

EPIDEMIC HERE NOT ALARMING, FIGURES SHOW

Local Health Department Is
Not Disposed to Take Any
Chances, However.

2,364 CASES IN CITY.

According to the tabulation which has been made by the city bureau of infectious diseases there are 2,364 influenza cases. Of this number, 493 have been reported since 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon. For the previous 24 hours there were 347 cases.

While the number seems large, the percentage of deaths is low as compared to other cities. The health authorities, while urging that the public continue to take every precaution, point out that the pneumonia percentage is low. The number of cases of the latter reported up until 10 o'clock this morning was 22. The total number of cases under observation is 152. This is above normal, but not alarmingly so.

There has been some discussion among medical men, especially the army branch of the profession, relative to inoculation. It is doubtful, however, as to whether vaccine for such a purpose could be obtained as the serum treatment idea is still young. Edward A. W. ...

... of the national committee of the Red Cross has been in communication with New York authorities in regard to obtaining a supply of the serum.

ARMY NOT ALARMED.

Local army medical men see no reason for alarm, as the epidemic gives no indication that it will become as general to local barracks as it has been elsewhere. Precautions are to be taken, however, to keep the disease under control. Yesterday the Mercy Hospital was added to the list of Government institutions for the treatment of influenza cases. Major E. W. Day, senior medical officer for the army in the Pittsburgh district, said that 43 new cases had been sent to the West-Penn hospital since the last report. The institution has facilities for 40 more in case they develop. At the Magee hospital, where 302 soldiers are being treated, additional physicians and nurses were put on duty and 13 new cases taken in. A few of the cases which were put under treatment the latter part of last week have recovered.

The hospital superintendents' committee under the direction of Dr. Philip E. Marks, of the bureau of infectious diseases, is said to have decided upon a building which will be suitable for the 50-bed emergency hospital proposed. Late today a meeting will be held at the office of Director William H. Davis, of the health department at which a decision will be reached in regard to opening such an institution.

Among the departmental orders which Director Davis intends to enforce are those which require frequent sterilization of all soda water and ice cream parlor equipment and the proper ventilation of street cars. The department is investigating all soft drink establishments and looking into their sanitary condition. This work is in charge of Dr. J. C. McNeil of the bureau of food inspection.

TO ENFORCE ORDINANCE.

As the result of complaints filed at the mayor's office the anti-spitting ordinance is to be rigidly enforced. This will be up to the department of public safety and Director Charles B. Pritchard has issued orders to police officers to arrest those who spit on the sidewalks or on the floors of public conveyances. Director Davis has asked street car conductors to assist in the enforcement of the ordinance.

Among the organizations which have called the attention of city authorities to the flagrant violation of the anti-spitting ordinance and asked that possession be placed calling the public's attention to the existence of an ordinance under which prosecutions can be made is The Forum, an organization of women of which Miss Matilda Orr Hays is president, and Mrs. Samuel E. Descher, secretary.

The general use of influenza masks has been suggested by some physicians, but the health department has taken no steps to enforce such an order. It was stated this morning that the nurse and doctor shortage is great and that the campaign to enlist the services of additional nurses will continue.

DEATH AT TARENTUM.

Tarentum district, Miss Ada Graham, 19 years old, a Negress, of Creighton was reported yesterday as a member of her family are said to be suffering with the disease. The family arrived last week in Creighton from Alabama.

Nine additional cases of influenza were reported to the Tarentum board of health yesterday. Burgess J. K. F. Weaver of Tarentum has appointed an emergency relief committee to aid in combatting the spread of influenza. The committee is made up of Dr. S. F. McComb, Dr. L. Loydie, Dr. R. R. Cherry, Rev. William J. Dickey, Rev. H. J. Dayak, V. E. Browne, A. D. Lindsay, A. B. Davidson, A. B. Walker, John A. Doucette and Stephen Lovasick.

INCREASES IN CAMP EPIDEMICS REPORTED

88,478 New Influenza and 8,655 New Pneumonia Cases Develop During Week.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11.—Influenza and pneumonia continued with great intensity in the majority of the army camps and stations in the United States during the week ending October 1, according to a report of the surgeon general, made public by the war department today. During the week 88,478 new cases of influenza, and 8,655 of pneumonia were reported, as compared with 77,995 and 4,313, respectively, during the preceding week.

Influenza is rapidly spreading westward and many new camps are now infected. The report continues: "In certain Eastern camps, where the disease first appeared, comparatively few new cases are now being reported. The epidemic appears to be at its height in camps of the Middle West."

Northern encampments have suffered most severely. The disease as it appeared in the South has been less frequently complicated by pneumonia and therefore less fatal. The number of deaths and new cases reported during the week appears to show an increase. In view of the number of camps now infected and the progress of the disease in the camps early affected, it is believed that within a short time the peak will be reached and an improvement in conditions may be expected."