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Provisional Information on Selected Notifiable Diseases in the United States and on Deaths in Selected Cities for Week Ended March 10, 1956

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS

Suspect human psittacosis from infected turkeys

Dr. M. S. Holmes, Oregon State Board of Health, has provided preliminary information on an outbreak in which 30 suspect human cases of psittacosis were associated with infected turkeys. An unusually high mortality was noted early in February in 2 nearby turkey flocks on farms located in the northwestern part of the State. A worker on one of the farms was reported as having an illness resembling psittacosis. On March 8 an employee of a rendering plant, which picked up dead turkeys from the 2 flocks, was reported as a suspect case. Upon investigation, 30 suspect human cases have been discovered among employees of the 2 farms (4 suspect cases with 1 death); among persons who dressed dead turkeys from 1 of the 2 flocks (2 suspect cases with 1 death); and among employees of a rendering plant. The situation is said to be complicated by the fact that human respiratory disease is currently prevalent in the State. However, illness at another rendering plant (adjacent to the one which received dead turkeys from the 2 flocks) which received no dead turkeys, is completely different from that where suspect cases have occurred.

Thirty of 32 blood specimens, collected from turkeys among the 2 flocks, have shown significant complement fixation titers for psittacosis. Specimens of turkey organs have also been submitted for virus isolation, and specimens from human cases for serologic tests and virus isolation.

Psittacosis

Dr. S. B. Osgood, Oregon State Board of Health, has reported a case of psittacosis in a 51-year-old woman. The patient became ill with typical psittacosis symptoms—malaise, fever, and a nonproductive cough with areas of pulmonary dullness. She recovered after a series of achromycin therapy, with slight pulmonary effects. A parakeet associated with this case was purchased from a local store. Although banded, the source of the bird was unobtainable. The patient lives alone and was the only one in contact with the bird. No other cases have been reported, and the manager of the local store states that he has had no ill birds.

The Illinois Department of Health has reported a case of psittacosis in a 9-year-old boy. He became ill with chills, cold, fever, cough, and rales in the left chest. Complement fixation test showed a titer of 1:16 for psittacosis. The patient recovered with antibiotic therapy. Psittacosis virus was isolated from a parakeet purchased from a local store in October 1955. Two persons in the family have had respiratory illnesses, and 2 cases diagnosed as psittacosis have been associated with parakeets from the same local source.

Dr. D. S. Fleming, Minnesota Department of Health, has reported a case of psittacosis in a 47-year-old man who became ill in December 1955. The illness was characterized by chills, fever, and symptoms of severe cold. The patient also had a persistent headache. A chest X-ray in January showed a pneumonic process in the right mid-lung field. The complement fixation test on a blood specimen collected the latter part of January 1956 was positive for psittacosis in a dilution of 1:64. His only exposure to birds was a pheasant which had been caught approximately December 1, 1955. The bird was kept in his basement until it died in January. It was not available for laboratory examination. Other members of the household, including his wife and 2 children, have had no symptoms.

Tularemia

Dr. E. J. Witte, Pennsylvania Department of Health, has reported a case of tularemia which at first was thought to be tuberculosis. In January, a lymph node was removed from his right epitrochlear area. On histological examination, the node did not appear to be that of tuberculosis. Tularemia was suspected, and an agglutination test performed yielded a titer of 1:80. Another agglutination test performed about 2 weeks later, yielded a titer of 1:320. The patient was placed on streptomycin therapy and has now fully recovered. The patient reported dressing 2 wild rabbits which he shot while hunting in the western part of the State.

Anthrax

Dr. E. J. Witte, Veterinary Public Health, Pennyslvania Department of Health, has reported 2 cases of anthrax since the first of the year. The first was in a card tender who has worked in a plant for the past 7 months. The patient developed a sore on the right forearm late in December 1955. Bacillus anthracis was recovered from the lesion and was positive on smear and culture. An anthrax sampling program was conducted at the plant and surface swabs showed a great amount of contamination with B. anthracis. Two other cases have been associated with this plant—one in October 1952 and one in March 1953.

The other case was in a spinner who had worked in another plant 11 years ago, and had returned 24 days prior to the onset of a lesion on the left ring finger. A culture of the lesion proved positive for anthrax.

Meningococcal meningitis

Dr. J. D. Martin, Louisiana Department of Health, has supplied additional information on cases of meningococcal meningitis which have increased sharply in the past few weeks. Nineteen of 39 cases reported between January 1 and March 6 have occurred in the metropolitan area of New Orleans, which contains about one-third of the population of the State. With the exception of the New Orleans area, only 1 parish reported as many as 3 cases, and these occurred in 1 household. The 39 cases were distributed by age as follows: 7 were under 1 year; 18 were in the 1 to 4 year group; 7 in the 5 to 9; 2 in the 10 to 14; and 5 were 15 years of age and over.

Influenza

The following report was received by the Influenza Information Center, NIH.

Dr. Clayton G. Loosli, University of Chicago, has reported 3 cases of influenza, due to A-prime virus, in patients admitted to the hospital during the week of January 9. The patients were from the student health clinic of the university.

Encephalitis, suspected postvaccinal

Dr. A. C. Hollister, California Department of Public Health, has reported 3 clinical cases of encephalitis following smallpox vaccination, all of which developed within a 5-day period. Their simultaneous occurrence was apparently coincidental and not related to a particular lot of vaccine. Not only were the lots different, but each was manufactured by various pharmaceutical firms.

The first case developed in a 31-year-old man, who was immunized for smallpox approximately 2 weeks earlier in preparation for a trip overseas. This immunization resulted in a primary vaccinia. He was admitted to a hospital about the middle of February, seriously ill and almost comatose, following an acute febrile onset of illness. He had a partial paralysis of all 4 extremities, more pronounced in the legs, and there was almost complete anesthesia of the lower extremities. His respiratory pattern was irregular at the time of admission, and a tracheotomy was made. The spinal fluid cell count was elevated.

The second case was in a 28-year-old medical student who had been immunized for smallpox twice recently. The first occurred late in January at the medical school in an exercise conducted in the bacteriology class, in which the students immunized each other. No official or written record was made of this immunization. Subsequently, this man took a trip through Mexico. When he re-entered the United States, he had no evidence of a prior immunization for smallpox, and hence was vaccinated again at the immigration station. It was reported that both immunizations resulted in an accelerated reaction. Four days after the second vaccination, he became ill with encephalitis.

The third patient was vaccinated for smallpox on February 9 and clinical encephalitis with a bloody tap was diagnosed February 20.

Chemical poisoning

Dr. J. D. Martin, Louisiana Department of Health, has reported the occurrence of 10 cases of methemoglobinemia among children associated with the ingestion of processed meats containing nitrites in excess of the maximum amount (200 ppm) allowable by law. After the cases occurred, an investigation revealed that each patient had eaten wieners or bologna manufactured by the same company. Symptoms appeared in most of the children about 1½ to 2 hours after ingestion of the processed

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Table 1. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES

(Numbers after diseases are category numbers of the Sixth Revision of the International Lists, 1948)

DISEASE	10th WEEK			CUMULATIVE NUMBER						Approximate seasonal low point
				First 10 weeks			Since seasonal low week			
	Ended Mar. 10, 1956	Ended Mar. 12, 1955	Median 1951-55	1956	1955	Median 1951-55	1955-56	1954-55	Median 1950-51 to 1954-55	
Anthrax-----062	-	-	1	7	4	7	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Botulism-----049.1	-	-	---	-	4	---	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Brucellosis (undulant fever)-----044	16	19	---	166	197	---	---	---	---	---
Diphtheria-----055	42	23	46	425	383	491	1,755	1,600	2,140	July 1
Encephalitis, infectious-----082	31	18	20	213	202	184	1,164	1,554	911	June 1
Hepatitis, infectious, and serum-----092,N998.5 pt.	557	938	---	5,178	9,396	---	---	---	---	---
Malaria-----110-117	-	5	---	26	34	---	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Measles-----085	20,330	21,703	21,703	119,150	164,902	141,285	148,248	219,371	176,570	Sept. 1
Meningococcal infections-----057	67	112	121	771	995	1,143	1,694	2,044	2,346	Sept. 1
Meningitis, other-----340	39	---	---	309	---	---	---	---	---	---
Poliomyelitis-----080	67	54	67	859	873	1,151	29,066	38,060	35,689	Apr. 1
Psittacosis-----096.2	5	7	---	60	69	---	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Rabies in man-----094	-	-	-	3	1	1	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Smallpox-----084	-	-	-	-	-	2	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Typhoid fever-----040	23	20	44	246	246	302	1,665	2,123	2,215	Apr. 1
Typhus fever, endemic-----101	-	1	---	11	11	---	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Rabies in animals-----	102	135	183	1,089	1,234	1,706	2,116	2,587	3,250	Oct. 1

[1]Frequencies are too small.

SOURCE AND NATURE OF MORBIDITY DATA

These provisional data are based on reports to the Public Health Service from health departments of each State and of Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico. They give the total number of cases of certain communicable diseases reported during the week usually ended the preceding Saturday. Cases of anthrax, botulism, rabies in man, and smallpox are not shown in table 2, but a footnote to table 1 shows the States making the reports. In addition, when diseases of rare occurrence (cholera, dengue, plague, relapsing fever—louse borne, typhus fever—epidemic, and yellow fever) are reported, they will be noted at the end of table 1.

Symbols.—1 dash [-]: no cases reported; 3 dashes [---]: data not available.

Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED MARCH 12, 1955 AND MARCH 10, 1956

(By place of occurrence. Numbers under diseases are category numbers of the Sixth Revision of the International Lists, 1948)

AREA	BRUCELLOSIS (UNDULANT FEVER) 044		DIPHTHERIA 055				ENCEPHALITIS, INFECTIOUS 082		HEPATITIS, INFECTIOUS, AND SERUM 092,N998.5 pt.			
			10th week		Cumulative first 10 weeks				10th week		Cumulative first 10 weeks	
	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955
CONT. UNITED STATES	16	19	42	23	425	383	31	18	557	938	5,178	9,396
NEW ENGLAND	-	1	1	-	3	8	2	1	38	86	347	866
Maine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	2	85	62
New Hampshire	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	6	5	10	35
Vermont	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	3	53	69
Massachusetts	-	-	1	-	2	7	1	1	11	21	74	323
Rhode Island	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	9	40	136
Connecticut	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	11	46	85	241
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	-	-	5	2	14	17	9	2	93	266	993	2,333
New York	-	-	1	-	5	11	8	2	52	124	562	1,212
New Jersey	-	-	3	1	4	1	1	-	11	19	88	153
Pennsylvania	-	-	1	1	5	5	-	-	30	123	343	968
EAST NORTH CENTRAL	3	5	4	-	87	55	2	4	100	137	798	1,436
Ohio	-	-	-	-	9	16	-	-	17	35	197	261
Indiana	-	-	2	-	40	25	-	-	11	16	112	206
Illinois	1	4	-	-	-	2	-	1	48	19	213	301
Michigan	2	1	2	-	38	10	2	3	17	36	181	454
Wisconsin	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	7	31	95	214
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	7	4	6	-	47	51	-	3	48	131	489	1,308
Minnesota	1	2	4	-	18	22	-	-	22	40	133	454
Iowa	4	2	-	-	11	4	-	-	4	41	126	427
Missouri	-	-	1	-	1	3	-	-	1	21	21	113
North Dakota	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	8	49	87
South Dakota	2	-	-	-	1	12	-	-	5	11	84	148
Nebraska	-	-	1	-	16	9	-	-	1	-	33	19
Kansas	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	12	10	43	60
SOUTH ATLANTIC	3	3	3	7	85	101	3	2	21	75	291	891
Delaware	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	12
Maryland	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	6	28	106
District of Columbia	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	6	15
Virginia	2	2	-	5	12	7	1	1	9	31	130	408
West Virginia	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	4	11	16	124
North Carolina	-	-	1	1	16	16	2	-	3	12	34	93
South Carolina	-	-	-	1	8	17	-	-	1	3	9	17
Georgia	1	1	2	-	19	45	-	1	1	8	32	64
Florida	-	-	-	-	26	12	-	-	2	4	32	52
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL	-	1	4	-	62	53	3	2	53	24	441	474
Kentucky	-	1	-	-	4	9	-	-	20	8	126	79
Tennessee	-	-	1	-	11	11	1	1	26	8	225	201
Alabama	-	-	2	-	39	21	1	1	4	4	42	101
Mississippi	-	-	1	-	8	12	1	-	3	4	48	93
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	3	1	15	12	95	84	1	-	57	44	343	443
Arkansas	-	-	-	-	6	4	-	-	7	4	36	71
Louisiana	-	-	-	3	8	13	-	-	3	5	16	34
Oklahoma	1	-	10	1	31	8	-	-	2	7	21	52
Texas	2	1	5	8	50	59	1	-	45	28	270	286
MOUNTAIN	-	1	3	-	10	-	1	1	73	70	644	727
Montana	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	14	12	192	72
Idaho	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	7	73	68
Wyoming	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	31	25
Colorado	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	18	17	130	160
New Mexico	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	25	12	60	164
Arizona	-	1	-	-	5	-	-	-	8	22	136	200
Utah	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	21	19
Nevada	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	19
PACIFIC	-	3	1	2	22	14	10	3	74	105	832	918
Washington	-	-	-	1	1	3	-	-	5	35	181	202
Oregon	-	-	1	-	7	-	1	-	11	26	160	253
California	-	3	-	1	14	11	9	3	58	44	491	463
Alaska	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	16	104
Hawaii	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	13
Puerto Rico	-	-	1	3	12	18	-	-	5	1	52	13

Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED MARCH 12, 1955 AND MARCH 10, 1956—Continued

(By place of occurrence. Numbers under diseases are category numbers of the Sixth Revision of the International Lists, 1948)

AREA	POLIOMYELITIS 080								MALARIA		MEASLES	
	Total[1]				Paralytic		Nonparalytic					
	10th week		Cumulative first 10 weeks		080.0,080.1		080.2		110-117		085	
	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955
CONT. UNITED STATES	67	54	859	873	31	15	16	21	-	5	20,330	21,703
NEW ENGLAND	-	-	31	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	235	6,184
Maine	-	-	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	302
New Hampshire	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	313
Vermont	-	-	5	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	42	316
Massachusetts	-	-	16	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	145	3,179
Rhode Island	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	389
Connecticut	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	1,685
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	2	5	62	102	1	2	-	-	-	1	2,638	4,579
New York	2	2	44	58	1	2	-	-	-	-	914	1,479
New Jersey	-	1	6	15	-	-	-	-	-	1	430	2,464
Pennsylvania	-	2	12	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,294	636
EAST NORTH CENTRAL	9	2	63	83	3	1	1	-	-	-	6,132	3,146
Ohio	6	-	16	19	-	-	1	-	-	-	1,196	626
Indiana	-	-	6	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	527	130
Illinois	1	1	6	13	1	1	-	-	-	-	2,097	477
Michigan	2	-	24	35	2	-	-	-	-	-	1,189	945
Wisconsin	-	1	11	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,123	968
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	6	6	45	64	1	1	3	1	-	-	780	1,209
Minnesota	2	2	5	9	-	-	2	-	-	-	18	504
Iowa	1	-	11	14	-	-	1	-	-	-	181	254
Missouri	1	-	12	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	296	254
North Dakota	1	-	2	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	48	63
South Dakota	1	-	8	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	16
Nebraska	-	2	1	12	-	-	-	1	-	-	23	10
Kansas	-	2	6	11	-	1	-	-	-	-	195	108
SOUTH ATLANTIC	9	7	68	151	3	-	2	5	-	1	2,606	614
Delaware	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	2
Maryland	-	-	4	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	556	43
District of Columbia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	110	11
Virginia	-	-	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	891	95
West Virginia	-	-	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	381	126
North Carolina	-	2	21	29	-	-	-	1	-	-	310	22
South Carolina	-	1	6	6	-	-	-	1	-	-	120	87
Georgia	-	1	8	13	-	-	-	-	-	1	121	166
Florida	9	3	24	[2]87	3	-	2	3	-	-	106	62
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL	1	5	36	57	-	2	-	1	-	-	1,260	518
Kentucky	1	-	11	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	684	101
Tennessee	-	2	6	11	-	2	-	-	-	-	408	267
Alabama	-	-	1	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	129	86
Mississippi	-	3	18	18	-	-	-	1	-	-	39	64
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	11	11	163	117	6	5	-	3	-	1	3,669	1,869
Arkansas	-	1	10	7	-	1	-	-	-	-	445	109
Louisiana	-	2	25	17	-	1	-	1	-	-	35	10
Oklahoma	-	2	7	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	487	53
Texas	11	6	121	78	6	3	-	2	-	1	2,702	1,697
MOUNTAIN	2	4	53	63	2	-	-	1	-	-	1,569	303
Montana	-	-	4	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	328	11
Idaho	-	1	5	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	25
Wyoming	-	1	2	5	-	-	-	1	-	-	106	-
Colorado	1	-	6	12	1	-	-	-	-	-	795	33
New Mexico	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	53	180
Arizona	1	-	25	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	230	14
Utah	-	2	3	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	34	5
Nevada	-	-	6	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	35
PACIFIC	27	14	338	214	15	4	10	10	-	2	1,441	3,281
Washington	3	1	19	21	1	-	-	1	-	-	404	492
Oregon	1	1	24	16	-	1	1	-	-	-	57	185
California	23	12	295	177	14	3	9	9	-	2	980	2,604
Alaska	-	2	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	14
Hawaii	-	3	38	5	-	2	-	1	-	-	17	289
Puerto Rico	-	16	5	240	-	16	-	-	-	-	20	134

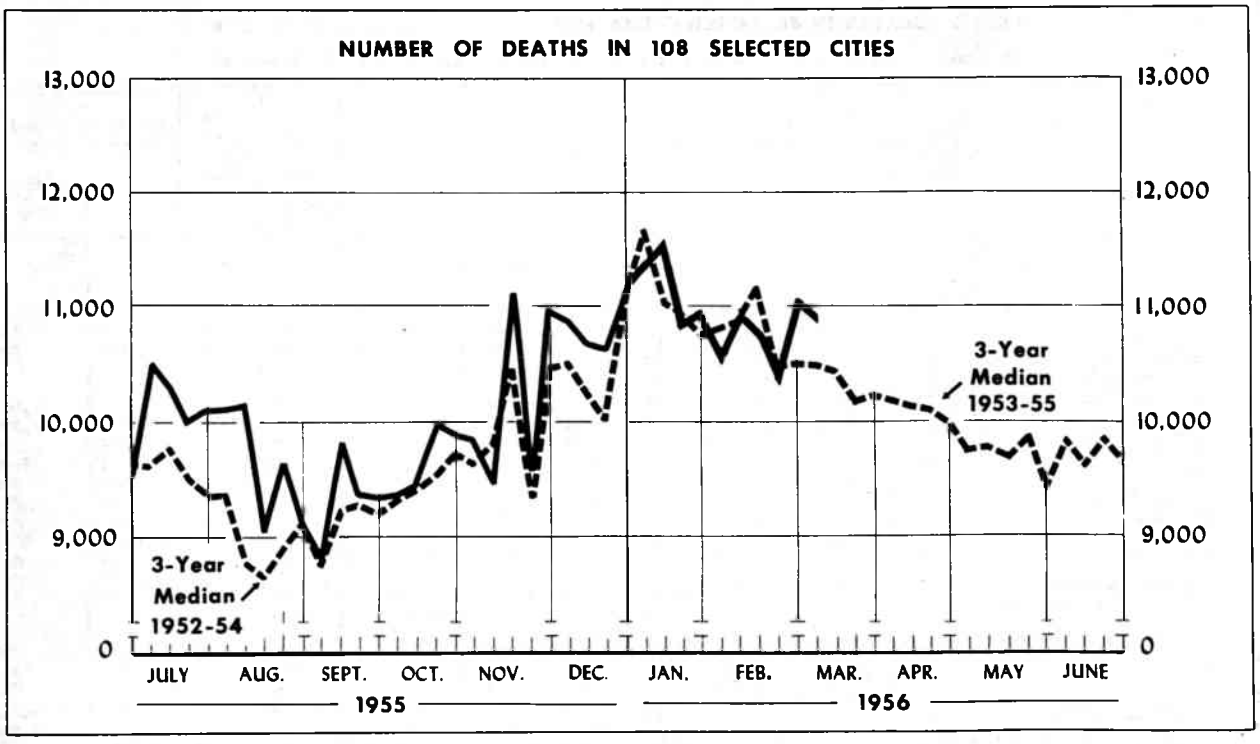
[1]Includes cases not specified by type, category number 080.3.
[2]Includes delayed cases with onset late in 1954.

Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED MARCH 12, 1955 AND MARCH 10, 1956—Continued

(By place of occurrence. Numbers under diseases are category numbers of the Sixth Revision of the International Lists, 1948)

AREA	MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS 057		MENINGITIS, OTHER 340	PSITTACOSIS 096.2		TYPHOID FEVER 040				TYPHUS FEVER, ENDEMIC 101	RABIES IN ANIMALS	
						10th week		Cumulative first 10 weeks				
	1956	1955	1956	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1956	1955
CONT. UNITED STATES	67	112	39	5	7	23	20	246	246	-	102	135
NEW ENGLAND	2	2	1	-	1	3	-	6	4	-	-	-
Maine	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	1	-	-	-
New Hampshire	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	3	-	-	-
Rhode Island	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Connecticut	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	8	23	-	2	1	3	2	38	35	-	10	14
New York	4	9	-	2	1	1	1	13	8	-	7	7
New Jersey	3	8	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	-	-	-
Pennsylvania	1	6	-	-	-	2	1	23	24	-	3	7
EAST NORTH CENTRAL	14	29	9	-	-	5	2	31	31	-	17	9
Ohio	4	8	-	-	-	3	2	9	18	-	7	3
Indiana	4	5	3	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	8	6
Illinois	2	8	5	-	-	1	-	5	7	-	1	-
Michigan	3	5	1	-	-	-	-	6	5	-	1	-
Wisconsin	1	3	-	-	-	1	-	7	1	-	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	6	8	1	1	-	2	1	43	14	-	4	14
Minnesota	1	2	-	1	-	1	-	22	1	-	1	3
Iowa	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	4	4	-	-	4
Missouri	2	3	-	-	-	1	-	7	6	-	3	5
North Dakota	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	1
South Dakota	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-
Nebraska	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	1
Kansas	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC	4	13	11	2	1	4	4	36	38	-	30	22
Delaware	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-
Maryland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-
District of Columbia	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Virginia	1	2	5	-	1	-	2	1	13	-	8	6
West Virginia	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	6	3	-	5	5
North Carolina	1	2	-	2	-	1	1	7	4	-	1	3
South Carolina	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	6	4	-	8	3
Georgia	-	4	3	-	-	1	-	5	6	-	3	5
Florida	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	-	3	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL	2	12	9	-	-	-	1	27	27	-	13	32
Kentucky	-	5	2	-	-	-	-	6	17	-	3	12
Tennessee	-	5	7	-	-	-	-	13	6	-	2	4
Alabama	1	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	4	-	8	15
Mississippi	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	1
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	17	15	2	-	-	1	5	38	52	1	18	37
Arkansas	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	8	10	-	4	3
Louisiana	7	7	-	-	-	1	-	7	15	-	-	[3]18
Oklahoma	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	6	7	-	-	-
Texas	10	6	-	-	-	-	3	17	20	-	14	16
MOUNTAIN	3	3	1	-	1	2	3	7	25	-	5	3
Montana	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Idaho	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Wyoming	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-
Colorado	-	3	1	-	1	1	1	2	1	-	-	-
New Mexico	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	12	-	4	3
Arizona	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	7	-	1	-
Utah	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Nevada	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC	11	7	5	-	3	3	2	20	20	-	5	4
Washington	-	-	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oregon	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	-
California	9	6	-	-	2	3	2	17	18	-	5	4
Alaska	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Hawaii	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerto Rico	-	-	1	-	-	2	2	11	18	-	-	1

[3]Report for February.



The chart shows the number of deaths reported for 108 major cities of the United States by week for the current year, and, for comparison, the median of the number of deaths reported for the corresponding weeks of the 3 previous calendar years. (The median is the central one of the three values arranged in order of magnitude.) If a report is not received from a city in time to be included in the total for the current week, an estimate is made to maintain comparability for graphic presentation.

The figures reported represent the number of death certificates received in the vital statistics offices during the week indicated for deaths occurring in that city. Figures compiled in this way, by week of receipt, usually approximate closely the number of deaths occurring during the week. However, differences are to be expected because of variations in the interval between death and receipt of the certificate.

While week-to-week changes in the total number of deaths reported for all major cities generally represent a change in mortality conditions, this may not be true for variations in weekly figures for each city. For example, in a city with a weekly average of 50 deaths, the number of deaths occurring in a week may be expected to vary by chance alone from 36 to 64 ($d \pm 2\sqrt{d}$, where d represents the average number of deaths per week).

The number of deaths in cities of the same size may also differ because of variations in the age, race, and sex composition of their populations, and because some cities are hospital centers serving the surrounding areas. Changes from year to year in the number of deaths may be due in part to population increases or decreases.

Table 3. DEATHS IN SELECTED CITIES BY GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION

(By place of occurrence, and week of filing certificate. Exclusive of fetal deaths)

AREA	10th week ended Mar. 10, 1956	9th week ended Mar. 3, 1956	week median 1953-55	Percent change, median to current week	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FIRST 10 WEEKS		
					1956	1955	Percent change
TOTAL: 105 REPORTING CITIES	10,790	10,963	10,379	+4.0	108,062	106,277	+1.7
New England (14 cities)	714	707	678	+5.3	7,262	7,582	-4.2
Middle Atlantic (16 cities)	3,090	3,233	3,179	-2.8	31,070	31,516	-1.4
East North Central (18 cities)	2,383	2,426	2,287	+4.2	23,929	22,914	+4.4
West North Central (8 cities)	742	760	710	+4.5	7,529	6,999	+7.6
South Atlantic (9 cities)	852	791	789	+8.0	8,597	8,099	+6.1
East South Central (8 cities)	449	489	471	-4.7	5,082	5,023	+1.2
West South Central (13 cities)	894	874	777	+15.1	8,789	8,399	+4.6
Mountain (8 cities)	265	266	237	+11.8	2,563	2,623	-2.3
Pacific (11 cities)	1,401	1,417	1,320	+6.1	13,241	13,122	+0.9

Table 4. DEATHS IN SELECTED CITIES FOR WEEK ENDED MARCH 10, 1956

(By place of occurrence, and week of filing certificate. Exclusive of fetal deaths)

CITY	10th week ended Mar. 10, 1956	9th week ended Mar. 3, 1956	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FIRST 10 WEEKS	
			1956	1955
NEW ENGLAND				
Boston, Mass.	266	237	2,536	2,645
Bridgeport, Conn.	34	46	359	395
Cambridge, Mass.	27	30	317	295
Fall River, Mass.	30	22	290	308
Hartford, Conn.	41	38	496	532
Lowell, Mass.	35	24	246	236
Lynn, Mass.	15	19	207	252
New Bedford, Mass.	19	34	250	251
New Haven, Conn.	54	54	529	501
Providence, R. I.	57	60	634	711
Somerville, Mass.	11	12	157	167
Springfield, Mass.	44	44	441	450
Waterbury, Conn.	34	27	267	288
Worcester, Mass.	47	60	533	551
MIDDLE ATLANTIC				
Albany, N. Y.	45	47	505	486
Allentown, Pa.	(36)	(32)	(375)	(362)
Buffalo, N. Y.	129	176	1,476	1,443
Camden, N. J.	---	(43)	---	(410)
Elizabeth, N. J.	36	36	292	307
Erie, Pa.	59	34	357	355
Jersey City, N. J.	83	78	755	766
Newark, N. J.	96	130	1,035	1,122
New York City, N. Y.	1,543	1,609	16,280	16,806
Paterson, N. J.	32	40	369	396
Philadelphia, Pa.	542	536	4,990	5,027
Pittsburgh, Pa.	198	245	2,018	1,892
Reading, Pa.	(29)	(22)	(219)	(245)
Rochester, N. Y.	92	120	1,006	993
Schenectady, N. Y.	32	20	233	236
Scranton, Pa.	(41)	(39)	(351)	(356)
Syracuse, N. Y.	87	47	638	576
Trenton, N. J.	55	46	466	505
Utica, N. Y.	33	39	325	303
Yonkers, N. Y.	28	30	325	303
EAST NORTH CENTRAL				
Akron, Ohio	58	45	529	561
Canton, Ohio	27	28	271	266
Chicago, Ill.	754	740	7,904	7,459
Cincinnati, Ohio	195	202	1,712	1,579
Cleveland, Ohio	225	213	2,093	2,050
Columbus, Ohio	90	131	1,120	1,122
Dayton, Ohio	57	62	696	691
Detroit, Mich.	358	376	3,384	3,325
Evansville, Ind.	32	37	379	329
Flint, Mich.	31	38	390	350
Fort Wayne, Ind.	33	37	388	323
Gary, Ind.	(30)	(25)	(300)	(270)
Grand Rapids, Mich.	52	43	425	405
Indianapolis, Ind.	114	138	1,209	1,151
Milwaukee, Wis.	117	121	1,294	1,211
Peoria, Ill.	29	26	287	283
South Bend, Ind.	21	32	249	250
Toledo, Ohio	120	101	1,024	1,003
Youngstown, Ohio	70	56	575	556
WEST NORTH CENTRAL				
Des Moines, Iowa	57	58	543	492
Duluth, Minn.	31	26	247	274
Kansas City, Kans.	---	(30)	---	(377)
Kansas City, Mo.	113	97	1,089	1,120
Minneapolis, Minn.	142	138	1,261	1,183
Omaha, Nebr.	53	68	673	659
WEST NORTH CENTRAL—Con.				
St. Louis, Mo.	240	261	2,620	2,201
St. Paul, Minn.	63	74	678	666
Wichita, Kans.	43	38	418	404
SOUTH ATLANTIC				
Atlanta, Ga.	98	115	1,155	1,056
Baltimore, Md.	269	231	2,510	2,396
Charlotte, N. C.	29	37	356	342
Jacksonville, Fla.	(50)	(61)	(574)	(498)
Miami, Fla.	63	46	587	554
Norfolk, Va.	43	35	356	372
Richmond, Va.	60	66	731	702
Savannah, Ga.	(27)	(30)	(293)	(313)
Tampa, Fla.	43	59	629	605
Washington, D. C.	205	165	1,926	1,677
Wilmington, Del.	42	37	347	395
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Birmingham, Ala.	84	78	828	866
Chattanooga, Tenn.	42	39	440	481
Knoxville, Tenn.	54	29	417	369
Louisville, Ky.	94	116	1,157	1,141
Memphis, Tenn.	81	113	1,052	1,020
Mobile, Ala.	20	32	342	288
Montgomery, Ala.	31	22	296	317
Nashville, Tenn.	43	60	550	541
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Austin, Tex.	40	15	310	289
Baton Rouge, La.	42	24	239	228
Corpus Christi, Tex.	19	26	195	186
Dallas, Tex.	103	104	1,031	981
El Paso, Tex.	22	40	303	285
Fort Worth, Tex.	58	51	603	561
Houston, Tex.	134	144	1,362	1,336
Little Rock, Ark.	45	37	496	422
New Orleans, La.	179	185	1,771	1,631
Oklahoma City, Okla.	73	59	642	586
San Antonio, Tex.	96	102	896	942
Shreveport, La.	37	49	475	445
Tulsa, Okla.	46	38	466	507
MOUNTAIN				
Albuquerque, N. Mex.	29	25	236	300
Colorado Springs, Colo.	13	10	146	137
Denver, Colo.	118	120	1,133	1,188
Ogden, Utah	15	8	124	109
Phoenix, Ariz.	31	38	290	276
Pueblo, Colo.	9	6	123	146
Salt Lake City, Utah	44	51	457	420
Tucson, Ariz.	6	8	54	47
PACIFIC				
Berkeley, Calif.	28	21	206	174
Long Beach, Calif.	54	60	569	532
Los Angeles, Calif.	545	608	5,125	5,081
Oakland, Calif.	81	89	942	939
Pasadena, Calif.	---	(31)	---	(378)
Portland, Oreg.	115	75	1,024	966
Sacramento, Calif.	55	46	492	506
San Diego, Calif.	80	81	744	813
San Francisco, Calif.	231	239	2,069	1,994
Seattle, Wash.	141	108	1,261	1,302
Spokane, Wash.	43	49	443	428
Tacoma, Wash.	28	41	366	387
Honolulu, Hawaii	(33)	(28)	(350)	(366)

Symbols.—parentheses [( )] : data not included in table 3; 3 dashes [---] : data not available.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS—Continued

meat. The principal findings were blueness of the lips and adjacent areas and blueness of the fingers, especially about the nails. Children treated with methylene blue recovered almost immediately. Untreated children felt better after vomiting and were well the following day. Two cats which ate some of the bologna died about an hour later. A dog ate a small amount of the bologna and did not die.

Chemical analysis of the processed meat products manufactured by the company disclosed nitrites in excess of the maximum allowable in 21 of the 130 samples collected. The excess quantities were found in wieners, bologna, and sausage. The analysis disclosed a wide range in the quantity of nitrites present. The amount varied from an almost negligible (4.93 ppm) to about 45 times the maximum amount allowable by law. This wide difference suggests a grave deficiency in the method of applying nitrites to foodstuff.

Gastro-enteritis

The California Department of Public Health has reported 3 cases of gastro-enteritis among 4 members of a private family. The father, who was not ill, ate the same kinds of food the others had eaten, except Thuringer sausage. Thus, the sausage was suspected to be the vehicle of infection. The patients became ill from 15 to 24 hours after eating this meat. The sausage had been purchased from a local delicatessen, and apparently there have been no other complaints regarding this particular type of meat product.

Dr. R. H. Heeren, Iowa Department of Health, has reported an outbreak of gastro-enteritis among 150 persons who attended a smorgasbord supper. At least 12 persons became ill before midnight. However, the exact number of cases was not known because the supper was attended by the general public. Staphylococci were isolated from a ham salad which was one of the dishes served at the supper.

The California Department of Public Health has reported 3 cases of gastro-enteritis from contaminated food, probably by sewage. Two children in a family became ill with severe abdominal cramps, headache, and diarrhea, almost simultaneously. Milk was suspected to be the vehicle because it was the only thing common to the children. The milk was pasteurized, but because of a brownish sediment in 2 bottles, it was tested The laboratory issued a negative report. Later it was found that the father was ill, and he had not consumed any of the milk. A complete investigation revealed that the septic tank had backflowed into kitchen fixtures. It had not been functioning well for some time, and may have been the source of contamination.

Communicable diseases in other areas

Information has been received by the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, W H O, from the Ministry of Health, Honduras, that 2 monkey livers have been found positive for yellow fever. The livers were collected in the Municipio of Esparta, Department of Atlantida, on February 8, 1956. One additional monkey liver was collected in Municipio Morales on February 24.