CITY SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED BY GRIP FIGHTERS

Maj. W. H. Davis Orders Shutdown After Conference With Officials.

EPIDEMIC RAGING

Many New Cases Reported and Number of Deaths Is Increased.

BOURBON TO FIGHT

The public schools of Pittsburgh will be closed today on account of the epidemic of influenza. This case was reached yesterday afternoon at a conference held by Health Director W. H. Davis with the heads of the principal bureaus in the city in which the superintendent of schools and the director of school hygiene participated.

The pupils and teachers will assemble Monday, but there will be no lessons. The children will be instructed in personal hygiene and preventive measures.

The principal points of the instructions to be given are contained in the order issued by Director Davis to Superintendents of Schools, William M. Davidson, after the conference. The order reads as follows:

After the conference at which the Department of Public Health and the school officials were represented, it has been decided that it would be wise to direct you to close the public schools of the city. I will issue a like order to the management of all private and parochial schools of Pittsburgh.

The closest possible analysis was made of the best figures obtainable concerning the numbers in all schools. There has been a very great increase in the number of absences in the last two days. This appears to be very largely due to the fear of the parents, as the figures do not indicate a larger percentage of sickness among children than would be expected from their population. It is reasonable to expect that this attendance will increase until the fear of the fear has grown less.

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Increased from First Page, asking this to further spread the care of the disease.

New Cases Increase.

There was a decided increase in the spread of the epidemic yesterday, as the number of new cases and deaths of influenza had reached the highest figures on record. The number of new cases and deaths of influenza has doubled in the last two days. There were 40 new cases on record during the epidemic of 1923. The epidemic of 1923 was for 24 hours from October 22 to October 23. That period even now is the same as that of which there were from pneumonitis and pneumonia combined.

Director Davis yesterday morning met a committee of members of the Allegheny County Medical Society and discussed the plan of general inoculation with anti-influenza serum without coming to any conclusion. Residents of Allegheny are being generally inoculated, the physicians not having any other organization or supplies of supplies.

The Red Cross has offered to help with the inoculation and to take care of the distribution of the serum. The Red Cross will be in charge of the inoculations.

Serum Not Insured.

It is going to the supply of serum on the most possible quantity of serum, as it will be necessary to have the serum to aid the medical fraternity in the fight against the epidemic.

The Red Cross has been very helpful in the fight against the epidemic, and its efforts have been appreciated by the large number of persons who have relied upon its good will and assistance in the fight.

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