# Public Health Reports Vol. 60 - MARCH 23, 1945 - No. 12 

## A COMPARISON OF THE EFFECT OF PENICILLIN AND IMMUNE SERUM IN THE TREATMENT OF EXPERIMENTAL LEPTOSPIROSIS IN YOUNG WHITE MICE AND IN HAMSTERS ${ }^{1}$

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The use of penicillin in the treatment of guinea pigs infected with Leptospira icterohaemorrhagiae has been demonstrated to be of value when the drug is administered shortly after the infective dose has been given. It is the intention here to present data comparing the value of specific immune serum and penicillin in the treatment of leptospirosis icterohaemorrhagica in 3-week-old albino Swiss mice in which therapy was initiated at varying intervals after infection had been induced, and similarly to report the effect of these drugs on $L$. canicola infections in hamsters.

Heilman and Herrell (1) studied the effect of penicillin on leptospirosis icterohaemorrhagica in guinea pigs and found that the drug produced a marked beneficial effect when treatment was administered from 17 hours to the third day after inoculation with infective material. Larson ( $\mathcal{Z}$ ) studied the effect of specific immune serum on the course of this disease in young albino Swiss mice and reported serum to be of value even when administered as long as 4 days after initiation of infection. Infections with L. canicola in hamsters (Cricetus auratus) are likewise favorably influenced by administration of immune serum (3).

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Three-week-old albino Swiss mice from the colony maintained at the National Institute of Health were used to determine the effect of treatment upon infection with $L$. icterohaemorrhagiae. Hamsters of about 4 weeks of age were employed for testing the effect of drugs upon infections due to $L$. canicola.

[^0]Serum (H) from horses immunized with L. icterohaemorrhagiae which bad an agglutination titre of $1: 1,000,000$ against this organism was used in some tests and serum ( $R$ ) from an immunized rabbit having a titre of $1: 100,000$ against this organism was employed in the remainder of the tests.
The sodium salt of penicillin was used. This was diluted in normal salt solution and was stored under $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ refrigeration in 4 -cc. quantities until needed. Dilutions were made from this into salt solution so that the desired number of units could be administered in doses of 0.5 cc .
Animals were routinely infected with 0.3 - to $0.5-\mathrm{cc}$. amounts of 10 percent liver and kidney tissue suspension in salt solution. Mice infected with $L$. icterohaemorrhagiae were sacrificed on the third day after inoculation to provide infective material. At this time large numbers of organisms were present in smears of blood taken from the tail and examined under dark-field illumination. Variations in the survival time of animals infected with these suspensions occur, as it is extremely difficult to administer comparable numbers of organisms in suspensions of infective tissues. The strains used had been recently isolated from wild rats and were virulent for young white mice and guinea pigs.
The strain of $L$. canicola employed was obtained from the Army Veterinary School and had been found to be virulent for hamsters. Doses of 1.0 cc . of a 4 -day-old culture incubated at $32^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. in Verwoort's medium were inoculated intraperitoneally into hamsters to produce illness.

Treatment was initiated at varying intervals after infective material had been given, and doses of 0.5 cc . of immune serum diluted 1 to 5 in salt solution or of penicillin of varying dilutions were injected intraperitoneally. Immune serum was administered in a single dose to animals while penicillin was administered in series of 6 or 8 doses given twice daily at about 8:30 a. m. and 4:30 p. m. Untreated controls were also included in each test. Observations were continued for 14 days before the experiments were terminated.

## EXPERIMENTAL

A study was planned to determine the comparative effect of serum and penicillin on infections with $L$. icterohaemorrhagiae produced in young albino Swiss mice when 50 units of penicillin or 1:5 dilutions of immune serum in 0.5 -cc. quantities were administered intraperitoneally 75 hours after infective material had been given. Three strains (ADIA, ADIB, and AD4) of organisms recently isolated from wild rats were used and 10 -percent suspensions of liver and kidney tissues taken from infected mice were inoculated intraperitoneally in 0.4 -cc. amounts into 3 groups of 24 mice each. Each group was then divided into 3 lots of 8 mice each. Treatment was started 75 hours
after inoculation of these materials. One lot from each of the 3 groups was treated with 50 units of penicillin repeated twice daily until 400 units had been given; and another lot from each group was treated with a single dose of diluted immune serum (R). The remaining lot in each group served as controls. The results, as shown in table 1, suggest that immune serum and penicillin as employed in this study had somewhat comparable therapeutic effects, varying considerably in mice, depending upon the stage of illness when therapy was instituted. If the dosage is so adjusted that the controls succumb soon after therapy is started in the treated animals little benefit is noted in the animals receiving immune serum or penicillin, while if the controls survive for 3 to 4 days after therapy is initiated in the treated lot, the beneficial result is marked in the animals receiving treatment.

Table 1.-Showing effect of intraperitoneal injection of $50^{-}$units of penicillin administered twice daily for 4 days and a single dose of 0.5 cc. of diluted immune serum $(R)$ upon leptospirosis in young mice when treatment is instituted 75 hours after infection is induced with different strains of L. icterohaemorrhagiae


In another test 80 mice were injected intraperitoneally with 0.3 cc . of a 10-percent suspension of infective mouse liver and kidney in salt solution (strain ADIB). The mice were divided into 5 lots of 16 mice each. One lot served as controls to which no treatment was given. All of the controls died during the interval between 90 and 124 hours after inoculation with infective. material. Immune serum (R) was administered to 2 lots of mice. One lot was treated 44 hours after being infected; no deaths occurred among the animals. The other lot was treated 77 hours after being infected and 11 of 16 mice succumbed to infection. Similar lots of mice were treated with penicillin. The dose of penicillin was 50 units; this was given twice daily for 4 days. Among the 16 mice in which penicillin therapy was initiated 44 hours after the administration of the infective dose of organisms no deaths occurred, but there were 12 deaths among the 16 mice to which penicillin was first given 77 hours after infection had been induced.

A test was made in which immune serum and penicillin in the quantities given above were administered $52,68,72,78$, and 92 hours after

Table: 2.-Results obtained by treating young Swiss mice with 8 repeated intraperitoneal doses of penicillin containing 50 units per 0.5 cc . or with a single dose of 0.5 cc. of diluted immune serum ( $R$ ) when therapy is started at varying periods after intraperitoneal inoculation of 10 percent tissue suspension containing L . icterohaemorrhagiae (strainADIB)

0.3 cc. of 10 -percent tissue suspension (ADIB) had been injected into mice intraperitoneally. This suspension contained about 0.5 leptospira per high-power field when observed under dark-field illumination. Seventy-two hours after administration of the infective material the untreated animals were definitely ill but no jaundice was apparent, while 92 hours after inoculation of infective material jaundice was present in nearly all the mice. The results obtained (table 2) show the value of these agents when administered early in the course of infection. After the mice became definitely ill this effect was materially decreased and by the time jaundice was present the therapeutic results were practically negligible. It appeared possible that the dosage of penicillin employed in the foregoing experiments was too small to exert the maximum therapeutic effect upon leptospirosis in mice. This possibility was tested by treating separate groups of mice infected with $L$. icterohaemorrhagiae with diluted immune serum and with penicillin solutions containing 50 or 100 units. Groups of 20 mice each were injected intraperitoneally with 0.3 cc . of a 10 -percent suspension of infective liver and kidney tissue from mice ill with leptospirosis icterohaemorrhagica. Treatment was started at intervals of 48, 66, 78, and 88 hours after infection. No mice were treated with the larger amount of penicillin at the end of 48 hours, for experience had shown that the smaller dosage was adequate for treatment of leptospirosis at this early stage of the disease, but 2 lots of 20 mice each were treated with immune serum or penicillin in doses containing 50 units. Three lots of 20 mice each were treated 66 hours after administration of the infective dose. Immune serum or penicillin solution containing 50 units or 100 units was injected intraperitoneally into a lot of 20 mice. This procedure was repeated in an additional
lot of 20 mice each 78 hours after infection had been induced. Eightyeight hours after administration of infective material 2 mice were dead in each of the 3 lots of 20 mice which were to have received the initial dose of immune serum or penicillin ( 50 or 100 units). Thus only 18 mice each received their initial dose of immune serum, 100 units of penicillin, or 50 units of penicillin 88 hours after infection had been started. Table 3 shows the results obtained. The larger dose of penicillin appeared to give slightly better results than were
Table 3.-The effect of administration of 8 repeated doses of 50 or 100 units of penicillin or of a single inoculum of diluted immune serum $(R)$ to young Swiss mice at varying intervals after infection with tissue suspensions containing L . icterohaemorrhagiae (strain ADIB)

| Interval between induction of infection and institution of therapy (hours) | Type of therapentic agent employed | Number of mice omployed | Number of deaths, by days |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Percent recovered |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |  |
| 48. | Serum | 20 | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 95 |
|  | Penicillin (50 units) | 20 |  |  |  |  | 1 |  |  |  |  | 95 |
| 66. | Serum | 20 | 1 | 1 | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 70 |
| 66 | Penicillin ( 50 units) | 20 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 2 |  |  |  |  | 45 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 78...-............... | Serum | 20 | 9 | 2 |  |  | 1 | 1 |  |  |  | 35 |
| 78 | Penicillin (50 units) | 20 | 5 | 5 | 6 |  | 1 |  |  |  |  | 15 |
|  | Penicillin (100 units). | 20 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  | 35 |
| 88. | Serum | 18 | 10 | 6 | 1 | 1 |  |  |  |  |  | 0 |
| 88. | Penicillin ( 50 units). | 18 | 6 |  |  |  | 1 |  |  |  |  | $\stackrel{0}{88}$ |
| 88 | Penicillin (100)....-- | $18$ | 2 | 7 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1 | 28 |
|  | None. | 40 | 9 | 23 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 |  |  |  | 0 |

obtained with 50 units of this drug and in this experiment there was a significant number of survivors among the animals treated with 100 units of penicillin 88 hours after infection had been induced and at a period when 10 percent of the original group of mice had succumbed.

A similar experiment was performed in which lots of 20 mice each were treated with diluted immune serum (H), 100 or 200 units of penicillin, or diluted immune serum together with 100 units of penicillin at intervals of 66, 72, and 88 hours after the infective agent had been given (table 4). In addition, lots of 10 mice each were given immune serum or 100 units of penicillin 48 hours after the mice were infected. Diluted immune serum and diluted immune serum mixed with 100 units of penicillin were given only once while the penicillin alone was administered intraperitoneally in 6 divided doses of 100 or 200 units each. All materials were given in 0.5 -cc. amounts. After an interval of 48 hours following infection, dark-field examination of smears of peritoneal fluid showed the presence of many leptospirae but none were detected by examination of blood smears. Many organisms were present in the blood strean 66 hours after administration of the infectious agent. At the end of 72 hours the untreated mice were listless, the fur rough, and the eyes dull; and by 88 hours the untreated
animals were slightly jaundiced. Marked icterus was apparent in the controls 96 hours after they had been infected. Data accumulated from this experiment do not indicate that large doses of penicillin or combined therapy of a single dose of combined penicillin and serum is of any greater benefit than that obtained with smaller repeated doses of penicillin or with a single dose of immune serum alone.

Table 4.-Effect of treating mice infected with L. icterohaemorrhagiae (strain ADIB) 48, 66, 72, and 88 hours after administration of infective suspension. Serum ( $H$ ) given in single dose ( 0.5 cc . of $1: 5$ dilution), penicillin ( 100 units) and diluted serum in a single dose and penicillin in 6 repeated doses of 100 or 200 units each

| Interval between induction of infec tion and initiation of therapy (hours) | Type of therapeutic agent employed | Number of mice used | Number of deaths, by days |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Percent recovered |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |  |
| 48. | Serum | 10 |  |  |  | 1 |  | 1 |  |  |  | 80 |
|  | Penicillin (50 units) ........ | 10 |  |  |  | 1 |  | 1 |  |  |  | 80 |
|  | Serum. | 20 | 1 | ... | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 |  |  |  | 55 |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Serum } \\ & \text { units). penicilin ( } 100 \end{aligned}$ | 20 |  |  | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 |  |  |  | 65 |
|  | Penicillin (100 units)...... | 20 |  |  | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 |  |  |  | 70 |
|  | Penicillin (200 units)......- | 20 |  | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | --- | 1 |  |  | 60 |
|  | Serum...-...---.-.-.-.-. | 20 |  | 1 | 1 | 3 | 4 |  | 2 |  |  | 45 |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Serum } \\ & \text { units). penicilin } \end{aligned}$ | 20 |  |  | 4 | 3 | 4 | 1 |  | 1 |  | 35 |
|  | Penicilin (100 units) .....- | 20 |  |  | 11 | 5 |  | 1 |  | 1 |  | 10 |
|  | Penicillin (200 units) ....-. | 20 |  |  | 2 | 6 | 1 |  |  | 1 |  | 50 |
|  | Serum | 20 |  | 10 | 5 | 3 | 2 |  |  |  |  | 0 |
|  | Serum + penicilin ( 100 | 20 |  | 4 | 5 | 4 | 3 |  |  |  | 1 | 15 |
|  | units). <br> Penicillin ( 100 units) | 20 | 3 | 9 | 4 | 1 |  | 2 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Penicillin (200 units) .......- | 19 | 1 | 11 | 4 | 1 |  |  |  | 1 |  | 5 |
|  | None. | 37 | 2 | 14 | 16 | 4 | 1 |  |  |  |  | 0 |

A single experiment was performed to determine whether or not penicillin was effective against $L$. canicola infections in hamsters. A group of 12 hamsters approximately 4 weeks of age was inoculated intraperitoneally with 1.0 cc . of a 4-day-old culture of these organisms grown at $32^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. in Verwoort's medium. Therapy was not begun until 66 hours had elapsed after the infective dose was given. At this time 1.0 cc . of a $1: 5$ dilution of serum from a rabbit previously immunized against $L$. canicola was given to 4 of the hamsters intraperitoneally and 1.0 cc . of a penicillin solution containing 200 units per cc. was given to 4 other hamsters by the same route, while 4 received no treatment whatever. The immune serum was administered in a single dose but penicillin was given twice daily until 1,600 units had been given. None of the animals receiving serum became ill, while the 4 hamsters serving as controls died on the fourth, fourth, fifth, and eighth days, respectively after being infected. One hamster which received 8 injections ( 1,600 units) of penicillin (over a period of 4 days) died on the seventh day after being inoculated with organisms. (Three of the animals treated with penicillin were well when the experiment was terminated.) This animal became jaundiced and at
autopsy icterus and hemorrhages of the subcutaneous tissues were observed. Many confluent hemorrhages, were present in the lungs and the kidneys, and the right epididymis was hemorrhagic. The liver was bile-stained, and numerous leptospirae were demonstrable in spears from this organ examined under dark-field illumination. The icterus and degree of hemorrhagic involvement had not been observed previously in untreated animals dying of infections with L. canicula.

## DISCUSSION

The results obtained in this study show that penicillin and specific immune serum have a marked therapeutic effect upon the course of disease produced by $L$. icterohaemorrhagiae in young Swiss mice and by L. canicola in hamsters. Both agents were fully effective when administered as late as 48 hours after infection had been induced in mice, but at periods beyond this the value of the drug materially decreased. At the time symptoms appear in mice the infection has progressed to a point where serum and penicillin are unable to cure the majority of mice infected with $L$. icterohaemorrhagiae, and by the time icterus has appeared among the animals the mortality is practically the same among treated as among untreated animals. The results obtained by use of immune serum alone as compared to those obtained by use of penicillin alone indicate that there is little choice, as here employed, between the drugs as far as efficacy of treatment for leptospirosis in mice and hamsters is concerned.

## SUMMARY

Mice and hamsters infected with Leptospira icterohaemorrhagiae and L. canicola were treated with specific immune serum and with penicillin at varying intervals after administration of infective material.

The therapeutic effect of penicillin is comparable to that obtained with specific immune serum in the treatment of leptospirosis in experimental animals under the conditions of this study.

## REFERENCES

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## PENICLLLIN TREATMENT OF LEPROSY: CLINICAL NOTE ${ }^{1}$

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Penicillin was tried at the National Leprosarium in the treatment of 7 cases of leprosy in doses of 50,000 to $\mathbf{1 0 0 , 0 0 0}$ units daily which were continued in some cases for a month's time. No specific beneficial effect could be attributed to this treatment either during the course of medication or for 6 months thereafter.

Subsequently two of the previously treated patients and two new patients were given much larger doses of penicillin without effect. Brief case reports on these four patients follow:

Case 6.-Male, 34 years of age, with moderately advanced lepromatous leprosy, was treated during a subacute leprae reaction. It was considered important to note if penicillin had any favorable influence on this condition. The penicillin was injected intramuscularly every 3 hours in doses of 40,000 units for a total of 320,000 units in 24 hours. By the second day of treatment the reaction became more acute with outcropping of new erythema nodosum lesions, chills, and high fever, muscular aches, nausea, and great debility. Nevertheless, penicillin therapy was continued in undiminished doses for 2 more days. It then had to be discontinued because of the severity of the reaction and the extreme debility of the patient. Altogether this patient received $1,280,000$ units of penicillin. There were no clinical changes in lepromatous lesions during treatment or for a period of more than 1 month thereafter.

Case 7.-Male, 22 years of age, with moderately advanced mixed type of leprosy, was given 40,000 units of penicillin intramuscularly every 3 hours. Treatment was continued for 10 days totalling $3,200,000$ units. This patient had previously been treated with $\mathbf{5 0 , 0 0 0}$ units of penicillin daily for a period of $\mathbf{4 0}$ days. No clinical changes were noted in leprous lesions. The period of observation was over 6 months following the first course and 1 month following the second course of treatment.

Case 8.-Female, 44 years of age, with moderately advanced mixed type of leprosy, weighing only 90 pounds. She was given 33,000 units of penicilin every 3 hours by intramuscular injections for a period of 10 days, a total of $2,630,000$ units. Previously this patient had been treated for $\mathbf{3 0}$ days with $\mathbf{5 0 , 0 0 0}$ units of penicillin daily. No effects were noted in any lesions for more than 6 months subsequent to the first course of treatment and 1 month following the second.

Case 9.-Male, 20 years of age, with moderately advanced lepromatous leprosy, was treated with 40,000 units of penicillin intramuscularly every 3 hours. Treatment was continued for a little more than 10 days and totaled $3,240,000$ units. There were no changes in the discrete nodular lesions of leprosy either during treatment or for 1 month thereafter.

[^1]The accompanying table briefly summarizes data on the nine patients who have received penicillin:

Summary: Penicillin therapy of leprosy

| Case | Chinical type | Penicillin therapy |  |  | Remarks |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Units per 24 hours | Duration (days) | Total units |  |
| 1 | Lepromatous. | 50, 000 | 23 | 1,000,000 | No effect except healing of ulcers. |
|  | --.--do-........ | 60,000 | 21 | 1,000,000 | No effect. |
| 3 |  | 100,000 | 30 | 3, 000,000 | Do. |
| 4 | Mixed... | 60, 000 | 30 | 1,500, 000 | Do. |
| 5 |  | 50,000 | 20 | 1,000, 000 | Do. |
| 6 17 | Lepromatous. | 3300000 | 4 | 1,280,000 | Leprae reaction. |
| 17 | Mixed | 320,000 | 10 | 3, 200,000 | No effect. |
| 18 9 |  | 284, 000 | 10 | 2, 630,000 | Do. |
| 9 | Lepromatous. | 320,000 | 10 | 3,240,000 | Do. |

${ }^{1}$ These 2 patients had been previously treated with 50,000 units daily for 1 month or more without beneficial efiects.
It is concluded that penicillin in doses even larger than those usually found adequate in the treatment of syphilis are ineffectual in the treatment of leprosy.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

## STATE AND TERRITORIAL HEALTH OFFICERS' CONFERENCE

The forty-third annual conference of the United States Public Health Service with the State and Territorial health officers will be held April 9, 10, and 11 in the National Academy of Sciences, 2101 Constitution Avenue, Washington, D. C. All State health officials are urged to attend. The meeting is required by law, and therefore has been approved by the Committee on Conventions. General sessions of the conference are open to all interested persons but attendance by out-of-town visitors is not encouraged in view of travel restrictions.

## PREVALENCE OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES IN UNITED STATES

January 28-February 24, 1945
The accompanying table summarizes the prevalence of nine important communicable diseases, based on weekly telegraphic reports from State health departments. The reports from each State for each week are published in the Public Health Reports under the section "Prevalence of disease." The table gives the number of cases of these diseases for the 4 weeks ended February 24, 1945, the number reported for the corresponding period in 1944, and the median for the years 1940-44.

## diseases above median prevalence

Diphtheria.-For the 4 weeks ended February 24 there were 1,242 cases of diphtheria reported as compared with 971 for the corresponding period in 1944 and a 5 -year (1940-44) median of 1,158 cases. Increases over the 1944 figures were reported from all sections except the New England and East North Central sections, while increases over the seasonal expectancy occurred in only the West North Central, East and West South Central, and Pacific sections. In the New England, South Atlantic, and Mountain sections the incidence was about normal for this season of the year and in the Middle Atlantic and East North Central sections the numbers of cases were relatively low.

Number of reported cases of 9 communicable diseases in the United States during the 4-week period January 28-February 24, 1945, the number for the corresponding period in 1944, and the median number of cases reported for the corresponding period, 1940-44


[^2]Meningococcus meningitis.-The number of cases of meningococcus meningitis rose from 953 cases during the preceding 4 -week period to 1,034 for the current 4 weeks. The current figure was less than onehalf of the number of cases reported for the corresponding period in 1944, but it was almost 4 times the preceding 5 -year median. An increase in this disease is normally expected at this season of the year and, while the incidence is at a relatively high level, the rate of increase during the current period was about normal. The increases over the 1940-44 medians ranged from 1.4 times the median in the New England section to 10 times the median in the East North Central section.

Poliomyelitis.-The incidence of poliomyelitis continued at a relatively high level, 172 cases being reported, as compared with 90 cases in 1944 and a 5 -year median of 101 cases. Increases over the seasonal expectancy were reported from the Atlantic Coast, East South Central, and Pacific sections, while in other sections the number of cases either closely approximated the median or fell below it.

Scarlet fever.-The number of cases of scarlet fever was slightly below the number reported for the corresponding weeks in 1944, but it was 1.4 times the normal seasonal expectancy (approximately 16,000 cases). An increase over the $1940-44$ median was reported from all sections of the country, with the highest relative excesses occurring in the South Atlantic and Pacific sections. With the exception of 1944 the current incidence is the highest since 1938, when approximately 24,000 cases were reported for the corresponding weeks.

## DISEASES BELOW MEDIAN PREVALENCE

Influenza.-For the 4 weeks ended February 24 there were 17,922 cases of influenza reported. The number of cases was less than 50 percent of the number reported for the corresponding weeks in 1944, which figure ( 39,254 cases) represented the 1940-44 median incidence. The number of cases reported from the New England section was slightly above the seasonal expectancy, but in all other sections the incidence was relatively low. For the country as a whole the current incidence was the lowest since 1938, when approximately 13,000 cases were reported for the corresponding 4 -week period.

Measles.-The reported cases of measles rose from 5,362 during the 4 weeks ended January 27, to 8,107 for the 4 weeks ended February 24. An increase of this disease normally occurs at this season of the year. Compared with preceding years, however, the number of cases is the lowest recorded for this period in the 18 years for which these data are available. The nearest approach to the currentfigure was in 1940 when 22,000 cases were reported for these same weeks.

Smallpox.-The incidence of this disease remained at a relatively low level. The number of cases (43) reported for the current 4 weeks was about 70 percent of the number reported in 1944 and about 40 percent of the 1940-44 median for the same weeks. While the number of cases (5) in the Pacific region was small, it was 5 times the preceding 5 -year median. In all other sections the incidence was considerably below the normal seasonal expectancy.

Typhoid and paratyphoid fever.-For the current 4-week period there were 258 cases of typhoid fever reported as compared with 398 for the corresponding period in 1944 and a 5 -year median of 292 cases. In all sections except the Middle Atlantic and East North Central the number of cases closely approximated the preceding 5 -year median of 292 cases. In the Middle Atlantic section the number of cases (82) was two and one-third times the median, while in the East North Central section the number (14) was less than one-half of the median. Sixty-three of the total cases reported from the Middle Atlantic section occurred in Pennsylvania.

Whooping cough.-The number of cases of whooping cough reported for the current period was 1.3 times the number reported for the corresponding period in 1944, but it was only about 60 percent of the 1940-44 median incidence. The number of cases was higher than in 1944 in each section except the West North Central and East South Central, but only the West South Central section reported an increase over the 1940-44 median.

## MORTALITY, ALL CAUSES

For the 4 weeks ended February 24 there were 39,286 deaths from all causes reported to the Bureau of the Census by 93 large cities. The average number for the same period in the years 1942-44 was 38,856 cases. While for the 4 weeks the number of deaths was slightly above the preceding 3 -year average there was a decline of about 5 percent during the last week of the period from the same week in 1944.

## COURT DECISION ON PUBLIC HEALTH

Substances injurious to health of residents in vicinity-allowing to remain on premises.-(Texas Court of Criminal Appeals; McNeese v. State, 180 S.W.2d 164, decided April 5, 1944, rehearing denied May 24, 1944.) Article 695 of the Texas Penal Code provided: "Whoever shall carry on any trade, business or occupation injurious to the health of those who reside in the vicinity, or suffer any substance which has that effect to remain on premises in his possession, shall be fined not less than 10 nor more than 100 dollars. Each day is a separate offense." It was charged that the appellant suffered substances which
were injurious to the health of those who resided in the vicinity to remain on premises in his possession. These substances were alleged to be barrels, kegs, and cans of water full of mosquitoes and mosquito larvae, excreta deposited on the surface of the soil and not protected from flies and other germ carriers, rubble and rubbish in which flies and rodents could harbor and breed and become germ carriers, and very high, thick weeds over most of the premises. From a conviction and fine in the lower court the appellant appealed to the Court of Criminal Appeals of Texas.

One of the appellant's complaints was that the State did not show that the health of any person living in the vicinity was injuriously affected by the things found on appellant's premises. Concerning this the appellate court did not think that the statute intended to convey such a meaning. The law carried with it a preventive idea primarily and should be a safeguard to the community's health rather than a punishment for having caused the spread of disease. "The statute should be construed to mean matters calculated to be injurious to health, and it would not be expected of the State to show that a mosquito bred in one of these barrels had bitten a person in such vicinity and infected such person with matters injurious to his health." Also the court was of the view that the statute set forth two ways in which it could be violated, one being by carrying on a trade, business, or occupation, and the other by suffering premises under one's control to contain certain substances, either class being injurious to public health. In affirming the judgment of the lower court the appellate court said that it thought that it was fairly clear that the condition of the appellant's property reasonably endangered and threatened the health of the public, that the legislature had the power to declare such matters to be those to be regulated by law as was done in Article 695 of the Penal Code, and that such statute did not offend against the constitution or the appellant's inherent rights.

## DEATHS DURING WEEK ENDED FEBRUARY 24, 1945

[^3]|  | Week ended $\underset{1945}{\text { February } 24,}$ | Cortesponding week, 1944 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Data for 93 large cities of the United States: <br> Total deaths. <br> 9,351 <br> 9,699 |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Average for 3 prior years. | 9,811 |  |
| Total deaths, frrst 8 weaks of ye | 78,392 | 84, 272 |
| Deaths, under 1 year of age. | 592 | 620 |
| A verage for 3 prior years. | 631 |  |
| Deaths under 1 year of age, first 8 weeks of year | 5,063 | 5,117 |
| Data from industrial insurance companies: . |  |  |
| - Number of death claims. | 11,945 | , 10,865 |
| Death clafms per 1,000 policies in force, annual rate | 9.3 | 8.6 |
| Death claims per 1,000 policies, first 8 weeks of year, annual rate. | 10.4 | 11.7 |

# PREVALENCE OF DISEASE 

No heallh department, State or local, can effectively prevent or control disease without knowledge of when, where, and under what conditions cases are occurring

## UNITED STATES

## REPORTS FROM STATES FOR WEEK ENDED MARCH 3, 1945 Summary

The current incidence of meningococcus meningitis, 267 cases for the week, as compared with 290 last week, is only about half that for either of the past two years. Of the current total, 114 cases occurred in the 5 States reporting more than 13 cases each, as follows (last week's figures in parentheses): New York 34 (27), Pennsylvania 19 (25), Illinois 20 (28), Texas 23 (25), California 18 (25). The total for the year to date is 2,254 , as compared with 5,073 for the same period last year, 3,515 in 1943, and a 5 -year (1940-44) median of 573 for the same period.

Of the current total of 26 cases of poliomyelitis, the same as for last week, no State reported more than 3 cases. The corresponding 5 -year median is 18 . The cumulative total, 341 cases, is more than reported for the corresponding period of any year since 1928.

The incidence of scarlet fever, 6,414 cases for the current week, as compared with 5,964 last week, and a 5 -year median of 4,357 , is higher than for any corresponding week since 1937 with the exception of 1944, when 6,985 cases were reported for the same week. The cumulative figure, 48,336 , is more than for the corresponding period of any of the past 5 years, and approximately 40 percent above the 5 -year median.

Certain other diseases with cumulative figures for the first 9 weeks of the year considerably above those for the corresponding period last year (last year's figures in parentheses) are as follows: Diphtheria 2,882 (2,282), dysentery (all forms) 6,588 (2,666), tularemia 198 (92), typhus fever 511 (385), undulant fever 760 (358).

The incidence of both smallpox and typhoid fever continues low. A new minimum has been established for smallpox, with only 85 cases reported to date, as compared with 124 last year, a 5 -year median of 245, and 640 cases for the corresponding period in 1940. The cumulative total for typhoid fever ( 525 cases) is below that for the corresponding period of any prior year except 1943, when 465 were reported. The 5 -year median is 670 .

One case of psittacosis was reported during the week in Cuyahoga County, Ohio.

A total of 9,884 deaths was recorded for the week in 93 large cities of the United States, as compared with 9,351 last week, 9,852 for the corresponding week last year, and a 3 -year (1942-44) average of 9,688 . The total to date is 88,276 , as compared with 94,124 for the same period last year.

Telegraphic morbidity reports from Slate health officers for the week ended March S, 1945, and comparison with corresponding week of 1944 and 6 -year median
In these tables a zero indicates a definite report, while leaders imply that, although none was reported, cases may have occurred.

-Delayed report for New Mexico for weel. ended February 24, 1945 (included in cumulative totals);
Diphtheria, 2; dysentery, bacillary, 1, unspecified, 1 ; influenza, 2; measles, 5 ; meningococcus meningitis, 2: scarlet fever, 26 ; typhoid fever, 3 ; whooping cough, 9 .
${ }^{1}$ New York City only.
2 Period ended earlier than Saturday.

Telegraphic morbidity rezorts from State health officers for the woek endod March S, 1945, and comparison with corresponding weak of 1944 and 5-yoar medias-Con.

*See footnote on p. 881.
1 Period ended earlier than Saturday.
3 Including paratyphoid fever reported separately as follows: Maine, 1; Massachusetts, 2; Rhode Island 1
New York, 1; Illinois, 1; Michigan, 1; Georgia, 3; Kentucky, 1.

Talegraphic morbidity reports from State health officers for the week onded March S, 1045, and comparison with corresponding week of 1944 and 5 -year median-Con.


- See footnote on p. 331.

2 Perlod ended earlier than Satarday.
Psittacosis: Ohio, Cuyahoga County, 1 case.

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, YEAR 1944

The figures in the following table are the totals of the monthly morbidity reports received from the State health authorities for the year 1944. These reports are preliminary and the figures are therefore more or less incomplete. In most instances they include cases reported in both civilian and military populations. The comparisons made are with similar preliminary reports; but owing to population shifts and the presence of large military populations in certain States, the figures for some States are not comparable with those for prior years, especially for certain diseases. Each State health officer has been requested to include in the monthly report for his State all diseases that are required by law on regulation to be reported in the State. The lists of diseases required to be reported are not the same for each State. Only 12 of the common communicable diseases are notifiable in all the States. In some instances cases are reported, in some States, of diseases that are not required by law or regulation to be reported, and the figures are included although manifestly As compared with the deaths, incomplete case reports are obvious for such diseases as malaria, pellagra, pneumonia, and tuberculosis, while in many States other diseases, such as puerperal septicemia and Vincent's infection are not reportable.
In spite of these known deficiencies, however, these monthly reports, which are published quarterly and annually in consolidated a trend by providing a comparison with similar preliminary figures for prior years. To some extent they also give a picture of the geographic
Leaders are used in the table to indicate that no case of the disease was reported
Consolidated monthly State morbidity reports for the year 1944

| Division and State | $\xrightarrow{\text { Anrax }}$ | Ohick- | ${ }^{*}$ Convitis 1 | ${ }^{*}$ Diph- | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Dysen- } \\ & \text { teryy } \\ & \text { amebic } \end{aligned}$ | Dysen- teryi. bacil. lary | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Dysen- } \\ & \text { tery } \\ & \text { unde. } \\ & \text { fined } \end{aligned}$ | En- cepha- itisis, infoo- tious | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Ger- } \\ & \text { man } \\ & \text { mea- } \\ & \text { Bles } \end{aligned}$ | Hook disense diseaso | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Influ- } \\ & \text { enza- } \end{aligned}$ | $\underset{\text { laria }}{\text { lab }}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { - Mear- } \\ \text { sles } \end{gathered}$ | -Meningitis, gococ cus | Mumps | Oph. that mis torum | $\begin{gathered} \text { Pella- } \\ \text { gra } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Pneu- } \\ \text { mona, } \\ \text { all, } \\ \text { forms } \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| NEw mnoland |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Maine - . - | 1 | 2,938 |  | 22 |  | 1 |  | 4 |  |  |  | 4 | 6, 558 |  | 254 |  |  |  |
| New Hampshire. | 1 | 2,280 |  | 2 |  | 2 |  | 2 | ${ }_{373}^{127}$ |  | 807 | 2 | 2890 | 29 | ${ }_{1} 348$ |  |  | 43 |
| Massachusetts. | 4 | 19, 494 |  | 235 | 2 | 241 |  |  | 1,947 | 1 |  | 6230 | 19,488 | 516 | 11,018 | i92 |  | 3,041 |
| Rhode Island. |  | 1, 780 | ${ }^{26}$ | ${ }^{36}$ |  | 4 |  | 11 | -981 |  | 1, 118 | 286 | 6, 878 | 127 |  | 1 |  |  |
| Connecticut....... |  | 6,812 |  | 87 | 8 | 84 |  |  | 961 | 4 | 88 | 60 | 9,727 | 280 | 2,281 | 1 |  | 2,855 |
| midhe ATLANTIC |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| New York. |  | ${ }_{23,236}^{23,291}$ |  | 330 139 |  | 1,230 |  |  | ${ }^{2} 1,209$ |  | ${ }^{136}$ | ${ }^{4} 857$ | 45,485 | 1,869 |  |  |  | 19,842 |
| Nemprylvania........... | 18 | 27, 41 | 1 | ${ }_{446}$ | ${ }_{35}^{68}$ | 8 | 1 | 12 |  |  | . 4878 | ${ }_{2} 8$ | 20, 67 | 1,146 | $\begin{aligned} & 13,508 \\ & 16,87 \end{aligned}$ | 38 |  | 4,201 |
| East nomid central |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ohlo-- | 1 | 14, 225 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1 |  |
| Indiana. |  | 16, ${ }^{188}$ | ${ }_{6}^{10}$ | 898 | ${ }_{69} 10$ | 138 |  | 7 | ${ }_{2} 218$ | 1 | 1,035 | ${ }_{3} 3$ | 5, 5 567 | 316 | 1,668 | $8{ }^{8}$ | i | 8 |
| Michiga |  | 22, 2508 | 829 | 425 | ${ }_{28}$ | 1207 |  | 9 | - 1,675 | 1 | 1; 439 | 24 | ${ }^{19,4819}$ | 881 |  | 30 | 1 | 8, 804 |
| Wisconsin: |  | 81, 108 |  | 110 | 28 |  |  | 11 | 1,296 |  | 7,824 | 24 | 48,050 | 201 | 9,776 | 3 |  | 1,682 |


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| ＋® | \％ | － |  |  | 8 ： | － | \％ |
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|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Consolidated monthly State morbidity reports for the year 1944-Continued

| Division and State | *Polio-myelltis | $\left\|\begin{array}{c} \text { Rables } \\ \text { in ani- } \\ \text { mals } \end{array}\right\|$ | Rables in man | $\left\|\begin{array}{c} \text { Rocky } \\ \text { Moun- } \\ \text { tain } \\ \text { spottod } \\ \text { eover } \end{array}\right\|$ | *Scarlet fever | Septic sore throat | ${ }^{*} \text { Small- }$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Teta- } \\ & \text { nus } \end{aligned}$ | Trap choms | $\begin{array}{\|c} \text { Trichi- } \\ \text { nosis } \end{array}$ | $\left\|\begin{array}{c} \text { - Tuber- } \\ \text { culosis, } \\ \text { all } \\ \text { forms } \end{array}\right\|$ | Tuber. respiratory | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Tula- } \\ & \text { remia } \end{aligned}$ | ${ }^{*} \mathrm{Ty}$ phold and paraphoid tever | Para- tyo phold fever | Typhus | $\left\|\begin{array}{l} \text { Undur } \\ \text { Lant } \\ \text { fever } \end{array}\right\|$ | Vincant's infeo tion | $\begin{aligned} & \text {-Whocg } \\ & \text { ing } \\ & \text { congen } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| new england |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | , |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Maine.............. | 21 | 1 |  |  | 1,599 | 24 |  | 2 |  | 1 | 600 | 586 |  | 31 | 4 | 2 | 87 | 71 | 889 |
| New Hampshire.......-- | 88 |  |  |  | 436 400 | 12 |  |  |  |  | ${ }^{248}$ |  |  | 9 <br> 13 | 4 |  | 88 | 16 | 1.98 |
| Vermont...-.-..........- | 41 |  |  | 1 | 12,028 | 191 |  | 16 |  | 81 | 3, 131 | 2,930 | 1 | 1138 | 128 | 3 | 48 |  | 1,218 |
| Rhode Island. | 18 | 1 |  |  | , 602 | 51 |  | 2 |  | 2 | ${ }^{2} 096$ | 678 |  | 18 | 8 |  | 16 | 4 |  |
| Connecticut.........- | 219 |  |  |  | 2,658 | 137 |  | 4 | 1 | 25 | 1,376 | 1,320 | 1 | 38 | 9 |  | 61 |  | 2,001 |
| MIDDLI ATLANTIC |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| New York...............- | 6, 202 | 300 | 2 | 22 | 16, 887 | 738 |  | 34 |  | 122 | 13, 501 | 12,561 | 3 | 258 | 56 | 15 | 245 |  | 8,215 |
| New Jersey-.............- Pennsylvania........ | 1, 845 |  | 1 | 17 | 6,155 15,517 | 78 |  | 12 |  | 52 | 3, 491 |  | $\frac{1}{6}$ | -63 | 11 | 8 | 88 |  | 8,079 5,049 |
| EAET NORTH CENTRAL |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ohio. | 1,188 | 400 | 1 | 4 | 15, 006 | 21 | 13 | 9 | 10 | 62 | 6,780 | 6,588 | 28 | 196 | 18 | 5 | 94 | 23 | 5,535 |
| Indiana. | 334 |  | 3 | 10 | 4,856 | 68 | 38 | 8 | 13 | . 1 | 3,355 | 3,253 | 37 | 320 | 8 | 1 | 81 | 888 | 769 |
| Ininois.- | 556 | 868 | 2 | 13 | 11,737 | 222 | 13 | 31 | 179 | 8 | 8,115 | 7,471 | 87 | 111 | 12 |  | 828 | 367 | 8,192 |
| Miohigan................- | 900 281 | 84 | 1 |  | 8,971 9,250 | 598 58 | 10 | 25 | 4 | 4 | 6,419 $\mathbf{2 , 6 7 3}$ |  |  | 112 | 38 | 1 | 93 | 144 | 4,060 |
| wegt north central |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Minnesota. | 857 | 2 |  |  | 8, 117 | 72 | 1 | 4 | 2 |  | 2,518 |  | 10 | 30 | 5 |  | 823 | 26 | 1,464 |
| Iowne.-....-............ | 204 | 64 | 8 |  | 4, 530 | 11 | 33 |  |  |  | 874 | 784 | 10 | 52 | 2 |  | 296 | 7 | 888 |
| Missouri .-....-...-...- | 187 | 34 | 8 | 7 | 8,550 | 29 | 8 |  | 898 |  | 2,416 |  | 19 | 112 | 1 | 2 | 39 | 2 | 018 |
| North Dakota..........- | 88 |  |  | 2 1 | 1,044 | 10 | 11 |  | 40 |  | 283 371 | 260 |  | 13 |  |  | ${ }^{8}$ | 7 | 0 |
| Nebraska.................... | 98 |  |  |  | 1,900 |  | 6 |  |  |  | 195 |  |  | 2 |  |  | 2 |  |  |
| Kansas......................- | 113 | 20 | 2 | 1 | 3, 639 | 3 | 15 | 12 | 24 | 1 | 704 | 651 | 10 | 61 | 4 | 1 | 175 | 158 | 1,065 |
| 2OUTH ATLANTIC |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Delaware...............- | 98 | 1 |  | ${ }^{5}$ | 315 |  |  |  |  |  | 187 | 187 | 8 | 4 | 1 |  | 1 |  | 88 |
| Maryland --..........- | 436 | 73 |  | 54 | 5,543 | 116 |  | 4 |  | 1 | 3, 483 | 3, 133 | 6 | 71 | 6 | 188 | 32 | 35 | 2.871 |
| District of Columbla..- | 194 | 148 |  |  | 3,638 |  |  |  |  |  | 2,104 | 2,016 |  | 12 | 5 |  | 8 |  | 174 |
| West Virginia............... | 722 |  | 1 | 15 | 2,978 3,244 | 1,402 20 | 1 | 2 | 1 |  | 3, 403 1,680 | 3,403 | 88 | 130 | 14 | 21 | 35 |  | 2,715 |
| North Carolina | 859 |  | 1 | 59 | 2, 240 | 47 | 4 |  |  |  | 1,805 | 1,767 | 10 | 133 |  | 287 | 12 |  | 6, 50 |
| Bonth Carolina.......... | 73 | 171 | 1 | 3 | 386 | 283 | 6 | 12 |  |  | 628 |  | 15 | 142 | 28 | 178 | 20 |  | 3,591 |
| Georgla. .-..............- | 99 107 | 8 | 1 | 10 | 986 412 | 111 | 7 | 16 | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \\ & 1 \end{aligned}$ | 5 1 | 2,099 1,144 | 2,094 | ${ }_{1} 1$ | 239 134 | 62 88 | 1,148 | 168 33 | 1578 | 730 |

*Diseases marked with an asterisk (*) are reportable by law or regulation in all the
States, including the District of Columbia. Typhoid fever is reportable in all the States; states, including the all except 6 States. Syphilis is reportable in all the States and the District of Columbia but is not included in the table.

## 1 Includes cases of kerato- and suppurative conjunctivitis and of pink eye.

 ${ }^{2}$ For 6 months only.- Includes cases in which the infection was contracted outside the State. 3 For 5 months only. - Exclusive of 10 recurrent cases.
- 4-year (1940-43) average.

10 Induading the cities of Colon and Panama.
i1 In the Canal Zone only.
12 Includes 1 case of tsutsugamushi fever.
12
The following list includes certain rare conditions, diseases of restricted geographical istribung 6, Minnesota 25, Iowa 1, Missouri 1, South Dazota 1, Kansas 2, Maryland 1, TenBotulism: New York 4, Illinois 1, Nevada 2, Washington 6, California 8.
Coccidioidomycosis: Kansas 1, New Mexico 1, Arizona 43, California 31.

Dengue: South Carolina 10, Kentucky 2, Alabama 2, Mississippi 2, Arkansas 1, Louisiana 3, Texas 41, Hawail Territory 285.

Food poisoning: Maine 5, Ohio 1, Indians 14, Illinois 45, Louisiana 12, New Mexico
10. Nevada 6, Washington 3, Californis 651.

Granuloma inguinale: Missouri 44, Florida 207, Tennessee 33, Mississippl 653, Louisi6, North Dakota 32, South Dakota 3, Kansas 97, Maryland 10, Montana 18, W yom

Jaundice (including hepatitis): Indiana 13 Illinois 34, Minnesots 2, Kansas 4. MaryNevada 1, Washington 47, Californis 380, Alaska 95, Hawail Territory 6.

Leprosy: New York 3, New Jersey 1, Ohio 1, lilinois 1, Maryland 1, Florids 3, Louisiana 9, Texas 5, Colorado 1, Nevada 1, California 9, Hawaii Territory 27, Panama Lymphooytic choriomeningitis: Ilinois 2, Tennessee 3.

Lymphogranuloma venereum: Missouri 51, Florids 248, Tennessee 72, Louisians 165, Plague (human): California 1 (laboratory infection), Hawaii Territory 5 (all fatal, Psittacosis: Pennsylvania 2, Maryland 1, Utah 1, Washington 1, Californis 1. uerperai segticoma. Mio 1, Nevads 4, Florids 2, Tennessee 4, Missisippi 244,

Relapsing fever: Kansas 1, Texas 19, New Mexico 1, Arizons 2, Nevads 3, California Rheumatic fever: Rhode Island 9, Indiana 8, Ilinois 399, Michigan 251, Iowa 2, Missouri 66, North Dakota 9, Maryland 348, South Carolina 20, Georgia 36, Louisi-
ans 3, Idaho 1, Colorado 20, Arizons 1, Utah 257 Washington 116, Ringworm: New Hampshire 1, Pennsyivania 227, Michigan 2,777, Maryland 1. Scabies: New Hampshire 3, Ohio 2, Indians 10 , Michigan 949 Iows 1, Missouri 2, Oregon 637 Alaska 21. Weil's disease: Massachusetts 2, Ohio 1, Michigan 84, Maryland 2, Utah 1, Eawail Territory 18.

## WEEKLY REPORTS FROM CITIES

City reports for week ended February 24, 1945
This table liats the raports from 89 cities of more than 10,000 popniation distributed throughout the United States, and represents a cross section of the current urban incidence of the diseases included in the table.


City reports for week ended Pebruary 24, 1945-Continued


City reports for week ended February 24, 1945-Continued


12-year average, 1942-44.
1 5-year median, 1940-44.
Dysentery, amebic.-Cases: New York, 1; Cleveland, 1; Chicago, 1; St. Louis, 1; Houston, 1.
Dysentery, bacillary.-Cases: New York, 1; Charleston, S. C., 6; Los Angeles, 1; San Francisco, 3.
Dysentery, unspecified.-Cases: San Antonio, 1.
Tularemia.-Cases: Buffalo, 1; Springfield, ill., 1; Atlanta, 1.
Typhusfever, endemic.-Cases: Atlanta, 1; Savannah, 3; Tampa, 1; Nashville, 2; Birmingham, 1; Galveston, 1; Houston, 1; San Antonio, 6.

Rates (annual basis) per 100,000 population, by geographic groups, for the 89 cities in the preceding table (estimated population, 1943, $34, \$ 79,500$ )


## FOREIGN REPORTS

## CANADA

Provinces-Communicable diseases-Week ended February 10, 1945.During the week ended February 10, 1945, cases of certain communicable diseases were reported by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics of Canada as follows:

| Disease | Prince Island | Nova Scotia | New Brunswick | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Que- } \\ & \text { bec } \end{aligned}$ | Ontario | $\begin{gathered} \text { Mani- } \\ \text { toba } \end{gathered}$ | Sas-katchewan | $\underset{\text { berta }}{\text { Al- }}$ | British Columbia | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Chickenpox |  | 6 | 1 | 240 | 283 | 26 | 30 | 99 | 134 | 819 |
| Diphtheria | 1 | 4. | 2 | 37 | 3 | 9 |  |  |  | 56 |
| Encephalitis, infectious-- |  |  |  |  |  | 1 |  |  |  |  |
| German measles...-.....-- |  | 12 |  | 9 | 14 |  | 5 | 8 | 12 | 60 |
| Measler |  | 1 | 4 | 148 | 69 | 9 | 11 | $2{ }^{-1}$ | 300 | 563 |
| Meningitis, meningococ- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mumps... |  | 1 |  | 424 | 131 | 31 | 20 | 118 | 18 | 743 |
| Scarlet fever |  | 7 | 2 | 66 | 101 | 13 | 5 | 47 | 30 | 271 |
| Smallpor-1.-. |  | 1 | 9 | 120 | 57 | 16 | 31 | 8 | 55 | 297 |
| Typhoid and paraty- |  | 1 | ¢ |  | 67 | 16 | 31 | 8 | 65 | 297 |
| phoid fever-...-.-.-....- |  |  |  | 6 | 1 | 3 |  |  |  | 10 |
| Undulant fover... |  |  |  |  | 1 |  | 2 |  |  | 3 |
| Venereal diseases: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Gonorrbea...........- | 1 | 25 | 19 | 54 | 175 | 32 | 24 | 27 | 30 | 387 |
| Wyphilis --...--------- | 1 | 4 | 8 | 178 | 99 | ${ }^{9}$ | 10 | 13 | 28 | 250 |
| Whooping cough....-...-- |  | 11 | --...-- | 141 | 68 | 12 | 14 | 13 | 44 | 303 |

## FRANCE

Diphtheria.-During the winter months of 1941, 1942, and 1943, the number of cases of diphtheria rose from 2,062 in November 1941 to 4,675 in December 1942, and to 5,844 in December 1943. The rate of sickness from diphtheria trebled from the year 1938 to 1943.

Tuberculosis-Cases.-The number of new cases of tuberculosis reported in the region of Paris, with the case rates per 100,000 population for the years 1937 to 1942, are as follows:

| Year |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| 1937 | Cases | Rate

The number of new cases of tuberculosis reported in 46 Departments in the German-occupied zone discloses an increase in 1942 of 16.4 percent over the number of new cases in 1938.

Tuberculosis-Deaths.-The following table shows the deaths per 100,000 for tuberculosis in all of France. No figures are available for the years 1939 to 1942:
Year Rate


1935------------------------------------------------------- 123




Typhoid fever.-The annual rate of sickness from typhoid fever rose from 9.8 in 1938 to 36.6 in 1942.

General mortality.-The following figures show the general mortality rate per 10,000 population in France exclusive of military deaths but including deaths resulting from bombardment and from the general exodus of 1940. The figures for 1943 are incomplete but it is expected the complete figures for 1943 will show a mortality rate as high as that for 1942:

| Year | Deaths | Rate |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1938. | 621, 417 | 155 |
| 1939. | 639, 435 | 155 |
| 1940 | 734, 550 | 182 |
| 1941. | 660, 279 | 174 |
| 1942 | 638, 298 | 168 |
| 1943. | 609, 596 | 164 |

Infant mortality.-The death rates per 1,000 births for children under 1 year of age for all of France are as follows:


## JAMAICA

Notifiable diseases-4 weeks ended February 10, 1945.-During the 4 weeks ended February 10, 1945, cases of certain notifiable diseases were reported in Kingston, Jamaica, and in the island outside of Kingston, as follows:

| Disease | Kingston | Other localities | Disease | Kingston | Other localities |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cerebrospinal meningitis. | 2 | 2 | Poliomyelitis.. |  |  |
| Chickenpox...--.---.-. | 15 | 18 | Puerparal fever. |  |  |
| Diphtheria -.......--7- | 7 | 38 | Scarlet fever--.-...-.-------- |  | 73 |
| Dysentery. (unspecitied) <br> Erysipelas | 2. | 1 1 | Typphoid fever.........-.-.-.-- | 11 | 92 |
| Leprosy | 1 | 1 | Typhus fever. | 3 |  |

## REPORTS OF CHOLERA, PLAGUE, SMALLPOX, TYPHUS FEVER, AND YELLOW PEVER RECEIVED DURING THE CURRENT WEEK


#### Abstract

Nors.-Except in cases of unusual incidence, only those places are included which had not previously reported any of the above-mentioned diseases, except yellow fever, during the current year. All reports of yellow fever are published currently. A table showing the accumulated Agures for these diseases for the year to date is published in the Pubuc Healit Reports for the last Friday in each month. (Few reports are available from the invaded countries of Europe and other nations in war zones.)


## Plague

French West Africa.-For the period February 1-10, 1945, 2 cases of plague were reported in French West Africa.

Madagascar.-For the period January 1-10, 1945, 6 cases of plague were reported in Madagascar.

## Smallpox

French Guinea.-For the period January 11-20, 1945, 108 cases of smallpox with 4 deaths were reported in French Guinea.

India.-Smallpox has been reported in India as follows: Calcutta, week ended February 3, 1945, 379 cases, 284 deaths. For the week ended February 3, 1945, 2,060 cases of smallpox with 385 deaths were reported in Madras Presidency, India.

Mexico.-For the month of December 1944, 135 cases of smallpox were reported in Mexico, including 68 cases in Vera Cruz State, 24 cases in Hidalgo State, and 21 cases in Guanajuato State.

Turkey.-For the week ended February 24, 1945, 18 cases of smallpox were reported in Turkey.

## Typhus Fever

Algeria.-For the period February 1-10, 1945, 74 cases of typhus fever were reported in Algeria.

Chile.-For the period December 3-30, 1944, 44 cases of typhus fever with 6 deaths were reported in Chile. Provinces reporting the highest incidence of the disease are: Concepcion, 11 cases, 1 death; Santiago, 8 cases, 4 deaths; Antofagasta, 7 cases; Valparaiso, 6 cases.

Ecuador.-For the month of January 1945, 44 cases of typhus fever with 3 deaths were reported in Ecuador, including 29 cases and 1 death in Quito.

Guatemala.-For the month of January 1945, 183 cases of typhus fever with 16 deaths were reported in Guatemala. Departments reporting the highest incidence of the disease are as follows: Alta Verapaz, 67 cases; Quezaltenango, 37 cases, 10 deaths; San Marcos, 26 cases, 2 deaths; Chimaltenango, 18 cases; Sacatepequez, 17 cases, 4 deaths.

Mexico.-For the month of December 1944, 246 cases of typhus fever were reported in Mexico. States reporting the highest incidence of the disease are as follows: Mexico, 86 cases; Puebla, 39; Mexico Federal District, 32; Hidalgo, 13; Queretaro, 10 cases.

Turkey.-For the week ended February 24, 1945, 79 cases of typhus fever were reported in Turkey.


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ From the Division of Infectious Diseases and the Biologics Control Laboratory, National Institute of Health.

[^1]:    ${ }^{1}$ This note represents an abstract of a papar entitled, Penicllin nsed unsuccessfully in leprosy, which will appear in the naxt issue of the Intarnational Journal of Leprosy, Vol. XII (1945).

[^2]:    ${ }^{1}$ Mississippi and New York excluded; New York City included.
    ${ }^{3}$ Mississippi_excluded.

[^3]:    [From the Weekly Mortality Index, issued by the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce]

