

H. U. SAEGER MANSION AS EMERGENCY HOSPITAL

Kiwanis, Red Cross and Motor Messengers Head Splen- did Movement.

The Kiwanis Club, the Red Cross and the Motor Messenger Service yesterday took vigorous hold of certain alarming phases of the influenza epidemic and plans are now under way in a variety of directions for the aiding of those people who are ill or have been ill with the disease.

Acting on a suggestion brought to them by Mrs. Samuel McCurley, Jr., the Kiwanis Club yesterday secured the Saeger mansion at Fourth and Walnut streets from John F. Saeger, who donated the use of the splendid home for the period of the epidemic. Kiwanis, which a few weeks ago, raised a purse of \$100 to aid the needy in the epidemic, will in this home open a convalescent hospital for children in order to relieve the hospitals of care of these children after they have been pronounced cured. The hospitals have held them as long as necessary but it has been a great drain upon their strength and resources. The Kiwanis Club will place a trained nurse in charge of the convalescent hospital, together with a practical nurse and other help required to care for the children until they are ready to be returned to their homes, or as in many cases, until their parents have recovered from the illness and can once more conduct their homes.

An appeal was made yesterday for donations of cots and bedding for the home and up to last evening over twenty cots and cribs together with bedding had been offered. It had been expected to collect them today but as the same will have to be thoroughly cleaned and fumigated today it is likely that the donations will not be called for until Monday. Donations for the purpose can be made to Mrs. W. Fowler at the Fowler Garage, 1100 North Main Street, Tuesday to Friday, 10:00 a. m. to 12:00 p. m. or to Mrs. J. J. Smith, 1100 North Main Street, Tuesday to Friday, 10:00 a. m. to 12:00 p. m.

It is expected that the epidemic will be checked by the use of the hospitals and the aid of the community kitchen.

A committee of the Kiwanis club was held last evening at the home of Mrs. J. J. Smith when final details were arranged for the opening of the hospital on Monday. There will be full cooperation with the Associated Charities, whose headquarters are but a block's walk away from the hospital.

While this work was on the members of the Motor Messenger Service, of which Mrs. John A. Frick is the head, was planning with the Associated Charities for the establishment of a community kitchen from which the families who are most sorely afflicted by the epidemic can be fed. Miss Louise A. Lelsenring, secretary of the Associated Charities, has suggested the kitchen in the domestic science department of the Sheridan school which is located in the section where help is most needed. The basement of Odd Fellows Hall has also been suggested.

It is planned that nourishing soup and sandwiches containing good meats be distributed from these kitchens to all needy cases designated by the Associated Charities, the work of distribution to be done by the motor messengers.

Dr. R. E. Albright, the county physician, to whom the Associated Charities has referred a number of cases, has suggested that the charitable organizations plan an emergency hospital where these cases may be isolated. It is expected that if action is taken, it will come about within the next two days. Those to arrange for it will include the poor directors, Dr. Albright, Dr. J. Treichler Butz, Miss Louise Lelsenring, of the Associated Charities and Miss Lena Hoffman, of the Red Cross.

Miss Lelsenring with a trained nurse is visiting all cases that come within her knowledge.

A case exists at 145 Green street, where there are nine cases. One of the worst features is the dirt and filth found in these houses and the Associated Charities believes that the Red Cross should aid them in cleaning these homes during the absence of the families in the hospitals and not permit them to return to such sordid conditions which are far from conducive to recuperation.