DEADLY FLU EPIDEMIC ASSAULTS EUROPE

Jan. 4 (IPS)--In the last three weeks, a wave of flu has attacked tens of thousands in Hungary, Italy, and Spain, It is expected that when the flu hits Britain and Ireland after the New Year, the severely low social conditions will cause an horrendously high rate of fatality, as in the 1918 worldwide epidemic (pandemic) of flu.

In the last week, 300 Nigerian pilgrims died in a cholera outbreak in Mecca, Saudi Arabia, causing the Nigerian government to quarantine the Moslem population in seven of 12 provinces. Other cholera outbreaks in Rhodesia and Kenya have been fed by the growing epidemic infecting thousands in Bihar and West Bengal in the wake of the Indian drought. Africa has historically been a jumping-off point for explosions of cholera from its endemic focus on the lower Ganges and Brahmaputra rivers into a worldwide epidemic.

Merida, Venezuela suffered a typhoid outbreak when water treatment facilities failed for a few days. Both typhoid and cholera swept through the broken survivors after the cyclone in Darwin, Australia.

Why Now?

This rise in widespread disease is the initial results of Rockefeller's annihilation of working class living standards in the advanced sector and brutal murder of millions in the Third World. Rockefeller's ecological holocaust is now advancing.

An outbreak of body lice in Britain in the last months is testament to the severe social collapse in which epidemics breed, where public health and municipal sanitation has broken down. Coupled with the severe fall in nutrition levels, the initially non-virulent Hong Kong flu coming from the continent will develop ferocious strains devastating the defenseless British working class. Once a new strain is incubated in Britain, it will sweep the continent and spread to North America. There is no vaccine against new strains of flu. Once it has passed through the population, practically all survivors will have immunity to that particular strain, but when another wave of a new strain takes off, death will again come knocking at the door.

Cholera is one of the easiest of man-to-man diseases to control. It appears only in areas where there is no sewage treatment or chlorination of drinking water. As Europe and North America are deindustrialized under Rockefeller policies, measures normally taken for granted will be eliminated, immediately exposing urban populations to certain outbreaks of water-borne cholera and typhoid. In the absence of immediate hospital care, a danger already existent in Italy where hospitals have been gutted all year, infected individuals will die of acute circulatory failure within 24-72 hours.

IPS B10 1/4/75