

# **THE NEW PUBLIC HEALTH**

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The New Public Health by Hibbert Winslow Hill

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**HIBBERT WINSLOW HILL**

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# The New Public Health

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### PREFACE

THE conceptions of health, public and private, held by our ancestors and, until very lately, by ourselves, have undergone gradual revision, not to say revolution, in the last twenty years; changing most radically perhaps in the last ten. The Minnesota State Board of Health in 1911 designated the writer, then in charge of the Division of Epidemiology of that Board, to present the modern conceptions to the medical profession and to the public. A series of articles, which appeared monthly during 1912 in the *Journal-Lancet* of Minneapolis, was the outcome. These articles were furnished by the *Journal-Lancet* to 1,100 newspapers in the United States, and, during the latter half of the series, to fifty newspapers in Canada. Finally they were reprinted in book form at the end of the year. So cordial was their reception, that a revision and expansion of the articles thus first issued has been undertaken here.

The writer, in expressing his great personal debt to the State Board of Health of Minnesota for making possible this beginning and to the Board of Governors of the Institute of Public Health of London for its liberal support and continuation, would mention particularly Dr. W. A. Jones and Dr. H. M. Bracken, re-

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spectively president and secretary of the Minnesota State Board of Health, Drs. B. M. Merrill and C. F. More, members of the Censorship Committee of that Board, and Mr. W. L. Klein, publisher of the *Journal-Lancet*, for their advice, deep personal interest, and cordial co-operation. To Dr. F. F. Westbrook, now President of the University of British Columbia, then Director of the Minnesota State Board of Health Laboratories, to Dr. A. J. Chesley, then a colleague, now the writer's successor in the Division of Epidemiology, to Professor F. H. Bass, ex-Director of the Division of Sanitary Engineering of the Minnesota State Board of Health, to Mr. Christopher Easton, at one time Secretary of the Minnesota Anti-Tuberculosis Association, to Dr. J. P. Sedgwick of the Medical Department of the University of Minnesota, and to Professor S. Quigley of the Department of Pedagogy of the same University, the writer acknowledges with pleasure most friendly and valuable consultation on the more technical portions.

It is not possible to list all who have aided the writer directly or indirectly in this work; still less possible would it be to attempt to list those whose appreciation and good wishes made the work a pleasure. But it would be unseemly to omit reference to one other, who was unconnected with the official family either in Minnesota or in London. The great reconstructing force in Public Health has been bacteriology, but the application of the laboriously sought out and, to Public Health

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principles, in general, often barren, work of the Bacteriologist, must be acknowledged as due to an administrator of keen insight and logical mind, Dr. Chas. V. Chapin of Providence, whose "Sources and Modes of Infection" marks the real beginning of scientific public health in America.

That this book may further aid in giving to all who read it a definite view of the chief problems of public health, and of their chief solutions, is the aim of the writer; that it may prove a satisfaction to many friends, his hope.