

MURDERS AND MOTORS BOOST JULY DEATHS

Homicides and auto accidents were plentiful last month, according to figures just made public by Dr. Louis I Dublin of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company of New York. Based upon returns from 15,000,000 industrial policyholders in America and Canada, the July death rate from homicide, 9.1 per 100,000 insured, is the highest for any single month on record, with the single exception of October, 1923.

Automobile fatalities showed a considerable increase as compared with June, and a rise of more than 19 per cent. over July of last year. All fatal accidents, considered as a group, increased more than one-third over the June figure and also registered a considerable rise over that for July, 1923.

Among the industrial policyholders as a whole, however, the death rate from all causes, 8.4 per 100,000, was identical with that for the same month of 1923, and somewhat lower than the rate for June, 1924.

REPLICA OF APE-MAN'S BONES COMING TO AMERICA

At last America will have a chance to see the shape and size of the oldest human bones yet unearthed, those of *Pithecantropus erectus*, ape-man of Java.

More than thirty years ago, Dr. Eugene Dubois, Dutch army surgeon, discovered the fossil remains of this famous and ancient ape-man at Trinil, on the island of Java. Except for a brief exhibition of them shortly after the discovery, the remains had been kept in seclusion by Dr. Dubois at Haarlem Holland, until last summer when representatives of the U. S. National Museum and American Museum of Natural History were allowed to view them.

Dr. Ales Hrdlicka, of the National Museum urged upon Dr. Dubois the advisability of having accurate casts of the skeletons on this side of the Atlantic and now he has just received word that casts, made by Dr. Dubois himself, of *Pithecantropus'* calvarium, endocranial cavity, femur, three teeth and mandibular fragment are being shipped. Another set has been made for the American Museum of Natural History at New York.

Dr. Hrdlicka states that on the basis of his examination of the original remains, the creature they belonged to was undoubtedly human, but of a very low type. It is regarded as unlikely that *Pithecantropus* was a direct ancestor of modern man, but it is thought more likely that he represented a collateral race - a sort of great-great-great-uncle - long since extinct.

The new cast of the skull is stated by Dr. Hrdlicka, as being much more accurate than the one which was made some years ago, and which was the only existing replica of any of the remains. The casts of the brain cavity, of the thigh bone and jawbone and of the three teeth, which comprise all of the remains thus far found, are the first casts of these parts to be made.

Although herring abound in North Pacific waters, smoked herring are imported to this region from Scandinavian countries.
