Everyone Is Compelled to Wear Masks by City Resolution

Great Variety in Styles of Face Adornment in Evidence

The Board of Supervisors yesterday passed a resolution whereby every person who appears on the streets of San Francisco until a rescinding order is made, is compelled to wear a mask as a protection against influenza.

This order applies to everybody—visitors as well as residents. Failure to wear a mask in public renders the delinquent liable to arrest.

Meanwhile, since the first order recommending the wearing of a mask was promulgated three days ago, the number of persons who accepted that advice increased so materially that yesterday about four out of every five persons in San Francisco were wearing masks.

GREAT VARIETY

All sorts and conditions of masks were in evidence—most of them simple affairs, mere pads of gauze four folds thick tied on the face with tapes that went around the head above the ears and around the neck below them.

Others affected masks of a more neutralized the unesthetic flattened type, like nosebags, which effect produced on the nose and contiguous features by the original four-stringed square. Still others, more highly developed and complex in their scheme of construction and medical efficacy, were fearsome-looking machines like extended muzzles, some of metal, some or Irvine or similar substance, all suggestive of surgical instruments and lending a pig-like aspect to the wearer—an unnaturally pig-like extension of the snout.

Dr. Hassler of the Board of Health, who has the whole matter in charge, is wearing a combination mask that is a compound of the two principles.

OLD-TIME "MUZZLES"

The snout extends partially, like the helmets affected by the French Knights at the period of Agincourt, but is not so protrusive as the metal muzzles. Furthermore, it is sheathed outside in gauze, like the common or garden mask more usually adopted by the public.

The police affect the small, serviceable gauze-pad type of mask, resembling in size and contour about nine ordinary slabs of radii, arranged in a square of three each way. Men with strong ears that set close to the head can loop these on to the head, with elastic loops that hold the mask comfortably in position. To persons with weak or protrusive ears, however, the clumsier, but more reliable, system of tying the mask with tapes around the neck and head is to be recommended.

VEILS POPULAR, TOO

Hundreds of women have been compromising between the mask regulations and their dread of uncomeliness by using thick veils, or the regulation chiffon veils folded to two or more thicknesses. What will become of them if they persist in this form of mask, despite the new and more rigorous regulation, remains to be seen.

When the enforcement of the new order universalizes the use of masks, fresh and wonderful attempts to blend the arts of beauty and prophylaxis, and mold them to the form of a mask or a muzzle, will promptly appear, and will afford a wide field for study to those who feel interested in such departures.