

Ban Remains; Babcock Goes To Harrisburg

State Commissioner Refuses to Modify Health Regulations Here.

NEW CASES FEWER

Encouragement Found in Reports on Influenza and Pneumonia.

COUNTY TO GIVE AID

Determined to press for the removal of the ban on amusements, public gatherings, etc., ordered by the State Department of Health, Mayor E. V. Babcock went to Harrisburg yesterday afternoon, in response to a telegram sent to him by Dr. B. Franklin Royer, acting state commissioner of health, in which he refused to lift the embargo.

His telegram, which was sent in answer to Mr. Babcock's request of Sunday, stated that the epidemic was still increasing in Pittsburgh and that the number of deaths from influenza is growing greater daily. Dr. Royer's telegram follows:

Replying to your telegram this afternoon, I beg to advise that, with the influenza situation so seriously threatening the lives and health of your people and with your death rate increasing, your Health Department would not be justified in lifting any of the restrictions imposed by order of this department, and we cannot at this time consider any modifications of orders. I shall always be glad to see you and discuss health matters with you. If you can come to Harrisburg some time tomorrow or Tuesday I can see you at any hour.

Council yesterday finally passed the ordinance to provide \$50,000 emergency funds to fight the influenza epidemic. The original ordinance was for \$100,000, but by the advice of Mr. Babcock the sum was cut down to \$50,000. The matter was considered so important and necessary, that Mr. Babcock and Controller E. E. Morrow joined in a certificate of emergency, as required by law, when funds not provided for in the annual budget are needed.

State Official Here.

W. R. Batt, state registrar of vital statistics, arrived in Pittsburgh yesterday for a conference with the city and county health authorities, and will doubtless make a direct report to Dr. Royer on conditions here.

Some encouragement, however, was derived through the reports submitted to the Bureau of Infectious Dis-

Flu Ban Remains; Mayor in Capital

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cases for 48 hours. From 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon until 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon 316 new cases of influenza were reported, making a total of 14,009, and 79 cases of pneumonia, a total of 1,158, were reported for the same period.

In the 24-hour period ending at 4 o'clock yesterday there were 132 deaths, of which 50 were from pneumonia, 75 from influenza and pneumonia and seven from influenza.

This falling off of the new cases would indicate that the peak of the disease may have been reached and if the reports continue to decrease in the same proportion for a day or two an end to the epidemic may be sighted.

County Enters Fight.

Allegheny county entered the fight yesterday afternoon, when a meeting was held in the offices of the county commissioners between Dr. Adolph Koenig, Commissioner Gumbert and Harris, Maj. W. H. Davis, director of the Pittsburgh Department of Health, and health officers of a number of townships and boroughs. It was decided to instruct all boroughs and townships to make known their needs to Dr. Koenig, and the commissioners, under a special act of Legislature, will furnish the funds for the establishing of emergency hospitals and the purchase of supplies.

A large number of reports were received by the commissioners indicating the seriousness of the epidemic in the outlying territory, and they told Dr. Koenig that everything in the power of the county to assist him in the fight would be done. The commissioners also called upon Edward A. Woods, chairman of the Civilian Relief Committee of the Pittsburgh Chapter, American Red Cross, for instructions and suggestions.

Maj. Davis said yesterday that the figures of the day were encouraging, and added that the city would continue the course it has outlined in fighting the disease.

Home Is Wanted.

An appeal for the use of an unoccupied house was issued yesterday by the Children's Service Bureau through David J. Terry, its executive secretary. This bureau now has 30 children to care for whose parents have both succumbed to influenza. The city will fit up and maintain the home, provided the bureau can obtain one, but the demands on its funds have been so heavy that it cannot undertake the purchase of a residence. The request is made to give either the temporary or permanent use of the house, not as a hospital, but to care for the children orphaned by influenza, until other arrangements may be made for them.