

FEWER CASES OF INFLUENZA ARE REPORTED

New Victims Number Little
More Than Half of Yesterday's—Deaths Are Few.

RESTRICTIONS STILL ON.

If the reports made to the bureau of infectious diseases from a clinic yesterday afternoon until 11 o'clock this morning are to be taken as criterion for influenza epidemic within the city has passed its crest. For the period mentioned 37 new cases of influenza are reported and 13 of pneumonia. Altogether twice the number were reported in previous instances for the same period yesterday.

There have been but two deaths from influenza and seven from pneumonia during the last 24 hours. There were four deaths reported yesterday in cases where both pneumonia and influenza were given as the cause. The total number of deaths is still about the normal for the season of the year.

There is no indication on the part of city or state health authorities that the ban on public meetings or the amusement business will be lifted in the near future. Today many organizations are sending out notices calling off meetings which had been set for the latter part of this or the next week in the hope that the epidemic would be over by that time.

EXERCISES POSTPONED.

The patriotic exercises in connection with the dedication of the memorial pergola and honor roll to the 1,000 soldiers and sailors from the Wilkesburg district have been postponed indefinitely. The reason given is that the organizations which are to take part in the parade could not hold meetings to make the preparations even though the ban of the health authorities were to be lifted within the next few days. The Mothers of Democracy, which were to have met Friday evening to arrange for their part in the event have announced the postponement of their meeting.

In order that there may be no further misunderstandings Director William H. Davis of the health department interprets the rules in regard to church services as follows:

All churches are to be closed to the public on Sundays and week days. Church buildings will be open to individuals for private worship, but no congregation or group shall be allowed to enter. Funerals are not permitted to enter churches.

The army-medical authorities believe they have the epidemic well in hand, but arrangements are being made to fit up some building or a number of buildings with a total of 500 beds so that there will be ample facilities in case the epidemic should reach the proportions here which it has in some of the cantonments. The idea is to have a convalescent barracks where the milder cases and those which had been treated in the regular hospitals might be taken to regain strength. The committee of hospital superintendents has a similar plan in mind for civilian cases.

Buildings in Butler street, the Public safety building, and a number of vacant buildings have been considered by the city while the army authorities are looking over a number of club buildings which would require little fitting up. Committees have been appointed to provide physicians and nurses in case these hospitals are opened. There is a shortage of medical men. In order to relieve this the University of Pittsburgh have assigned most of its medical students as hospital assistants.

While the percentage is low considering that there are more than 5,000 soldiers in the Pittsburgh district, it is estimated that there are not less than 250 well-defined cases. Of this number 50 are being cared for by the first and second infirmaries. A large number of the milder cases which were reported last week have been reported recovered.

During the last 24 hours there has been but one death among the soldier patients. Major Ewing W. Day, chief medical officer for the army men in this district, who has been working night and day to frustrate the spread of the disease, has become its victim. Two of his subordinates are suffering from it as well as six nurses. Major Day is being treated at his home in South Winebiddle avenue and expects to resume his duties within a day or so.

Committees of the Red Cross, Veterans of America and the Young Women's Christian Association are at work on influenza masks. They are being used by the thousands by army men and also by the civilians employed about barracks.