

Radio Program
May 4, 1939

Physical Education for Health

"SWIMMING AND AQUATIC SAFETY"
(Mr. Herbert G. Allphin and Mr. Raymond Schlotterbeck)

Allphin Mr. Schlotterbeck, what is your official position with the American Red Cross?

Schlotterbeck My official position with the American Red Cross is that of First Aid and Life Saving Field Representative for the states of Kansas and Missouri. My particular responsibility is the training of first and and life saving instructors for local chapters and for promoting all of the safety activities of the Red Cross within the chapters of the two states. Maintenance of standards of instruction and program is also a part of my work.

Allphin You mentioned the safety work of the Red Cross. Just why is the Red Cross engaged in safety work and what part does your organization play in the safety field?

Schlotterbeck The American Red Cross as chartered by Congress in 1905 is charged with the responsibility "to continue and carry on a system of national and international relief in time of peace and to apply the same in mitigating the suffering caused by pestilence, famine, fire, floods and other great national calamities, and to devise and carry on measures of preventing the same." As a part of the prevention program in attempting to carry out this charge, the Red Cross has devised First Aid training courses, Swimming and Life Saving courses, a system of Emergency Highway First Aid Stations, a program of home and farm accident prevention, and courses in home hygiene and care of the sick. Thru these educational programs the Red Cross hopes to prevent and alleviate human suffering.

Allphin What is the nature of your work here, and how long do you expect to stay in Lawrence.

Schlotterbeck The purpose of my visit to Lawrence is to conduct a Water Safety Instructor Training Course for the training of teachers of Red Cross swimming, life saving and water safety courses. This is part of our regular leadership training program designed to furnish local chapters with instructors to carry on the educational work of water safety within local chapters, camps, and other organizations interested in this type of program. I will be in Lawrence for two weeks completing this training course. We now have 15 instructors under training at the University pool.

Allphin It is my understanding that this year marks a change in the Red Cross approach to the accident prevention problem as it pertains to aquatics and swimming. Just why did the Red Cross find it necessary to make this change?