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POLIO STRIKES IN COVENTRY:

In Coventry, the wounds of war have healed: the city of History has become a new city: it suffered more than any other English town, but has made amazing recovery. New estates have sprung up, new families are growing. But over these families there hangs a new threat - the menace of polio.

Whitley hospital is a front-line fighter against the outbreak - which many believe is caused, or at least aggravated, by the network of dirty waterways which surround the city. The River Sowe is one of the worst, and though no official ruling has been given, Coventry parents have taken matters into their own hands and banned their children from bathing here - lest they, too, should fall victim to the scourge - which has placed others - like six-year-old Maureen Allen - in the Whitley Hospital's iron lung. Up to going to Press, 85 people of Coventry have been stricken by the outbreak. In nearby towns, doctors are among the sufferers. But British factories are pressing ahead with the new anti-polio vaccine - and there is every hope that before many years polio will be a thing of the past.