

the railway, roadway, and waterway is carefully examined. The condition of the houses with respect to age, dampness, dust, and vermin is taken into consideration; while the deficiency of rainfall, which was considerable in the years under consideration, the mean temperature in relation to the incidence of the disease considered month by month, the possible and most probable means of the spread of the disease by contagion—all receive attention. Of the possible factors involved the available evidence suggests that direct contagion by contact at large local gatherings or the presence in the house of biting insects are the most probable. The children in large institutions appear to have been singularly free from the disease. A consideration of the age incidence shows that out of 897 cases 600 occurred in children under 6 years of age, and 745 in children under 10, the mortality being least between the ages of 1 and 10. As a whole, boys were rather more affected than girls, but no marked degree of sex differentiation could be traced. An account is also given of the symptomatology and course of the disease, with tables showing the part of the body affected and the results left by the attack. About 25 per cent. of the cases examined after four years showed complete recovery. It had been shown by Osgood and Lucas that the virus remained in the naso-pharyngeal mucous membrane of the monkey when infected with the disease. Attempts were made upon 18 persons who had suffered from the disease to obtain evidence of the presence of the virus by taking washings of the mucous membrane of the nose, mouth, and pharynx; the results were negative, but for various reasons cannot be regarded as conclusive. Some degree of evidence was obtained, showing the probability of the occurrence of a slight leucocytosis in the early stages, but it is naturally difficult to get the cases in the very early stages. Further investigations were to be carried on on a larger scale, as a result of which further light upon this important subject may be hoped for. Meantime, the present report, which is illustrated by numerous diagrams and tables, is most interesting, and contains much valuable material. In a paper read before the Medical Officers of Schools'

Association by Dr. F. E. Batten on Nov. 8th last the question of the spread of infection of poliomyelitis by schools was fully discussed, and the conclusions arrived at were that the danger from this source was slight, though the possibility of such an occurrence should be carefully borne in mind by the responsible medical officers.

United States Notes.

At the recent Minnesota Conference of State Charities and Correction, Judge E. F. Waite of the Juvenile Court, Minneapolis, was elected president of the conference for the next year, and Minneapolis was chosen as the place of meeting, the time to be designated later by the Executive Committee. Other officers chosen: First Vice-President, G. A. Franklin, superintendent of the city schools, Austin; Second Vice-President, Mrs. C. G. Higbee, St. Paul; General Secretary, Miss Jean A. Poitier, Dublin; Enrolling Secretary, Otto W. Davis, assistant secretary of the Minneapolis Civic and Commerce Association. The following were named members of the Executive Committee: C. E. Vasaly, St. Paul, member of State Board of Control; Dr. H. M. Bracken, St. Paul, executive agent of the State Board of Health; Miss Caroline M. Crosby, resident director of Unity Settlement House, Minneapolis; Miss Grace Johnston, secretary of the Wilder Charities, St. Paul; Dr. Walter J. Marckley, Minneapolis; John J. O'Connor, secretary of the Associated Charities, Minneapolis.

The sanitary taxicab is the latest innovation in the trade, and is proving popular wherever it has been tried. A progressive taxicab company, operating in Chicago, has recently ordered a number of cabs equipped with removable upholstery. The cushions, seat backs and sides, instead of being tacked to the backs of the seats, are attached to boards, which in turn are keyed onto the body. They may be instantly removed and cleaned by sponge or vacuum in a short space of time after each trip. The car has proved so popular that the company is planning to put on a larger number of them.

The traveling public hereafter will have