

Royer Awaits Violations of Closing Order

Public Schools Not Open
Tomorrow — Services in
Some Churches Today.

FEWER GRIP CASES

Pittsburgh schools will not open tomorrow, despite the removal of the ban by the city health authorities. There was a division of opinion yesterday among church authorities regarding resuming services, many of the pastors declaring that the closing of the churches was purely a local order and that reopening would not be in conflict with the state authorities, while others maintained that they would remain closed in the interest of harmony.

Whether the various liquor establishments will defy the edict of Acting State Commissioner of Health B. Franklin Royer remained a mooted question last night, although P. A. Kliggallen, president of the Retail Liquor Dealers' Association, declared he believed they would open.

From Harrisburg came information that Dr. Royer would take no action until tomorrow, when he could determine whether any of the amusement house managers or saloon proprietors had reopened in accordance with the advice given by Mayor E. V. Babcock to have the city resume its normal activities.

Dr. Royer telephoned yesterday afternoon from Harrisburg to George S. Oliver, chairman of the War Productions Committee, requesting that the committee take action to have the in-

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State Health Chief Waits For Violations of Orders

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influenza ban continued at Pittsburgh. As the sub-committee on influenza could not be reached, the matter had to be deferred until Monday. Then the subject may be taken up with the sub-committee's report for guidance. This, in brief, summarizes the developments in the influenza quarantine situation yesterday, following the Mayor's proclamation of Friday in which he declared the Pittsburgh health authorities would no longer enforce the closing orders of the state health commissioner and in which he said a further ban on amusements and other activities to be unnecessary.

New Cases Decrease.

Reports sent to the Pittsburgh Department of Public Health for the 24-hour period, ending at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon showed a considerable falling off in the number of new cases, and Dr. Phillip E. Marks, head of the bureau of infectious diseases declared absolutely that the epidemic here is on the wane, and in a few days would be practically over.

There were 334 new cases of influenza, bringing the total to 17,027, and 44 new cases of pneumonia, a total of 1,519. For the preceding 24 hours there were 585 new cases of influenza and 58 pneumonia cases. Yesterday, up to Friday, the cases reported went back a considerable period. The number of deaths continued large, 55 succumbing to pneumonia, 102 to influenza and pneumonia and 17 to influenza.

enza, a total of 148, in comparison to 171 deaths from the same cause in the preceding same period of time.

Dr. Marks declared his belief that approximately 30,000 persons in the city had had influenza, and that the death rate would continue large for several weeks.

Mayor Babcock was out of the city all day yesterday, and none of his cabinet would discuss the action, beyond saying that the mayor had not "lifted" the ban, but had simply advised the city authorities to interpose no objections to the resumption of activities by those affected.

Royer Waits Action.

Dr. Royer, in Harrisburg, declared that the State Attorney General is out of the city until tomorrow, and that he would confer with him regarding the mayor's action then. The acting commissioner indicated that drastic action might follow the opening of any of the barred places, but he seemed satisfied to await developments. Earlier in the day Dr. Royer issued a statement contending that the mayor of Pittsburgh had no authority to rescind or modify in any way any closing order issued by the state department of health, that an order lifting the ban November 9 had been issued and would be adhered to. Dr. Royer's statement continued:

In spite of Mayor Babcock's proclamation stating that the epidemic conditions in Pittsburgh were sufficiently improved to permit the lifting of the closing ban, no reports of improvements in the epi-

demio situation in Pittsburgh or in the surrounding territory were received in the office of the State Department of Health up to noon. On the other hand, distressing calls for nurses and doctors were sent in from Washington county and from Westmoreland county, and from many other points in the metropolitan area of Pittsburgh.

Ford City and a large section of Armstrong county are also in a bad way and the influenza is spreading rapidly. A very high death rate is reported in the collieries near Pittsburgh.

County Not Affected.

While the action taken by the Pittsburgh authorities in no wise affects the adjoining county, many of the health officials of neighboring boroughs announced that they would adhere to the state orders, and in some of the boroughs, church organizations met and determined to remain closed.

Yesterday noon the Allegheny County Medical Society met and adopted a resolution indorsing the stand taken by the State Department of Health.

Private schools in the city may reopen Wednesday, according to instructions issued by Maj. W. H. Davis, director the Department of Health, yesterday. The school managements are instructed to demand from each child a certificate from his family physician stating that he has been in normal health for at least a week, and all pupils who show signs of coughing, sneezing, watery eyes, etc., must be excluded.

Schools Not to Open.

The public and parochial schools, with more than 100,000 pupils, will not open until a week from tomorrow at least, Maj. Davis declared. Each of the pupils will be examined and for several days a home canvass has been made by teachers. The closing of the schools was a purely local order, and the date of their reopening will also be determined by Maj. Davis and the school authorities.

Methodist Episcopal churches were advised to remain closed, according to a telegram sent to Dr. Royer by the Rev. Dr. W. S. Lockard, superintendent of the Pittsburgh district, and the Rev. Dr. W. F. Conner, superintendent of the Allegheny district of the church.

The Roman Catholic churches will probably reopen. Announcement was made at the chancellor's office, St. Paul's Cathedral, yesterday morning. This permission applies only to churches in the city and the diocesan officials declare this permission to be official. The matter is left largely to the discretion of the individual pastor.

Ministers Are Opposed.
The Rev. C. R. Zahniser, secretary of the executive committee of the Council of Churches, stated that the ministerial associations of Homewood and Bellevue had voted to remain closed, and that many individual pastors had done likewise. A statement was issued by the committee recommending that churches remain closed, saying:

The churches and schools were closed by local and not by the state authorities, and could have been opened at any time by the local authorities. If conditions at the first justified the closing, they are just as clearly required to continue as clearly require the continuation of such orders. It is highly desirable that there be harmony between the state and city authorities, and due respect for law and order would require a different attitude on the part of the local government.

The First Presbyterian Church, Sixth avenue, will remain closed, and the pastors of Avalon churches, which are not affected by the local orders, listed a statement that their churches would remain closed.

Baptist Church to Open.

On the other hand, the Rev. E. A. Harar, president of the ministerial union of Pittsburgh and the pastor of the Homewood Baptist Church,

stated that his church would be open this morning. He said:

The churches never should have been closed. The local authorities who closed the churches have a perfect right to rescind the ban. It was the first time in the history of the United States that the churches have been closed on account of any epidemic, and I think it was unfair all the way through.

The Christian Science Churches will open, it was announced last night.

The military quarantine at the University of Pittsburgh and the Carnegie Institute of Technology is still in effect, and classes will not be held tomorrow. The raising of the ban is in the hands of the military authorities.

Dr. S. H. Linhart, secretary of the University, said yesterday that young men with a high school education, who are not in Class A-1 of the draft, may register any day and be inducted into the Students Army Training Corps. These men are permitted to visit the registrar's office in State Hall.

All departments of Duquesne University were affected by the ban and tomorrow classes will be resumed in the college and high school, school of law and school of accounts. The S. A. T. C. there has been spared from every tread of influenza.

Homestead Ban Lifted.

Following a meeting of the Homestead Board of Health it was announced that churches in Homestead and Munhall would be permitted to hold services this morning. Despite this, the Homestead ministers last night decided to hold no services until next Sunday.

The city's legal position regarding the lifting of the influenza ban was said at city hall to be simply that the city would not interfere with the opening of saloons, pool rooms and