Newsweek

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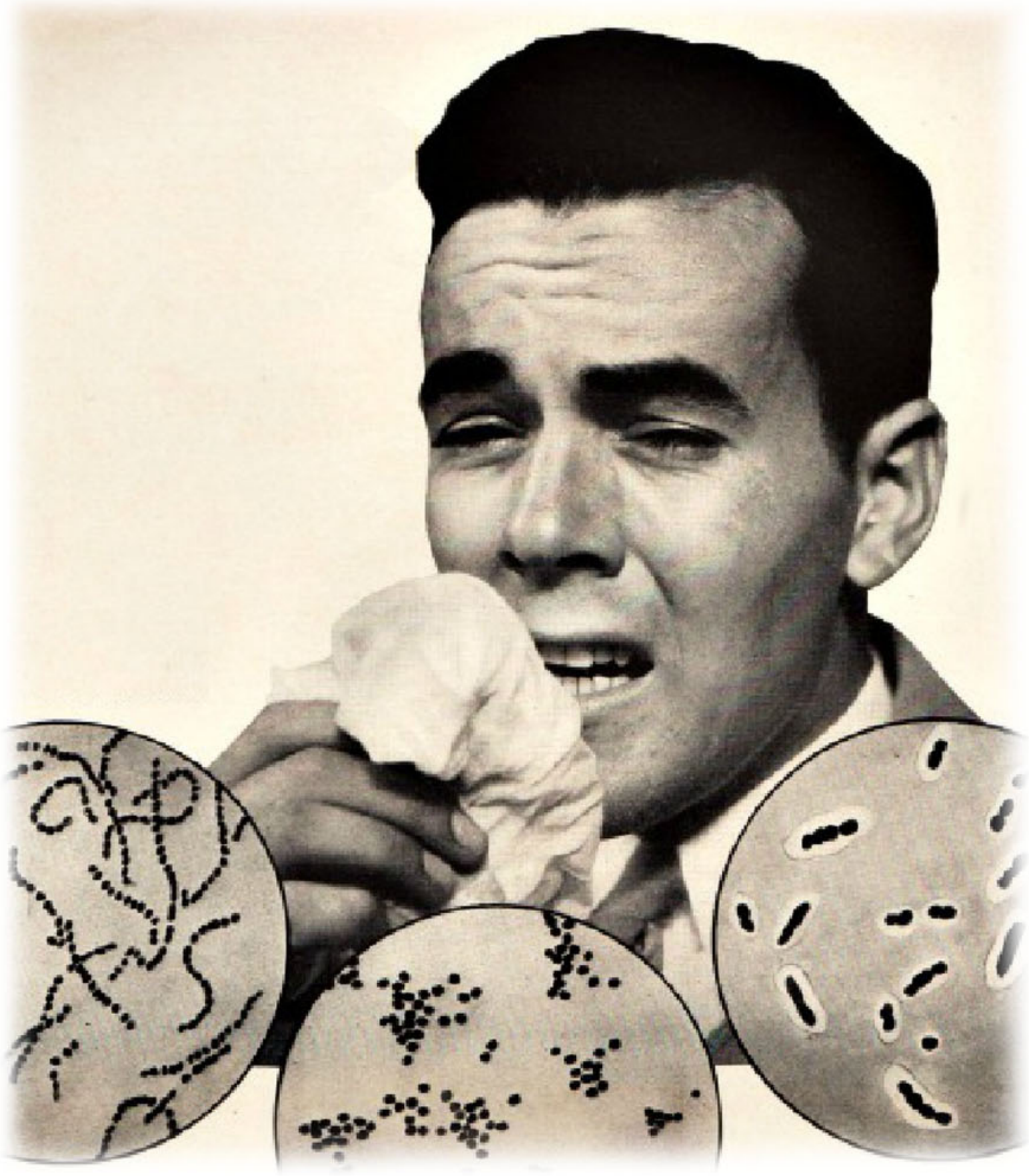
Master Saboteur–Influenza



The winter of 1943-1944 was only fairly started, but by Jan. 7 no less than 16,800,000 Americans had been afflicted with influenza (NEWSWEEK, Dec. 27, 1943) and between Dec. 17-30 another 32,000,000 had suffered from common colds. Because such illness directly curtails war production, these estimated figures, released last week by Dr. George Gallup, director of the American Institute of Public Opinion, gave pause for thought. "This makes," he said, "a grand total of 66 per cent—two-thirds of the population—who have had either flu or a cold during the winter to date."

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