



**SPEED CLOCK**

Modern aviation is about seven on the "clock" of present speed record summary. Eleven o'clock is about the most man can hope to do with planes of present designs, say experts.

**ALTITUDE GAGE**

How high can man fly with present type airplanes? The diagram above shows aircraft are now pretty near the "ceiling" around 61,000 feet.

**RANGE LIMIT**

Long distance airplane records (without refueling) represent the field where the most progress may be expected in aviation accomplishment. Man has yet only flown about half as far without a stop as he may be expected to travel some day.

**PUBLIC HEALTH**

**Infantile Paralysis Cases Continue To Mount**

AMERICA'S wave of infantile paralysis has apparently not yet reached its peak, figures released by the U. S. Public Health Service indicate.

Eight hundred and seventeen new cases were reported during the week ended September 11 as against 641 the previous week. More than 5,500 cases in all have been reported by state health officials since the beginning of the outbreak. Up to the same time last year, 2,019 cases had been found.

(Meanwhile in Chicago the American Medical Association, through an editorial in its *Journal* (Sept. 18) scored pub-

licity given to the current outbreak. "There has only been new emphasis on poliomyelitis and perhaps too much publicity," it declared. "Without the over-emphasis in the press the vast majority of people would not have been concerned by the few hundreds of cases among many millions of people."

No definite results of medical value can be expected this year from the use of the widely-advertised zinc sulphate spray treatment as a preventive measure, the *Journal* also declares.

"In view of the tendency of infantile paralysis to become rapidly less prevalent about the end of September and early October, the futility of starting such procedures at this time is readily apparent. If the evidence obtained this year is in any way encouraging plans for determining the effectiveness of the attempted preventive might be worked out so that something resembling a serious scientific experiment may be tried next June, July and August."

Illinois continued to lead in the reports of new cases, 130 such having been diagnosed in that state during the last week as against 106 the week before. New York showed 91 cases, Ohio 66

and Massachusetts 44. No new cases were reported in the District of Columbia, where, health officials pointed out, it is possible that cold weather may have been a contributing factor in cutting the toll of the disease. Doctors in general, however, are not agreed on any interpretation of the effects of the weather on poliomyelitis.

*Science News Letter, September 25, 1937*

**PHYSICS**

**Insulin Molecule Has Complicated Pattern**

See Front Cover

MATHEMATICS, physics, chemistry and X-ray studies have given Dr. D. M. Wrinch of Oxford University's Mathematical Institute the model of the complicated insulin molecule, whose atoms are arranged in a crystalline pattern. The model is pictured on the front cover.

*Science News Letter, September 25, 1937*

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