

# Sunday Gas Lid On Yet Despite Epidemic Plea

Garfield Says Not Enough Influenza Victims Would Be Saved to Warrant Auto-Running.

## STATE ASKS THIS RELIEF

[BY ASSOCIATED PRESS TO GAZETTE TIMES.]

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4.—Fuel Administrator Garfield refused today to lift the ban on the use of automobiles for the next two Sundays as requested by Gov. McCall of Massachusetts to aid in combating Spanish influenza. Dr. Garfield's action was based on advice of Acting Surgeon General Richards of the Army that continuance of the gasolineless Sundays would have little if any influence on the spread of the disease.

Gov. McCall's request was transmitted through J. J. Storrow, fuel administrator for New England, and was subscribed to by all of the state fuel administrators in that section. They asked that the ban be lifted because in the opinion of physicians there plenty of air and sunshine was essential to combating the epidemic and the use of automobiles would contribute to this end.

Dr. Garfield stated that in round numbers there were 2,300,000 barrels of motor gasoline in stock upon September 23, the latest figures available, and that on April 1 of this year, the so-called peak period, there were approximately 11,000,000 barrels on hand, indicating a shortage of approximately 7,300,000 barrels.

But prospects for the lifting of the ban on the use of gasoline Sundays within the next few weeks were indicated by Dr. Garfield. A plan is now being worked out, he said, through which it was hoped to discontinue the Sunday ban and substitute what would virtually be a rationing plan, so that gasoline conservation would fall on no one day in the week. In the meantime, Dr. Garfield said, the public should accept the situation with patience.