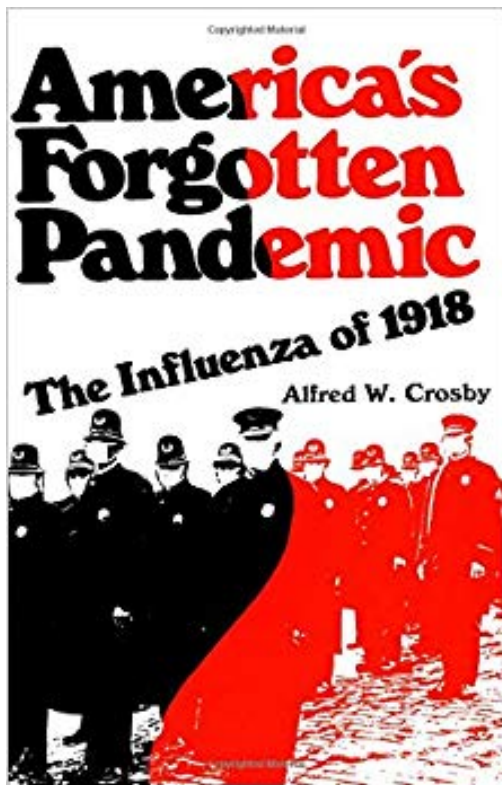


America's Forgotten Pandemic: The Influenza of 1918 by Alfred W. Crosby



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Between August 1918 and March 1919 the Spanish influenza spread worldwide claiming over 25 million lives, more people than perished in the fighting of the First World War. It proved fatal to at least a half-million Americans. Yet, the Spanish flu pandemic is largely forgotten today. In this vivid narrative, Alfred W. Crosby recounts the course of the pandemic during the panic-stricken months of 1918 and 1919, measures its impact on American society, and probes the curious loss of national memory of this cataclysmic event.



Reviews of the [America's Forgotten Pandemic: The Influenza of 1918](#) by Alfred W. Crosby

hulk

THE definitive work about a part of American history that remains, to this very day -- 2015 -- a

mystery to many, and an unknown event to most. I really don't know what scares me more: the fact that the event so ably recounted in this book happened, and that its mortality rate was so high, or the simple fact that that it really happened in the first place is still largely unknown among the American populace. Europeans are fully aware the Black Plague happened. Why don't Americans know the Flu pandemic of 1918/19/20 even happened in the first place? And that, at its peak, it killed more people in 1 week than Europe's Plague killed, period? IMHO, this is a book that should be required reading in every American school. It is a story that needs to be told, and is done so in this book in an understandable, sequential, and logical way. For all Americans, this book is a must read.

Gholbithris

Thanks to 24 hour news on television, radio and the internet whipped the general public into a frenzy "the H1N1 coming pandemic will be MUCH worse than the 1918 Spanish Influenza". Thank God for the H1N1 vaccine because the doomday sayers were absolutely wrong! I reread this book during all the H1N1 scare and I have to say as a healthcare professional it was a great book documenting accounts of a TRUE pandemic. Neither dry or overly professional, (but at the same time scarily factual) it would easily keep anyone's interest. I had family members lose their lives during the 1918 Influenza and considering the facts I am surprised I did not lose more.

Highly recommend!

Precious

This book was written several decades back, yet is entirely relevant to today. The subject matter is the great flu pandemic of 1918 -- one of the worse mass die-offs in human history that somehow we seem to have collectively forgotten. Full of interesting statistics, the author describes the waves of the disease and the terrible mortality, especially among the young. I first heard of the pandemic many years ago when my great grandmother showed me family pictures. There was one particular picture, a beautiful young woman (her daughter), over which she wept as she described her and how quickly she died. I was surprised that I hadn't heard the story before, but my mother told me that no one talked about that time -- it was just too terrible to think about. I can also recall having the "Asian Flu" as a child. That was truly awful. You find it difficult to breath, you are delirious, you ache horribly. Now we find that there is possibly a new pandemic coming, if and when the Avian flu mutates. Be afraid. So read this well written book if you want to know what may happen.

Daron

A nicely presented history of the epidemic. Very informative and interesting.

Funny duck

I was a history major, studying English and American history. The history books barely mention the Spanish Influenza pandemic. Not only is this book an account of a disease outbreak, it is a thorough account of the power of the government in times of extreme social and political stress. The US government did such a good job of suppressing the media coverage of the pandemic that today the incident is still ignored.

Reading this account of the truth about the pandemic was truly eye-opening. People really do not have enough respect for how dangerous influenza really is.

Wenaiand

Very well written, interesting, and not at all as dense and research-oriented as I had feared from some reviews. There are a few charts in the body of the book which I will openly admit to passing quickly over. An enjoyable read for those interested in a mostly unknown chapter of our history.

MegaStar

A good explanation for a forgotten World Wide Pandemic. Informative and easy to understand.

Tables and charts clarify span of America's 1918 Influenza Pandemic

Good information. Needed book for paper for a graduate class.

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