

Church Services Are Allowed Tomorrow, Maj. Davis Announces

Maj. W. H. Davis, director of the Pittsburgh Health Department, who issued the order closing Pittsburgh churches on account of the influenza epidemic, last night rescinded the order and stated that services can be resumed in all churches tomorrow. He said that he will not notify each pastor, as he did when the closing order was issued, but that all can consider the newspaper publication announcing the rescinding of the order as sufficient notice. As the ban on church services was city, and not state action, no question regarding the city's authority to rescind it can be raised.

Royer to Get Legal Advice Before Acting

Mayor Babcock's Defiance Surprises Acting Health Commissioner.

HE ISSUES STATEMENT

When Dr. B. F. Royer, acting state commissioner of health, at Harrisburg, learned last night of Mayor E. V. Babcock's proclamation advising against obeying the influenza closing orders, he was much surprised, and according to a telegram from Harrisburg to the Gazette Times, decided to consult the Attorney General before taking any action on the matter. He manifested no desire to pursue such a radical course toward Pittsburgh as he had to Lancaster, in ordering trains not to stop in that city. Dr. Royer issued the following statement:

The proclamation of Mayor Babcock as reported to me by telephone sounds like an incitation on the part of the Mayor of a great city to invite lawlessness and disorder. It certainly cannot be in the interest of public health and public welfare. It is very unfortunate that on the eve of an election the Mayor of a great city should not stand solidly back of the state and show a greater willingness to enforce orders.

To Get Legal Advice.

I must defer making any announcement regarding what action will be taken by the State Department of Health in enforcing the closing order until after I have conferred with the Attorney General's office tomorrow morning and with representatives of the Federal Public Health Service.

The deaths in Pittsburgh today were greatly in excess of yesterday; also the influenza epidemic is spreading rapidly in the following towns in the Pittsburgh district and has not yet reached its height in any of them: Curtistown, Glass