

and appeal to unvaccinated adults, and to the parents of unvaccinated children. There, apparently, community consensus had created a basis for action, and local groups were inspired to cooperate to an unusual degree as they became involved in a cause.

As communities work in 1961 to prevent polio, these factors must be kept in mind. Public health personnel must be active to initiate or to cooperate with initiators, to fill campaigners with enthusiasm and conviction, so as to locate unimmunized groups. Organized local community action is essential to prevent polio through immunization.

A Broadened Spectrum of Health and Illness

THE February issue of the Journal contained a report on "A Broadened Spectrum of Health and Morbidity," prepared for the Technical Development Board by a work party under the chairmanship of Dr. Samuel M. Wishik. Four levels of public health concern and action are described in it as related to:

1. Mortality—the prevention of death,
2. Serious morbidity—the prevention and control of conditions that produce disability or chronic illness,
3. Minor morbidity—the handling of lesser illnesses (in terms of death and disability),

environmental conditions that create inconveniences and nuisances, and

4. Positive health—the attainment of a full sense of personal vigor and mental well-being, as well as constructive relationships with others in an environment that promotes longevity and happiness.

Within this framework, the report concentrates on level 3, minor morbidity. We shall not recapitulate the details of the analysis, but we do wish to point out that the authors recommend giving greater attention to what are now considered minor aspects of serious illness, and including within the public health definition of morbidity the minor conditions for which health workers have hitherto had little interest or time. Ways of achieving this goal are discussed with illustrative examples. It is interesting to note that this point had already been made by Alfred Grotjahn, the pioneer of modern social medicine in 1911, and now, 50 years later, we in the United States are ready for work on level 3.

Members of the Association, readers of the Journal, public health workers of the United States are urged to read the report on a broadened spectrum of health and illness (A.J.P.H., February, 1961, p. 287 ff.), to interpret it, and to see how they can use this tool in developing their programs and activities.

Reprints will shortly be available from the Book Service, APHA, at 15 cents a copy.

Need for Volunteer at ISO Meeting in Berlin

The American Public Health Association has been invited to name a representative to attend a meeting of the International Standards Organization Committee, ISO/TC 90, Apparatus for Testing Milk and Milk Products. The meeting will be held in Berlin, Germany, July 17 to 19. Any member of the Association who works in the laboratory examination of milk and milk products, who expects to be in Europe at the time, and whose travels might enable him to be present at the meeting is urged to communicate promptly with Dr. Berwyn F. Mattison, Director of APHA, so that an official appointment as APHA's representative may be made.