

by facts which indicate that the greater per cent of our drownings occur in unsupervised and unguarded areas. Modern swimming pool construction has made swimming as safe and pleasant as is possible by constructing safe diving structures, safe and regulated water depths, pure water, and sanitary provisions. Persons living in areas where such a swimming facility is available would do well to confine their activities to these areas rather than to seek out the lakes and streams isolated from supervision and protection. The "Old Swimming Home" that James Whitcomb Riley immortalized is a contributing factor to many fatalities among the young boys of our country.

Allphin Do you mean that you would limit all swimming to organized and public swimming pools?

Schlotterbeck Oh, by no means. Persons trained and skilled in swimming and who have the knowledge to wisely select the natural swimming places may safely swim most anywhere. But the novice and the untrained and unskilled would do well to remain under the watchful eye of persons trained to look out for their safety.

Allphin By skill for safety do you mean a person's ability to swim, or are there other skills necessary for safe participation in swimming?

Schlotterbeck Swimming is by all means the first and most important skill necessary for a person to acquire before participating in any form of aquatic sport. A survey conducted in the State of Minnesota, by the Minnesota Public Safety Committee, in 1931-35 definitely brings this out. These findings indicated that 60 per cent of those drowned during that period were non-swimmers; 26 per cent were novice swimmers; and only 14 per cent were listed as expert swimmers. This would indicate that a person in order to safely participate in any form of aquatic recreation should first of all "water-proof" himself by learning how to swim reasonably well. This is true even though he intends to limit his activities to fishing or boating.

Allphin Will you tell us something of the National Aquatic School which will be conducted in this area during the coming summer?

Schlotterbeck Eighteen years ago the First Aid and Life Saving Service of the Red Cross first developed a National Aquatic School for the purpose of training leaders and teachers in the art of teaching First Aid, Life Saving and its related subjects. This year there will be 17 such schools in the United States, five of which will be in the middle western states. The school to service this section of the country will be located at Rockaway Beach, Missouri, on Lake Taneycomo, near Branson, Missouri. The dates of the school are June 11-21. Enrollment in these schools is open to anyone in sound physical condition who is interested in teaching, First Aid, swimming, life saving, water safety, and boating or canoeing. The school at Rockaway Beach will offer a course in accident prevention primarily designed for those who are interested only in teaching First Aid and in studying its related field, the general accident prevention program.

Allphin Thank you very much, Mr. Schlotterbeck, for appearing on this broadcast. We are enjoying your work here, and wish you success.