

It should be remembered that conditions pertaining to bathing water are different from those relating to drinking water. Many persons swallow little or no water while swimming. This is particularly true if it contains salt. Under such circumstances, the danger of epidemics of typhoid fever or dysentery from swimming is much less than from drinking water from a polluted supply. There may be an occasional or sporadic case of typhoid fever from bathing, but epidemics are comparatively rare.

#### Carelessness

The great danger at bathing places is not due to bacteria but to lack of thought and carelessness. At least 95% of the deaths, injuries and illnesses associated with swimming are unnecessary. If pool killers were highly efficient, the tragedies of bathing beaches, summer outings, and vacations would be negligible. Until we can discover a serum which will give people caution and foresight, we must continue to expect many accidents, infections, and illnesses connected with water. Even if there were such a preventive we would still have to deal with anti-vaccinationists who would refuse to be protected.

The old swimming hole of happy memory is gone. It is now a bathing beach. Park pools have taken a graduate course and have become emporiums of natation. The old teacher of diving reappears as an artist of contortion. It is no longer good taste to speak of swimmers. The Emily Post of bathing beaches insists that the proper word is aquacade. Swimming is both big business and superspecialization. Bathing places are located by commercial strategists, designed by architects, built by engineers, adorned by artists, supervised by sanitary chemists, and checked by bacteriologists. They are overwhelmed by salesmen, cosmeticians, suit designers, crooners, and students of anatomy. Swimming is truly the King of Sports and the Sport of Queens.