Theatres and Churches Are To Be Closed

Oakland, Berkeley and Alameda Schools and Dance Halls Under Ban as Spreaders of Influenza

Orders Issued to All Hotels and Restaurants to Sterilize All Glasses and Eating Utensils

All public and private schools in Oakland, Berkeley and Alameda were ordered closed yesterday afternoon by the school authorities as a means of preventing the spread of influenza epidemic in the Bay district. This was followed last night in Oakland and Alameda by the placing of a ban on all public gatherings with the closing of theatres, churches and dance halls. Berkeley took action earlier in the week.

A Declaration of Health Emergency was made by the health officer and given complete control of the situation in Oakland. Orders were issued to all hotels, restaurants and cafes to sterilize all glasses and eating utensils and use paper cups wherever possible. The telephone company received instructions to disinfect the mouth pieces on all public telephones.

Care of quarantine cases will be placed in the hands of a volunteer corps of nurses. Harry White, president of the Oakland chapter of the American Red Cross, yesterday tendered to the city officials the assistance of the organization. A call was issued to all practical nurses to report at Red Cross headquarters this morning.

Due to the condition of the health authorities, the spread among different members of a family and the inability to obtain nurses, adequate care cannot be given to the afflicted by other members of the family who are stricken. One thousand influenza masks have been prepared by the Red Cross workers to prevent the continued spread among the volunteer nurses.

No new cases were reported last night. With the addition of 77 new cases the toll was increased to 961, but no fatalities were reported. The toll in Berkeley yesterday amounted to three.

The deaths were: Miss Eunice Thayer, University of California student; Hotel Claremont; Carl Petersch, University of California senior; 2604 Dana Street, Berkeley; Mrs. Frank Matzler, 1326 Peralta Avenue, Berkeley.

The resolution passed in Oakland provides:

1. That all public and schools and kindergartens be closed.
2. That all places of amusement, including theaters, movie palaces, concert halls, dance halls, dance and cabaret in cities and hotels and all forms of public entertainment be immediately discontinued.
3. That all lodges and fraternal meetings and gatherings including dances and social gatherings of whatsoever nature and kind in clubs and homes be also discontinued.
4. Penny arcades, merry-go-rounds and other forms of public amusement including poolrooms are included in this order.
5. Saloons, restaurants, cafes and all public eating and drinking places must use paper cups for drinking purposes or sterilize their eating and drinking utensils.
6. Community singing must likewise be discontinued.
7. On account of the great importance of certain Red Cross work this activity will be continued with the restrictions that the workers must use masks.
8. All church services and socials are to be discontinued under this order.
9. Before any public meetings for exceptions to this order be held a permit must be first secured from the health officer of this city.
10. All those willing to give volunteer service in the way of nursing and all doctors who can attend to more cases are urgently requested to give their names to the health officer.
11. The chief of police is hereby directed to enforce the orders of this proclamation and the people of this city are earnestly requested to give their hearty co-operation in the suppression of the present epidemic.
12. This order takes effect midnight tonight, October 18, 1918.