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## STUDIES ON THE AIR TRANSMISSION OF MICRO-ORGANISMS DERIVED FROM THE RESPIRATORY TRACT

## I. LACTOBACILLUS ACIDOPHILUS AS A TEST ORGANISM ${ }^{1}$

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Preliminary studies on the occurrence of Mycobacterium tuberculosis in the air immediately surrounding patients with tuberculosis, by testing with air-sampling devices, yielded negative findings. This was in spite of the fact that the cases sampled had extensive laryngeal lesions and the sputa were strongly positive for tubercle bacilli. The need for a nonpathogenic test organism which occurs naturally in the respiratory tract to evaluate these negative results was indicated. For this purpose Lactobacillus acidophilus was chosen since it is a normal inhabitant of the oral cavity and can be found in those portions of the upper respiratory tract which come in contact with saliva. This paper reports experiments designed to determine:
(1) Whether or not Lactobacilli are expelled from the body by talking, coughing, and sneezing;
(2) Whether or not the Lactobacilli, once expelled, are spread either by the direct air-borne route or indirectly by suspension in the air; ${ }^{2}$

[^0](3) What concentration of Lactobacilli naturally present in the saliva is required in order to obtain positive samples from the surrounding air; and
(4) Whether or not, by artificial atomization of bacterial suspensions, results paralleling those observed under natural conditions would obtain.

Previous studies $(3,4,5)$ have been made in which test organisms from the oral cavity have been used to evaluate various aspects of the air-borne character of disease. The results of these experiments are difficult to evaluate as the source of the organisms cannot be determined with certainty. Futhermore, the number of these organisms varies so greatly, not only from individual to individual but also within one individual over short periods of time, that quantitative studies of little significance.
L. acidophilus seemed to be a desirable organism to use because much of the basic work on its occurrence in the oral cavity has already been done in connection with studies on dental caries( $6,7,8$ ). From these studies the following apply to the present paper:

First, a simple technique whereby Lactobacilli can be differentiated from other oral organisms. The method is dependent on the use of 1 percent-dextrose broth ( pH 5 ) and tomato-juice agar pH 5 (8). On this medium Lactobacilli colonies can be easily distinguished by examination with a dissecting microsoope from the few other oral organisms that will grow. In only a few cases is it necessary to revert to stained smears in order to establish colony identity.

Second, by use of this technique it is possible to classify individuals into various groups having widely different numbers of Lactobacilli naturally present in their saliva. These counts range from 0 to 100,000 and in some cases reach over $1,000,000$ organisms per ml .
Third, the number of Lactobacilli in an individual's saliva remains relatively stable from day to day. Although negative cases do sometimes become positive, and vice versa, these changes occur gradually and over a period of weeks $(9,10)$. This fact suggested that it might be possible to establish quantitative relationships:
(1) Between the number of Lactobacilli in the respiratory tract of subjects, and the number in the air surrounding them; and
(2) Between the number of Lactobacilli in an atomizer and the number in the air surrounding the instrument after atomization under controlled conditions. Thus the conditions which govern the spread of Lactobacilli from the respiratory tract into the air should yield useful information on the conditions required to render air-borne other organisms which also occur in the respiratory tract.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Test organism.-A strain of $L$. acidophilus isolated from the saliva of one of the authors was used. ${ }^{3}$ It was maintained throughout the period of study on tomato-juice agar plates ( pH 5 ). Suspensions were made by harvesting the surface growth of two plates incubated at $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. for 48 hours with saline (unless otherwise specified). These saline suspensions were adjusted to approximately the same bacterial concentrations as determined by either nephelometer readings or direct cell count.

Saliva counts.-The following technique was used to determine the number of organisms present in the mouths of the subjects used in these experiments:

Each individual was given a small piece of paraffin to chew, and asked to expectorate a sample of saliva into a 50 -cc. wide-mouth screwcap vial; the chewing of paraffin facilitated expectoration and guaranteed a representative sample of micro-organisms from the oral cavity. About 15 ml . of saliva was collected in 5 minutes. The saliva sample was then shaken for 2 minutes on a shaking machine. One ml . of saliva was added to 4 ml . of 1 -percent dextrose horse-meat infusion broth ( pH 5 ), mixed with the aid of a pipette, and 0.1 ml . of this mixture was spread uniformly over the surface of a tomato-juice agar plate by use of a sterile glass rod. The plate was incubated 96 hours at $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and the number of Lactobacilli colonies were counted by use of a wide-field dissecting microscope.

Counting bacterial suspensions (pure cultures).-The usual pour-plate technique was employed using pH .5 tomato-juice agar to determine the number of viable bacteria. All dilutions were made in saline, and 10 plates made of each dilution counted.

Air-sampling methods.-Two collecting methods were employed: (1) standard size open Petri dishes ( 9 cm . diameter) containing tomato juice agar, and (2) modified Folin bubblers containing either 10 ml . of saline or 10 ml . pH 5 meat infusion dextrose broth through which a quantity of air measured by flow meter was bubbled. ${ }^{4}$

After exposure the open plates were incubated at $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. for 96 hours. The total bacterial counts and the Lactobacilli counts were made by means of a wide-field dissecting microscope. After air-sampling with bubblers, their contents were transferred to the trap; 5 ml : of saline was added through the bubbler tube, and its walls washed five times with this saline by means of a $1-\mathrm{ml}$. pipette. The walls of the bubbler were washed by vigorous shaking of the saline which was then added to the liquid in the trap. A count of the viable organisms in this sampler was made; the pour plate technique using ten plates was

[^1]followed. Dilutions were made whenever necessary. The plates were incubated 72 to 96 hours at $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. The total number of bacterial colonies and the number of Lactobacilli colonies were counted as described above. The tables present only the results regarding the Lactobacilli counts. Impinger-type air-sampling devices were not used since the media favored excessive mold growth.


Figure 1.-Bubbler air sampler, modified Folin type, or aeroscope, with trap.
Atomization.-In the preliminary work, the failure to recover bacteria from the air (where they were expected to occur as droplet nuclei) made necessary a study of the behavior of the test organisms in the form of droplet nuclei. An aspirator-type atomizer was selected which would produce a predominance of droplets of such dimensions as would be readily airborne at the same time retaining the larger droplets. Such an atomizer was found in the Graeser atomizer, modified by Buchbinder (12) (fig. 2). In this atomizer an air current
passes the surface of a bacteria-containing liquid at high velocity ${ }^{5}$ and nebulizes the suspension, the stream of minute droplets and vapor goes through the widened part of the atomizer and finally enters the room through the outlet tubing at about one-thirtieth the original velocity. Thus a certain number of bacteria are retained for various reasons (collision with the sidewalls, evaporation of bacteria-laden droplets caught on the walls, etc.). These conditions are aerodynam-


Figure 2.-Atomizer, modified by Buchbinder, in which the baffle retains most of the coarse droplets, and which allows atomization of as much as 12 ml .
ically somewhat similar to those occurring in the oral cavity, where the pulmonary air current is converged to pass through the laryngeal outlet and strikes the bacteria-laden moist surfaces of the membranes of the pharynx. This air current is slowed down upon entering the widening buccal cavity and is again accelerated on its passage through the lips or nose. The extent to which such an analogy is valid is debatable because of the aerodynamic complexity of the human respiratory tract.

[^2]
## EXPERIMENTAL

1. Determination of the number of Lactobacilli expelled from the human mouth.

Subjects were placed at a laboratory work bench each having in front of him on the bench 9 to 20 open Petri dishes at a level 8 inches below his mouth. One bubbler sampler with the inlet at mouth height was placed at a distance of about 6 inches directly in front of each subject. The air was drawn through the bubbler sampler at the rate of 1 cubic foot per minute. During the 20 -minute sampling period the subjects while chewing paraffin were required to pronounce the letters $\mathrm{f}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{p}$, and t at the rate of 96 to 120 letters per minute. These consonants were chosen because their "jet velocity" is the highest of the letters of the alphabet (13). The bacterial counts of the open exposed plates and bubbler samplers were determined as described above. This procedure was also followed when the subjects were required to cough or sneeze a certain number of times.

A typical speaking experiment resulted in two sets of data, namely, the plate counts which represent organisms expelled from the mouth and deposited chiefly by gravity, and the bacterial count of the bubbler sampler which consists of the total number of bacteria in a measured amount of air in front of the individual speaker. Typical results of experiments of this type are given in table 1.

This table shows that the subjects had relatively high Lactobacilli counts. Nevertheless, with one exception, no Lactobacilli were recovered in the bubbler sample of 20 cubic feet of air collected 6 inches from the mouth of each individual speaking. Positive results were obtained only on the open plates in front of the subjects; an average of 4.3 colonies per plate was found. The distribution of colonies on the individual open plate was typical of a droplet contamination. The plates nearest the speaker had the highest counts and the colonies on these plates were not uniformly distributed but occurred in groups. This was especially obvious in the coughing experiments, in which a total of 93 organisms was found in 3 of the 18 plates counted. These results, obtained with the exposed Petri dishes, support the findings reported about 50 years ago by Fluegge and his collaborators, who used the Petri dish technique for the determination of the spread of artificially implanted Serratia marcescens from the upper respiratory tract (14, 15, 16, 17, 18).

The counts obtained by us are lower than might be expected on the basis of results reported in other studies (19, 20, 21). In regard to the latter, however, attention may be called to the fact that in the present study the index organisms, Lactobacilli, necessarily come from the oral cavity only, whereas in other studies the origin of the organisms is uncertain.

Table 1.-Showing the number of Lactobacilli recovered from bubblers and open
Petri dishes which were exposed for 20 minutes in front of subjects pronouncing aloud the letters $s, f, p$, and $t$, or sneezing, or coughing ${ }^{1}$

| Date | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Sub- } \\ & \text { ject } \\ & \text { num- } \\ & \text { ber } \end{aligned}$ | Number $L$. acidophilus per cubic centimeter saliva |  | Numplates exposed |  | Number of plates positive | Num- $L$. acidophilus recovplates | Remarks |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Dec. 4, 1944 | 1 |  | 0 | 12 | 12 |  | 15 | s, f, p, t. |
|  | 2 |  | 0 | 12 | 9 | 2 | 4 | s, Do. |
|  | 3 |  | 0 | 12 | 9 | 1 | 5 | Do. |
| Dec. 27, 1944...- | 1 |  | 0 | 12 | 9 | 4 | 7 | Do. |
|  | 2 |  | 0 | 12 | 9 | 7 | 31 | Do. |
|  | 3 |  | M ${ }^{0}$ | 12 | 9 | 4 | ${ }_{1}^{11}$ | Do. |
| June 6, 1945....- | 1 | $\begin{aligned} & 120,000 \\ & 165,000 \end{aligned}$ | Moldy- | 9 9 | 4 6 | $\begin{aligned} & 2 \\ & 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r}3 \\ 20 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | Do. |
|  | 4 | 150,000 | --.do.-. | 9 | 6 | 2 | 2 | Do. |
| June 21, 1945...- | 1 | 150,00 | - $\begin{array}{r}\text { - }\end{array}$ | 16 | 14 | 14 | 317 | Do. ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |
|  | 2 |  | 0 | 16 | 14 | 7 | 25 | Do. ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |
|  | 4 |  | 0 | 16 | 16 | 3 | $\begin{array}{r}7 \\ 42 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | Do. ${ }^{3}$ |
| July 20, 1945...- |  |  | 1 0 | 16 16 | 12 | 8 9 | 42 253 | Do. ${ }^{\text {Do. }}$ |
|  | 2 | 5 ${ }^{\text {24,525,000 }} \mathbf{1 7 5 , 0 0 0}$ | -0 | 16 16 | 12 | 9 6 | $\begin{array}{r}253 \\ 54 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | Do. ${ }^{\text {Do. }}$ |
| Aug. 1, 1945....- | 1 | 25, 000 | $\bigcirc 0$ | 20 | 20 | 8 | 17 18 | Do. 6 |
|  | 2 | 206, 000 | ${ }^{6} 0$ | 20 | 19 | 5 | 18 | Do. ${ }^{6}$ |
| Total |  |  |  | 235 | 193 | 91 | 831 |  |
| Aug. 8, 1945 ...- | 1 |  |  | 12 |  | 2 | 2 |  |
| July 20, 1945...- | 2 |  |  | 12 | 1 | 1 | 60 | 1 sneeze directly in plate |
| Aug. 1, 1945-.-- | 12 | $\begin{array}{r} 25,000 \\ 206,000 \end{array}$ |  | 20 20 | 20 18 | 3 3 | 3 93 | Coughing 10 minutes. |
| Dec. 27, 1944...- | 1 |  |  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 | Speaking directly in plat |
|  | 2 |  |  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | for 5 minutes. |
| Dec. 27, 1944---- | 3 |  |  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | Breathing directly in |
| De. 27, 104.--- | 2 |  |  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | plate, 10 minutes. |

${ }^{1}$ Room temperatures ranged between $73^{\circ}$ and $85^{\circ}$ F.: relative humidity ranged from 56 to 68 percent.
${ }^{2}$ Difference between number of plates exposed and number counted represents those plates overgrown with molds.
${ }^{3}$ Subject used deliberate "wet" speech throughout speaking period.
${ }^{4}$ Occasional sneeze during the 20 -minute speaking period.
${ }^{1}$ Subject gargled with suspension of Lactobacilli prior to experiment.

- After removing an aliquot for counting, the remaining portion of the babbler medium was incubated or 48 hours, at which time it was found positive for Lactobacilli.

The second observation made in this series of speaking experiments is that Lactobacilli were not recovered in the bubbler devices used to sample the air around the speaker. The results with oral Lactobacilli do not support Wells' explanation (22) of the low recovery observied by Fluegge, namely, that most of the bacteria expelled from the mouth would become suspended in the air as droplet nuclei and only a few would fall directly to the open plates.
The recovery of only a few Lactobacilli on the open plates and none in the air samplers could be explained by the fact that the concentration of Lactobacilli in the mouths of the subjects was too low for a detectable number to be expelled. This raised the question of how many organisms had to be available under experimental conditions for atomization into the air in order to recover consistently positive air samples. To obtain information on this question it seemed best to atomize suspensions with known numbers of Lactobacilli into an experimental room.
2. Determination of the number of Lactobacilli expelled from an aspirator atomizer.

Chamber experiments were conducted in which Lactobacilli were suspended in saline, broth, mucin, serums, and purulent exudate ${ }^{7}$ in various concentrations and atomized into an experimental chamber $82^{\prime \prime} \times 116^{\prime \prime} \times 94^{\prime \prime}$, or about 500 cubic feet (23), and the air was then sampled with open plates and with bubblers.

The bacterial suspensions were atomized for a period of 20 to 25 minutes. Samples were taken at 30 - to 40 -minute intervals after the start of atomization. The open Petri dishes were exposed for 20 minutes at each time interval, and the bubbler samplers were operated at the rate of 1 cubic foot per minute for the same period. The results of a few experiments of each series are presented in detail in table 2, and a summary of the results of all experiments is shown in table 3. It may be noted (table 2) that broth and mucin used as the collecting menstrua in the bubblers consistently yielded higher counts than saline. For this reason the average of the counts obtained from the bubblers containing broth are summarized in table 3. It can be seen from these results that the number of bacteria recovered from the chamber air decreases with each time interval, from one-tenth to threetenths of the previous value in both bubbler and plate samples. As could be expected, there is a direct relationship between the number of organisms originally in the atomizer and the number recovered, although the variability is considerable. Under the conditions of these experiments, the fluid to be atomized must contain between 200,000 and $1,000,000$ organisms per ml . in order that a measurable number of organisms may be recovered from the air into which the fluid is atomized by the sampling methods used.

The variability in the results is too great in this series to draw any definite conclusions regarding the effect of the atomizing medium on the recovery of Lactobacilli. It was thought, however, that this variability might in some way be associated with those factors which caused the great discrepancy between the number theoretically atomized and the number calculated to be present in the room. For instance, in experiment No. 14, $1,345,000,000\left(9 \times 149.5 \times 10^{6}\right)$ organisms were atomized into the room (as based on the amount of liquid disappearing from the atomizer). Yet samples taken 5 to 10 minutes after atomization ceased showed only about 24,138 organisms per cubic foot, or $12,069,000$ for the room. The number of bacilli in the suspension which was added to the atomizer was always determined, but the discrepancy between the number of organisms expected in the air

[^3]samples and a number found made it necessary to know how many bacteria actually left the atomizer.

Measurement of the atomizer output.-In order to measure the output of bact ria by the atomizer, its outlet was directly connected by a piece of rubber tubing with two bubbler samplers in series. Ten ml. of a Lactobacilii suspension was atomized for 20 minutes. After atomization the number of bacteria in the residue of the atomizer and in the liquid of both bubblers was determined by plating. The results are presented in table 4.

It can be seen from these results that:
First, there is a considerable difference between the number of organisms present in the atomizer before atomization and the number found in the bubblers after atomization.

Second, bacteria are more readily atomized when suspended in serum or saliva than in saline, and mucin is a deterrent to atomization.

Third, the number of organisms present in the atomizer after atomization is considerable and does not bear a fixed relationship to the number originally present.

The results show that the number of organisms leaving the atomizer is dependent on the number originally present, but that the number which is left behind shows considerable variability. It was thought that this variability might be due to the manner of atomization by which the larger droplets are thrown against the glass walls of the atomizer, whereas the smaller droplets are expelled carrying numbers of bacteria which bear a direct relation to the concentration of the suspension. The liquid from the larger droplets on the walls will evaporate, leaving the bacteria behind. Subsequent washing resuspends these bacteria in varying degrees, causing a great variability in the count of the residue. Experiments were performed in order to determine whether this "plastering effect" was a characteristic of bacteria or whether it was a general phenomenon due to the type of atomizer used, and also to determine the influence of the suspending medium on this phenomenon.
3. Atomization of nonliving particles in suspension and of true solutions.

The amount of suspended material expelled by the atomizer was determined in order to compare atomization of nonliving particles with expulsion of bacteria. Arrowroot starch was tried as a test material since this type of starch has grains of uniform size. Five ml. of saline were mixed with 5 ml . of a starch suspension ( 5 gm . starch per 20 gm . distilled water). This suspension was added to the atomizer together with a few drops of iodine in a solution of potassium iodide and atomized at the rate of 1 cubic foot per minute for 20
Table 2.-Detailed results of a few experiments on atomization of bacterial suspensions into a closed chamber (82'x116'x94'). These data per minute for a period of $\mathcal{Z O}$ minutes and the average number of bacteria recovered on open Petri dishes. exposed at certain intervals after beginning of atomization

\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline \multicolumn{4}{|l|}{Atomization} \& \multicolumn{8}{|l|}{Recovery} \& \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{\[
\begin{gathered}
\text { Room } \\
\text { conditions }
\end{gathered}
\]} \\
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\]} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{\begin{tabular}{l}
per milliliter \\
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\end{tabular}} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{\[
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\end{aligned}
\]} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{Suspending media} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{Time
after
start of
atomi-
zation
(int min-
utes)} \& \multicolumn{6}{|l|}{In bubblers} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{\begin{tabular}{c} 
Open \\
\(\begin{array}{c}\text { Petri } \\
\text { dishes }\end{array}\) \\
\hline-- \\
\(\begin{array}{c}\text { A verage } \\
\text { of } 10 \\
\text { dishes }\end{array}\) \\
\hline
\end{tabular}} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{Temp.} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{Relative ity (in per-
cent)} \\
\hline \& \& \& \& \& \[
\begin{gathered}
\text { Me- } \\
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\text { in bub- } \\
\text { blers }
\end{gathered}
\] \& Average
number bacteria piliters \& \(\underset{\substack{\text { Milli- } \\ \text { liters of } \\ \text { liquid }}}{\text {. }}\) recovered \& \[
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\] \& \begin{tabular}{c}
\(\begin{array}{c}\text { Number } \\
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\text { goot }\end{array}\) \\
\hline
\end{tabular} \& Recovered of number atomized \& \& \& \\
\hline \multirow[t]{3}{*}{15} \& \multirow[t]{3}{*}{\(10.94 \times 10^{0} \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots\)} \& \multirow[t]{3}{*}{9.0} \& \multirow[t]{3}{*}{Saline.} \& 30 \& B
\(B_{8}\)
\(M_{5}\) \& 143.5
124.0
272.0 \& 10.6
11.4
10.8 \& \(10-1\)
\(10-1\)
0 \& 761.0
707.0
147.0 \& 0.000770
.000720
.000150 \& 432.0 \& \multirow[t]{3}{*}{\(80.5{ }^{\circ}\)} \& \multirow[t]{3}{*}{59} \\
\hline \& \& \& \& 60 \&  \& 18.5
29.5
6.4
6.4 \& 11.6
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\end{aligned}
\] \& 107.0
18.0
36.0 \& .000110
.000170
.000040 \& 91.0 \& \& \\
\hline \& \& \& \& 90 \& B
\(\mathrm{B}_{8}\)
\(\mathrm{~B}_{8}\)
\(\mathrm{M}_{5}\) \& 43.3
121.0
21.8 \& 11.1
10.8
12.1 \& 0
0
0 \& 24.1
65.
13.2 \& \[
\begin{array}{r}
.000024 \\
.000066 \\
.000013
\end{array}
\] \& 25.0 \& \& \\
\hline \multirow[t]{2}{*}{11} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{\(\overline{0.022 \times 10^{0} \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots}\)} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{9.0} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{Saline} \& 60 \& \(\mathrm{Br}_{8}\)
\(\mathrm{~B}_{1}\)
\(\mathrm{~S}_{7}\)
\(\mathrm{~S}_{7}\) \& 0.0
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\end{tabular} \& 0.0 \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{\(82^{\circ}\)} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{63} \\
\hline \& \& \& \& 120 \& B6

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$\qquad$} \& 30 \&  \& 63.7
74.8
74.8
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28.7 \& 11.2
11.4
11.9

11.7 \& $$
\begin{aligned}
& 100 \\
& 10-1 \\
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$$ \& \[

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\begin{aligned}
& 357.0 \\
& 427.0 \\
& 149.0 \\
& 156.0
\end{aligned}
$$
\] \& .000920

.001090
.000380
.000400 \& 199.0 \& 81. $5^{\circ}$ \& 48 <br>

\hline \& \& \& \& 60 \&  \& | 90.5 |
| :--- |
| $\begin{array}{l}\text { 35.6 } \\ 19.6 \\ 36.5 \\ 36.0\end{array}$ | \& $\begin{array}{r}9.7 \\ 11.5 \\ 11.6 \\ 11.3 \\ \hline\end{array}$ \& 0

0
0
0
0 \& 43.9
20.5
11.3
20.4 \& 000112
.000053
000029
000052 \& 28.0 \& \& <br>
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[^4]Table 3.-Results, in summarized form, of experiments on atomization of bacterial suspensions into a closed chamber (82'' $x 116^{\prime \prime} x 94^{\prime \prime}$ ).

4.-Showing the number and percentage of organisms which could be recovered from (1) two aeroscopes which were directly connected with an atomizer, when a certain amount of bacteria was atomized from various suspending media during 20 minutes, and (2) from the atomizer after atomization. (Columns 5 and 7 present the recovery of bacteria, in percentage of the number originally added to the atomizer.)

| $\underset{\substack{\text { Experiment } \\ \text { number }}}{ }$ | Number of bacteria in atomizer (in millions) | Suspending medium | Number of bacteria in atomizer residue (in millions) | Percent of total recovered in atomizer residue | Number of bacteris recovered from bubbler (in millions) | Percent of total recovered from bubbler |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 13346... | 970.0 | Saline....-...........-- | 313.0 | 32.3 | 83.4 | 8.6 |
| 42. | 565.0 | .-do... | 419.0 | 74.2 | 125.0 | 22.1 |
| 8645 | 242.6 | ....do. | 147.0 | 60.4 | 28.3 | 11.7 |
| 15645 | 166.0 | ..do | 32.6 | 19.6 | 27.3 | 16.5 |
| 37. | 146.0 | ....do. | 50.4 | 34.5 | 10.7 | 7.3 |
| 40. | 137.3 | -do. | 49.3 | 35.9 | 12.7 | 9.2 |
| 44 | 126.0 | .-do | 79.0 | 62.9 | 23.2 | 18.4 |
|  | 116.5 | ....do. | 68.7 | 59.0 | 29.1 | 25.1 |
| 42 | 92.3 | .do | 38.6 | 41.8 | 15.7 | 17.0 |
| 41. | 72.4 | .do | 30.8 | 42.5 | 10.1 | 14.0 |
| 27945 | 51.2 | do | 28.4 | 55.4 | 11.1 | 21.7 |
| 12945 | 44.8 | -...-do | 22.9 | 51.1 | 7. 64 | 17.1 |
| 14945 | 40.7 | -....do- | 22.0 | 54.0 | 5. 24 | 12.9 |
| 20945 | 22.0 | ..do. | 14.9 | 67.5 | 3.79 | 17.2 |
| A verage. |  |  |  |  |  | 15.6 |
| 42. | 1,809.0 | Mucin 5 percent.....- | 1,395. 0 | 77.1 | 186.2 | 10.0 |
| 8845. | 679.8 | .-.do-..- | 1294.0 | 43.3 | 28.8 | 4.2 |
| 44 | 570.0 | -do | 1 1, 029.0 | 180.5 | 60.6 | 10.6 |
| 44. | 162.0 | do | 148.9 | 91.9 | 13.9 | 8.6 |
| 43. | 121.6 | do | 109.0 | 89.7 | 8.1 | 6.6 |
| 38. | 117.1 | ..do | 115.0 | 98.5 | 2.06 | 1.8 |
| 41. | 90.5 | -do | 75.4 | 83.3 | 3. 65 | 4.0 |
| 42 | 86.1 | ..do | 63.6 | - 73.9 | 2.23 | 2.6 |
| 26945 | 71.6 | do | 48.2 | 67.3 | 3.47 | 4.8 |
| 19945 | 51.7 | do | 27.2 | 52.6 | 1.13 | 2.2 |
| 31745 | 41.0 | do | 21.1 | 51.4 | 1.24 | 3.0 |
| 26745 | 30.0 | do | 11.9 | 39.6 | 2.26 | 7.5 |
| 13945 | 1.4 | do | . 735 | 52.5 | . 11 | 7.8 |
| A verage |  |  |  |  |  | 5.7 |
| 41... | 74.2 | Mucin $21 / 2$ percent.. | 58.0 | 78.1 | 9. 2 | 12.4 |
| 43 | 276.0 | Serum 90 percent.... | 185.0 | 68.1 | 52.1 | 18.9 |
| 39. | 142.5 | .... do.........- | 55.9 | 39.2 | ${ }_{35}^{21.7}$ | 15.2 29.6 |
| 43-.---.-.------ | 119.3 | do. | 89.2 | 74.8 | 35.3 | 29.6 |
| 161045 A verage |  |  |  |  |  | 21.2 |
| 171045 | 41.7 |  | 22.1 | 53.1 | 7.89 | 17.5 18.9 |
| A verage. |  |  |  |  |  | 18.2 |

${ }^{1}$ Original solution prepared from 3-day-old culture.
minutes into a modified Folin bubbler, containing 5 ml . saline and a few drops of the I-KI solution. No blue color could be detected in the bubbler; the bubbler content, after 10 minutes centrifugation, contained only a trace of starch sediment. The color in the atomizer gained in intensity, and nearly all the starch particles could be recovered by centrifugation. Apparently the starch was retained, only water droplets not containing starch grains and water vapor left the atomizer, the starch grains being too heavy for atomization.
A similar experiment using erythrocytes was unsuccessful since hemolysis occurred during atomization. Further experimentation was done using a true solution for the determination of the effect of atomization of a dissolved compound on its distribution over the
atomizer and the bubbler. The substance had to be detectable in saline, in broth, or in other mixtures. The color of broth made the quantitative detection of uranine by spectroscopic means impractical. Likewise, the constitution of the solvent mixture limited the choice of chemically detectable substances considerably. Following a suggestion by Dr . Small, ${ }^{8} \mathrm{BaCl}_{2}$ was used. It is readily determined quantitatively by titration using $\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$ in the presence of Narhodizonate (24). A number of determinations of $\mathrm{BaCl}_{2}$ dissolved in the various solvent mixtures gave satisfactory recovery indicating that this compound could be used. Table 5 presents some of the results, showing that a portion of the water evaporates, thus leaving the $\mathrm{BaCl}_{2}$ settled against the sidewalls and increasing the total concentration of the $\mathrm{BaCl}_{2}$ in the atomizer. Another portion of the water is atomized into the bubbler sampler, carrying a certain amount of $\mathrm{BaCl}_{2}$.

Table 5.-Amount of $\mathrm{BaCl}_{2}$ found in atomizer and bubbler sampler after atomization of $a$ solution containing $\mathrm{BaCl}_{2}$.

| Solution before atomization | Time of atomization | Milliliters left in atomizer | Milliliter of 0.1 N $\mathrm{BaCl}_{2}$ found in- |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Atomizer | Bubbler |
| 3 ml . $0.1 \mathrm{~N} \mathrm{BaC1} 2+7 \mathrm{ml}$. saline. |  | 6.2 | 2.48 | 0.6 |
| 3 ml . $0.1 \mathrm{~N} \mathrm{BaCl2}+7 \mathrm{ml}$. saline |  | 4.5 | 2.5 | . 8 |
| 2 ml . $0.1 \mathrm{~N} \mathrm{BaClz}+8 \mathrm{ml}$. saline. | 25 minutes. | 12.0 | 1.1 | . 9 |
| 3 ml . $0.1 \mathrm{~N} \mathrm{BaCl}{ }_{2}+7 \mathrm{ml}$. saline. | 10 minutes. | 16.0 | 2.8 | . 6 |

${ }^{1}$ Approximate number of ml. calculated from calibration curve for atomizer output.
A mucin-starch solution, atomized directly into the sampling device did not show any starch-containing sediment after centrifugation of the sampler liquid. Similarly, the amount of $\mathrm{BaCl}_{2}$ recoverable in the bubbler sampler after 25 minutes of atomization of a 5 -percent mucin- $\mathrm{BaCl}_{2}$ solution was only half of the amount which was recoverable from a saline- $\mathrm{BaCl}_{2}$ solution. The experiments show that the "plastering effect" is a general phenomenon when atomization is performed with an aspirator type atomizer with reflux, and confirm the previous finding that mucin is a deterrent to atomization. The results suggested that the great discrepancy between the number of bacteria available for atomization and the number actually recovered (table 4) might be due to the fact that a considerable number of bacteria do not leave the atomizer. These bacteria should be recoverable by washing the atomizer walls. This was attempted in a number of cases.

A typical example of experiments designed to evaluate this "plastering" phenomenon is as follows: A 10 ml . saline suspension containing

[^5]$53,000,000$ Lactobacilli was placed in the atomizer and atomized for a period of 20 minutes into a system of two bubblers connected in series to the atomizer outlet. After this atomization period was completed, it was found that only about 2 ml ., 20 percent, of the original suspension, remained in the atomizer, but this residue contained $23,700,000$, or 45 percent of the original number of organisms present. The atomizer was then washed with 5 ml . of saline by shaking and rubbing the accessible inner walls with a rubber policeman. This "atomizer wash" suspension was found to contain about $8,000,000$ or 15 percent of the original number of organisms. Thus, at least 60 percent of the bacteria never left the atomizer. The small piece of rubber tubing (approximately 3 inches long) which connected the atomizer to the first bubbler was washed with 5 ml . of saline, and this suspension was found to contain $1,165,000$, or 2 percent of the original number of bacteria. The contents of the bubblers were treated as described above. About $4,455,000$, or 8 percent of the original number of organisms, were found in the first bubbler and only about 11,000 , or 0.02 percent, in the second bubbler. The total number of bacteria accounted for in such an experiment was about $37,330,000$, or 70 percent of the total number placed in the atomizer.

It may be noted that, although only 20 percent of the original saline suspension was left in the atomizer, 60 percent of the bacteria could be found remaining behind. Since about 10 percent of the total area of the atomizer was accessible to rubbing and this process of cleaning was not standardized, the counts have little quantitative value. However, they serve to indicate one source of discrepancy between the actual and the calculated recovery.

If it had been possible to rub the whole area of the atomizer, the number of the organisms recovered would probably have exceeded 100 percent in most experiments. This variability in the number of bacteria recovered is great and can exceed 100 percent because of the breaking up of the bacterial clusters in the original suspensions during the process of atomization. Evidence that this breaking up of bacterial clusters actually occurs was supplied by microscopic examination of the bacterial suspensions before and after atomization. Invariably a certain number of small clusters were encountered in the suspension before atomization, whereas usually they were absent afterwards. This breaking up of clusters has been shown previously to be responsible for the "high efficiency" of sampling devices of the atomizer type in recovering air-borne micro-organisms (11). The number of bacteria recovered in the second bubbler is only 0.02 percent of the number of bacteria recovered from the first bubbler, indicating that nearly all atomized organisms retainable by the bubblers were retained by the first bubbler.

Our data on the number of bacteria which remain in the atomizer show that the behavior of bacteria in this respect is intermediate between the behavior of arrowroot starch, of which nearly all remains behind, and that of $\mathrm{BaC1}_{2}$ in solution, of which half is recovered in the bubbler sampler after 25 minutes of atomization, although 80 percent of the original liquid is atomized. From the above results it is clear that the best reference number available for the study of the behavior of a known amount of bacteria atomized into the air is the number of organisms which can be recovered in a sampler which is directly connected with the atomizer. This number represents the number of bacteria which actually leave the atomizer when a similar bacterial suspension is atomized into a room. On the basis of these results the experiments which follow were performed.
4. Determination of the number of bacteria recoverable after atomization of a known number into the air.

A bacterial suspension was prepared to be used in atomization and divided into two equal portions. One portion was atomized at the side of a wall bench in a laboratory which was thoroughly cleaned beforehand and where all stray air currents (from windows, ventilators, etc.) were eliminated as far as possible. The spread of the organisms in the air of the laboratory room by this atomization was determined by placing three bubblers at a distance of 1,3 , and 6 feet, respectively, from the opening of the atomizer (table 6-bubbler samples 1,2 , and 3). Care was taken that the inlets of the bubbler samplers were in line with the outlet opening of the atomizer, i. e., 20 inches above the bench. Two rows of Petri dishes were placed 6 inches apart on the bench in such a manner that the first pair of Petri dishes was placed 1 foot behind the outlet of the atomizer and the following pairs at 6 -inch intervals from each other along the work bench (table 6-Petri dishes, positions $\Lambda$ and B). Additional plates were placed at two other locations ${ }^{9}$ in the room in order to obtain some information as to the spread of the organisms throughout the room (table 6positions $\mathbf{C}$ and D). A bacterial suspension was atomized into the room for 20 minutes, with the Petri dishes exposed and the bubblers operated during this period. Five to 10 minutes after termination of the atomization a second set of plates was exposed and one bubbler sample was taken in order to determine the number of organisms still remaining and settling from the air (table 6). Bacterial counts were made of the suspension added to the atomizer, of the suspension remaining in the atomizer after spraying, and of the liquid obtained from the bubbler sampler. Dilutions were made if necessary, and the bacterial count determined by the pour-plate method.

[^6]Table 6.-Showing the number and percent of bacteria recovered in modified Folin bubblers operated at the rate of 1 cubic foot per minute and on 34 open Petri dishes, exposed during 20 minutes of atomization and 5 to 10 minutes after atomization of a certain number of bacteria
into a room; also results obtained $5-10$ minutes after atomization

| $\underset{\substack{\text { Expert } \\ \text { mumt } \\ \text { num. } \\ \text { ber }}}{ }$ | Atomization |  | Recovery |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Room conditions |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Suspending medium | Number bacteria atomized in room ${ }^{\text {1 }}$ | In bubhlers |  |  |  |  | On 34 open Petri dishes |  |  |  |  | Tem-perature in degrees Fahrenheit | $\begin{gathered} \text { Rela- } \\ \text { tive } \\ \text { humidi- } \\ \text { ty (in } \\ \text { per- } \\ \text { cent) } \end{gathered}$ |
|  |  |  | Number |  |  | Percent recovered ${ }^{8}$ | Num. ber after 5-10 minutes | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Posi- } \\ & \text { tion } \\ & \text { A and } \\ & \text { B } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Posi- } \\ \text { tion } \\ \mathbf{C} \end{gathered}$ | Position D | Percent recov-ered | Number after 5-10 minutes |  |  |
|  |  |  | Sampler 1 | Sampler 2 | Sampler 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1346 | Saline. | 117, 500, 000 | 3,046, 000 | 238, 000 | 85,000 | 2.9 | 1.877 | 26,300 | 6, 700 | 5,700 | 0.03 | 458 | 78 | 33 |
| 13346 | ...do | 83, 375.000 | 6,250,000 | 856,000 | 96,000 | 8.6 | 2,037 | 58, 400 | 11,600 | 12,000 | . 10 | 610 | 78 | 33 |
| 12945 | .do | 7, 641,000 | 1, 675, 000 | 28,000 | 7,000 | 14.5 | ${ }^{2} 33$ | 4,800 | ${ }^{6} 600$ | 400 | . 07 | 17 | 84 | 46 |
| 8645 15645 | do | 28, 341,000 | 3, 581,000 | 494,000 | 100,000 | 14.7 |  | 97, 400 | 18,800 | 15,400 | . 35 | 656 | 85 | 80 |
| 27945 | do | 11,085, 000 | 1,365,000 | 203,000 | 48,000 | 14.6 | 225 | 13, 500 | 4, 4000 | 2,800 | . 19 | 214 | 88 | 69 |
| 14945 | ..do. | 5, 235, 000 | 1,816,000 | 29,000 | 11,000 | 16.4 | 37 | 15, 200 | 1, 500 | 1,000 | . 31 | 5 | 85 | 73 |
| 20945 | ..do. | 3, 784, 000 | 364, 000 | 50,000 | 34,000 | 11.8 | 968 | 4,900 | ${ }^{500}$ | 700 | . 16 | 20 | 77 | 66 |
|  | Mucin 5 percent |  |  |  | A verage | 11.5 |  |  |  | A verage | . 17 |  |  |  |
| 28945 | -...do..- | 28, 3 472,000 | 1,226,300 | 148,900 | 29, ${ }^{200}$ | 8.6 | 501 | 4, ${ }^{\text {2, }} 930$ | 7,760 | 286 360 | . 115 |  | 82 .84 | ${ }_{65 .} 5$ |
| 26745 | .do | 2, 264, 000 | 169, 200 | 33, 600 | 14, 100 | 9.6 | 54 | 4,044 | 1,312 | 687 | . 27 | 7 | 87 | 77 |
| 31745 | do | 1,243,000 | 244,300 | 34, 200 | 14,200 | 23.5 |  | 1,794 | 1,387 | 1,224 | .35 | 95 | 84 | 74 |
| 19945 | do | 1, 134,000 | 141, 500 | 10,600 | 1,900 | 13.6 | 115 | 1,040 | 400 | 100 | . 13 | 4 | 77 | 58 |
| 13945 | do | 110,000 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 0.0 |  | 7 | 7 | 0 | . 03 | 0 | 80 | 56 |
|  |  |  |  |  | A verage | 12.6 |  |  |  | Average | . 20 |  |  |  |
| 161045 | Sailva 00 percent...- | 22,094,000 | $1,055,500$ 503,600 | 331,900 85,500 | 31,800 23,400 | 16.42 8.65 | 290 | 15,052 | 2,142 | $\begin{array}{r}1,462 \\ 1,336 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | . 05 | 9 | 87 | 72 |
| 171045 | do | 7,890, 000 | 698, 000 | 65, 700 | 12,800 | 8. 57 | 107 | 6, 332 | , 680 | ${ }^{1} 605$ | . 08 | 95 | 79.5 | 43 |
|  |  |  |  |  | Average | 6.9 |  |  |  | Average | . 06 |  |  |  |

${ }^{1}$ Represents the number of bacteria found from similar bacterial suspensions in connected bubbler.
$\frac{2 \text { Number bacteria recovered }}{\text { Number bacteria atomized }} \times 100$.

The second portion of the bacterial suspension was atomized for 20 minutes into a bubbler sampler directly connected to the atomizer. The number of organisms found in this bubbler was the number assumed to be expelled in the air when 10 ml . of the same bacterial suspension was atomized into the air for the same time under the same external conditions. The number of organisms actually found


Figure 3.-Showing the distribution of Lactobacilli colonies on 2 rows of open Petri dishes placed at intervals of 6 inches along the path of atomization. Position 1 and 2 underneath atomizer. (Data taken from experiments 8845, 25645, 1346, 26745, and 12945 of Table 6).
on the open plates and in the samplers placed at 1,3 , and 6 feet from the outlet of the atomizer was subsequently expressed in percentages of the number found in the connected bubbler sampler. Table 6 presents these results in summarized form.

The results show that the greatest number of the organisms recovered is found in the bubbler sampler placed only 1 foot from the
atomizer (in the saline series an average of 10 percent of the total number expelled). The recovery in bubblers No. 2 and No. 3 is only a fraction of the number recovered in bubbler No. 1, indicating that the organisms settle rapidly. This is further born out by the fact that the maximum of settling on the open plates, which were placed 20 inches below the atomizer outlet, is reached at 4 to 6 feet from the atomizer, as shown on figure 3. An average of 0.17 percent of the total number of expelled organisms was recovered on the 34 open plates in the A and B positions. Apparently, the organisms lost altitude so rapidly that bubblers No. 2 and No. 3, which were placed at the same height as the atomizer outlet, failed to apprehend the organisms which settled on the plates placed below these bubblers. Table 6 further shows that the open plates placed at 8 and 12 feet and not in line with the stream of atomized bacteria (series C and D) apprehended only one-fifth of the number caught by open-plate series A and B . The rapid settling rate is further indicated by the small number of organisms found in both bubblers and plates, exposed 5 to 9 minutes after the end of atomization, being only 0.0001 to 0.000001 percent of the total expelled. For instance, of the $83,000,000$ organisms expelled (experiment No. 13,346) only 2,000 organisms were recovered in the bubbler sampler placed at position 2 , and 600 organisms on 34 plates exposed around this bubbler. It can further be seen from the table that the minimal number of bacteria in the air necessary to recover any organisms at all under conditions of the above experiments is somewhere between 100,000 and $1,000,000$. This is roughly half the number which the suspension in the atomizer must contain in order to recover any organisms from the air into which the fluid is atomized.

There is some indication that humidity plays a role in that at high relative humidity the organisms settle somewhat faster than at low humidity. However, the variability of the results is too great to draw a definite conclusion in this respect.

In contrast to the results presented in table 4 in which the suspending medium influenced the number of bacteria which could be atomized, the results given in table 6 show that once the organisms have left the atomizer no clear-cut effect of the medium in which they were suspended can be discerned. In general the results of this set of experiments (table 6, figure 3) are in accordance with those obtained from the speaking experiments. They demonstrate that the chance of aerial spread of suspended, bacteria-carrying particles from person to person is very small, but becomes greater at distances within the range of directly expelled particles. Investigations made for a different purpose have shown that the rapid settling rate as demon-
strated for the Lactobacilli is also found with air-borne micro-organisms in general when suspended in the air (unpublished material).

## DISCUSSION

Quantitative study of the spread of air-borne disease required an easily recognizable, noninfectious test organism, with which pathogens may coexist in the respiratory tract and which could be expected to be spread in the same manner as the pathogens. This is particularly necessary in attempting studies of pathogens, as an example, tubercle bacilli which present serious technical difficulties in their enumeration. L. acidophilus is such an organism and was used in the present work. In a series of speaking experiments, the Lactobacilli present in the oral cavity of the subjects could not be demonstrated in the surrounding air. This result occurred despite the fact that the organisms were expelled from the mouth, as evidenced by their recovery on open plates.

These findings led to studies on dissemination of $L$. acidophilus suspensions into the air by means of an aspirator-type atomizer. It was found that evaporation of the suspending medium, secondary "plastering" of the organisms on the inner walls of the atomizer, and the kind of suspension medium influenced the number of organisms that could be atomized into the air. Of special interest was the fact that organisms suspended in a mucin solution did not atomize as well as when saline suspensions were employed. This fact is of significance when considering the possibility of disease-producing bacteria becoming directly air-borne from the respiratory tract of the host, keeping in mind the place of origin, i. e., as mouth droplets or throat droplets (13). Furthermore, it was found that Lactobacilli which become air-borne by atomization stay suspended for only a short period under varying conditions of temperature and humidity. Similar results were found with a mixed air-borne population of bacteria. These results indicate that the air-borne spread of micro-organisms by the direct route is possible only for very short distances. On the basis of the data presented here it might be well to reconsider the results of many studies such as those reported by Wells (21) and Hart (20), who interpret their data as favoring the spread of air-borne organisms by direct suspension (droplet nuclei).

Experiments on the quantitative relationship between the number of organisms available for suspension in the air and the number recovered from the air indicate that under the conditions of the above experiments, $10^{5}$ to $10^{7}$ organisms per cubic centimeter ${ }^{3}$ must be available for suspension in order to yield an air sample from which organisms can be recovered. This explains at least in part the negative
findings of the speaking experiments. The total number of organisms temporarily suspended in the air when speaking, coughing, and sneezing may be considerable. However, when a selective medium is used to test for a specific organism it is found by the method employed that the spread of this organism by direct suspension, immediately following expulsion, is limited. Quantitative studies on other organisms to measure the extent to which the bacteria become airborne from the upper respiratory tract should be instituted, since our experiments have demonstrated that, at least in the case of Lactobacilli, the number of organisms which become directly air-borne is extremely limited. The significance of our results can best be expressed by quoting from Fluegge's review (1899) of the work of himself and his collaborators:
"When we try to draw practical conclusions concerning droplet infection from the results of the experiments, then one had to admit above all, that a person, by the fact that he is in the neighborhood of a coughing phthisic, can inhale tubercle-bacillicontaining droplets which have been spread in the air by the phthisic during coughing spells.
"But the experiments teach us at the same time under which conditions and with what limits this manner of infection can occur.
"In the first place, by no means do all phthisics spray droplets. Individual differences, the varying contact of bacilli in the sputum, the time of day, etc., play a role herein. Many phthisics do not seem to spray anything at all; others only during a certain disease period; many only during a certain time of day.
"In the second place, the distance of the inhaling person from the coughing. one plays an important role. Up to 50 cm . [about 2 feet] quite strong spraying. occurs; from there on the quantity of floating droplets decreases enormously ${ }^{10}$ in accordance with the distribution of the expelled [by coughing] air in all directions: of the air space. At 1.5 m . distance [ 5 feet] the microscope slides usually remain sterile. However, one is not allowed to conclude from this that no bacteria occur in the more distant airlayers, since the aspirator experiments show that in the long run their presence can be demonstrated, but the dilution is so great that chances of infection are practically entirely absent.'"11

[^7]
## SUMMARY

(1) A series of experiments is reported on the use of $L$. acidophilus as a test organism in studies on air-borne bacteria.
(2) The results indicate that Lactobacilli from the upper respiratory tract do not become directly suspended in measurable quantity in the air surrounding an individual while he is speaking, coughing, or sneezing.
(3) An aspirator type atomizer was used to suspend Lactobacilli in the air. A considerable number of organisms subjected to atomization were retained in the atomizer under conditions of these experiments.
(4) The results of the atomization experiments show that a reliable value for the number of organisms expelled from a liquid bacterial suspension into the air can be obtained by atomization of an aliquot portion of the suspension into samplers directly connected to the atomizer.
(5) The media in which bacteria are suspended were found to influence atomization. A mucin suspension was found to be the most difficult medium used in these experiments from which bacteria could be suspended in the air.
(6) Lactobacilli which become suspended in the air from a liquid madium, either by natural or artificial means, settle out of the air at a very rapid rate.

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## A CASE OF $Q$ FEVER PROBABLY CONTRACTED BY EXPOSURE TO TICKS IN NATURE ${ }^{1}$

By Carl M. Eklund, Surgeon (R), R. R. Parker, Director, and David B. Lackman, Senior Assistant Scientist, Rocky Mountain Laboratory, United States Public Health Service.
Q fever, possibly contracted from a tick (Dermacentor andersoni) has been observed in a 24 -year-old male, who on March 28, 1947, was in Chaffin Creek Canyon in the Bitterroot Mountains, 20 miles southwest of Hamilton, Mont. Ticks were numerous and those removed from his clothes were destroyed by being crushed with his fingers. Slight malaise was noted on April 13, and during the night he awakened feeling warm. The next day headache and malaise were present. During the evening of April 15, he had a severe chill. Chills recurred the evenings of April 16 and 17. A physician was consulted on April 17. His impression was that the patient had influenza. On April 18 the patient felt better, but next day the symptoms reached their greatest severity. The patient felt better again on April 20; on April 21 the headache was gone for the first time and the patient felt well except for weakness. From then on improvement was progressive. The prominent symptoms were head-

[^8]ache, malaise, great difficulty in sleeping, and marked sweating during the night. Headache was continuous throughout the illness and seemed to be centered in back of the eyes. The patient felt fairly well in the morning but during the day became progressively more tired. Appetite was poor during the entire illness and there was a loss of weight of 10 pounds. Sweating at night was severe and appeared to follow the taking of aspirin. The patient was able to be up each day during the illness, but difficulty in sleeping was so marked that he disliked going to bed at night. A blood specimen was obtained April 21. At that time the patient appeared pale and showed evidence of weight loss, but stated that he felt well except for some weakness.

Laboratory examination.-On April 21 the white blood count was 8,000 with 60 percent polymorphonuclear leucocytes. The hemoglobin was 15.3 grams. Blood serum obtained on this day was negative for agglutinins for Pasteurella tularensis, $\mathbf{Q}$ fever rickettsiae, and sheep red cells. Agglutinins for Brucella abortus were present in insignificant titer. Further samples of serum were obtained on May 7 and May 21. No significant agglutinins for $P$. tularensis or B. abortus were observed in either of these specimens, and a Weil-Felix agglutination test was set up with the last specimen with no significant findings. The results of rickettsial complement fixation tests are summarized in table 1 and the results of rickettsial agglutination tests in table 2. Tests with other than $\mathbf{Q}$ fever antigens were negative.

Table 1.-Results of complement fixation tests with $Q$ fever antigens. Dilution of serum giving complete fixation with 2 units of antigen

| Serum |  |  | Antigen |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Samples obtained |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Henzerling } \\ & \text { strain } \\ & \text { (Italian) } \end{aligned}$ | Australian strain | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Paige } \\ & \text { strain } \\ & \text { (Italian) } \end{aligned}$ | Original American strain |
|  | Date | No. days after onset |  |  |  |  |
| 1. | Apr. 21. | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1:16 |
| 2. | May 7 | 24 | 1:512 | 1:256 | 1:256 | 1:512 |
| 3.-. | May 21. | 38 | 1:512 | 1:128 | 1:512 | 1:512 |

Table 2.-Results of agglutination tests with suspension of $Q$ fever rickettsiae (Aüstralian strain)

| Serum | Date sample obtained | Antigen |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 1:10 | 1:20 | 1:40 | 1:80 |
| 1. | Apr. 21 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2. | May 7 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 1 |
| ${ }^{3}$ Normal human | May 21 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 2 |
| Q fever, guinea pig |  | 3 | 3 | 2 | 0 |

Because of the positive complement fixation obtained with the second specimen, 1 ml . amounts of the first serum (which had been store $l$ in the refrigerator for 18 days) were injected intraperitoneally on May 9 into each of two guinea pigs, one of which showed a rise in temperature on the ninth day, the other on the tenth. One animal was killed on the fourth day of fever. The spleen was found to be about three times normal size, and rickettsiae were observed in impression smears. A suspension of liver and spleen from this animal was injected into 6 guinea pigs. Fever was observed in this group on the third day. The strain is now being carried in serial passage in guinea pigs. The second animal injected with the patient's serum recovered. This guinea pig and a second passage animal were each bled on the twentieth day after inoculation and their serums used for complement fixation tests for $\mathbf{Q}$ fever. Both serums were positive in a dilation of $1: 256$. The second animal originally inoculated and recovered passage animals were immune to subsequent inoculation with an American strain of $\mathbf{Q}$ fever.

Epidemiological data.-The patient lives in a small apartment in the business section of the town where there is no opportunity for contact with animals. When the weather is favorable his time is spent in taking pictures of mountain scenes, wild animals, and flowers; the remainder of his time is spent in town. During the few weeks prior to his illness, the weather had been stormy and his trips into the mountains had been few. Over a month prior to his illness he had handled dead mountain lions, and three days before his illness, dead beavers. He had had no contact with cattle. The contact with ticks on March 28 appears to be the likely source of infection. However, if the patient was infected throtigh the medium of the ticks which he crushed with his fingers, it is ol,vious that tick bite was not involved. The question therefore arises, could infection have occurred through the contamination of an abrasion or periaps even of the unabraded skin with infected tick tissue? Whether or not infection can take place in the latter manner, as is the case in Rocky Mountain spotted fever, is unknown.

Spontaneous infection of D. andersomi with Rickettsia burneti has been reported from Montana and Wyoming (1, 2). Another strain was recovered recently from 27 ticks of this species collected April 10, 1947, from a Rocky Mountain goat shot in Lost Horse Canyon, several miles north of Chaffin Creek Canyon.

There is no proved instance of human infection by the bite of D. andersoni or any of the other four species of ticks known to be spontaneously infected in the United States.

Summary.-A case of $\mathbf{Q}$ fever is described in which the likely source of infection was contact with ticks (Dermacentor andersoni) in nature.

A strain of the $\mathbf{Q}$ fever rickettsia was isolated from the first serum, specimen by animal inoculation after 18-days storage in the cold room. Successive serum samples showed an increasing titer against $\mathbf{Q}$ fever antigen in the complement fixation and rickettsial agglutination tests.

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## DEATHS DURING .WEEK ENDED AUG. 30, 1947

[From the Weekly Mortality Index, issued by the National Office of Vital Statistics]


# INCIDENCE OF DISEASE 

No health 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 SEPTEMBER 6, 1947

## Summary

The incidence of poliomyelitis increased from a total of 602 cases last week to 826 for the current week, as compared with a decline for the corresponding week last year from 1,780 to 1,726 . The 5 -year (1942-46) median for the current week is 906 . Slight declines oc curred currently in the West North Central, South Atlantic, and Pacific areas. Accounting for 70 percent of the current net increase is the report of 195 cases in Ohio (last week 39). Of the 16 States reporting currently 12 or more cases, 12 showed increases and 4 reported decreases, as follows (last week's figures in parentheses): Increases-Massachusetts 34 (26), Connecticut 23 (13), New York 95 (53), New Jersey 34 (26), Pennsylvania 33(31), Ohio 195 (39), Indiana 28 (18), Wisconsin 15 (9), Minnesota 29 (19), Virginia 12 (7), Kentucky 15 (0), Tennessee 12 (6); decreases-Rhode Island 14 (18), Illinois 87 (93), Michigan 45 (59), California 21 (25).

The total number of cases of poliomyelitis reported during the 25 -week period since March 15 (the approximate average date of lowest seasonal incidence) is 4,046 , as compared with 13,693 in 1946; 6,650 in 1945, 10,709 in 1944 and 6,490 in 1943 for the corresponding periods. The current figure, the lowest since 1942, when 1,903 cases were reported. In 7 of the past 20 years the peak of reported weekly incidence of poliomyelitis has occurred in weeks ended between September 12 and 19, earlier in 10 years, and later in 3 years.

New York and Pennsylvania each reported 1 case of anthrax. One case of smallpox occurred in Tennessee. Of 40 cases of infectious encephalitis (last week 29), 11 occurred in North Dakota and 9 in California. Of 31 cases of tularemia (last week 14), 24 occurred in the South Atlantic and South Central areas. The total to date is 1,082 , as compared with 666 for the same period last year and a 5 -year median of 629 . A total of 4,247 cases of undulant fever has been reported to date, as compared with 3,540 and 3,330 , respectively, for the corresponding periods of 1946 and 1945.

Deaths recorded during the week in 93 large cities of the United States totaled 7,629, as compared with 8,388 last week, 7,914 and 8,120 , respectively, for the corresponding weeks of 1946 and 1945 and a 3 -year (1944-46) median of 7,914 . The cumulative total is 334,532 , as compared with 328,980 for the corresponding period last year.

Telegraphic morbidity reports from State health officers for the weck ended Sept. 6, 1947, and comparison with cor: esponding week of 1946 and 5-year median
In these tables a zero indicates a definite report, while leaders imply that, aithough none was reported, cases may have occurred.


Telegraphic morbidity reports from State health officers for the week ended Sept. 6, 1947, and comparison with corresponding week of 1946 and 5-year median-Con.

| Division and State | Poliomyelitis |  |  | Scarlet fever |  |  | Smallpox |  |  | Typhoid and pars-typhoid fever |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Week ended- |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Me- } \\ \text { dian } \\ 1942- \\ 46 \end{gathered}$ | Week ended- |  | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{Me}- \\ \text { dian } \\ \text { 1942- } \\ 46 \end{gathered}$ | Week ended- |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Me- } \\ \text { dian } \\ 1942- \\ \mathbf{4 6} \end{gathered}$ | Week ended- |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Me- } \\ \text { dian } \\ \text { 1942- } \\ 46 \end{gathered}$ |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Sept. } \\ & 6 . \\ & 1947 \end{aligned}$ | $\left\lvert\, \begin{gathered} \text { Sept. } \\ 7 \\ 1948 \end{gathered}\right.$ |  | Sept. 6, 1947 | $\begin{gathered} \text { Sept. } \\ 7, \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Sept. } \\ 6, \\ 1947 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Sept. } \\ 7 \\ 1946 \end{gathered}$ |  | Sept. $\stackrel{6}{69} 1$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Sept. } \\ 7,{ }_{2} \end{gathered}$ |  |
| NEW ENGLAND | 5 | 1 | 2 | 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| New Hampshire | 0 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Vermont.. | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Massachusetts | 34 | 16 | 23 | 17 | 31 | 48 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 1 | 2 |
| Rhode Island.. | 14 | 8 | 1 | 1 |  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Connecticut $\qquad$ midDLE ATLANTIC | - 23 | 8 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| New York.-............ | 95 | 101 | 101 | 40 | 59 | 59 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 14 | 12 |
| New Jersey .-....... | 34 | 15 | 22 | 4 | 12 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |  | 2 |
| Pennsylvania........ | 33 | 20 | 20 | 17 | 32 | 38 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 6 | 12 |
| east north central | 195 | 52 | 33 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Onio...- | ${ }^{198}$ | 47 | ${ }_{23}$ | 9 | 18 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 7 | 7 3 |
| Iilinois. | 87 | 199 | 131 | 15 | 39 | 44 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Michigan ${ }^{\text {8 }}$ | 45 | 55 | 34 | 10 | 18 | 32 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |  | 3 |
| Wisconsin... | 15 | 130 | 19 | 10 | 29 | 38 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  | 0 | 0 |
| west north central |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Minnesota.............. | 29 | 199 | 17 | 10 | 11 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Iowa M --.- | 10 | 30 120 | 223 | 5 | ${ }_{6}^{6}$ | 15 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 3 |
| North Dakota. | 0 | 66 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | ${ }_{0}^{3}$ |
| South Dakota. | 2 | 45 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  | 0 |
| Nebraska...... | ${ }^{6} 11$ | 40 | 11 | 48 | 9 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Kansas $\qquad$ soUth ATLANTIC | ${ }^{3}$ | 50 | 13 | 2 | 5 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Delaware | 6 | 2 |  | 2 | 2 | 2 |  |  |  | 0 |  |  |
| Maryland | 6 | 9 | 5 | 3 | 14 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| District of Columbia..- | 0 | 3 | ${ }_{9}^{9}$ | 0 | 4 | ${ }^{4}$ |  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| West Virginia | 12 | 4 | 5 | 13 | 22 | 32 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 6 | 10 |
| North Carolina | 11 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 20 | 36 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |
| South Carolina........- | 3 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 6 |
| Georgia | 4 | ${ }^{7} 6$ | ${ }_{0}$ | 3 | 5 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| Florida... |  | 16 |  | 4 | 2 |  |  |  |  | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| east south central Kentucky | 15 | 3 | 6 |  | 27 |  |  | 0 | 0 |  |  | 10 |
| Tennessee...---........-.--- | 12 | 16 | 13 | 8 | 19 | 28 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 7 |  |
| Alabama... | 3 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 19 | 0 | 0 | 0 | , | 2 | 2 |
| Mississippl ${ }^{\text {2 }}$-.........-- | 3 | 21 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| WEST SOUTH CENTRAL Arkansas | 7 | 34 | 5 |  | 3 |  |  |  |  | 6 |  |  |
| Louisiana | 1 | 16 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 5 | 11 |
| Oklahoma | 5 | 33 | 10 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 2 | 5 |
| Teras...... | 8 | 25 | 25 | 20 | 23 | 22 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 6 | 10 |
| MOUNTAN |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Montana | 1 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |  |
| Idaho...-- | 5 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| W yoming | 3 |  | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 |  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| New Mexico | 5 | 72 | ${ }_{3}$ | 10 | 5 | 9 |  | 0 | 0 | 1 | ${ }_{4}$ | 2 |
| Arizona..... | 1 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Utah ${ }^{\text {8 }}$... | 0 | 13 | 13 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Nevada...-. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| PACIFIC <br> Washington | 3 | 28 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 17 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Oregon. | 8 | 12 | 11 | 5 | 11 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| California | 21 | 146 | 30 | 21 | 39 | 42 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 9 | 5 |
| Total | 826 | 1,726 | 906 | 400 | 564 | 804 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 111 | 101 | 185 |
| 36 weeks. | \% $\overline{4,658}$ | 4,160 | 7,047 | 3,652, | 8, 476 | 00, 121 | 148 | 279 | 311 | 2,596 | 2;886 | $\overline{3,762}$ |
| easonal low week 4.--- | (11th) | Mar. 15 | 5-21 | (32d) | Aug. 9 |  | $\begin{array}{r} (35 t h) \\ \mathrm{Se} \end{array}$ | $\overline{\text { A ug. } 3}$ $\text { ept. } 5$ |  | (11th) | Mar. | 15-21 |
| Total since low........- | 64, 046/13 | 3,693 | 6,650 | 1,549 | 2,181 | 2,746 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2,111 | 2,411 | 2,946 |

[^9]Telegraphic morbidity reports from State health officers for the week ended Sept. 6, 1947, and comparison with corresponding week of 1946 and 5-year median-Con.

| Division and State | Whooping cough |  |  | Week ended Sept. 6, 1947 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Week ended- |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Me- } \\ \text { dian } \\ \text { 1942- } \\ 46 \end{gathered}$ | Dysentery |  |  | Enceph. alitis, infectious | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Rocky } \\ & \text { Mt. } \\ & \text { spot. } \\ & \text { fed } \\ & \text { fever } \end{aligned}$ | Tula remia | $\begin{gathered} \text { Ty- } \\ \text { phus } \\ \text { fever, } \\ \text { en- } \\ \text { demic } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Un- } \\ & \text { du- } \\ & \text { lant } \\ & \text { fever } \end{aligned}$ |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Sept. } \\ 6, \\ 1947 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Sept.7 <br>  <br>  |  | Ame | $\begin{gathered} \text { Bacil- } \\ \text { lary } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| NEW ENGLAND |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Maine.- | 29 | 3 | 16 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| New Hampshire. | 4 | 10 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vermont.-.-.-.- | 28 | 110 | 24 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1 |
| Massachusetts.. | 110 30 | 113 | 113 |  | 1 |  | 2 |  |  |  | 2 |
| Rhode Island.- | 30 40 | 18 29 | 48 |  | 1 |  |  |  |  |  | i |
| MIDDLE ATLANTIC |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| New York | 202 | 126 | 204 | 7 | 6 |  | -- | 3 |  | ...... | 6 |
| New Jersey-.... | 176 178 | 139 148 | 138 |  |  |  |  | 1 |  |  | 2 |
| Last north central |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ohio. | 357 | 79 | 117 |  |  | 1 |  |  |  |  | 1 |
| Indiana. | 48 113 | 32 | 32 | 2 |  |  | 3 |  |  |  | 7 |
| Michigan | 137 | 125 | 125 | 1 |  |  | 1 |  |  |  | 4 |
| Wisconsin.. | 208 | 185 | 184 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 4 |
| weet north central |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Minnesota... | 66 | 9 | 43 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 4 |
| Iowa... | 21 | 31 | 19 |  |  |  | 1 |  |  |  |  |
| Missouri. | $\stackrel{25}{1}$ | 16 6 | 14 |  |  |  |  |  | 3 |  |  |
| South Dakota. | 7 | 5 | 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1 |
| Nebraska-..- |  | 5 | 12 |  |  |  | 3 |  |  |  | 3 |
| Kansas.- | 79 | 23 | 23 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SOUTH ATLANTIC |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Delaware. | 2 | 7 | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Maryland 8 --.......... | 73 | 43 | 43 |  |  |  |  | 3 |  |  |  |
| District of Columbla | 26 <br> 84 | $3{ }^{3}$ |  |  |  | 165 | 2 |  |  |  |  |
| West Virginia- | 84 24 | 35 57 | 13 |  | 2 |  |  |  |  |  | 7 |
| North Carolina. | 35 | 54 | 66 |  |  |  |  | 2 | 1 |  |  |
| South Carolina. | 87 | 15 | 63 |  | 13 |  |  |  |  |  | 2 |
| Georgia------- | 9 | $4{ }^{4}$ | 19 |  | 4 |  |  |  | 2 | 16 | 3 |
| Florida.--- | 10 | 25 |  |  | ... | 2 |  |  |  | 4 | 2 |
| EAST SOUTH CENTRAL |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Kentucky.- | 25 | 16 | 29 |  |  |  |  | 2 |  |  |  |
| Tennessee <br> Alabama | 24 | 16 | 22 |  |  |  |  |  | 2 |  | 5 |
| Mississippi ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 38 6 |  | 3 |  | 10 |  |  |  | 10 | 3 | 1 |
| wEst south central |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Arkansas.. | 13 | 12 | 14 | 7 | 9 | 6 |  |  | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| Louisians. | 11 | 12 |  | 3 | 1 |  |  |  |  | 3 |  |
| Oklahoma | 26 | 19 | 9 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2 |
| Texas.----- | 329 | 119 | 126 | 12 | 288 | 55 |  |  | 1 | 18 | 9 |
| mountans |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Montana | 46 | 3 | 7 |  |  |  |  |  | 1 |  |  |
| Idaho. | 11 | 2 | 3 |  |  |  | 2 |  |  |  | 1 |
| W yoming | 1 | 4 | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Colorado | 51 | 18 | 30 |  | 2 |  | 3 |  |  |  | 8 |
| New Mexico.. | 17 | 9 | 9 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Arizona. | 18 | 2 | 3 |  |  | 32 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Utah ${ }^{8}$ | 19 | 8 | 11 |  |  |  |  |  | 2 |  | 4 |
| Nevada.---- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pactirc |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Washington..... | 22 | 30 | 25 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Oregon...... | 9 | 4 | 8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| California. | 56 | 36 | 72 | 1 | 9 |  | 9 |  |  |  | 2 |
| Total | 2.931 | 1.798 | 2,137 | 35 | 346 | 265 | 40 | 17 | 31 | 52 | 93 |
| Same week: 1946 | 1.798 |  |  | 39 | 186 | 92 | 21 | 20 | 19 | 84 | 95 |
| Median 1942-46 | 2,137 |  |  | 39 | 461 | 386 | 18 | 18 | 14 | 134 | 786 |
| 36 weeks: 1947 | 12, 108 |  |  | 2,093 | 11,308 | 7,149 | 365 | 461 | 1,082 | 1,462 | 4, 247 |
| 1946 | 70, 100 |  |  | 1,683 | 12,293 | 4,834 | 446 | 498 | 666 | 2,380 | 3, 540 |
| Median, 1942-46......... | 91,006 | ..... | -... | 1,316 | 12,293 | 5,620 | 446 | 406 | 629 | 2,628 ${ }^{7}$ | 3,435 |

[^10]Alaska, week ended Aug. 30, 1947: Influenza 29, typhoid fever 2, pneumonia.1, septic sore throat 1, mumps, 1, meastes 1.
Territory of Hawaii, week ended Sept. 6, 1947: Bacillary dysentery 1, influenza 1, endemic typhus fever
1, whooping cough 18. Correction: Add measles 1, whooping cough 2, to report for week ended Aug. $30,1947$.
Anthrax: New York 1, Pennsylvania 1. Leprosy: New York 1, Louisiana 1.

## WEEKLY REPORTS FROM CITIES ${ }^{1}$

City reports for week ended Aug. 30, 1947
This table lists the reports from 88 cities of more than 10,000 population distributed throughout the United States, and represents a cross section of the current urban incidence of the diseases included in the table.

${ }^{1}$ In some instances the figures include nonresident cases.

City reports for week ended August 30，1947－Continued

| Division，State，and City |  |  |  | enza sप78əd |  |  |  |  | Scarletfever cases |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| WEST NORTH CENTRAL－ continued |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| North Dakota： Fargo | 0 | 6 |  | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Nebraska： Omaha | 0 | 0 |  | 0 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 18 |
| Kansas： |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Topeka． | 0 | 0 |  | 0 | － | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 |
| Wichita | 0 | 0 | － | 0 |  | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| SOUTH ATLANTIC |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Delaware： |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wilmington． | 0 | 0 |  | 0 |  | 0 | 2 | 15 | 1 | 0 | 0 | ．－．－． |
| Maryland： |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Baltimore ${ }^{2}$－ | 7 | 0 |  | 0 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 100 |
| Cumberland | 1 | 0 |  | 0 |  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Frederick．．－ | 0 | 0 |  | 0 |  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |
| District of Columbia： Washington | 0 | 0 |  | 0 | 5 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 26 |
| Virginia： |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Lynchburg | 0 | 0 |  | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |  |
| Richmond | 0 | 0 |  | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Roanoke．－ | 0 | 0 |  | 0 |  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wheeling．－－ | 0 | 0 |  | 0 | －－－－－ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | －．－．－－ |
| North Carolina： |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Raleigh | 0 | 0 |  | 0 | －－－－－－ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |
| Wilmington－．．．－．－．－－ | 1 | 0 |  | 0 |  | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Winston Salem．．．．．－． | 0 | 0 |  | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| South Carolina： <br> Charlesion | 0 | 0 |  | 0 |  | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | －．．．－． |
| Georgia： 0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Atlanta．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．． | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | －－－－－－ |
| Brunswick | 0 | 0 |  | 0 |  | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |
| Savannah． | 0 | 0 |  | 0 |  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 |
| Florida： <br> Tamps | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |  | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| EAST SOUTH CENTRAL |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tennessee： |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Memphis．． | 0 | 0 |  | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| Nashville．－．－．－．－．－． | 0 | 0 |  | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Birmingham | 0 | 0 |  | 0 |  | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |
| Mobile＿．．．－．－．－．－－－－－ | 0 | 0 |  | 0 |  | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| West south central |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Arkansas： |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Little Rock． | 0 | 0 |  | 0 |  | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| Louisiana： |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| New Orleans． | 1 | 0 |  | 0 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 5 |
| Shreveport．．．．．．．．．．．．－ | 0 | 0 |  | 0 | －．－－－－ | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | －．．．－ |
| Oklahoms： |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0 |  |
| Texas： | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Dallas． | 0 | 0 |  | 0 |  | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Galveston | 0 | 0 |  | 0 |  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |
| Houston． | 0 | 0 |  | 0 |  | 0 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| San Antonio．．－．．．．．．．．－ | 0 | 0 |  | 0 |  | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| MOUNTAIN |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Montans： |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Billings．．．．－．－．－．－．．．．－． | 0 | 0 | －．－－－ | 0 |  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | －－－－－ |
| Helena | 0 | 0 |  | 0 |  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | －－．－． |
| Missoula． | 0 | 0 |  | 0 |  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |
| Idaho： |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Boise．．．．．．．．．．－－－．－．－－ | 0 | 0 |  | 0 | －－－－－ | 0 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 0 | －－．．－ |
| Colorado： |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Denver．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．． | 3 | 0 |  | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | － 2 | 0 | 0 | 29 |
| Pueblo．．．．－．－．．．．．．．．．．． | 0 | 0 |  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Utah： <br> Salt Lake City | 0 | 0 |  | 0 | 7 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |

[^11]City reports for week ended August 30, 1947-Continued

| Division, State, and City |  |  | Influenza |  |  |  |  | $\underset{\text { cases }}{\text { Politis }}$ |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \ddot{\circ} \\ & \text { O } \\ & \text { On } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| pactiric |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Washington: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Seattle... | 2 | 0 |  | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Spokane. | 0 | 0 |  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Tacoma.............-- | 0 | 0 |  | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |
| California: | 6 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 14 | 7 | 0 |  | 41 |
| Sacramento. | 2 | 1 |  | 0 |  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| San Francisco. | 0 | 0 |  | 0 | 24 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |  |
| Total. | 39 | 7 | 10 | 2 | 200 | 9 | 193 | 282 | 100 | 0 | 21 | 1,240 |
| Corresponding week, 1946*- | 66 |  |  |  |  |  | 191 |  | 153 | 0 | 37 | 738 |
| A verage 1942-46*.- | 48 |  | 24 | ${ }^{3} 5$ | ${ }^{4} 154$ |  | 3202 |  | 199 | 0 | 30 | 793 |

*Exclusive of Oklahoma City.
${ }^{8} 3$-year a verage, 1944-46.
${ }^{4} 5$-year median, 1942-46.
Dysentery, amebic.-Cases: Boston, 1; New York, 1; St. Louis, 1.
Dysentery, bacillary.-Cases: Providence, 3; Baltimore, 1; Charleston, S. C., 1; Los Angeles, 1.
Dysentery, unspecified.-Cases: San Antonio, 7.
Leprosy.-Cases: New Orleans, 1.
Rocky Mountain spotted fever.-Cases: St. Louis, 1.
Tularemia.-Cases: Roanoke, 1.
Typhus fever, endemic.-Cases: New York, 1; Tampa, 1; New Orleans, 1; Dallas, 1; Savannah, 1.
Rates (annual basts) per 100,000 population, by geographic groups, for the 88 cities in the preceding table (latest available estimated population, 34,249,200)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | sejba esso xodifibus |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| New England. | 10.5 | 0.0 | 2.6 | 0.0 | 47 | 0.0 | 57.5 | 99.3 | 21 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 243 |
| Middle Atlantic | 3.7 | 0.0 | 0.9 | 0.0 | 20 | 2.3 | 28.2 | 23.6 | 11 | 0.0 | 1.9 | 142 |
| East North Central | 1.2 | 0.0 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 32 | 1.2 | 23.3 | 77.9 | 17 | 0.0 | 3.1 | 269 |
| West North Central. | 4.5 | 13.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 65 | 2.2 | 37.8 | 22.3 | 22 | 0.0 | 6.7 | 289 |
| South Atlantic. | 14.7 | 0.0 | 4.9 | 0.0 | 23 | 0.0 | 29.4 | 39.2 | 16 | 0.0 | 6.5 | 255 |
| East South Central | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 12 | 0.0 | 53.1 | 0.0 | ${ }_{8}^{6}$ | 0.0 | 11.8 | 59 |
| West South Central | 2.5 | 0.0 | 2.5 | 0.0 | 5 | 0.0 | 45.7 | 10.2 | 8 | 0.0 | 5.0 | 51 |
| Mountain. | 25.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 67 | 0.0 | 16.6 | 41.6 | 58 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 266 |
| Pacific. | 15.8 | 1.6 | 3.2 | 1.6 | 49 | 1.6 | 12.7 | 36.4 | 16 | 0.0 | 1.6 | 85 |
| Total | 6.0 | 1.1 | 1.5 | 0.3 | 31 | 1.4 | 29.5 | 43.1 | 15 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 189 |

## PLAGUE INFECTION IN SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY, CALIF.

Plague infection was reported proved on September 3 in a pool of 200 fleas from 25 ground squirrels, Citellus beecheyi, taken from the Santa Margarita Ranch, Highway No. 101, Santa Margarita, San Luis Obispo County, Calif.

## TERRITORIES AND POSSESSIONS <br> Panama Canal Zone

Notifiable diseases-July 1947.-During the month of July 1947, certain notifiable diseases were reported in the Panama Canal Zone and terminal cities as follows:

| Disease | Residence ${ }^{\text {1 }}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Panama City |  | Colon |  | Canal Zone |  | Outside the zone and terminal cities |  | Total |  |
|  | Cases | Deaths | Cases | Deaths | Cases | Deaths | Cases | Deaths | Cases | Deaths |
| Chickenpox--- | 13 |  | 2 |  | 2 |  | 6 |  | 23 |  |
| Diphtheria-.......- | 27 |  |  |  |  |  | 13 | 1 | 40 |  |
| Dysentery: <br> Amebic |  |  |  |  |  |  | 4 |  | 5 |  |
| Aacillary.......- | 3 |  | 6 |  | 4 |  | 1 |  | 14 |  |
| Leprosy ---.-.-.---- |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1 |  | 1 |  |
| Malaria ${ }^{2}$ | 11 | 1 | 2 | -- | 37 |  | 352 | 8 | 402 | $\overline{9}$ |
| Measles. | 5 |  |  | - | 1 |  | 1 |  | 7 |  |
| Mumps - ---.-....-- |  |  |  |  | 2 |  | 1 |  | 3 | -...--- |
| Paratyphoid fever- |  | 3 |  | 1 |  | 1 | - | 3 |  | 10 |
| Poliomyelitis...-...-- |  | 3 | - |  | ${ }^{19}$ | 1 |  | 3 | 5 |  |
| Tuberculosis.. |  | 18 |  | 6 | 6 | 1 |  | 7 | ${ }^{5} 6$ | 32 |
| Typhoid fever-...-- |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2 |  | 2 |  |
| Typhus fever-.-.-- | 1 | ------ |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1 | -- |

[^12]
## FOREIGN REPORTS

## CANADA

Provinces-Communicable diseases-Week ended August 16, 1947.During the week ended August 16, 1947, cases of certain communicable diseases were reported by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics of Canada as follows:

| Disease | Prince <br> Edward Island | Nova Scotia | New Brunswiek | Que- | $\begin{aligned} & \text { On- } \\ & \text { tario } \end{aligned}$ | Manitoba | Sas-katchewan | Alberta | $\begin{array}{\|} \begin{array}{c} \text { British } \\ \text { Colum- } \\ \text { bia } \end{array} \end{array}$ | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Chickenpox |  | 6 |  | 18 | 76 | i1 | 12 | 12 | 28 | 163 |
| Diphtheria. |  | 3 |  | 9 | 2 | 1 |  | 1 |  | 16 |
| Dysentery: <br> Amebic |  |  |  |  | 3 |  |  |  |  | 3 |
| Bacillary |  |  |  | 1 | 3 |  |  |  |  | 1 |
| Unspecified |  |  |  |  | 1 |  |  |  |  | 1 |
| Encephalitis, infectious.. |  |  |  |  |  | 2 |  |  |  | 2 |
| German measles......-. -- |  |  |  | 2 | 20 |  | 2 | 2 | 3 | 29 |
| Influenza. |  | 144 |  |  | 13 | 5 |  |  |  | 162 |
| Measles. |  | 2 |  | 67 | 78 | 11 | 7 | 12 | 24 | 201 |
| Meningitis, meningococcus. |  |  |  | 2 |  | 1 | 1 |  | 3 | 7 |
| Mumps |  | 10 |  | 15 | 149 | 9 | 6 | 9 | 10 | 208 |
| Poliomyelitis |  | 11 | 2 | 18 | 30 | 86 | 33 | 5 | 21 | 206 |
| Scarlet fever. |  |  |  | 34 | 14 |  |  | 3 | 2 | 53 |
| Tuberculosis (all forms) |  |  | 13 | 59 | 21 | 33 | 22 | 17 | 16 | 181 |
| Typhoid and paratyphoid fever. |  | 1 | 1 | 18 | 1 |  |  | 1 | 2 | 24 |
| Undulant fever... |  |  |  | 13 | 2 | 1 |  |  |  | 16 |
| Venereal diseases: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Gonorrhea. | 6 | 19 | 8 | 98 | 97 | 52 | 27 | 45 | 77 | 429 |
| Syphilis. |  | 11 | 6 | 55 | 48 | 12 | 6 | 8 | 30 | 176 |
| Other forms. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2 | 2 |
| Whooping cough |  |  |  | 20 | 94 | 20 | 8 | 21 | 10 | 173 |

## GREAT BRITAIN

England and Wales-Poliomyelitis.-During the week ended August 23, 1947, 676 cases of poliomyelitis were reported in England and Wales, a decrease from the preceding week, bringing the total number of cases reported to date to 3,619 . This is the first week since the beginning of the epidemic in which a decrease in the number of reported cases occurred.

## WORLD DISTRIBUTION OF CHOLERA, PLAGUE, SMALLPOX, TYPHUS FEVER, AND YELLOW FEVER

From consular reports, international health organizations, medical officers of the Public Health Service, and other sources. The reports contained in the following tables must not be considered as complete or final as regards either the list of countries included or the figures for the particular countries for which reports are given.

CHOLERA

## [C indicates cases]

Notr.-Since many of the figures in the following tables are from weekly reports, the accumulated totals are for approximate dates.

| Place | January- <br> June 1947 | July 1947 | August 1947-week ended- |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 |
| Burma |  | 21 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Moulmein | 64 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rangoon.. | 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| China: Foochow |  | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Formosa (Island of) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hong Kong -........ | 6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shanghai |  |  | ${ }^{1} 1$ | 11 | 1 | 1 |  |
| India----1.- | 48,750 | 10,912 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bombay | 48, 12 | 10, 46 | 19 | 13 |  |  |  |
| Calcutta | 3,743 | 202 | 30 | 48 | 38 | 20 |  |
| Cawnpore. | $\bigcirc 18$ | 8 | 12 | 21 | 43 | 28 |  |
| Chittagong. | ${ }^{2} 14$ | 12 | 3 |  |  |  |  |
| Lucknow- | 25 | 166 | 6 | $\bullet 1$ | 15 |  |  |
| Madras | 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| India (French) ---- | 62 | 1 | ---- |  |  |  |  |
| Indochina (French): Cambodia |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cambodia <br> Cochinchina | 4594 | ${ }^{261}$ |  | 39 35 |  |  |  |
| Bien Hoa. | 7 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chaudoc. |  | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cholon | 33 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Giadinh | 11 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Longruyen | 6 | --...-... |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mytho---. | 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rachgia | 19 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Saigon-... | 133 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vinh-long Lass....-. | 8 |  |  | 36 |  |  |  |
| Tans.-. | 3 <br> 3 | 18 |  | 36 |  |  |  |
| Siam (Thailand) | 2, 493 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bangkok..... | 2, 726 | 33 | 8 | 2 |  | 2 |  |

1 Imported.
${ }_{2} 2$ Includes imported cases.
${ }^{3}$ For the period Aug. 1-10, 1947.
PLAGUE
[C indicates cases]


[^13]
## PLAGUE-Continued

[C indicates cases]

${ }^{5}$ For the period Aug. 1-10, 1947.
6 Includes imported cases.
${ }^{7}$ During the month of June 1947, an outbreak of plague with high mortality occurred in Konigsburg, East Prussia, Germany.
${ }^{8}$ In addition 82 cases with 65 deaths in A yabaca Province and 58 cases with 48 deaths in Huancabamba Province, all unconfirmed, were reported for the period September 1946 to March 1947.
${ }^{9}$ Plague infection was also reported in Hawaii Territory as follows: On Jan. 9, 1947, in a pool of 31 rats; on Mar. 20, 1947, in a pool of 32 fleas collected from 59 rats.

SMALLPOX
[C indicates cases; $\mathbf{P}$, present]


[^14]
## SMALLPOX-Continued

[C indicates cases; $\mathbf{P}$, present


[^15]
## SMALLPOX-Contimued

[C indicates cases; $\mathbf{P}$, present]

|  | Place | JanuaryJune 1947 | July 1947 | August 1947-week ended- |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 |
| Argentins | SOUTH America |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Arazil |  | 229 | 17 | 1 | 2 | 2 |  |  |
| Colombia. |  | 2, 237 | 383 | 1 |  |  |  |  |
| Ecuador.- |  | 1175 | 1143 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Paraguay. |  | ${ }^{1} 100$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Peru |  | 213 | 5 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Uruguay.- |  | 183 12,599 |  |  | 1116 | ${ }^{1} 18$ | 137 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | 16 |  | 13 |  |

1 Includes alastrim.

## TYPHUS FEVER*

[C indicates cases; $\mathbf{P}$, present]

*Reports from some areas are probably murine type, while others probably included both murine and louse-borne types.
${ }^{1}$ Murine type.
${ }^{2}$ Includes murine type.

## TYPHUS FEVER-Continued

[C indicates cases; $P$, prosent]

| Place | $\begin{aligned} & \text { January- } \\ & \text { June } 1947 \end{aligned}$ | July 1947 | August 1947-week ended- |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 |
| Italy EUROPE-continued |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 19 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Poland | 372 | 14 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | - 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 15,481 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 90 6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkey | 402 | 22 |  | 12 | 13 | 2 | 10 |
|  | 132 | 20 | 2 |  |  |  |  |
| NORTH AMERICA |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 89 | 4 |  |  | --- |  |  |
|  | 215 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 23 | 6 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1,034 | 180 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Panama (Republic)............................... ${ }^{\text {C }}$ | ${ }^{3} 16$ | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 27 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | -...- |
| South america |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 13 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Brazil | 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 249 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1,020 | 245 |  | . |  |  |  |
|  | 262 | 53 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 517 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 81 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| oceania |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 72 | 11 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hawaii Territory 1 | 14 | 7 | 1 |  |  | 2 | 1 |

${ }^{1}$ Murine type.
${ }^{2}$ Includes murine type.
${ }^{2}$ Includes imported cases.
YELLOW FEVER
[C indicates cases; D, deaths]


[^16]
[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ From the Laboratory of Physical Biology (formerly the Industrial Hygiene Research Laboratory), Division of Physiology, and Division of Infectious Diseases, National Institute of Health.
    ${ }^{2}$ Spread of air-borne micro-organisms
    

    Direct air-borne spread-micro-organisms travel in droplets directly from person to person by speaking (mouth droplets), coughing (throat droplets), or sneezing.
    Indirect spread by suspension-micro-organisms, leaving person, become suspended by evaporation ('droplet nuclei") and are eventaally inhaled by others. (Cornet (i), Buchner (2), and others.)
    Indirect spread by resuspension-micro-organisms leaving person, fall to floor or some solid surface and dry out to particles small enough to be resuspended for varying periods of time dependent on drafts, movements of persons, etc.
    (See: Max Neisser, Ueber Luftstaub Infektion. Zts. Hyg. u. Inf. Kr. 27: 175-200, 1898.)

[^1]:    ${ }^{3}$ The strain of $L$. acidophilus used in these studies was similar in morphology and colony form to Hadley's group II (7).
    ${ }^{4}$ The modified Folin bubbler (11) was further modified by the addition of a secondary widening of the neck portion approximately 1.5 cm . above the collecting bulb. This feature materially decreased the loss of liquid into the trap.

[^2]:    ${ }^{8}$ The inside diameter of the atomizer outlet is 11 mm .; its cross-section area, $95.03 \mathrm{~mm} .{ }^{2}$. At the velocity of 1 cm . per minute, 0.95 ml . would pass per minute through the outlet. Actually 1 cubic foot or $28,300 \mathrm{ml}$. pass per minute through the outlet. The over-all velocity is, therefore, $29,789 \mathrm{~cm}$. per minute or 17.87 km . per hour. The inside diameter of the aspirator tube is 2 mm . The air velocity in this case is about $566 \mathbf{k m}$. per hour.

[^3]:    TThese substances were chosen in order to simulate the consistency of suspending media in the human throat" as" it might be expected to occur in normal and pathological conditions. The "purulent exudate" was obtained by injecting aleuronat suspended in a starch solution into the pleural cavities of rabbits. The animals were sacrificed after 24 hours and the exudate obtained.

[^4]:    ${ }^{1}$ Bs：collecting medium $\mathrm{pH}_{1}$ broth．
    Mi：colleoting medium $\mathrm{pH}_{3}$ ，mucin， $1 / 2$ percent．
    D：coilecting medium contains i percent dextrose．

[^5]:    ${ }^{8}$ L. F. Small, Head Chemist, Division of Physiology, National Institute of Health.

[^6]:    ' These locations were at a $30^{\circ}$ angle from the line of atomization and the positions of the plates were 8 feet and 15 feet, respectively, from the atomizer outlet.

[^7]:    ${ }^{15}$ Italics ours.
    ${ }^{11}$ "Suchen wir auch für die Tröpfcheninfection aus den Resultaten der Experiments praktische Folgerungen abzuleiten, so muss zunachst ohne weiteres zugegeben werden, dass ein Mensch dadurch, dass er in der Nahe eines hustenden Phthisikers sich aufhalt, tuberkelbacillenhaltige TYסpfchen einathmen kann, welche vom: Phthisiker bei den Hustenstossen in die Luft asugestrent sind.
    "Aber dit Experimente belehren uns zugleich darüber, unter welchen Bedingungen und in welchen Grenzen diese Art der Infektion sich vollziehen kann.
    "Zunachst streuen bei weitem nicht alle Phthisiker Tröpfchen aus. Individuelle Verschiedenheiten, der wechselnde Gehalt des Sputums an Bacillen, die Tageszeit u. s. w. spielen dabei eine Rolle. Viele Phthisiker scheinen überhaupt nicht auszustreuen; andere nur in einer gewissen Krankheitsperiode; manchenur zu gewisser Tageszeit.
    "Zweitens spielt die Entfernung des Einathmenden vom Hustenden eine sehr bedeutende Rolle. Bis auf 50 cm . findet noch ziemlich starke Ausstreuung statt; weiterhin nimmt die Menge der schwebenden Tröpfchen enorm rasch ab, entsprechend der Vertheilung der ausgehusteten Luft nach allen Dimensionen des Luftraumes. In $11 / 2 \mathrm{~m}$. Entfernung bleiben die Objectträger schon fast ausnahmslos frei. Man dart daraus zwar nicht schliessen, dass dann gar keine Bacillen mehr in den entfernteren Luftschichten vorhanden sind, vielmehr zeigen die Aspirationsversuche, dass der Nachweis schliesslich wohl noch gelingt, aber die Verdünnung ist so bedeutend, dass Infektionschancen so gut wie gar nicht mehr vorliegen."

[^8]:    ${ }^{1}$ From the Rocky Mountain Laboratory, Hamilton, Mont., Division of Infectious Diseases, National Institute of Health.

[^9]:    ${ }^{3}$ Period ended earlier than Saturday.
    4 Dates between which the approximate low week ends. The specific date will vary from year to year.
    ${ }^{5}$ Including paratyphoid fever reported separately as follows: Massachusetts 7 (salmonella infection);
    Ohio 1; West Virginia 1; Georgia 1; Tennessee 1; Louisiana 2; Oklahoma 1; Texas 2; California 2.

    - Delayed reports: Indiana 33 cases (nonparalytic), July 27 to Aug. 30; Nebraska 2 cases, week ended July

    19. Included in cumulative totals only.
[^10]:    ${ }^{2}$ Period ended earlier than Saturday.
    ${ }^{7}$ 2-year average, 1945-46.

[^11]:    ${ }^{\mathbf{2}}$ Beginning with the current report，deaths reported in Baltimore will include deaths of residents only；prior to this date all deaths occurring in the city have been included．

[^12]:    ${ }^{1}$ If place of infection is known, cases are so listed instead of by residence.
    ${ }^{2} 17$ recurrent cases.
    ${ }^{3}$ In the Canal Zone only.

[^13]:    ${ }^{1}$ Includes 5 cases of pneumonic plague.
    ${ }^{2}$ Includes 50 cases of pneumonic plague.
    ${ }^{3}$ Includes 2 cases of pneumonic plague.
    ${ }^{4}$ Im ported.

[^14]:    ${ }^{1}$ Includes alastrim.

[^15]:    ${ }^{1}$ Includes alastrim.
    ${ }_{2}$ For the period Aug. 1-20, 1947.
    3 Imported.

[^16]:    1 Includes 1 fatal case.

