

I know not.

My time will not permit me at present, to make Remarks upon the whole, which however I shall take a convenient time for. And the World may expect a full Vindication of my self. For it is Truth and its Cause I am contending for, and therefore am not ashamed to fix my Name to it. I confess (using the Words of the Famous Dr. Lock) the Imputation of Novelty is a terrible Charge amongst those who judge of mens Heads, as they do

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do of their Perukes, by the fashion, and can allow none to be right but the received Doctrines. Truth scarce ever carried it by Vote any where at its first appearance. New Opinions are always suspected, and usually opposed, without any other reason, but because they are not already common. But Truth, like Gold, is not the less so, for being newly brought out of the Mine. 'Tis Trial and Exanuation must give it price, and not any Antick Fashion: And tho' it be not yet Currant by the Publick Stamp, yet it may for all that be as old as Nature, and

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is certainly not the less Genuine. I did expect my Hypothesis would have been overthrown, and a better erected in its place, for which I should have thanked them; but instead of that, I find they have neither overthrown mine, nor erected a new one of their own, but have stood at a distance and barked at me, shewd their Teeth, but either durst not or could not come near enough to bite me in that place where I lay open to them. For in laying down an Hypothesis, it is as in building a House, no Man can be certain, that he which

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CHIN, TOM D. Y. (Public Health Service), and MARINE, WILLIAM M.: *The changing pattern of poliomyelitis observed in two urban epidemics, Kansas City and Des Moines, 1959. Public Health Reports, Vol. 76, July 1961, pp. 553-563.*

In 1959, major epidemics of type 1 poliomyelitis occurred in Des Moines, Iowa, and Kansas City, Mo. A total of 135 cases were reported in Des Moines, and 210 cases were reported in Kansas City. In both epidemics the majority of the cases occurred among Negroes and the poorer white residents in the center of the city. The poliomyelitis attack rate among Negroes in Des Moines was 20 times that of the upper white population; in Kansas City, the difference was 32-fold. In both epidemics the incidence was highest in children under 5 years; this was at variance with the age distribution observed in previous epidemics in these cities, when the rates were generally highest in the group 5-9 years.

The epidemiologic pattern observed in the 1959 epidemics was different from that of previous epidemics. The change appears to be related largely to the widespread use of the Salk vaccine during recent years.

Both the Des Moines and the Kansas City data indicate that the Salk-type vaccine was highly effective in protecting adequately immunized individuals against paralytic poliomyelitis. The efficacy was estimated to be 80 percent in the Des Moines study and 77 percent in the Kansas City study. The data suggest that high levels of vaccination might also have an influence on limiting the spread of poliovirus in the community.

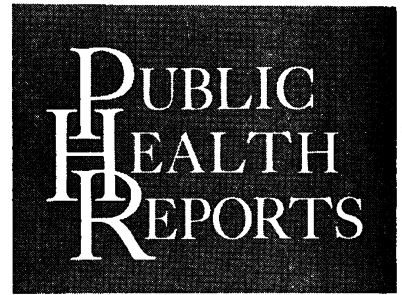
EMMONS, CHESTER W. (Public Health Service): *Isolation of Histoplasma capsulatum from soil in Washington, D.C. Public Health Reports, Vol. 76, July 1961, pp. 591-595.*

Histoplasma capsulatum was isolated from 10 of 10 soil specimens collected from a small, clean park adjacent to Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Washington, D.C., and from 1 of 5 specimens collected adjacent to another downtown Washington street. The first 10 isolations were from soil not obviously contaminated by bird droppings, but the soil specimens were taken under sycamore trees which are used as a roosting place by a large flock of starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*).

This confirms, in a dramatic manner, the opinion already expressed by others, that roosting birds may play important roles in the epidemiology of urban histoplasmosis. It does not support the contention that pigeons are important in the maintenance of *H. capsulatum* in soil, although it has been well known since 1955 that virulent strains of *Cryptococcus neoformans* are commonly present in accumulations of pigeon droppings in both urban and rural areas.

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WYLIE, CHARLES M. (Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health): *Participation in a multiple screening clinic with five-year followup. Public Health Reports, Vol. 76, July 1961, pp. 596-602.*

This study contrasts 2,023 screenees and a one-in-five sample of nonparticipants in the multiple screening clinic conducted in Baltimore in 1954 by the Commission on Chronic Illness. More recent information on these individuals was obtained from directories, by mail and telephone, and from death certificate files.

For the years 1955-59 more screenees than nonparticipants remained at the same address or moved to known addresses. Significantly more screenees than nonparticipants answered a questionnaire mailed in 1960.

Screenees and nonparticipants had similar age-specific death rates and showed similar trends in deaths for each year

following screening. The two groups differed in the proportion of deaths from various causes. This mainly reflected their different age, race, and socioeconomic composition.

The death trends provided no evidence that screenees benefited greatly by their early referral for medical care; nor did the trends suggest that multiple screening attracted a group with significantly more or less of any particular disease than the nonparticipants.

Finally, the questionnaire returns suggested, though not conclusively, that screenees visited their physicians and were admitted to hospitals more frequently than nonparticipants.

SCHWIMMER, BENJAMIN (Detroit Department of Health), HENDERSON, NORMAN D., and OLSON, B. H.: *Treatment of acute gonorrhea in males with synnematin B. Public Health Reports, Vol. 76, July 1961, pp. 630-632.*

There is need for a new injectable antibiotic in the treatment of gonorrhea because of the rising problem of allergy to penicillin. Synnematin B, a new antibiotic, has been demonstrated to be effective in vitro against *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*.

A single injection of 300,000 units of

synnematin B was employed in the treatment of each of 132 male patients with acute gonorrhea. No serious side effects or allergic reactions resulted. A 4 percent failure rate was observed.

Further study of the use of synnematin B in the treatment of gonorrhea is indicated.

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