

Infantile Paralysis, On The Increase in N. C. Explained In Understandable Language

Durham, October 20.—On a monument to an Egyptian prince who lived and died centuries before the coming of Christ is inscribed a picture of a young man with a stiff leg and foot who holds his staff as though it were a crutch. Hippocrates, the father of medicine reported an epidemic that followed a hot and dry summer on the island of Tharos in which many were killed and more were left paralyzed. One hundred years ago a physician wrote that the only aid which could be given to children with paralyzed legs was a brace. These descriptions would seem to indicate that poliomyelitis, better known to us as polio or even more familiarly known as infantile paralysis, is a disease nearly as old as man. Yet 50 years ago polio was a sporadic disease in this country and it has been with us only two decades as a dread epidemic.

laboratories every minute of every day and yet it remains largely an elusive problem which belies solution. What we know about polio has been learned in the last 30 to 40 years, what we cannot cipher will probably take another decade or more of concentrated research.

What do you know about this dread disease? How much fact can you separate from fancy? Here are some salient factors which may clarify your concepts.


Observations made in recent years seem to indicate that poliomyelitis is on the increase both geographically and in the number of persons attacked. Parents are becoming more conscious of its threat to their children with each new year. Youngsters and young people also harbor a vague but very real fear of becoming victims. When an outbreak occurs these fears become multiplied. Chief contributor to this fear is the impression that permanent paralysis follows every attack of polio. This is not true. Not only are more deaths caused by, say, whooping cough each year than by polio but of those afflicted 50 percent recover completely; 25 to 30 percent suffer mild after effects; 15 to 20 percent have severe paralysis of varying degree and only from 5 to 10 percent die. Measles, scarlet fever and other childhood diseases take a far greater toll in lives than does polio.

In a year of serious epidemics about 1 in 10,000 people contract poliomyelitis; about 1 in 1,000 adults and 1 in 300 children under five in the epidemic area are stricken. In North Carolina the most severe epidemic was recorded in 1944 when 878 persons fell victims. Last year the total number of polio cases reported was 157. This year we have already passed last year's totals as the current figures, 171 reported cases as of October 10, will indicate. Here is an indication of the fatality percentage in the overall picture: in 1944 when we had 878 instances, there were only 44 deaths. The annual average

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will examine eyes and fit glasses in Sylva at the Carolina Hotel Friday, Oct. 24, from 9 o'clock to 4 o'clock.
If you have eye trouble or don't see well you should consult Dr. Downs on above date.

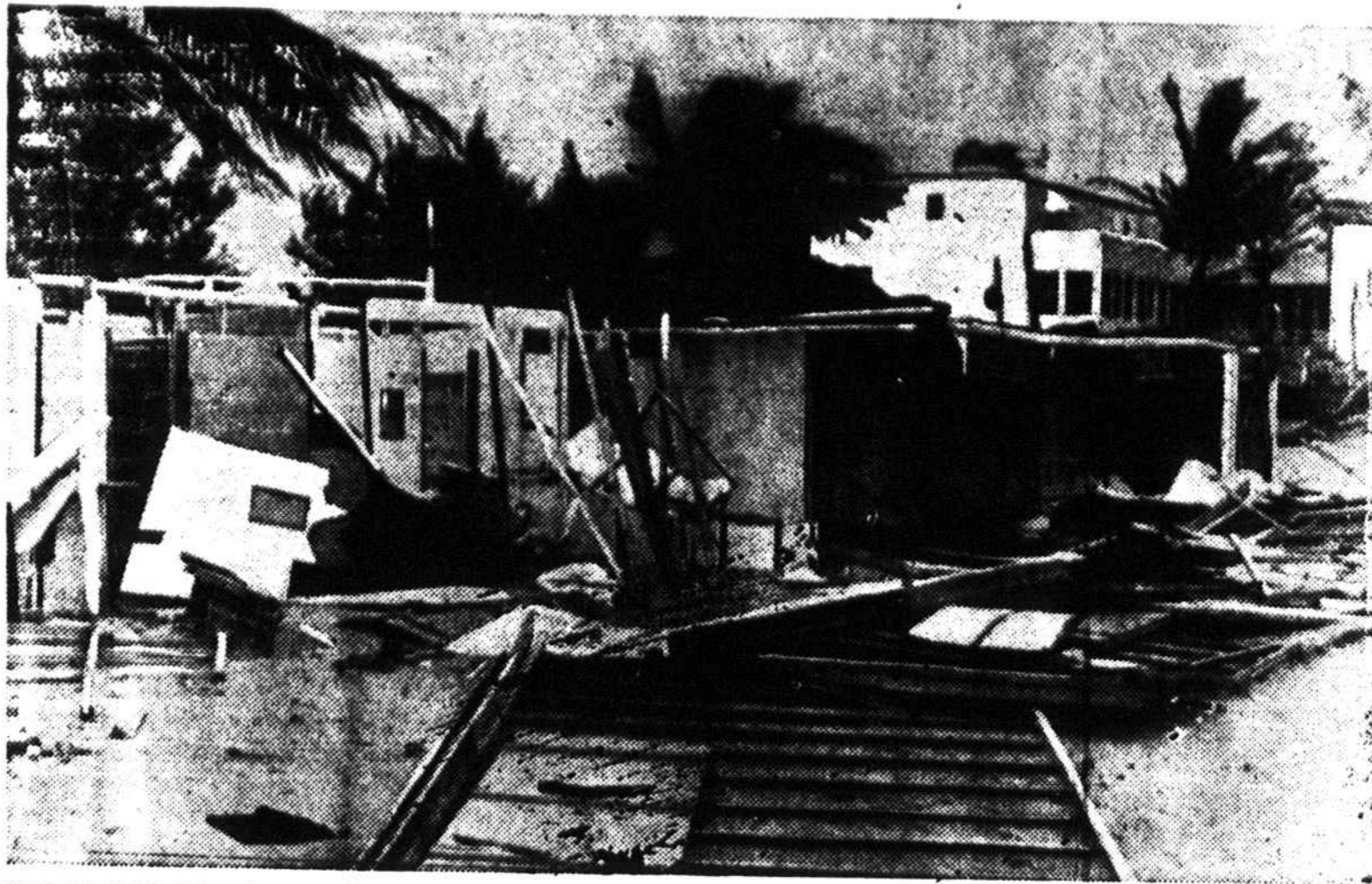
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WRECKED BY FREAK FLORIDA TROPICAL STORM



IN THE PATH OF THE FREAK HURRICANE which blew across Miami, Fla., and then swept on into the Atlantic, the Cabana Club (above) was completely wrecked. This was the second severe tropic storm to batter southern Florida in the past month. Two persons were killed and 2,000 were made homeless. (International)

WHITTIER NEWS
Mr. and Mrs. Athee Grinom and little daughter, Annette, and Mrs. Cleve Ledbetter of Asheville have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. Homer Turpin.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Wade Turpin of Pawhusk, Okla., a son, Ronald Gene. Mr. Turpin is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Turpin.

Mrs. Kenneth Joyner and Reeves Kitchen spent a few days with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kitchen.

Mr. and Mrs. Nath Bumgarner visited Mrs. Luther Hoyle, recently.

QUALLA NEWS
Mr. and Mrs. David Flinton and Mrs. L. B. Williams, of Charleston S. C. and Mrs. A. C. Reynolds and Miss Anne Cowan, of Sylva, and Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Bird called on Mr. J. K. Terrell Saturday afternoon.
Mr. Annie T. Hoyle and Miss Gertrude Ferguson attended the district teachers meeting in Asheville Friday, October 10.
Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Terrell of

Presbyterians To Have Business Meet
Rev. R. E. McClure, of Asheville, superintendent of the Home Mission Board of the Asheville Presbyterian, and Rev. M. R. Williams, vice-chairman of the board, of Waynesville, will come to Sylva Friday evening at 7:30 o'clock to meet with members and friends of the Presbyterian congregation to discuss the work here and the possibility of a full time pastor for the church. The meeting will be held in the Episcopal church.

Gardner-Webb College spent the week-end with Mr. J. K. Terrell.
Rev. O. E. Thorne was returned to the Whittier circuit of the Methodist church for the ensuing year.
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ezell, of Townsend, Tenn. called on Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Jenkins Sunday.

Mrs. Samuel E. Beck, of Cherokee, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Fred House.

Mr. and Mrs. Jess Blanton were the Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Estes Tolbert and family.

Mrs. Penn Keener, Miss Hester Owen, Mrs. Frank Cordell, and Mrs. Fred House called on Mr. and Mrs. Zell Stillwell and family Sunday.

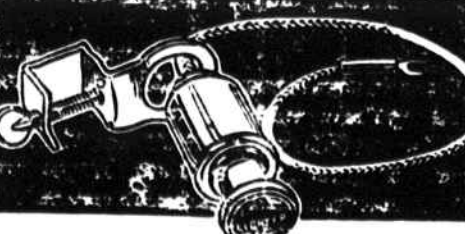
Mr. Herman Cooper of Gastonia spent the week-end with his family.

Mrs. Martha Rhinehardt of Swannanoa spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Oxner.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Crisp of Murphy spent the week-end here with relatives.

Mrs. Fred House and Mrs. Frank Cordell were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Dock Snyder and family and Mrs. Dora Davis on Monday.

Mrs. Bill Crisp spent Saturday with Mr. and Mrs. Webb Crisp.



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rate of incidence in North Carolina is 4.8 per 100,000.
There are three major types of polio: the abortive form, the non-paralytic form and the paralytic form. In the last category the types are again broken down into two divisions, spinal and bulbar. Spinal paralysis is the most common type of poliomyelitis and the one with which you are most likely familiar. It affects the arms and legs or the other skeletal muscles including the breathing muscles of the chest. Bulbar poliomyelitis is a rarer but more dangerous form which affects the muscles of the face, eyes, throat, and even the respiratory center. All these forms are the same disease, the only difference being in the location and extent of the damage.
What are the symptoms of polio? Headache is the most disturbing initial complaint. It is usually severe, unrelenting, and generalized. Fever is usually recorded in the first 24 hours although the temperature is most often moderate, not rising above 103 degrees. Other symptoms are nausea, vomiting, stiff neck and back, painful extremities and listlessness. Head colds, sore throats, and respiratory illness are not symptoms in themselves. Paralysis or weakness of the muscles is not an early symptom although a diagnosis of infantile paralysis can be established in 24 hours.
(To be continued)

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Boys And Girls From Cuba Students At WCTC

The W. C. T. C. campus has taken on a cosmopolitan air since the enrollment of six Cuban students. They are Guide Brite and Raul Marce, from Havana, and Margarita Gracia, Charles Gomez, Raul Gomez, and Enrigue Vicede, who come to us from Camaguey province.

These students have found a friend and counselor in the person of Mr. Clarence Chrisman, Professor of Spanish. Mr. Chrisman spent a month in Cuba this past summer visiting friends, among whom was Luis Larranaga, a former student at W. C. T. C. While in Havana, Mr. Chrisman met Miguel (Mike) Redriguez, another former student, and Lynwood Halliburton, who graduated last June and was attending the summer session at the University of Havana. Ralph Williams, a present sophomore, accompanied Mr. Chrisman during part of the trip.

Two more Cuban girls are expected to enroll in the near future, and many Cuban students have expressed their desire to come but have been rejected because of the limited dormitory accommodations.

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