

# SCHOOLS WILL HELP PREVENT EPIDEMIC HERE

## Health Department Arranges to Use All Children to Carry Orders

## Lines Are Tightened

## Assemblages Forbidden, Rules for Churches and Street Cars Are Stringent

## Doctors to Report

Arrangements were made yesterday to set to work 112,000 special agents of the Department of Health to prevent the spread of Spanish influenza. They are the pupils of the public, parochial and private schools, every one of whom is to distribute precautionary orders and information.

Of the measures taken yesterday by Director of Health W. H. Davis, and there were a large number of them, this was by far the most important. The schools are to be kept open as a means of giving the authorities a grip on the situation, which is considered a much more valuable precaution than closing them to prevent crowding.

Ordinarily there are 32 physicians and 18 nurses at work all the time inspecting the schools and school pupils for symptoms of ill-health and evidences of possible contagion. To this was added yesterday the force of 32 physicians maintained by the Board of Public Education, making 64 doctors in all.

### Precautionary Measures Urged

These men and the 18 school nurses will exercise constant vigilance to detect cases of children with colds, coughs or other symptoms of influenza. When cases are detected they will be sent home and precautionary measures urged upon the family. The children, who have already received more or less training in health matters, as have all the teachers, will be urged to bring the importance of personal hygiene home to their parents and other members of their families.

Director Davis also yesterday forbade assemblages of children in numbers greater than the class groups. This means that there will be no entertainments or other meetings of children of larger dimensions than the school population of a single room.

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# Schools to Help Prevent Spread of Epidemic

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School swimming pools and all other swimming pools were ordered to close. In the order closing the swimming pools were also included the pools of

the city and those of the Young Men's Christian Association and other organizations, as well as the pools maintained by business concerns. The skating rinks were also directed to close. It was directed that a thorough inspection of all soda water fountains be made tomorrow.

An immediate report of all cases diagnosed as influenza, whether Spanish or otherwise, was ordered by the health authorities in a letter which reached Allegheny county physicians yesterday. The letter laid stress on the importance of recording these cases, and many physicians, who have heretofore not made reports, will furnish data on cases now under observation.

Reports yesterday at the health office showed 37 new cases of the disease in the city, making the total over 60. The apparent rapid increase is due to the fact that physicians had not been reporting the disease until ordered to do so, and the 37 cases are the accumulation of a considerable period.

Two deaths from pneumonia were thought to have been the result of influenza.

### Notice to Church Goers.

The orders to churches to exclude persons having coughs and colds from today's services were renewed yesterday and the police were given copies of a notice to post in prominent places near churches. The notice reads: "Any person having a cough or cold is not permitted to enter this church."

A number of churches yesterday cancelled their arrangements for services today. Among these were the First Presbyterian Church and Trinity Protestant Episcopal Church in Sixth avenue, the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Ascension, Ellsworth avenue and Neville street, and the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, Forbes street near Murray avenue.

The Jewish synagogues throughout the city yesterday made their services very brief. At the Irenka Kaufmann Settlements services were discontinued, as also at the Hebrew Institute, Wylie avenue and Green street.

The dozen Sunday schools maintained by the Council of Jewish Women throughout Western Pennsylvania, which were to open today, will remain closed until the epidemic has passed, according to an order issued by Miss Marian Schoenfeld, district supervisor, to the superintendents yesterday.

### Red Cross Work to Go On.

There was no further order with reference to clubs and wholesale liquor stores, but all pool and billiard rooms were directed to close. Building and loan associations were directed to permit their members to gather for the

making of payments but to have no meetings.

Mrs. R. Kaufmann, chairman, announced last night that owing to the State Health Department's order affecting public gatherings the Red Cross work rooms of the Council of Jewish Women, in the McCrory Building, Penn. avenue, East End, will be closed while the order is in force.

The Red Cross auxiliaries were instructed that they might keep their work shops open and go on with their usual work, but to hold no meetings.

The deputy grand masters of the Masonic lodges meeting in the Fifth avenue temple held a meeting with Director Davis and issued instructions to lodges to suspend meetings as an example to other organizations. Maj. Davis issued a request that lodges of all kinds follow the example of the Masons. He has authority to order them to suspend meetings, but prefers not to do so.

In co-operation with the officers of the Pittsburgh Railway Company precautions were taken for the safety of car riders. Persons seen spitting by the conductors are to be reported for prosecution. Windows are to be kept open to permit ventilation and inspectors stationed throughout the routes are to enforce the regulation upon the conductors. The cars are to be thoroughly swept at the end of each trip and disinfected each day.

### Patrol About Pitt and Tech.

The military authorities at the University of Pittsburgh and the Carnegie Institute of Technology have a strong guard patrolling the quarantine zones around those institutions, and at barracks built on the grounds where members of the Students Army Training Corps are quartered. Only civilians provided with passes by the commandants at the school were permitted through the zones. A few new developments of influenza were reported among the student soldiers, but the number was not made known by the army officers.

Infirmaries were established at both institutions and soldiers having the disease or showing symptoms of it were examined and sent to the Elizabeth Street Mages Hospital.

Major Col. Elias A. Wolf, commanding officer at the University of Pittsburgh, said that conditions there were not so alarming as the quarantine seemed to indicate, which was established, he said, more as a preventive measure.

It was reported that 11 soldiers in the medical corps of the Army engaged in preparing the United States General Hospital at Warner Station for convalescent soldiers, have been stricken with influenza and taken to St. Francis Hospital.

Three floors of the Ford Motor Company Building on Baum boulevard have been secured by the Carnegie Insti-