Four Die of Influenza the Past Week, One Young Man Drowned

There have been four deaths in Logan county the past week, four succumbing to pneumonia following influenza and one being drowned in the Prewitt reservoir Sunday.

Reports were current Monday forenoon that there had been seven deaths reported for the morning from influenza, but investigation proved the rumor unfounded.

Philip Erlich, aged 21, residing near the Prewitt reservoir, was drowned Sunday morning in his attempt to secure a duck he had shot and which had fallen into the reservoir not far from shore. The game lay but a short distance from the riprap, and as the waves were carrying it to the bank young Erlich pulled off his shoes, slid down the concrete embankment and into the water, which at that place reached near to his shoulders. He could not, however, get back up the face of the concrete from the water, owing to the steep ascent and the concrete being slippery. A young lad who had accompanied Erlich on his hunting trip was told to go for aid and he started off. When he returned with the needed help Erlich was not to be seen and after a hunt of a few minutes Erlich’s body was found about a hundred yards from the point where he had entered the water. It is supposed that Erlich, instead of waiting quietly until help arrived, as he was in no danger, attempted to get up the bank, slipped and fell into deeper water and drowned.

Mrs. Cella Markel, residing at Merino, died Sunday from pneumonia following an attack of the Spanish influenza. The deceased was aged 36 years. The funeral was held Monday.

George W. Thomas, succumbed to influenza Sunday morning, his death occurring at the Rex Hotel. The funeral was held Monday, interment being made in the Sterling cemetery. The deceased was a brakeman on the Burlington railway and he had been located in Sterling about a month running on the Alliance branch. His home was in Coffeyville, Kansas. Mrs. Thomas was notified of his death and arrived early Monday morning to attend the funeral. The wife and three children survive.

Gilbert Herold Kelly was another victim of the influenza whose death occurred Sunday and interment was made Monday.

Mike Merlo, an Italian living north of Sterling a short distance, died of pneumonia last Friday. Merlo had suffered an attack of the influenza, had recovered somewhat, and got about too soon, bringing on pneumonia to which he quickly succumbed. His funeral was held Saturday, interment being made in the Sterling cemetery.

Robert Huff, a fifteen year old boy, died of influenza Tuesday night at the home of his parents near Stoneham. The funeral was held at Stoneham today.

Mrs. Appichanz, a young woman living with her husband on the Padron & Glacominini ranch a short distance from Sterling, died Tuesday night at childbirth. The funeral will occur today.

There are now 8,997 cases of the Spanish influenza in the state and 311 have died of the disease, according to an official report given out by Dr. E. E. Kennedy, secretary of the state board of health, Tuesday night. Seven hundred and eighty-one new cases were reported Wednesday.

These figures are the first complete returns on the epidemic situation which the state health board has been able to give out. An order of the United States public health service issued Monday imposed upon all health officers the duty of making daily reports by wire to Dr. Kennedy regarding conditions within their jurisdiction.

**Recruiting Men for Tank Corps Service in Sterling.**

Lieutenant Happy will be in Sterling tomorrow. Friday, October 25, to recruit men for the tank corps. He will have his office at the Chamber of Commerce rooms.

Blacksmiths, welders, machinists, auto engineers, cooks, some expert stenographers, wireless operators, and a limited number of unskilled men who have a fine physique, good education and the best type of American fighting spirit, are desired. Each applicant must present two letters of recommendation.