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**Contributors**

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KNARESBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st 1942.

D.F.Dobson, M.B. D.P.H.  
Medical Officer of Health.

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Report of Medical Officer of Health  
for Year ended December 31st, 1942.

To the Chairman & Members of the Knaresborough  
Urban District Council.

Ladies & Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for 1942 which, in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, is brief and confined to changes in the conditions affecting the health of the Town, and to any special occurrence of disease. The observations of the Sanitary Inspector have been included in the Report.

I am, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D.F. Dobson.

Medical Officer of Health.

## POPULATION.

The Registrar General's estimate of the resident population for 1942 is 8,029. To this must be added a number of evacuated persons and workers temporarily residing in the Town.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

Births numbered 137, giving a birthrate of 17.0 per 1,000 of the population.

Deaths numbered 106; giving a deathrate of 13.2 per 1,000 of the population.

The infantile deathrate under one year of age was 39.3 per 1,000 live births.

## EVACUATION.

The number of evacuated mothers and children has diminished to such an extent that they no longer constitute a sanitary difficulty. Those who remain appear to have been absorbed in the resident population.

The two Hostels have continued their work during the year.

## HOUSING.

There has been no housing development during the year: recording and inspection of houses is not taking place, but it is clear that a considerable housing programme will be necessary when conditions permit.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Infectious disease has again been prevalent during the year.

93 cases of measles occurred mainly in the early months, there were no deaths from this disease.

There have been no cases of poliomyelitis, but one case of cerebro-spinal fever has occurred.

There were 20 cases of scarlet fever and 16 cases of diphtheria. The cases of diphtheria occurred mainly in the same months.

Systematic immunisation against diphtheria was continued during the year, the results were satisfactory and a high level of immunisation has been attained.

The number of cases of tuberculosis notified during the year was less than the number for the preceding year, but remains larger than the figure for the pre-war years.

There has been a remarkable diminution of the number of cases of scabies. It is thought that this is partly due to the widespread use of Benzyl Benzoate for treatment.

#### AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS.

There have been considerable administrative difficulties during the year, but every effort has been made to maintain the efficiency of the service.

#### SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

No alteration in the sewage disposal works was made during the year.

#### SCOTTON MOOR DRAINAGE.

With the advice of the Ministry of Health a temporary scheme has been put into operation and the result has been highly satisfactory.

GENERAL.

Sanitary inspection of the District is carried out fairly well in spite of difficulties due to additional work, and on the whole the sanitary circumstances are satisfactory.

D.F.Dobson.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.





