INFLUENZA IS NEARLY GONE

Mask Ordinance May Be Revoked Thursday if New Cases Still Decrease

With only six new cases of influenza and four deaths reported to the Board of Health yesterday, it is anticipated that there will be a flare-up of the epidemic within the next three days. The mask ordinance will be revoked Thursday.

Health officials pointed out the fact that the test of whether or not the epidemic has been stamped out will be the number of new cases reported Wednesday. By that time, it was said, the authorities will be able to determine if the opening of the theaters and churches has had a tendency to spread the disease.

Until the effect of opening places of amusement has been ascertained the mask ordinance will be rigidly enforced as it was announced.

The hospitals are now able to care for all new cases and are again resuming their normal routine. The emergency hospital system is now able to speedily respond to calls.

MORE DIE OF INFLUENZA THAN ON BATTLEFIELD

WASHINGTON, November 17.—The recent epidemic of influenza in the United States caused more deaths than occurred among the Americans who were on the European continent, the report said. In fact, the number of deaths from the cause of influenza and pneumonia in September and October was 82,300, the Census Bureau said.

This announcement today, based on earlier estimates of the total death rate, was based on reports from forty-six cities having a combined population of 23,260,000, which showed 82,300 deaths from influenza and pneumonia from September 1 to November 9.

"The total number of deaths in the American expeditionary forces, said the announcement, have recently been estimated at 100,000. On the basis of this number, it is far reported, it may be assumed that the deaths from all causes, including disease and accidents, are probably less than 45 per cent. and may not be more than 40 per cent of the total casualties. On this assumption the loss of life in the American expeditionary forces to date is 40,000 or 45,000."

The total number of deaths due to the influenza epidemic in this country is not known, the announcement said, but only the forty-six cities for which figures were given have been reported, with the others not yet reported. In Philadelphia, and the total number of deaths have not been reported from Baltimore."

(End)