SPECIAL REQUEST

Dr. Hassler issued yesterday a special request that men cannot remove their masks on streets for the purpose of eating. This, he said, is an important matter.

In order to execute the reporting of cases and make the daily reports conform more to actual facts, the health officer yesterday asked physicians to report their cases in figures only, leaving names and addresses turned in when there is more leisure. Yesterday, said the health officer, the epidemic was being handled at any time before. The organization has become more effective, he said, and is ready now to report all calls. A long list of physicians is now at the call of the Board for any service in connection with special cases. The specialists in the city have abandoned their offices to serve as physicians for influenza cases.

With the first of next week, when the supply of vaccine coming from Boston will be here, and additional supplies developed in local laboratories will be available, Dr. Hassler says the real onslaught on the influenza will begin.

EFFECTIVE VACCINE

This vaccine, he said, has been put into practice with the beginning of the epidemic in order to check the epidemic from spreading. The city's health department, through the cooperation of the Board of Health, has been working to prevent the spread of the disease. But the public did not know this as well as the physicians and nurses and is therefore worthy of full praise for its prompt adoption of the measure.

CULTURES DEVELOPED

Cultures from which the vaccine is obtained are now being developed at the University of California, medical laboratories, at the city laboratories, and by commercial laboratories.

In the meantime San Francisco has taken to the mask beyond all expectations. The mask, which was worn by almost everyone unmasked on the streets yesterday was the rare exception. The health officer's estimate was that 99 percent of the people of this city are wearing the mask.

No necessity has yet arisen, he said, for any action by the authorities to enforce the wearing of masks until the time before the new city ordinance goes into effect. Because of the charter limitations that prevented the supervisors from putting the mask ordinance into effect until five days after its passage, it was proposed if necessary that the Board of Health should quarantine persons who refuse to wear masks.

NO TROUBLE EXPECTED

But no such action appears to be needed, said the health officer, and Chief of Police D. A. White said yesterday that it was apparent that there will be no trouble at all about enforcing the order for masks.

"It is a remarkable tribute to the intelligence and co-operative spirit of the people of San Francisco," said Dr. Hassler today, "that they have accepted the order and completely complied with the proof of their cooperation."

The situation in Chinatown is said to be in fair shape. The Chinese newspapers are publishing the warnings and the regulations, and the people are complying, as are the inhabitants of other districts.

TWO MONTHS' CAMPAIGN

Two or three days must elapse yet before the effect of the wearing of masks shows in the figures, according to the health officer. The period of incubation for the influenza is from one to three days, so that many persons who have been exposed have not yet come down with the affliction.

The course of the epidemic may be for two months or more, said Dr. Hassler, who added that everything will be done to stamp out the epidemic in two weeks, if it can be done. The Board of Health, he said, is preparing for a two months' campaign.

The total number of cases in the city has now reached 12,228, with the probability of many more light cases that were not reported. The number of deaths from influenza has reached 477.

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