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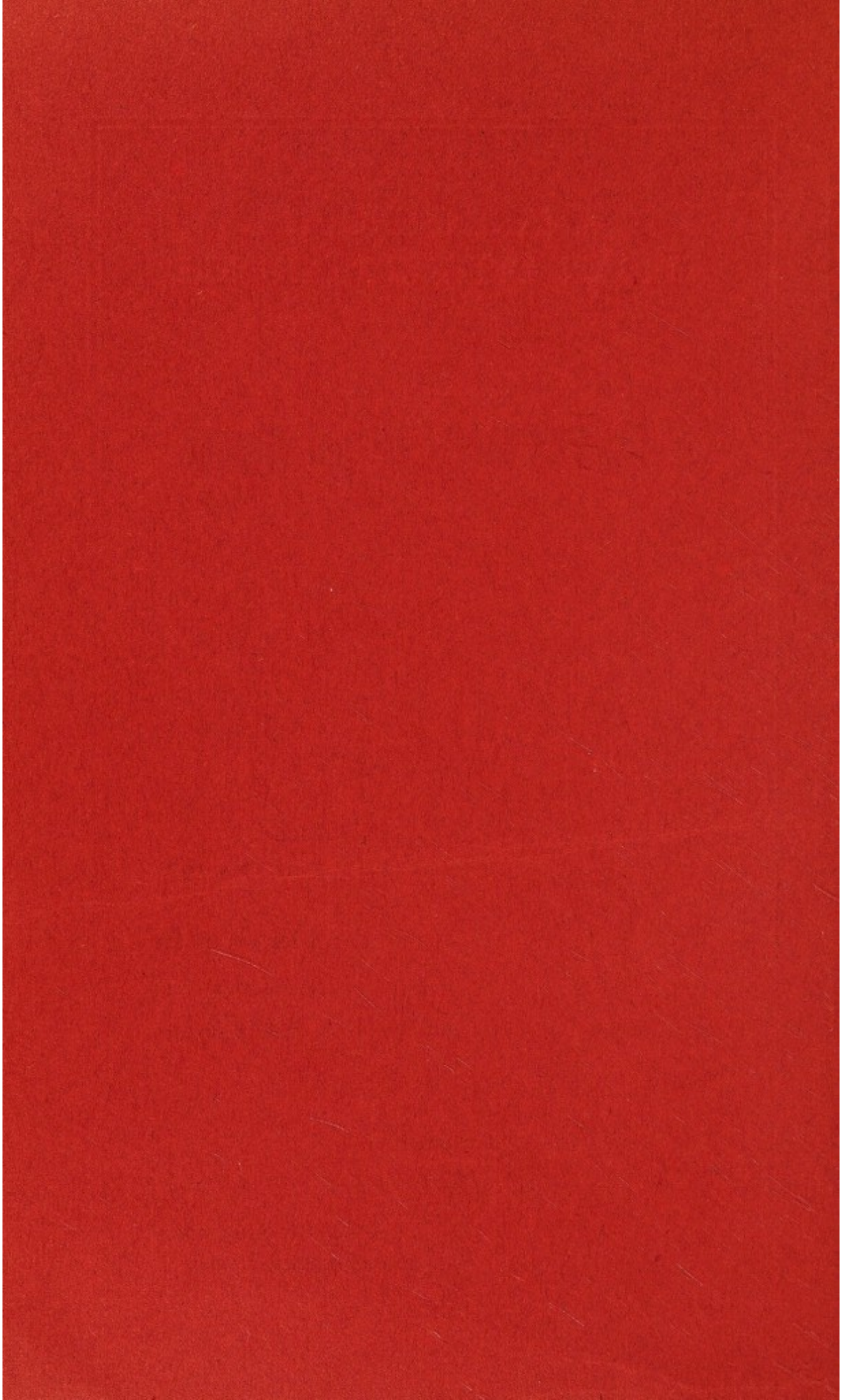
MEDICAL OFFICER'S  
ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE  
Year Ended 31st December, 1937.

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KNARESBOROUGH  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



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**Medical Officer's Annual Report**

For the Year Ended December 31st, 1937.

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

KNARESBOROUGH.

June 15th, 1938.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for your district for the year 1937. With this is incorporated the Sanitary Inspector's report.


I am Ladies, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. F. DOBSON, M.B., D.P.H.

*Medical Officer of Health.*





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# ANNUAL REPORT.

Medical Officer of Health ... D. F. DOBSON, M.B., D.P.H.  
 Medical Officer to the Joint Isolation Hospital  
 G. C. ROBINSON, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.I.  
 Sanitary Inspector ... .. E. PREST

## Section A.—Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (acres) ... ..	609
Registrar-Gen's estimate of resident population, 1937	6,221
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1937)...	1,869
Rateable Value ... ..	£38,589
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ... .	£176

The area is mainly agricultural and residential.

There are a number of small industries in the town including a linen mill, an aerated water factory and shirt, gown and sports clothing factories.

Unemployment exists to a moderate extent.

### Extracts from the vital statistics of the year.

		Totals		Male		Female		
Live Births	{	Legitimate, 91	97	50	47	}	Birth rate per 1,000	
		Illegitimate, <u>6</u>					of the estimated resi- dent population 15.5	
Still Births...		...	6	1	5		Rate per 1,000 of all births ... .. 61.8	
Deaths		...	85	41	44		Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resi- dent population 13.6	

Note—The Comparable Death Rate is 11.0.

Deaths from diseases and accidents)	from sepsis	...	<i>nil</i>
of pregnancy and child birth	... ) „ other causes	...	<i>nil</i>
Death rate from Puerperal Sepsis per 1,000 total births		...	<i>nil</i>
Death rate from other Puerperal Causes		...	...
per 1,000 total births		...	<i>nil</i>
Death rate of infants under one year of age :—			
All infants per 1,000 live births		...	61.8
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births...		...	54.9
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births		...	166.6
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)		...	10
Deaths from Measles (all ages)		...	<i>nil</i>
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)		...	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)		...	<i>nil</i>



The comparable death rate is slightly below that for England and Wales and is exceeded by the birth rate.

The largest individual causes of deaths were heart disease, cerebral hæmorrhage, and cancer.

There is no apparent evidence that unemployment has exercised any significant influence on the health or physique of children or adults.

**Section B.—Health Services for the Area.**

The Harrogate Infirmary continues to supply most of the Medical and Surgical treatment in cases requiring admission to Hospital.

The Bath Hospital, Harrogate, renders specialised treatment in cases of rheumatism and skin diseases.

The Joint Isolation Hospital on Forest Moor takes care of cases of scarlet fever, diphtheria, and enteric fever, while a small Hospital on Killinghall Moor is always kept ready for the reception of cases of small pox.

Hospital provision for the area is regarded as adequate.

The Ambulance facilities are adequate and remain as before, the Ambulance maintained in Knaresborough being administered by a Joint Ambulance Committee of the Knaresborough Urban and Rural Councils.

No new Clinics or Treatment Centres have been opened in Knaresborough during the year.

**Section C.—Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.**

**Water.**

The supply of water from Harrogate has been excellent in quantity and quality; no analysis has been made or required by this Authority during the year.

**Public Cleansing.**

The dry house refuse is collected in covered motor lorries and disposed of at the Council's tip.



### Factories and Workshops.

The factories and workshops were inspected 226 times ; 2 nuisances under the Public Health Acts were found and remedied.

### Sanitary Inspection of Area.

Total number of inspections made for nuisances only...	208
Number of nuisances found ... ..	52
Number of nuisances in hand at end of 1936 ....	6
Number of nuisances abated during 1937 ... ..	54
Number outstanding at end of 1937 ... ..	4
Number of informal notices served ... ..	52
Number complied with ... ..	48
Formal notices .... ..	<i>nil</i>

### Smoke Abatement.

Number of observations—*nil*; cautions—*nil*.

Number of legal notices—*nil*; summonses—*nil*.

### Shops.

No legal action has been taken under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934. Informal action has been taken in some cases.

### Premises and Occupations Controlled by Bye-Laws and Regulations.

Number of common lodging houses ... ..	3
Number of inspections ... ..	36

These are stone buildings, the ceilings rather low, but kept in clean satisfactory condition

Number of workshops—19, each inspected 8 times.

### Baths or Pools.

There are no swimming baths or pools open to the public in the area.

### Schools.

The sanitary condition, water supply, etc., of all schools is satisfactory. The 3 Elementary Schools were closed for influenza in January.



### Section D.—Housing.

The building of 51 Council Houses was begun during the year and progress was made in the demolition of condemned houses.

A large number (65) of houses were erected by private enterprise during the year.

#### Housing Statistics.

##### I.—Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year.

1. Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	32
2. Number of houses inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	32
3. Total number of inspections made	96
4. Number of dwelling houses needing further action	32
(a) Number unfit for human habitation	32
(b) Number not reasonably fit for human habitation	<i>nil</i>

##### II.—Remedy of defects without service of formal notice.

Number of defective houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	1
--	---

##### III.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A. Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 & 23, Housing Act, 1930.	
(i.) Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repair	8
(ii.) Number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices...	8
(a) By Owners	8
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	<i>nil</i>

*B.*—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- |  |        |            |
|--|--------|------------|
| (i.) Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | ... .. | <i>nil</i> |
| (ii.) Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice...        |        |            |
| (a) By Owners  | ... .. | <i>nil</i> |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners  | ... .. | <i>nil</i> |

*C.*—Proceedings under Sections 19—21 of the Housing Act, 1930.

- |   |        |            |
|---|--------|------------|
| 1. No. of representations made in respect of dwelling houses unfit for habitation | ... .. | 32         |
| 2. No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made         | ... .. | 11         |
| 3. No. of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition orders                     | ... .. | 8          |
| 4. No. of houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted from owners—      |        | <i>nil</i> |
| (a) To render houses fit for human habitation                                     | ... .. | <i>nil</i> |
| (b) As to usage other than for human habitation                                   | ... .. | <i>nil</i> |

*D.*—Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930, or Section 84 of the Housing Act, 1935.

- |   |        |            |
|---|--------|------------|
| 1. No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing orders were made  | ... .. | <i>nil</i> |
| 2. No. of separate tenements or underground rooms closed in pursuance of Closing orders   |        | <i>nil</i> |
| 3. No. of separate tenements or underground rooms the Closing orders in respect of which were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | ... .. | <i>nil</i> |

- IV.*—Overcrowding. Number of houses found to be overcrowded at end of year
- |   |        |     |
|---|--------|-----|
| 1. No. of families therein                                  | ... .. | 11  |
| 2. No. of persons therein                                   | ... .. | 72  |
| 3. No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year... | ... .. | 20  |
| 4. No. of persons concerned                                 | ... .. | 144 |

No case of overcrowding has occurred again after abatement.



**Section E.—Inspection and Supervision of Food.****Milk.**

All cowsheds and dairies have been inspected regularly. The premises have been found in a very satisfactory condition. The cows are properly groomed and washed before milking, and all the milk has been produced under clean conditions. Two licences were granted during the year for Grade A (T.T.) Milk.

**Meat and Other Foods.**

Bakehouses have been kept in a clean and sanitary condition.

As previously reported, two slaughter-houses are old registered slaughter-houses in bad positions and surrounded by dwelling houses.

All are kept clean.

Three carcasses of beasts were wholly condemned, also three carcasses of pigs and two of sheep and lambs.

**Section F.—Infectious Disease.**

Scarlet Fever was very prevalent during the year.

No vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health Regulations, 1917.

Under arrangements made by the County Council a number of children were immunised against diphtheria by the Medical Officer of Health during the year; No case of diphtheria has occurred: the case notified proving to be non-diphtheritic.

Dwelling-houses have been disinfected after cancer cases and on one or two occasions for vermin.

The usual rat week occurred during the year.

### Incidence of Notifiable Diseases during the Year.

DISEASE.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Small Pox ...	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	19	19	—
Diphtheria ...	1	1	—
Enteric Fever ...	1	—	—
Puerperal Fever ...	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	3	—	—
Pneumonia ...	2	—	—
Other Diseases generally notifiable			
Erysipelas ...	1	—	—
Other Diseases locally notifiable ...	<i>nil</i>		

### Analysis of Cases under Age Groups.

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Erysipelas
0	—	—	—	—	—
1-2	1	—	—	—	—
2-3	—	—	—	—	—
3-4	1	—	—	—	—
4-5	1	—	—	—	—
5-10	10	—	—	—	—
10-15	1	—	—	—	—
15-20	2	1	—	—	—
20-35	3	—	3	—	1
35-45	—	—	—	1	—
45-65	—	—	—	1	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—
	19	1	3	2	1



## Prevention of Blindness.

No action was taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, with reference to blindness.

### Tuberculosis.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1937.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	PULMONARY.		NON-PULMONARY.		PULMONARY.		NON-PULMONARY	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	...	...	...	I	I	...	...	...
15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20	2	...	...	...	I	...	...	I
25	I	...	...	...	I	...	...	...
35	I	...	...	...	I	...	...	...
45	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	...
55	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...
65 and upwards	...	..	...	...	...	..	...	..
TOTALS	5	...	...	I	4	...	I	I

The deaths from tuberculosis were mostly in notified cases, notification in the area is efficient.

*D. F. DOBSON, M.B., D.P.H.,*

*The Medical Officer of Health for the  
Urban District of Knaresborough.*

*June, 1938.*











