

# INFLUENZA SITUATION IN PENNSYLVANIA AND NEW YORK

(By Associated Press)

Harrisburg, Oct. 20.—The state department of health to-night issued a statement to the effect that incomplete reports indicate that influenza is extending rapidly in Luzerne, Westmoreland, Fayette and Mifflin counties. The sick rate is particularly high at Lewis town and Burnham, Mifflin county; St. Marys, Elk county; Sandy Ridge and Snow Shoes, Center county, and Onseola Mills, Clearfield county.

No death tabulation was issued to-day. The report issued Saturday night showed over 14,000 deaths from influenza or pneumonia in the first eighteen days of October in Pennsylvania.

The statement issued to-night also declares that the organization built up by the late Commissioner Samuel G. Dixon under the act of 1905 made it possible for the campaign to be waged against the epidemic.

New York, Oct. 20.—Another sharp decrease in the number of new cases of Spanish influenza and pneumonia here was reported to-day by the department of health, the total for the past twenty-four hours being 4,975 or 545 less than were reported yesterday.

Of the 4,975 cases reported, 4,570 were influenza cases and 405 pneumonia. There were 675 deaths from influenza and 241 from pneumonia, the influenza death rate showing an increase over yesterday of 267, while the pneumonia death rate decreased by 117.

Beginning to-morrow, landlords who fail during the epidemic to live up to contracts calling for heat will be arrested and prosecuted under a new amendment to the sanitary code, which makes such conduct a misdemeanor, Dr. Royal S. Copeland, city health commissioner, announced to-night.

The amendment was passed Saturday night following receipt of several thousand complaints against the withholding of heat.

Dr. Copeland expressed the fear that lack of heat, coupled with rainy weather, to-day, a continuance of which is predicted, would cause a sharp rise in the sick rate and effect relapses in many patients now convalescent.

Shipbuilding plants on Staten Island to-night appealed to Dr. Copeland to provide aid in combatting the epidemic among shipbuilders, about 20 per cent. of whom are suffering from the illness. Dr. Copeland sent a sufficient quantity of the vaccine prepared by his department to vaccinate all workers.

The epidemic is said to be especially virulent on Staten Island. In one case four members of a family of five have died of the disease in two days and the fifth member is ill.