of any other kind were constructed.

The sewage is treated at the Council's Sewage Works, about a mile from the town.

Scavenging.

This was, as before, carried out by the Council's servants and carts, and the material deposited at the Council's tip, outside the town, 1873 loads being so disposed of. The whole district was scavenged weekly.

There is no destructor, and no utilization of waste material.

Water Supply.

This is obtained from Harrogate, and is both in quality and quantity, excellent.

The only developments during 1925 being—Supply to the new building estates.

Milk Supply.

A Register for Retailers, and one for Cowkeepers and Wholesale Traders, are kept, as required by Sect. 2 (3) of 1922 Milk and Dairies Act.

There are three cow-keepers in the district, producing and selling milk, and all three are registered.

There are three retail milk sellers who are also cow-keepers.

There are fifteen milk retailers only.

Eighteen milk sellers are registered.

There are four cowsheds in the district. These received a total of 132 inspections, viz., cowkeepers, 48; retailers, 84. No legal action was called for as a result of these inspections.

Under the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, one licence for Grade A (Tuberculin tested) Milk was granted. No licences were granted, or applied for, for Certified "Grade A," "Grade A Pasteurised," or "Pasteurised" milk. No samples of Graded milk were tested. No samples were taken by S.A. Officer for analysis under the F. and D. Acts, nor for bacteriological examination. This is urgently called for, for the better control of the milk supply in the future.

Slaughter Houses.

As stated in previous reports, the best of these leave much to be desired, both as to structure and position, and some are quite unsuited for the purpose, in addition to the fact that with so many slaughter houses a staff of inspectors would be needed to make proper inspections of the meat prepared for human food.

The question of a public abattoir has again engaged your attention on more than one occasion during the year, but owing to the great technical difficulties and expense the matter has not reached fruition.

Factories and Workshops.

There are 43 of these in the district, and each was inspected four times, making a total of 172 inspections.

Byelaws and Regulations in force in the District.

						Approved.
Cleansing of Footways and Pavements	...					Nov. 4th, 1889.
Scavenging	...	...	...	...	...	" "
Prevention of Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	" "
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	...	" "
New Streets and Buildings	...	...	...	...	...	May 26th, 1925
Alteration of Buildings	...	...	...	...	...	" "
Slaughter Houses	...	...	...	...	...	Nov. 4th, 1889.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

This clinic is carried on by the M.O. and Nurse of the County Council, assisted by voluntary help. It is of increasing popularity and consequent benefit, as perhaps reflected in the very much lessened infant mortality rate.

Hospital Accommodation.

The hospital attached to the Institution in Stockwell Road provides accommodation for many cases. Harrogate hospital provides surgical and other special treatment for many cases. The General hospitals of York and Leeds take some cases.

The Joint Isolation Hospital on Forest Moor, provides accommodation for Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, and Typhoid cases, and a small branch of this hospital on Killinghall Moor accommodates cases of Small Pox.

Rheumatic and Skin Diseases receive special treatment at the Royal Bath Hospital, Harrogate.

Nursing is supplied by a District Nurse, the expenses of which are supplied mainly by public subscription.

There are also two nursing homes in the town which take in patients and supply nurses to visit when required.

Ambulance is catered for by an up-to-date Ambulance, furnished by public subscription, the collection of which funds was largely due to the initiation of the Superintendent and local police force, assisted by the special constables.

This Ambulance can be obtained at any time for the payment of a reasonable charge, and has already proved itself very useful.

Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic.

This is carried on by the Medical Officer and Nurse appointed by the County Council, assisted by several voluntary helpers.

The attendance of both expectant mothers and babies steadily increases, and the work gains in appreciation.

As mentioned in another part of this report, I think we must attribute the great reduction in infant death-rate largely to the good work done at this clinic.

Summary of Housing Work.

Total number of Houses inspected and recorded...	...	50
Houses found satisfactory ... ..	...	19
Houses needing further action ... ..	...	31

Houses not reasonably fit.

Houses found with defects ... ..	...	31
Houses removed without formal notice	—	
Houses in regard to which formal notices were served	—	
Houses made fit after formal notice	—	
Houses in which Council executed work in default of owner	—	
Houses in regard to which owner elected to close instead of complying with notice	—	

Unfit Houses.

Houses found totally unfit ... ..	...	31
Houses closed voluntarily	—	
Unfit houses remedied without formal notice	—	
Houses represented to the Council for closing orders	31	
Houses in respect of which closing orders were made	31	
Houses closed after service of closing order	6	
Houses made fit, and closing order determined by Council	—	
Houses demolished voluntarily	2	
Houses for which demolition orders were made by Council	—	
Houses demolished compulsorily	—	

Appeals.

Appeals against notices under Sect. 28, 1919; Section 10, 1923, or Section 3, 1925	—	
Appeals against closing orders under Section 17, 1909; Section 14 (4), 1925	2	
Appeals under Section 17 (6), 1909, or Section 11 (6) 1925	2	
Appeals against demolition orders, Section 16, 1909; Section 14, 1925	—	

Houses with defects not disposed of at end of 1925.

Houses not reasonably fit for habitation	} All to be re-inspected in 1926.
Houses with minor defects	
Houses totally unfit	

Total number of Houses in the district	...	...	1,620
Number of working-class houses	...	...	—

General standard of Houses compared with that of the Ministry of Health is in many cases bad. Houses are old and in bad general repair. Sculleries, food storage, waste sinks, and wash houses, conspicuous by their absence.

Unhealthy Areas.—

The two that previously existed have been cleared.

Reconstruction Scheme.—

No such scheme has been prepared under Sec. 39, 1890. or Part II. of 1925 Act. No action was required as penalty on re-letting houses ordered to be closed, as none were re-occupied.

Scarcity of Houses exists in whole district.

Overcrowding of Houses in Briggate and Windsor Lane districts.

Activity in House Building obtains on Crag Top, Scriven Lane, and High Bondend, but not working-class houses.

State-aided Housing Scheme.—

(A) Scheme under 1919 Act.—No houses were erected either by the Council or by Private Builders' subsidy.

(B) Scheme under 1923 Act.—Council have propounded a scheme under this Act for Subsidy Houses only, and a scheme for 24 Subsidy Houses has been submitted to the Ministry of Health for, and has received their approval.

Assistance to private individuals has been given by lump sums to the amount of £100.

Scheme C, under 1924 Act.—

Twenty-eight houses have been provisionally, and specifically approved, by the Ministry.

Twenty-four houses have been completed "under special conditions."

No houses have been purchased with the approval of the Ministry.

Town Planning.—

The Council have not joined any Regional Town Planning Committee.

The Council have contemplated a scheme for Crag Top district, but the scheme has not yet been finally approved by the Ministry.

IAN D. MACKAY,

Medical Officer of Health.



