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Dietz on Science— RATE OF DEATH FROM DIABETES RISING RAPIDLY

Fatality Toll Reached New High Mark in U. S. Last Year.

BY DAVID DIETZ

Scraps-Howard Science Editor

Diabetes continues to be a disease which merits the serious study of the whole world. Statistics upon the disease for 1932 just have been assembled and they should be a source of grave concern.

The diabetes mortality during 1932 reached the highest rate on record in the experience of this or any other country, and the diabetes mortality rate of the United States at the present time is the highest of any of the representative nations of the world.

These disconcerting facts are set forth by Dr. Frederick L. Hoffman, consulting statistician in the Spectator, well known journal of the insurance world.

In fifty American cities, in which data have been collected since 1912, the mortality rate from diabetes has increased by leaps and bounds. In 1912, the rate was 15.9 per 100,000. In 1931 it was 24.6. In 1932 it was 26.3.

145,638 Deaths Reported

Complete returns for the United States registration area for 1932 are not yet in, but a study of the records for the seven years from 1925 to 1931, inclusive, show that 145,638 deaths from diabetes were recorded in that time.

"Making allowances for non-recorded deaths, it is shown conclusively that during these years over 150,000 persons have died from this insidious but more or less preventable disease," he says. "Estimating the mortality for the whole country on the basis of current returns it is safe to assume that from 25,000 to 27,000 deaths from this disease occur at the present time during the course of a year."

More Die in 99 Cities

Dr. Hoffman has analyzed the 1932 statistics for 178 American cities with a combined population of more than 43,000,000. He finds that the mortality rate from diabetes increased in ninety-nine cities, decreased in 77, and remained the same in two.

The city with the lowest rate was McKeepsport, Pa., where it was 1.8 per 100,000. Williamsport, Pa., had the highest rate, namely, 56.5.

No explanation has been offered for this phenomenon, "he says, "but apparently there is no regional concentration of the disease as determined by latitude and longitude."

On a statistical basis, he considers those cities with a rate of more than thirty-five deaths per 100,000 of population as having an excessive rate while those with less than ten deaths per 100,000 as having an unusually low rate.

Statistics of Cities

Nineteen cities are classified as having an excessive rate. They are as follows:

Holbrook, Mass. 38.4
Johnstown, Pa. 35.8
Canton, N. J. 35.8
Trenton, N. J. 37.8
Concord, N. H. 36.6
Allentown, Pa. 39.2
Brockton, Mass. 40.7
Allentown, Pa. 42.6
Reading, Pa. 42.9
New Haven, Conn. 44.1
Madison, Wis. 44.8
Oak Park, Ill. 44.8
Dearborn, Mich. 45.0
Detroit, Mich. 46.0
Troy, N. Y. 49.4
Harrisburg, Pa. 50.5
Williamsport, Pa. 56.5

Twenty-two cities are listed with unusually low diabetes death rates in 1932. They are as follows:

McKeepsport, Pa. 1.8
Fresno, Calif. 3.7
Albion, N. Y. 5.6
Orange, N. J. 5.6
First, New York N. Y. 6.0
Cicero, Ill. 7.1
Albion, N. Y. 7.2
Lansing, Mich. 7.2
Waco, Tex. 7.2
Duluth, Minn. 7.2
Decatur, Ill. 8.4
Flint, Worth, Tex. 8.5
Lancaster, Ky. 8.6
Chester, Mass. 8.9
Dover, Ind. 8.9
Gary, Ind. 9.1
Syracuse, N. Y. 9.1
Bronx, N. Y. 9.1
Bayonne, N. J. 9.8

It is interesting to compare the two foregoing tabulations with the one for the five largest cities in the United States which is as follows:

New York 29.3
Chicago 29.3
Philadelphia 29.3
Los Angeles 22.3
Detroit 17.0

Naturalists have estimated that man could live on earth only nine years after the disappearance of all bird life, for without birds to eat the insects, vegetation would disappear and animal life would follow shortly.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1 Death Notices
CAFEY, Mrs. M. L. Widow of William and mother of Mrs. Helen Perine and Mrs. Otto D. Bales, passed away Sunday evening. Funeral, Wednesday, Aug. 2, at 10 a. m. at the Mortuary, Burial Crown Hill Friends.

HEINRICH, M. Father of Robert, Anna and Bertha Hertz, brother of Mrs. Julia Curran, Mrs. Johnine Kiel and Mrs. George D. Morris, died Saturday. He may call at the KIRBY-DIXON MORTUARY, 111 W. 18th St., for the funeral services. Funeral, 1 p. m., at the church of his daughter. Friends invited. Burial Washington Park Cemetery.

3 Funeral Directors, Florists
W. T. BLASENSYGM
Main office 2205 Shook St.
Branch office 1833 W. Morris
DR-2470

FINN BROS.
Funeral Home
1639 N. MERIDIAN ST. TA-1835

GRINSTEINER'S
522 E. Market
RI-5374

LITTLE & SONS
1516 N. MERIDIAN ST. TA-2222

ANNOUNCEMENTS

3 Funeral Directors, Florists

HISEY & TITUS
957 N. Delaware
LI-2828

Clyde V. Montgomery
Funeral Home
1622 N. Meridian HA-1444

2300 Prospect DR-0321-0322

4 Lost and Found

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The Musical Hit of the Year
4 Songs—12 Stars—56 Girls

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AND
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BUSINESS SERVICE

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ASTRO—Furnace, water heater, etc.
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