

Theaters Are Opened.

The state health department yesterday notified the city officers that the ban which was placed on theaters and other places October 5, on account of the prevalence of influenza and its accompanying disorders, would be lifted today. Conditions throughout the city and in most of the localities in the county have improved to such an extent that fear is no longer felt of the effect of public gatherings. Only in three districts is the ban remaining and they are in widely separated parts of the county. Immediately theaters and motion picture houses made arrangements to open their doors, the former with matinees today, where such action was possible, and the latter at the usual hours.

The places that have been closed are permitted to open only under regulations that tend to control the size of the crowds, provide for ventilation of the assembly rooms and otherwise to guard against conditions that promote the spread of influenza and pneumonia. That these will be observed strictly is a foregone conclusion. Business has suffered considerably from the enforced idleness, but if it has been productive of good in preventing the spread of the disease, then it has accomplished its purpose.

Lifting the ban does not mean that danger is passed. People should exercise every precaution to ward off sickness and take care in cases where it has appeared. Influenza is still prevalent and freedom of action should not lead us into indiscretions.