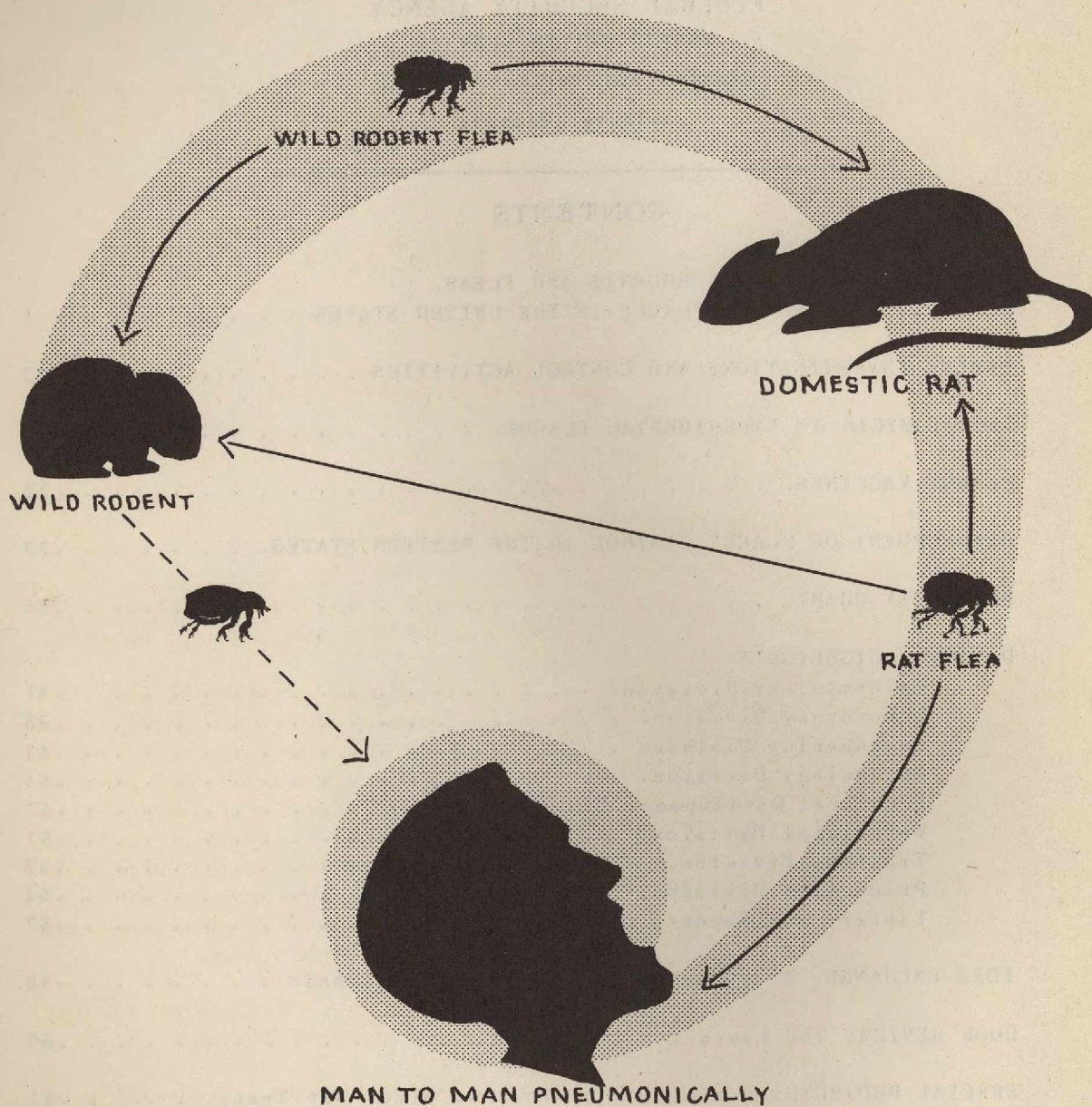


TRANSMISSION OF PLAGUE



Plague bacilli may be transmitted by fleas from wild rodents to domestic rats or from domestic rats to wild rodents. Domestic rat fleas commonly transmit plague to human beings in those parts of the world where domestic rat

fleas are particularly abundant. Wild rodent fleas also occasionally transmit plague bacilli to man. Man may also acquire plague infection by handling diseased rodents and by sputum infection from persons ill with pneumonic plague.