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**WEEKLY HEALTH TALK FROM
STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

"There are many diseases that lend themselves to the efforts of state health departments. But, decidedly, whooping cough is not one of them. Its ability to spread is amazing; and this, in spite of every method adopted by officials to prevent it," said Dr. Theodore B. Appel, Secretary of Health, during the week. "Unfortunately, by far the major portion of parents are prone to view this childhood trouble as inevitable. And the attitude of 'the sooner they get it and get over it, the better' is a philosophy as general as it is unsound. It is true that many older children seem to suffer no noticeable consequences after having contracted this disease. But even in this class it is not infrequent that pneumonia or tuberculosis follows in its wake. "On the other hand, where very young children are concerned, it is extremely hazardous. Of the deaths from

whooping cough last year in Pennsylvania 93 per cent were found to be of children under 5 years of age. "It is perhaps owing to the lack of appreciation on the part of fathers and mothers as to the killing and crippling possibilities of this malady that its spread is always so rapid. "While it is out of the question to keep children from other young people, it is quite possible, on the other hand, to realize that a cold in the young may be a forerunner of whooping cough. A physician should therefore at once be consulted and the child kept away from other youngsters. It is at this time, usually prior to diagnosis, that the disease is highly contagious. Such a rule may seem a bit strict, but if it were followed, the whooping cough incidence would show a marked decline. "Too often doctors and health departments do not learn of the case until it is well defined and the child, by contact, has involved many others. And too frequently, neither the doctor nor the health department hears of the case at all, the parents disliking the quarantine. Both attitudes are careless and the latter is inexcusable, selfish and criminal. "Whooping cough is a mean enemy to fight, and without the whole hearted and intelligent co-operation of the older members of the family it will continue to do much damage. A child has a right to live. Don't deny it that privilege whether it is your own or your neighbor's because of carelessness or selfishness. If eventually whooping cough is to be removed from its present power, parents, and not health departments, will have to do it.

**BLAME MINOR ILLS FOR
HEAVY LOSSES IN STUDIES**

Over three thousand years of school life are lost annually to the pupils of Pennsylvania through illness, chiefly due to the so-called minor communicable diseases and the common cold, reported Dr. J. Bruce McCreary, chief of the bureau of child health. In commenting on the statement Dr. McCreary said, "Not only is absenteeism one of the penalties consequent on the mis-styled minor communicable diseases, but is one of the reasons for many child deaths. "There appears to be a false idea prevalent in the minds of the laity as to what is comprehended by the term of disease. Meningitis, pneumonia,

typhoid fever and diphtheria are properly classified as master killers, inasmuch as the number of deaths from these diseases is exceedingly high. On the other hand the minor diseases are responsible to a greater extent for the loss of life because of their tremendous prevalence. For example, during the first seven months of last year, measles killed six times as many young people as did typhoid fever, yet measles killed only one out of each hundred while typhoid killed one out of every five. "Moreover the minor diseases not only kill more people than the so-called major diseases, but they result in conditions which lead to pneumonia, bronchitis, bright's disease, tuberculosis, defective vision and hearing. "Dr. McCreary asserted that until the parents fully realize their personal obligation to control conditions that tend to destroy resistance to the communicable diseases, these diseases will continue to take their vast toll in death, resultant physical defects and absenteeism from school.

**BOARD URGES ANGLERS TO
KEEP AFTER BASS TILL END**

Reports are coming from various sections of Pennsylvania stating that the bass season is the best for some time. The clear and low water has made the fishing especially good in the early morning and late afternoon. The board of fish commissioners advises fishermen to set out a few more times before the close of the season. The recent good weather has assisted the board in the distribution of bass which has just been completed, and also in the construction of 100 daphniae ponds which will be used in connection with the propagation of bass. These ponds will furnish food for the young bass until they are sent of the hatcheries where they are held until they reach a size of from two to four inches.

QUARANTINE MANY.

A report submitted to Secretary of Health, Theodore B. Appel, this week, by Dr. Edgar S. Everhart, chief of the general disease division, showed that 290 patients are now under quarantine as public health menaces in the ten institutions situated throughout the state. These patients have been isolated because of neglect of treatment or because of food not leading directly to

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the spread of the disease. The report also said that 53 clinics are now in operation and are being supervised by the health department and that the attendance in these clinics during the last six months reached a total of 3,000.

PRINT PAMPHLETS ON PRODUCE.

Standard grades for apples, potatoes, wheat, peaches, grapes, cabbage, poultry flocks, hatcheries and baby chicks, have been established by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and made available to all interested parties in bulletin form. The compilation of these grades in a convenient 28 page publication for general distribution was prompted by the increasing interest in the grading and standardization of farm products among farmers, the bureau of markets explains.

Send us the little news items. It may not mean much to you but every little item makes this paper just a little bit better for all our readers.

Hoover Is Best Bet

The likelihood is that, under Herbert Hoover's direction, agriculture would achieve stabilization more quickly, more certainly, with fewer waste motions, and with less knocking and backfiring and gear-grinding than under the direction of any other human being.—*Minneapolis Tribune.*

Republican Unity Growing

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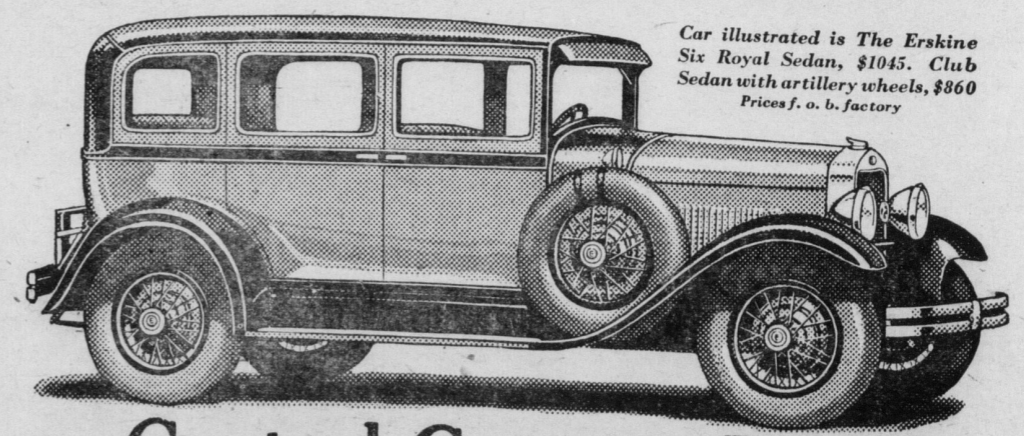
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