

PHYSICAL EDUCATION FOR HEALTH

Radio Program

April 20, 1939

("Public Swimming Pool Conference"- Mr. Earnest Boyce and Mr. Herbert G. Allphin.)

- Allphin Perhaps some of our radio friends would like to know something about the public swimming pool conference which will be held here at the University during the next two days. In this connection, I would like to ask - does the University have any state service responsibility in connection with public swimming pools?
- Boyce Yes, the swimming pool regulations of the State Board of Health are administered through the Division of Sanitation of the State Board of Health. This Division consists of two University state services - the Sanitary Engineering Service, established in 1907, and the Water and Sewage Laboratory, in 1915. These services form a part of the State Service Work of the School of Engineering and Architecture here at K. U.
- Allphin How long has the State Board of Health had regulations governing public swimming pools, Mr. Boyce?
- Boyce The State Board of Health adopted swimming pool regulations in 1925. These followed in a general way the recommendations of a joint committee of the American Public Health Association, and the Conference of State Sanitary Engineers. This joint committee has been studying the problems of swimming pool sanitation for a great many years.
- Allphin Well, Mr. Boyce, just what are your responsibilities in connection with public swimming pools in Kansas?
- Boyce The State Board of Health regulations are largely advisory. In other words, we attempt to make available to municipalities and individuals interested in this form of recreational activity, all the factual data that we can obtain regarding good swimming pool sanitation. The state regulations require that the plans and specifications of proposed swimming pools be submitted for review by the Division of Sanitation. This gives an opportunity to call attention to design features which might be unsatisfactory from a safety or sanitary point of view. We regard this work as more of an educational program than a regulatory one.
- Allphin Do you condemn and require the closing of unsatisfactory public swimming pools?
- Boyce While the regulations provide that the local health officers of the State Board of Health may require that a pool be closed if, in the opinion of the health officer, the continued operation of the pool would create a health hazard, very few swimming pools have been closed by order of the State or local health officers. Many improvements have been made to public swimming pools as a result of recommend-