

## Health Report:

### Children's Diseases Under Better Control

As compared with the conditions prevailing ten years ago, more than 15,000 lives were saved in the United States during 1951 and 1952 by the reduction in mortality from the common childhood diseases, according to the statisticians of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

Measles, whooping cough, diphtheria and scarlet fever were responsible for 3,400 deaths in the past two years, instead of the 19,000 which would have occurred if the rates of only a decade ago had continued unchanged.

About half of the savings in lives is accounted for by reduced mortality from whooping cough alone, for which both the reported cases and deaths are at all-time low levels. The improvement is attributed primarily to the increased use of immunization against the disease in early infancy.

The rate of cases of illness from measles, which is by far the most prevalent of the childhood diseases, has declined only 13 per cent since 1940-1941, but the death rate has been reduced by 55 per cent. Part of the decline in very recent years, according to the statisticians, is due to the use of gamma globulin to provide passive immunity in infants and sick children exposed to the disease.

Diphtheria still causes several hundred deaths each year in the United

States, although both the case rate and the death rate have decreased more than 80 per cent in the past 10 years. An increasing proportion of the diphtheria deaths is occurring at adult ages, though even at these ages too the death rate has been reduced.

"An important factor in the marked progress against the childhood diseases has been the control of secondary complications through the use of the sulfa drugs and the antibiotics," the statisticians observe. "Another major factor is believed to be the better resistance by infants and children as a result of their greatly improved health and nutrition."

Despite the current low level of fatalities from these diseases, the statisticians foresee that further substantial reduction can be achieved through early immunization of all children against whooping cough and diphtheria, and the wider use of gamma globulin among infants exposed to measles.

### FOLKS YOU KNOW



Jack Webster has been a knitter at the Hosiery Mill for nearly 10 years. He is a native of Montgomery County and grew up at Martinsville. He moved to Fieldale when he married a local girl, the former Miss Margaret Shartzler, the daughter of R. C. Shartzler, formerly a loomfixer at the Towel Mill. Jack served in the Navy during World War II. He is a member of the American Legion Post at Fieldale and attends the Baptist Church. Bird hunting is his favorite sport. He owns his home and has a son, Jackie, four months old. His wife is former Hosiery employee.

### Serves In Japan

Lawrence DeHart, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walker DeHart, of Draper is now stationed with an anti-aircraft unit at Johnson Air Base, in Japan. He at one time worked in the Bleaching Dept. at the Bleachery but was attending Feree's Art School in Raleigh when he was called into service in April 1953. His father works in Blanket Mill supply room and his mother, Lorene, is employed in Sheet Folding Dept. at the Bleachery.



DeHart

### Eleven Months Old

Lucille Aminta Stanley, eleven months old when the picture was made, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Stanley, Ridgeway Road. Her daddy is employed in the Bedspread Dyeing Dept. and grandfather, James W. Long, works in the Bed-

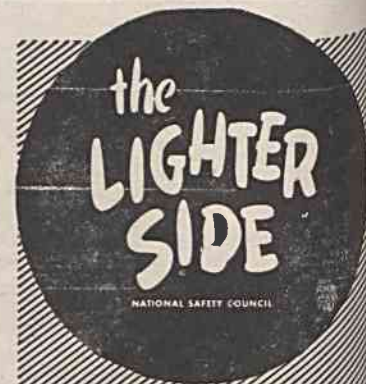


Lucille Stanley spread Card Room.

### Fieldcrest Show

Employees are invited to hear the Fieldcrest radio program at 3 p. m. Sunday over WLOE in Leaksville and WMVA in Martinsville.

Test your wits in naming the mystery tune. Separate cash prizes are offered in Fieldale and in the Tri-Cities each broadcast.



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