Royer Awaits Violations of Closing Order

Public Schools Not Open Tomorrow — Services in Some Churches Today.

FEWER GRIP CASES

Pittsburgh schools will not open tomorrow, despite the removal of the ban by the city health authorities. There was a division of opinion yesterday among church authorities regarding resuming services, many of the pastors declaring that the closing of the churches was purely a local order and that re-opening would not be in conflict with the state authorities, while others maintained that they would remain closed in the interest of harmony.

Whether the various liquor establishments will defy the edict of Acting State Commissioner of Health B. Franklin Royer remained a mooted question last night. Although F. A. Kitzell, president of the Retail Liquor Dealers’ Association, declared he believed they would open.

From Harrisburg came information that Dr. Royer would take no action until tomorrow, when he could determine whether any of the amusement house managers or saloon proprietors had reopened in accordance with the advice given by Mayor E. V. Babcock, whom the city resume its normal activities.

Dr. Royer telephoned yesterday afternoon from Harrisburg to George S. Oliver, chairman of the War Production Committee, requesting that the committee take action to have the

Continued on Page Six, Colman One.

State Health Chief Waits For Violations of Orders

Continued from First Page.

EVIDENCE OF QUARANTINE

Smeared ban continued at Pittsburgh.

As the sub-committee on influenza would not be reached, the matter had not been decided. Then the subject may be taken up with the

committee’s report for guidance.

In brief, summarized the developments in the influenza quarantines, the situation yesterday, following the

Mayor’s proclamation of Friday in which he declared the Pittsburgh health authorities would not longer enforce

the closing orders of the state health commission and in which he said a further ban on amusement and other activities to be unnecessary.

New Cases Decrease.

Reports went to the Pittsburgh Department of Public Health for the 24 hour period, ending at 4 o’clock yesterday showed a considerable falling off in the number of new cases, and Dr. Philip B. Marks, head of the bureau of infectious diseases, declared absolutely that the epidemic here is on the wane, and in a few days would be practically over.

There were 241 new cases of influenza昨日, bringing the total to 17,657, and 14 new cases of pneumonia, a total of 4,419. For the preceding 24 hours there were 55 new cases of influenza and 88 pneumonia cases. Yesterday, on Friday, the cases reported were 110 and 121, a considerable period. The number of deaths continued large, 55 succumbing to pneumonia, 102 to influenza and pneumonia and 11 to influenza.

Royer Waits Action.

Dr. Royer, in Harrisburg, declared that the State Attorney General is out of the city until tomorrow, and that he would confine his action regarding the mayor’s action to that. The acting commissioner indicated that drastic action might follow the opening of any of the barred places, but that he seemed satisfied to await developments. Earlier in the day Dr. Royer issued a statement yesterday, explaining that the mayor of Pittsburgh had no authority to rescind or modify in any way the closing order issued by the state department of health, that no order lifting the ban November 9 had been issued and would be heeded.

In spite of Mayor Babcock’s proclamation stating that the epidemic conditions in Pittsburgh had not sufficiently improved to permit the lifting of the closing order, no reports of improvements in the epidemic situation in Pittsburgh or in the surrounding territory were received in the office of the state department of health.

COUNTY NOT AFFECTED.

While the ban, taken by the Pittsburgh authorities in the county and the adjoining county, many of the health officials of neighboring counties have not followed suit and have not ordered the closing of religious houses of the boroughs, church organizations not and determined to remain closed.

County Medical Society, met and adopted a resolution disapproving the stand taken by the State Department of Health.

Private schools in the city may open Wednesday, according to a report by Maj. W. H. Davis, director of the Department of Health yesterday. The school authorities are instructed to demand each child a certificate from his personal physician stating that he has been in normal health for at least a week, and that no pupil who shows signs of coughing, sneezing, or watering eyes, must be excluded.

Schools Not to Open.

The public and parochial schools, with the exception of manual, will not open until a week from tomorrow at least, Maj. Davis declared. Each of the pupils will be examined and for several days a home canvass has been made. While more than a majority of the schools was a purely local order, and the time of their reopening will be determined by Maj. Davis and the school authorities.

Methodist Kilpopol churches were advised to remain closed, according to a telegram sent to Dr. Royer by the Rev. Dr. W. S. Lockard, superintendent of the Pittsburgh district, and the Rev. Dr. W. W. Coomer, superintendent of the Allegheny district of the church.

The Roman Catholic churches will face the same situation as the Kilpopol churches. The clergy was notified at the chancellor’s office, St. Paul’s Cathedral, yesterday morning. Permission was given by the ecclesiastics in the city and the diocesan officials declare this permission to be effective. The matter is left largely to the discretion of the individual pastor.

Continued on Page Six, Colman One.

Ministers Are Opposed.

The Rev. C. B. Zahnier, secretary of the executive committee of the Council of Churches, protested that the ministerial associations of Homestead and Belvedere had voted to remain closed, and that many ministers had declared in favor of closing. A statement was issued by the committee recommending that churches remain closed.

The churches and schools were closed by the local and not by the state authorities, and had not been opened at any time by the local authorities. The first justifying the closing, they could not as churches close.

It is highly desirable that there be a difference in the city and county authorities, and this difference would require a different attitude on the part of the local governments.

The First Presbyterian Church, Sixth avenue, will remain closed, and the pastors of Avalon and the Seventh church, which closed for the local authorities, issued a statement that their churches would remain closed.

Baptist Church To Open.

On the other hand, the Rev. E. A. Harman, president of the ministerial association of Homestead, stated that his church would open the next week.

The churches never should have been closed. The local authorities have the perfect right to close the ban only in the interest of the United States that the ban was done in the spirit of the law, and I think they did the right thing.

The Christians of Homestead will open, it was announced last night.

The military guarantee at the University of Pittsburgh and the Carnegie Institute of Technology is still in effect, and classes will not be held tomorrow. The taking of the ban by the hands of the military authorities.

Dr. S. B. Lockard, secretary of the University of Pittsburgh, and the Rev. Dr. W. W. Coomer, superintendent of the Allegheny district of the church.

All departments of Duquesne University were affected by the ban and tomorrow classes will be resumed. The taking of the ban by the hands of the military authorities.

A. T. C. there has been spared from every incident of disturbance.

Homestead Men Lifted.

Following a meeting of the Homestead Board of Health it was announced that churches in Homestead and surrounding towns will hold services this morning. During this, the Homestead ministers last night decided to hold no services under the ban.

The city’s legal position regarding the lifting of the influenza ban was made at a city hall meeting Tuesday night, and city would not interfere with the opening of schools, pool rooms and restaurants.

Continued on Page Six, Colman One.