

## CHAPTER 1

**Monkeys and Yellow Fever**

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**I. The Rhesus Monkey and Early History of Yellow Fever Research**

Yellow fever occurs in Africa and the Western Hemisphere tropics. It has also caused great epidemics in the temperate zone of the New World. It was one of the world's great plagues for several centuries.

It is now known that there are two different types of this disease. The virus causing the disease is the same but the hosts and insect vectors usually are different. Urban yellow fever occurs in city dwellers and is transmitted by the domesticated mosquito, *Aedes aegypti*. Jungle yellow fever has monkeys as its usual important hosts and is transmitted by jungle-breeding, usually arboreal, mosquitoes. It has been only recently, after the great epidemics in the cities abated, that the emerging picture of jungle yellow fever began to take shape. However, monkeys played an important part in the early development of knowledge about yellow fever,

