CLOSING ORDER MAY BE LIFTED WITHIN WEEK

Mayor Says Early Withdrawal of Epidemic Rule Depends on Next Few Days.

"NOT BUSINESS MATTER."

Mayor R. V. Habenek, who returned last night from Harrisburg, where he was in conference with Dr. B. Franklin Royer, acting state commissioner of health, stated this morning that he thought the influenza closing regulations on Allegheny county would be lifted by the middle of next week, if not before.

"The entire matter rests with conditions here of the next few days. If the number of cases and deaths continue to show a decline the ban will be lifted," he said.

The mayor also made it plain that even if a ban was lifted immediately an increase in the number of cases was shown, the ban would be clamped on again, and perhaps a little tighter. "It is not a matter of business, it is a matter pure and simple of health," he said.

Dr. Wilber H. Blatt, state registrar of vital statistics, arrived in the city yesterday evening and immediately started a survey of district preliminary to issuing a report to the state health commissioner. He will remain in the city until a complete survey has been made of the conditions not only in the city but in the county as well.

Mayor Habenek says the state health commissioner refused to lift the regulations as long as influenza is epidemic in any of the smaller communities adjacent to Pittsburgh. The lifting of the ban in Pittsburgh, he explained, to Mayor Habenek, would mean an influx of people from these epidemic-ridden towns, threatening the city with renewed ravages from the disease.

CONDITIONS UNCHANGED.

Epidemic conditions remained practically unchanged overnight. In the period between 8 o'clock and 8 o'clock this morning 32 new influenza cases were reported to the bureau of infectious diseases, an increase of three over the corresponding period yesterday evening. Seventy-three new pneumonia cases were reported, an increase of four.

Deaths in the same period from pneumonia and influenza showed a decrease of 15. Delays from pneumonia were reduced in number.

One of Dr. Royer's assistants, Paul Ross of the bureau of nursing service, state department of health, died of influenza at a downtown hotel yesterday.

In an order at this hour ordering many of the 100 sufferers to the emergency hospital in Carne. A physician and a corps of nurses were called to the course and ordered to an emergency hospital. They are Dr. E. L. Friederman of the United States public health service and Dr. R. R. Winter, head of the Red Cross in Pittsburg, assigned to the emergency hospital.

MORE BEDS READY.

The Washington Park recreation house has been transformed into an emergency hospital. For Western Pennsylvania towns where the epidemic broke out has been admitted as a patient of the Red Cross and the day's census was 120.

Red Cross reports yesterday showed that more than 100 school teachers are sick. A hospital for the Red Cross hospitals in western Pennsylvania towns has been established in Pittsburg, and the Red Cross has been made in charge.

An emergency hospital of 75 private rooms with all facilities being fitted out in the Administration building of the Pennsylvanian Brewing Company in Pittsburg. Miss Catherine MacEachron is in charge.

Reports that certain physicians have refused to report cases of influenza are unfounded. The reports were made in the interest of the fee and the Red Cross.

Determined that everyone will have an opportunity to be inoculated health authorities in Tarentum, Harmony, and Aliquippa opened public vaccine stations yesterday, when sera were supplied free. Dentists have volunteered to take charge of the inoculations at private expense.