

IN THIS ISSUE

IN an article "Marriage and Divorce Trends in Wisconsin, 1915-1945" Professors George W. Hill and James D. Tarver present some interesting findings based upon their study of 10 per cent of the marriage certificates and all divorce records for Wisconsin for the years 1915, 1920, 1935, 1940, and 1945. The data include breakdowns by occupational class of the groom, age of bride and groom, and duration of marriage and fertility of divorced couples.

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The paper "Seasonal Differences in Character of the Common Cold Observed in Two Communities in Westchester County, New York" by Jean Downes presents an analysis of the clinical description of the "common cold" at different seasons during a three-year period, September, 1946-May, 1949.

It was concluded that colds in the early fall tend to be mild; that colds in the later months tend to be more severe; and that in most periods there are probably colds of more than one type. The same variations in clinical character of disease with season were observed in both communities.

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Records of cases of acute respiratory illness obtained from various population groups over a period of time have shown that the incidence of such illness decreases as age increases. This has been shown to be true of both sexes.

Data on acute respiratory illness by age and sex obtained in a study in Pleasantville and Mt. Kisco, New York, are presented in a paper entitled "Incidence of Acute Respiratory Illness

Among Males and Females at Specific Ages” by Doris Tucher, Jane E. Coulter, and Jean Downes. This paper reveals results similar to those obtained in previous morbidity studies of acute respiratory illness.

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One of the hypotheses included for testing in the Indianapolis Study was: “The greater the adherence to traditions, the lower the proportion of couples practicing contraception effectively and the larger the planned families.” Underlying this hypothesis was the assumption that persons who adhere to traditional ideas in general will also tend to adhere to traditional ideas about fertility control and family size. The analysis of the data on this hypothesis is presented in an article “Fertility Planning and Fertility Rates by Adherence to Traditions” by Ronald Freedman and P. K. Whelpton. This is the fifteenth of a series of reports under the general title “Social and Psychological Factors Affecting Fertility.”