

ALLEN TOWN IN BAD SHAPE FROM INFLUENZA

Doctors Suffering Under
Strain of Overwork—One is
Ill—Nurses Affected.

The number of cases of influenza in the city yesterday passed the two thousand mark, that figure having been attained with the reporting of 153 cases which brought the total since October 1 to 2084. During the day 141 were discharged and it is believed by health officials that less than a third of the cases are active. However, there is not the slightest indication in this city of abatement of the disease and from the Allentown angle there is no hope for early lifting of the state quarantine.

One of the very serious phases of the situation in this city is the number of doctors who, under stress of the tremendous work that they are doing, are collapsing from overwork and are confined to bed. A number of such cases are known and in some instances it is feared that influenza may develop. However most of them have been inoculated against the disease and it is probable that a little rest will fix them up.

Dr. Charles H. Zellner is the only physician in the city thus far reported ill with the disease. He has all the symptoms and over Saturday, Sunday and Monday was a very sick man. Yesterday he had improved somewhat and under the care of his wife, who was a trained nurse, he has the best chances of recovery.

Another very serious matter is the large number of nurses in the Allentown Hospital who are sick with the disease. Eleven more were reported ill yesterday by Dr. Fox, who himself has just recovered from an attack. The nurses reported yesterday are the Misses Beatrice Ritter, Elsie Wherstone, Marie Bartholomew, Alverta Kern, Edna Hartman, Marjorie Daniels, Bernice Thomas, Martha Guster, Martha Leister, Rachel Sterner and Sarah Fraunfelter. Three maids in the institution have also been added to the list. On Saturday this list had already included twenty-one nurses, nine maids and two physicians.

Four cases were reported yesterday from the family living at No. 622½ North Second street, and an equal number from the home next door, namely 622.

Miss Isabel Hersh, the city's visiting nurse, is confined to her home by the disease and this has crippled relief for many families.

Other well known persons ill are: David Richards, 960 Hamilton street; Miss Elizabeth Beckwith, 534 Turner; Mr. and Mrs. William Diefenderfer, 859 North Eighth; Mrs. LeRoy Erdman, 601 North Seventh; Michael J. Lane, 514 North Sixth; Mrs. Thomas H. Weaver, No. 211 North Eighth; Charles Schoenley, 15th and Turner.

Of the cases reported yesterday twenty-five came from Dr. Frank S. Boyer alone. Dr. S. C. Swartz reported four cases in the Mihalyak family, 127 South Church street.

One of the phases looked upon by the health authorities with the greatest alarm was the reporting yesterday of many cases from the congested residential districts of the city. It is feared that once it gets well started there, the number of cases will be multiplied.