

# BIG INCREASE IN INFLUENZA VICTIMS TODAY

Total Number of Cases in the  
City Now Exceeds 10,000  
Mark—Boroughs Suffer.

## SCHOOL DATA FURNISHED.

Today's developments in the influenza epidemic include the largest number of cases yet reported in any 24-hour period, and 62 deaths, directly from the disease or its complications. The report of the Bureau of Infectious Diseases for the period from 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon until 10 this morning shows 88 new cases of influenza and 55 of pneumonia. This raises the total for the former to 16,526 and for the latter to 809. In the same period there were 17 deaths from pneumonia, 8 from true influenza and 37 from complications. In giving out the report, the health department urges strict adherence to all precautions earlier advocated by the department.

Residents of Swissvale are being inoculated with anti-influenza serum in an effort to prevent further spread of the disease. Under the direction of the borough's board of health, teachers are working daily at the school buildings, inoculating children and their parents. The teachers were trained in the use of the serum after it had been furnished the board of health by the Carnegie Steel Company.

Brackenridge has appealed to the state health department for aid in fighting influenza. More than 250 cases

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(Continued from Page 1.)

have been reported. Forty new cases were reported in Tarentum yesterday.

As the result of many requests made by prominent physicians Councilman Enoch Rauh will introduce a resolution into council to close the public schools. This measure will be in the form of a request to the school board, which it is believed will accept any recommendation which the city department of health, or council may choose to make. The measure will go in late this afternoon, or tomorrow. Practically all of the physicians who have asked Mr. Rauh to take this action informed him that they had already withdrawn their own children from the schools.

The Board of Public Education decided last night to allow the schools to remain open and expressed gratification over a favorable report received from Dr. H. B. Burns, director of hygiene.

There are 27,367 children absent from the schools. Of this number 6,770 are known to be absent on account of influenza and others may be. So far 53 children have died of the disease. In some schools the number of absentees is less than 33 per cent while in others it runs to more than 50. This is the case in the Conroy school, where 78 of the 1,000 pupils are absent. Of the number absent 145 are known to have influenza.

There is a difference of opinion as to the advisability of closing the schools. Dr. Burns is confident that it would be a mistake while Dr. A. L. Lewin, a member of the board, was not so sure.

Director Davis reported at noon today that the committee representing the Allegheny County Medical Society met with the health officials this morning and again discussed the question concerning the general use of serums. As in the past they maintained a strict neutrality. Other than the slight increase in new cases reported this morning, Director Davis stated that the situation was unchanged and that no intimation had been received from Harrisburg that the public-gathering ban would be lifted.