

## FORECAST

Some ninety million Americans go about their daily chores at the office, at home or at school suffering from one or another kind of sore feet, ranging from mild disorders like calluses to serious deformities like fallen arches. A part of the national foot-ache can be traced to ill-fitting shoes, but the major responsibility rests squarely on the sufferers themselves. The shocking extent of the public's vanity and ignorance about shoes is revealed in "Worst Foot Forward," by Robert Maris, in the March HYGEIA.

National defense boom towns in nineteen states and the Territory of Hawaii will shortly have much needed additional hospital facilities under plans now being carried out by the federal government. Providing for about 2,500 new patients a day, the government's hospital construction program is described by E. K. Gubin in "Hospital Facilities for Boom Towns."

*Back in 1933, four small boys—brothers—and their mother shut themselves into an apartment in a voluntary quarantine which has had far-reaching effects in the elimination of one of the most dreaded diseases of childhood. The experiment was to prove, once and for all, that whooping cough is caused solely by the pertussis bacillus, and that it can be prevented by injections of a powerful vaccine.*

Louis W. Sauer, M.D., tells the story of this and other experiments in "Whooping Cough Joins the Preventables."

Why do most families resist instinctively when it is proposed that an autopsy be performed? Does an autopsy mutilate the body? Is the procedure contrary to religious precepts? Is it really important to scientific progress in medicine? Is it gruesome? These and other oft-recurring questions about autopsies are discussed in "They Shall Not Die in Vain," by R. M. Cunningham, Jr.

If war should bring disaster to your community, would you be able to help with the injured? If some one in your family were to fall from a stepladder and break a leg, or cut a finger severely with a bread knife, or tip over a saucepan of boiling water, would you know what to do—or what not to do?

"Do You Know Your First Aid?" by Katherine F. Wells, presents an ingenious test which will give you some idea of the accuracy of your present knowledge and judgment—and probably improve them!

# HYGEIA

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