

THE SPANISH FLU IN 1918-1920 IN SOME FRENCH NEWSPAPERS AND BULLETINS OF THAT PERIOD

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Geliş: 08.07.2020 / Kabul: 16.12.2020

Abstract

The aim of this study is to reveal under the shaded various public dimensions of the Spanish Flu in 1918-1920s through the French Newspapers and Bulletins of those years. Data has been selected, especially, from historical section that was the summer of 1918 to the summer of 1925. Because this period is the most intense epoch of the epidemic. Besides, it is impossible to investigate in all press of that epoch in a small-scale article like here is. Results was obtained from around thirty publications. It was encountered with two sorts of approaches for the flu in the journals. The first of those was quite critical on the precautions for the flu, and these (critiques) was based on scientific information. The second approach was rather relaxed against epidemic's process and it was not anxious overly. These results indicate once again, generally, the mankind is divided into two throughout history in front of realities: excessive worried persons and excessive relaxed persons in front of facts and events, but of being middling.

Keywords: The French Newspapers and Bulletins, The Spanish Flu, The Precautions for the Flu.

O DÖNEMİN BAZI FRANSIZCA GAZETE VE DERGİLERİNDE 1918-1920 İSPANYOL GRİBİ

Öz

Bu çalışmanın amacı 1918 ile 1920'li yıllar arasında yaşanmış olan İspanyol Gribi'nin gölgede kalmış kamusal kısımlarını o dönemin Fransız basını aracılığıyla ortaya çıkarmaktır. Veriler, özellikle, 1918 yazından 1920 yazına kadar olan tarihsel kesitten seçilmiştir. Çünkü bu period salgının en yoğun dönemini teşkil etmiştir. Bunun yanında, söz konusu dönemin tüm medya yayınlarının incelenmesi bu makale gibi küçük çaplı bir çalışmada mümkün değildir. Sonuçlar otuz civarında yayından elde edilmiştir. Yayınlarda gribe yönelik iki tür yaklaşımla karşılaşmıştır. Bunlardan ilki, grip için alınan önlemlere karşı oldukça eleştirel olmuştur ve bu eleştirileri bilimsel temele dayandırmıştır. İkinci yaklaşım ise, salgın sürecine karşı haddinden fazla rahat olmuş ve endişe göstermemekte aşırıya kaçmıştır. Bu sonuçlar, insanoğlunun, tarih boyunca gerçekler karşısında, orta halli

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olmanın dışında, genelde ikiye ayrıldığını bir kez daha göstermiştir: Olay ve olgulara karşı aşırı endişeli kişiler ve aşırı rahat kişiler.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Fransızca Gazete ve Dergiler, Grip için önlemler, İspanyol Gribi.

Introduction

An epidemic is not only related to the health sector. Thought in that way of the matter is not very convenient. This topic has various dimensions like social, economic, political etc. To be revealed of those dimensions, journals is pretty beneficial. Therefore, for example, the French press of Spanish Flu's term can be used for revealing some dimensions mentioned. One of those dimensions is what was the public opinion about the epidemic. How is the development and spread of the epidemic? Which are the first perceptions and attitudes created by the outbreak? What are the some different between the Spanish Flu and the epidemic of nowadays (Covid-19)? While we are asking all those questions will take cognizance of the aspect that the press is especially important element of public opinion, even if Habermas and Thibaudet had drawn a sharp border between public opinion and press.²

There aren't very studies about the Spanish Flu through the French press in the foreign literature. François Bourbon has a study that deals with Spanish flu through the French press. The name of his paper is "La grippe espagnole (1918-1919) dans les journaux français". He has used here, in generally, the Archives of the Val-de-Grâce Army Health Service instead of looking at directly that term's journals themselves. He has kept an eye on directly only some journals like *Le Journal*, *Le Figaro*, *La Croix*, *Le Petit Parisien* etc. themselves. Another study belongs to Avner Bar-Hen and Patrick Zylberman, and its name is "La Presse Parisienne et La Grippe "Espagnole" (1918-1920)". Their analysis, really, is perfect and compatible for quantitative research methods. They have selected and used eleven journals according to circulation of them: *Le Petit Parisien*, *Le Matin*, *L'Écho de Paris*, *Le Journal*, *Le Figaro*, *Le Gaulois*, *Le Temps*, *La Presse*, *L'Humanité*, *La Lanterne*, *L'Ouest-Éclair*. They teased out those in terms of various aspects like the strategic impact of the epidemic according to the press, the figures of the flu in media discourse etc. Our paper contains only four of eleven, *La Lanterne*, *L'Ouest-Éclair*, *Le Journal* and *La Lanterne*. Others was selected at random. Thirty journals were used in our study in total from both local and general press, like *Bulletin*

² Habermas and Thibaudet have claimed that press and public opinion have quite different mechanisms for record (Bar-Hen and Zylberman, 2015).

Périodique de la Presse Allemande, Bulletin Périodique de la Presse Bulgare, Bulletin Périodique de la Presse Russe, La Lanterne: Journal Politique Quotidien, Le Canard: Journal des Prisonniers de Guerre, Le Journal, Le Petit Journal etc.

As for general studies dealing with the topic, an important and rare research about the topic in Turkey belongs to M. Kemal Temel. His book bears the title of *Gelmiş Geçmiş En Büyük Katil: 1918 “İspanyol” Gribi*. The book has three parts, from the general describing of the flu to lesson that it gave to us. Further, it has a great of reference works that is very value in the its bibliographie. But he used only six journals from the French press: *La Revue du Praticien, Revue Historique des Armées, Histoire des Sciences Médicales, Médecine/Sciences, Le Petit Parisien* and *Mil Neuf: Revue d’Histoire Intellectuelle*. Jeffery K. Taubenberger’s paper is “The Origin and Virulence of the 1918 “Spanish” Influenza Virus”. Here was put forth mostly the medical side of the flu. Murat Yolun’s paper is “İspanyol Gribinin Kısa Bir Öyküsü”. He has talked over here in terms of impacts of the flu on the Ottoman State. Again, the research of Murat Yolun and Metin Kopar’s, which was called as “The Impact of the Spanish Influenza on the Ottoman Empire”, is wider presentation of the paper above mentioned. With be all the those is very good studies, they couldn’t appreciate the value of the French press that is one of the important elements of Europe press in that period.

In this paper, the practical impact of the flu in the social life was handled. The virus cases in the various lands, the spread of the epidemic in those quarters, persons’ and governments’ reactions to the epidemic was made an effort to be seen from closely by the means of the French press of that term. It is impossible that was converged of economic, political, educational, military etc. aspects of the epidemic to this study. In of those aspect, especially, I hope that is done a study on the linkage between the Spanish Flu and 1930s’ The Great Depression.

1. The First Evaluations about the Flu in the Press

The Spanish Flu, indeed, did not emerge as a mortal disease. It had a bacterial bronchopneumonia that did not exist its remedy (Lüthy, Ritacco and Kantor, 2018). But the transmission ways and contamination hazard were unknowing at the beginning of the epidemic. So, a Swiss journal had been said thus: “*the sickness has a very of good character. Because of this need not to a disturb among population*” (Colombo, 2006).

By 1922, the press was continuing to giving information about flu and precautions that to taken against it. Because the flu was still going on. So and at the same time,

the emphasis of a journal, for example, was on the flu of 1922 to be different than in 1918 (*Le Grand Écho du Nord de la France*, on January 11, 1922: 2). This emphasis is demonstrating that people are still afraid of the flu epidemic in 1922s. Other a journal was warning as relating to was not except of precautions for children (*La Lanterne: Journal Politique Quotidien*, on November 1, 1918: 2).

We are seeing that named of the flu in 1918 and 1920s as “Chinese Flu”, in when very more before than Donald Trump’s discourse in the way “Chinese Virus”, and this flu was being interpreting as a continuation of 1890s’ flu (*L’Écho: Grand Giotidien d’Information du Centre Quest*, on September 21, 1918: 2; *Lyon Médical: Gazette Medicale et Journal de Médecine Réunis*, on January 1, 1919: 147).

The flu was seeing, especially, among the soldiers that serve in various zones. The attitude of folk quite charitable against them. Such that, the soldiers was pretty grateful to folk for their helps in this mortal sickness (*La Nation: Revue Suisse Hebdomadaire*, on July 21, 1918: 4).

The Spanish Flu (“...cette vilaine femelle...”, *La Vie Parisienne*, on July 27, 1918: 15) that lived, especially, between 1918 and 1920 caused many deaths worldwide. The amount of people dead was being considering as twenty-two million in 1920s. But, afterwards, the amount agreed started to rise more and more: First, it was twenty-five or thirty million. Ultimately, the number of fifty million was started to be pronounced. But various countries that haven’t regular health statistics, such as Asians and African countries, haven’t within of this amount (Michels, 2010: 2).³ Most of the victims of the Spanish flu was young and healthy persons in interesting way (Casella, 2020). In Swiss, for example, twenty-four thousand persons that was young had died due to the flu (Colombo, 2006).

“Prominent Doctor” Mr. Roux from who Institut Pasteur in Paris was expressing that the drug of the flu not found yet. Because the pathogenic (disease-causing) microbe of the flu was unknowing. Even if this is not an obstruction for a vaccine the condition was so (*Le Écho: Grand Giotidien d’Information du Centre Quest*, on September 21, 1918: 2).

³ Perhaps, the victims of 1933’s flu can be have included in this number. Because, according to *Journal de Fourmies*, the flu that have been lived in 1933 had effectived enough as to remind the flu of 1918 and 1920s (on January 28, 1939: 4). See for the number of the fifty million to Casella (2020) and for the number of hundred million to Cidorchik (2020).

A French bulletin which wanting to put everything in place had started to work by comparing the war conditions of 1915 with Spanish Flu in 1918. Spanish Flu had started in Europe in the summer of 1918. In the First World War, according to what is narrated here, French administration had done anything against German that came to the tip of their nose. Everybody was very leisure as if no hazard. At the end, even remarkably simple medicines had been cannot found, and the war had raised the prices of foods and fallen their quality (*Hygia*, on November 15, 1918: 153).

Now, it had been faced with a situation that was not at all down war. The same bulletin was evaluating that the reason for gave of name ‘Espagnol’ for the flu in question was to add ‘affection’ and ‘laughter’ to the subject.⁴ At the same time, the number of those who died from the flu was continuing to rise (*Hygia*, on November 15, 1918: 154). In Bulgaria, for example, thirty-five thousand people had died between February and April Months of 1919, from four hundred thousand people who got the disease. In the same term, the amount of died by Typhus was five thousand one hundred and eleven people of sixty-one thousand one hundred and forty-four people (*Bulletin Périodique de la Presse Bulgare*, in April 1919: 2).

It appears that the epidemic had created an occasion for medicine sales. For provide these sales the method that in its term’s journals and bulletins, primarily, was to introduce the person who lived or being living the epidemic at the moment. Subsequently, the stage at which the story was told from the patient’s mouth would come. Finally, the drug that can will be remedy of the sickness would be put forward (*Le Semeur Algérien: Paraissant Le Dimanche*, on March 30, 1919: 2).⁵

At the beginning of precautions against the flu was considered the production of disinfectant and pharmacological, as done nowadays. M. Lucien Dumont was having this opinion. Besides, he had proposed to take on leave of military doctors,

⁴ According to *Le Radical*, the name of the flu had been given by Germans (*Le Radical*, on July 13, 1918: 2). Indeed, the flu had taken its name from free media ground of Spain that stayed out of the First World War in the way of neutral. Because, according to Casella, here was only place where could be liberally spoken of the epidemic as different from others Europe countries, otherwise it was not because the flu originated from the Iberian Peninsula firstly (Casella, 2020). It had begun to be written articles about the flu since May of 1918 in Spanish press (Cidorchik, 2020). The censor in French press will be removed from application by decree of 12 October 1919 (Bar-Hen and Zylberman, 2015).

⁵ The many examples of this advertisements can be seen in that period’s journals.

pharmacists, and various preparation officials, of course without harm to their health services (*Le Journal*, on November 7, 1918: 2).

Victims' amount of the flu of the 1918-20s had been as many as a plague that lived in the past in Europe. This quantity was as many as to call over the coals of the French government (*L'Écho de Bougie*, on March 3, 1929: 1). Its destructive effect was not less than the plague as well as smallpox and yellow fever (*Vers La Santé*, in March 1925: 122).

By 1922, the flu, this time, had covered nearly as a whole to Europe and North Africa. New epidemic which had happened in 1925, fortunately, had not been as lethal as in recent history. It is understood that England and Germany had succeeded the staying out of the epidemic by this date. Because, according to the journal, the epidemic had arrived to them in 1925 and it had contaminated to averagely thirty percent of their population.⁶ Besides, South lands of England had been more affected from epidemic than other lands of England. Additionally, the journal was also warning about that flu vaccine may not be remedy for the epidemic. Because, it hadn't been good for a great deal patient. As for the reason for this, this failure was result of aggravated of lungs diseases, of bad/incorrect treatment in the beginning of disease (*L'Écho de Bougie*, on March 3, 1929: 1).⁷

The same journal was recommending the consuming of healthy foods in except raw vegetables, and meats, even if they cooked, the drinking of boiled water, and the frequent ventilation of the rooms we sleep. But the most important precaution was to not exceed the "scope of disease" that is negative affecting the body in terms of spiritual (*L'Écho de Bougie*, on March 3, 1929: 1).

It is interesting that *L'Écho de Bougie* was evaluating the flu as more advanced form of plague that coming from the orient, in addition to other diseases that came from it in the past centuries, like nowadays. Moreover, the terrible hygienic conditions of oriental countries were strongly emphasized (*L'Écho de Bougie*, on March 3, 1929: 1).

⁶ Whereas *Bulletin Périodique de la Presse* was declaring that were quite a lot of the Spanish Flu Patients in the summer of 1918, on Deutsch lands like Mannheim, Carlsruhe and Ludwigshafen (July 19, 1918: 6).

⁷ See also to Michels as relating to this (2010: 4).



Picture 1: A sickroom in Luxembourg for the sick (<https://nv.ua/world/countries/epidemiya-ispanskogo-grippa-posledstviya-pandemii-ispanki-1918-1919-gg-40003081.html>)

2. The Development of Epidemic in the Different Regions

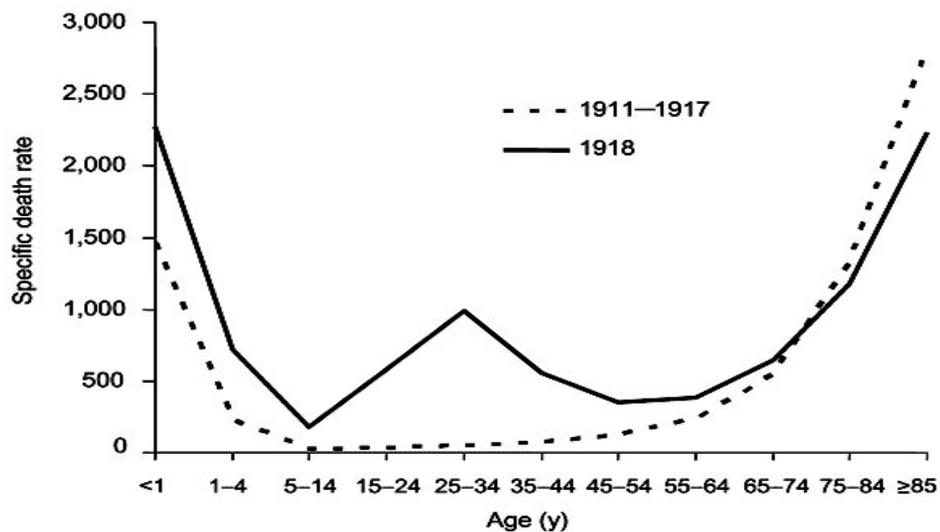
The place that was first seen of flu the was USA, and it had infected the people of five hundred million, one of third of the world's population in that time (Casella, 2020).⁸ The first person infected in USA was Albert Gitchell who served in Fort Riley Military Base in Kansas. He consulted to doctor for severe cough and chills on May 11 of 1918, and after a short time, almost nobody healthy had left in the base (Cidorchik, 2020).

The Spanish Flu, especially, from September to December of 1918 had started to its first signals in the cantons like Moulins-Engilbert, de Luzy, de Lormes, de Château-Chinon of France, by deriving from prisons and garrisons. Subsequently, it had spread out over a good few people (*Académie du Morvan*, 2005: 47). The diffusion of the flu, generally, was realising by the agency of soldiers (*La Défence*, no date: 10).⁹

⁸ But Lüthy, Ritacco and Kantor (2018) claim that Christopher Columbus took for the first flu virus to USA. Apart this from, Andrei Cidorchik pronounces the number of five thousand and fifty million (2020).

⁹ Only place that wasn't spread out the Spanish Flu was Marajo Island in the mouth of the Amazon, as well as I don't know other lands (I only came across this information here: <https://nv.ua/world/countries/epidemiya-ispanskogo-grippa-posledstviya-pandemii-ispanki-1918-1919-gg-40003081.html> and <https://tr.qwe.wiki/wiki/Marajo>).

One of lands which pass through lightly from epidemic was Tamatave of Madagascar. The death rate here had not surpassed of the season normal at the end of April of 1919, even though local people were fearing from epidemic. Upon this, the health commission had had to give a guarantee to native folk of this place about not to spread of the flu onto their lands. Indeed, the flu that was being lived here was not Spanish Flu, and still, the native folk was keeping clear of death rates of other districts (*Le Tamatave*, on April 26, 1919: 1). On the other hand, in Russia, for example, especially at the beginning of the epidemic, the flu was progressing with the cholera, unlike of the lands that pass by lightly from epidemic like Tamatave (*Bulletin Périodique de la Presse Russe*, on August 31, 1918: 1).

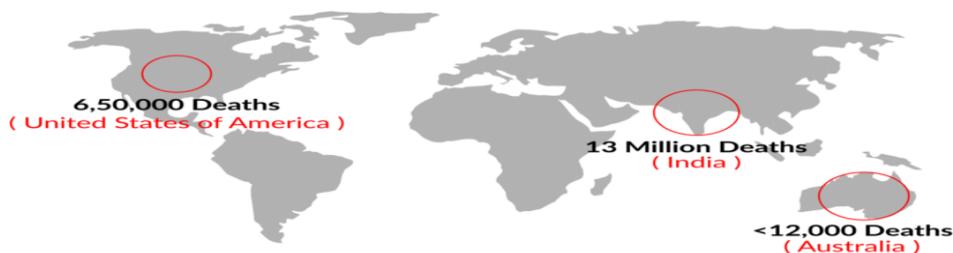


Graphic 1: The graphic demonstrates the different between the epidemic of 1918-1920 and the epidemic of 1911-1917 in terms of specific death rates per every 100.000 persons in the every age group (<https://www.vanillamagazine.it/14-fotografie-ricordano-linfluenza-spagnola-la-piu-letale-epidemia-della-storia-dellumanita/>)

Swiss was being affected more severely from epidemic as per Tamatave. But this situation was not worth overdoing, as Mr. Jules Renault. Because, its symptoms was looking alike with the flu epidemic of 1889-1890. Whereat, it wasn't need to fear it. The Spanish Flu must be only advanced shape of the flu epidemic in 1889-

90.¹⁰ However, it was being recommending to personal care, to stay away from crowds and not to visit the patients (*Journal de Médecine et de Chirurgie Pratiques*, September 10, 1918: 681-682). But according to a thesis (*Considérations Cliniques sur L'Épidémie de Flu Observée Dans L'Arrondissement de Pontarlier (Doubs) Pendant L'Année 1918*, December 1918: 10) that will be mentioned below the condition was really critical in Swiss. In there had realized pretty deaths during june, july and august, in particular, among military elements.¹¹

Deaths from 1918 Spanish flu pandemic



Map 1: The death rates of various lands due to the Spanish Flu

(<https://www.nogeingegneria.com/effetti/salute/1918-influenza-spagnola-influenza-killer-o-aspirina-killer/>)

The death curve of the Spanish Flu in Swiss was rather impressive during a month of july in those places as Lausanne and La Chaux-de-Fonds. Swiss was being

¹⁰ The Flu in 1889 had been dubbed as “Russian Grippe”. It had affected not only Europe but also United State. The flu, in particularly, had taken effect all of Russia, Vienna, Madrid, Berlin, London and in outskirts of them (*L'Quest-Éclair*, on December 12, 1939: 1; Michels, 2010: 1). As from this apart, see for as related to “Italian Grippe” in 1948 to *Informations Sociales*, on December 1, 1951: 1569. Besides those, see to Michels for the “Asiatic Grippe” of 1957, the “Hong Kong Grippe” of 1968, and the “Swine Flu” of 2009 that was first flu epidemic afterwards 1968 Epidemic. Moreover, see also to the changing of the Spanish Flu into the virus of Swine Flu that rose in Mexico in 2009 to Michels, 2010: 1 and 4. Apart from those, the amount of deaths due to 1957 and 1968’s grips were fewer than the Spanish Flu (Colombo, 2006).

¹¹ See for the salient features of 1889-90 flu to *Lyon Médical: Gazette Medicale et Journal de Médecine Réunis*, on January 1, 1919: 148. Apart from, see for the flu of 1889 had continued until 1894 in the form of three waves to *La Défence*, no date: 10. But according to Michels, the flu ended in 1892 (2010: 1). Swiss will develop the emergency scenarios, especially, against the flu since then (Colombo, 2006).

struggling to adapt on its sick citizens the measurements of prophylactics (progrative drugs) that came out in the other lands of Europe (*Considérations Cliniques sur L'Épidémie de Flu Observée Dans L'Arrondissement de Pontarlier (Doubs) Pendant L'Année 1918*, December 1918: 10).

Even though all those, a family's six girls had got sick the Spanish Flu at the pinnacle of a mountain in the height of a thousand hundred meters. This, maybe, was conclusion of pathogenic microbes which was being coming from fars through winds (*Considérations Cliniques sur L'Épidémie de Flu Observée Dans L'Arrondissement de Pontarlier (Doubs) Pendant L'Année 1918*, December 1918: 13).



Picture 2: The Spanish Flu in the army of U.S. (<https://ruski.radio.cz/ispanskiy-gripp-smertonosnechem-voyna-8103368>)

3. The Scientific Studies on the Epidemic

The influenza is an acute viral disease that was come across in both people and animals. It is contagious, as well as is not mortal in general. To struggle against viruses is hard substantially because of they have being incessantly changing (Michels, 2010: 1).

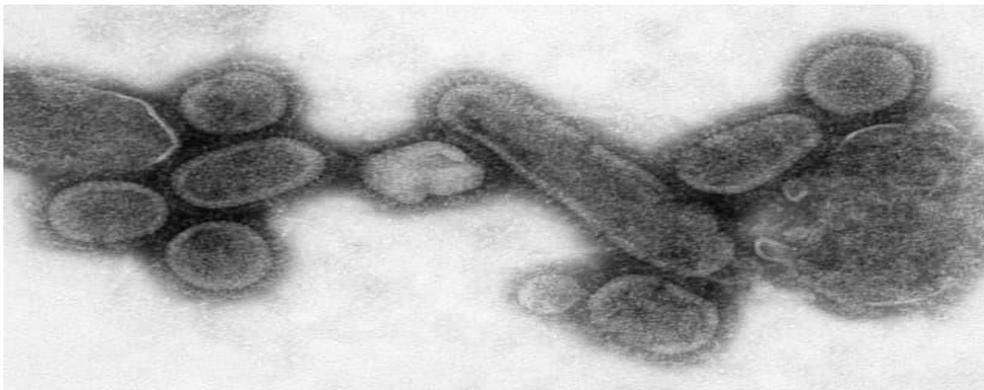
In fact, Hippocrates had already described the symptoms of an influenza before two thousand four hundred years, and the epidemic of influenza was being seen the rate of two or three percent in one year in the Medieval Age (Lüthy, Ritacco and

Kantor, 2018). However, when and where mankind encountered with the disease called flu is not known, on the other hand (Cidorchik, 2020).¹²

According to Florentine doctors in the fourteenth century, the word ‘*grippe*’ found a place for itself in the way *grip* in English and *grippen* in Deutsch at the first once as a Gothic term in the Anglo-Saxon World and in the Continental Europe Countries. Later, it was started to use the *colds* that come from Latin *influenza di freddo* (*Mémoires de l’Académie des Sciences*, 2000: 125). The words ‘*grip*’ and ‘*influenza*’ were most clearly begun to use in the sixteen century (Cidorchik, 2020), around 1580s (Colombo, 2006).

Some enquiries on the flu of 1889 had expressed its incubation period based on atmospheric disorders. The researches made in 1889 in Paris had observed an extraordinary increase of the barometers in places like Vienna, Berlin. Besides, according to these researches, the flu was going side by side with foggy and humid weather, unlike Covid-19 of 2020s. Such that, in the rates of death had been observed a rapid decline as conclusion of cold weather rising again. Moreover, a lot of doctors were now accepting infected with the flu not only to direct contact but also by water, air, objects and animals (*Le Petit Journal*, on July 8, 1918: 1). Furthermore, *La Défense* had dubbed the virus in the way “*ultravirus*”, and, at the same time, it could be have opened a new way of scientific investigations in the laboratories as well as trouble (*La Défense*, no date: 10). The isolation of the flu virus could be firstly achieved in 1901 (Cidorchik, 2020). Apart this from, *Le Phare du Dahomey Journal* will encouraged the workers for syndicalism that is less serious and less dangerous than the flu epidemic in the aftermath of Second World War (*Le Phare du Dahomey*, 1946: 2). Again, a bulletin of the 1940s will compare with the victims of the epidemics during war mentioned to victims of the Spanish Flu (*Regards*, on February 15, 1945: 2).

¹² He had referred to the grip around 412 BC (Colombo, 2006).



Picture 3: The form of virus of the Spanish Flu (<https://ruski.radio.cz/ispanskiy-gripp-smertonosneechem-voyna-8103368>)

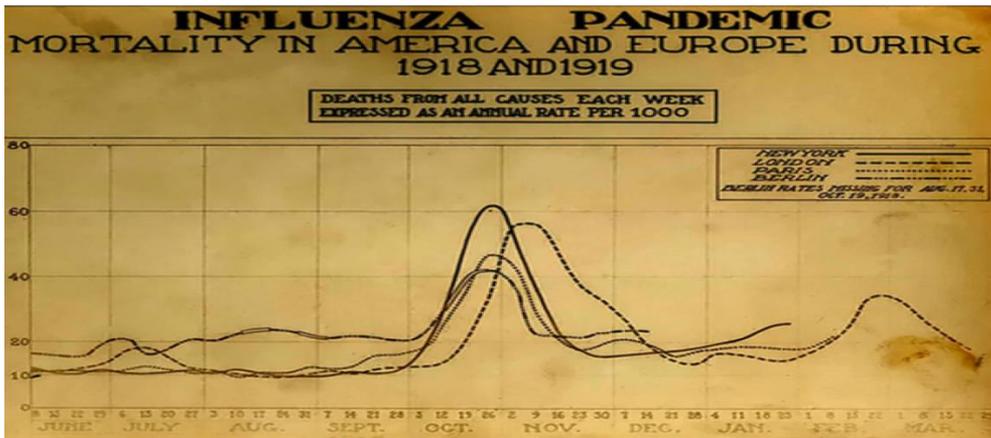
While the situation in some areas is as above, on the other hand, various scientific investigations on the epidemic were being preparing. One of these had been published under the name '*Considérations Cliniques sur L'Épidémie de Flu Observée Dans L'Arrondissement de Pontarlier (Doubs) Pendant L'Année 1918*' by Faculté de Médecine et de Pharmacie de Lyon.

The thesis was being starting with emphasising on the spread of the flu in across France since summer of 1918. The similarities between the characteristics of flues that were being continuing in France and Spain were remarkable. On the other hand, it had been stated that was wrong of called the flu as the Spanish flu. But once the name was given! (*Considérations Cliniques sur L'Épidémie de Flu Observée Dans L'Arrondissement de Pontarlier (Doubs) Pendant L'Année 1918*, December 1918: 9).¹³ The concept (the Spanish Flu), on the other hand, had become a benchmark instrument among bad circumstances at least. In the La Rire, for example, the concept had been used to narrate the partly more good situation of Luxor Temple that "*affected from dangerous pessimism*" than Spanish Flu (*La Rire: Journal Humoristiques*, on November 9, 1918: 4, *Le Canard: Journal des Prisonniers de Guerre*, on August 15, 1918: 5).

¹³ There is here a stunning point is that, the work called *Mercur de France* was based on what narrated of Johan Jakob Vogel who was one of the chronic masters of Leipzig the bygone of the flu and its concept, and it was saying, in substance, that the flu had a history of four thousand years. See for those and furthermore to *Mercur de France* on November 1, 1918: 188.



Picture 4: The funeral of Vera Holodnaya who “*silent star of Russian Cinema*”
(<https://nv.ua/world/countries/epidemiya-ispanskogo-grippa-posledstviya-pandemii-ispanski-1918-1919-gg-40003081.html>)



Graphic 2: Mortality in America and Europe During 1918 and 1919
(<https://nv.ua/world/countries/epidemiya-ispanskogo-grippa-posledstviya-pandemii-ispanski-1918-1919-gg-40003081.html>)

The flu was thought to be hatching throughout August of 1918. Experts were drawing attention to strong winds and flying dusts. Apart from these, to causes like dirty floors, closed beds, perpetual open windows, eating beside soiled beds of patients et al. were rather important for spread of the flu (*Considérations Cliniques*

sur L'Épidémie de Flu Observée Dans L'Arrondissement de Pontarlier (Doubs) Pendant L'Année 1918, December 1918: 13).

Suddenly temperature rise, problems about digestion and breathing, especially feeling of excessive physical sensitivity on the skin, and spine and lower back pain was the most obvious symptoms of the Spanish Flu (*Considérations Cliniques sur L'Épidémie de Flu Observée Dans L'Arrondissement de Pontarlier (Doubs) Pendant L'Année 1918*, December 1918: 18).

People between ages of fifteen and forty was carrier of the flu, even though the flu “handle with kid gloves” against children as we nowadays are. Moreover, there is a here interesting point: It was being thought, in a way different from nowadays (2020s), was more durable of those who over the aged of forty-five who past through the 1889's flu epidemic against Spanish Flu.¹⁴ Besides, it had been expended more money for the flu epidemic, as well as other diseases like tuberculosis, bronchitis, alcoholism et al., even if the flu mentioned not arose as frequently as they and deaths caused by its were quite a lot (*Considérations Cliniques sur L'Épidémie de flu Observée Dans L'Arrondissement de Pontarlier (Doubs) Pendant L'Année 1918*, December 1918: 14).

In the flu mentioned, while one is quite healthy in the morning as going to work, the same person was being unhealthy when he backed from workhouse in the afternoon, enough to put himself in bed immediately (*Considérations Cliniques sur L'Épidémie de Flu Observée Dans L'Arrondissement de Pontarlier (Doubs) Pendant L'Année 1918*, December 1918: 16).

The studies for drug had come to level of serum. But tests, especially, that made on horses hadn't been resulted successfully. The serum had raised a negative case that could be impact on all of the horse breed (*Journal de Physiologie et de Pathologie Générale*, 1919: 1246). Besides, it was being applied an incessant diet that used small Swiss cheese and various fruit compotes after cleaned of intestines (*La Méthode Lo Monaco: Les Injections de Saccharose dans le Traitement de la Tuberculose*, 1919: 71). Other methods used, for example in Argentina, was throat antiseptis, quinine (a bitter crystalline compound present in cinchona bark), salicylate (a salt or ester of salicylic acid), cough codeine (a sleep-inducing and analgesic drug derived from morphine) and camphor oil. As to used of

¹⁴ At this point it should be noted that the viruses have jumped over of immunity that people gained in the waves of the sickness period by dint of antigen shift (Michels, 2010: 1).

reconstituted virus method on mice had been quite negative and mortal (Lüthy, Ritacco and Kantor, 2018).

4. The Critiques on the Epidemic

The critiques were in the press against the precautions that is insufficient for the epidemic, on the other hand. One of these critiques had been put into word by *Journal Officiel de la République Française*. In right here, the France Hygiene Commission was being examined. The journal had asked questions to the commission about measures taken. Basically, what had been done about the intestinal and lung problems relating to the epidemic? (*Journal Officiel de la République Française*, on October 25, 1918: 1).

The Minister of Health was being hit from floor to floor in terms of measures which could not be taken. Firstly, he had not given weight to various views of the flu in the intestines and lungs. Secondly, medical care measures was insufficient for the victims. The medical supplies that need to in drug making, for example, was being couldn't providing as far as enough. Thirdly, even protection measures was insufficient. Moreover, only six or seven hundred doctors were now, even though three thousand five hundred doctors existed in Paris in ordinary times. Besides these, the journal was opposite to mobile doctor application. The doctors which were in that application could serve better in their hometowns (*Journal Officiel de la République Française*, on October 25, 1918: 1).

In addition to the above, folk that not going to pharmacy out of finding they want drugs or substances like castor oil, flax flour and mustard flour, was digging in one's heels about medications. In reality, the drugs like aspirin distributed to drugstores to deliver to people were rather little amount. In Paris, for example, it had been proclaimed going to distributed two hundred and fifty grams of aspirin, from a total of ten kilograms! Moreover, aspirin was only passing into hands of people in fourteen days. This was a long time for hold on to life. Additionally, the folk not washing with disinfectant was being emphasized in the journal. People was easily washing their hands with empty water instead of disinfectants (*Journal Officiel de la République Française*, on October 25, 1918: 2).

Conclusion

In this article, the spread of the flu has been struggled to be followed through the medium of the French Press. The information which were both local and general press that told of Europe's general circumstance allowed to comparison between

diverse lands with regard to development of the flu. For example, it was possible that while from one side it can be followed Mexico's death rates, it can be followed Russia's death rates from another side.

Apart from above, it were not made do only with rates of death and of caught to the flu. Besides of those the attitudes of persons against the flu were investigated by the means of the press. It was seen that the flu wasn't taken it seriously at the beginning of sick. Later on, this state will change willingly or unwillingly.

On the other hand, in that point, it is very important to determine the different and similarities between the Spanish Flu and Corona Sick of nowadays. It was being thought that the old were being good seeing to in terms of to battle against the flu because of they past through of the 1889 Flu, unlike nowadays. The death rates in the young population were quite supporting this opinion.

Finally, I would like to say that, the epidemics is not relating to only abstractly with individuals never, like narrated of those words of Albert Camus, who was born in 1913 in Algeria and died in 1960 in France, gave voice to, in particularly, diseases that be lived in the Middle Ages: *"the plague had swallowed everybody and all. There was no longer an individual destiny, there was a collective destiny, the feelings that shared by everyone and created by plague"* (Colombo, 2006). This case, exactly, conforms for our current state. Therefore, now we must learn to think of each other's goodness in the way sincere, although the capitalism that makes us rather cruel and individual.

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