

713 NEW CASES OF INFLUENZA ARE REPORTED

Health Department Concerned Over Upward Tendency in Epidemic's Death List.

AT WORK ON NEW SERUM.

There will be no move this week looking to the reopening of places of public amusement, schools, churches or saloons now closed under the rulings of the state department of health. City health authorities agree with Dr. Karl Schäffle, representing the state, and Dr. Adolph Koenig, county medical inspector, that it would be a serious mistake to lift the ban until the situation warrants it. It is also stated that the ban will remain until the time is ripe to lift it in every section of the state simultaneously.

The decision to continue all restrictions was reached late last night and according to the physicians of Director William H. Davis' department the wisdom of it was confirmed this morning when the night reports were tabulated. They showed an upward tendency in the number of deaths and a sharp rise also in the number of new cases.

The report covering the period from 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon until 10 this morning showed 713 new cases of influenza, making a total of 12,278. There were 51 new cases of pneumonia, raising the total for that disease to 677. A total of 64 deaths was divided as follows: Pneumonia 37, influenza 9 and complications of the two 18.

AUTHORITIES ANXIOUS.

Even with these figures, which have caused the authorities more concern than any report yet because both deaths and new cases seem to be on the increase, the Pittsburgh district is faring

better than most other communities in the country which have so far been stricken. The fact that the number of victims per thousand of population is far below that of Eastern cities is believed to be the result of an early clamping of the ban on all assemblies.

According to city physicians, the problem is now one of enlisting the largest possible number of nurses and doctors. The closing of the schools released 30 doctors and 45 nurses. These were added to those already under the direction of the supreme medical and nursing staff. The peak of the epidemic has not hit here yet and Director Davis desires to be ready for it when it comes.

The director has appointed Dr. Samuel R. Hawthorne, Dr. George L. Hoffman and Dr. Ernest W. Willetts to work with a committee of city physicians as a board on bacteriology. It will be the duty of this organization to take up a study of the serum question at once.

TO DEVELOP SERUM.

The physicians mentioned are familiar with the disease since it came to the United States and in the absence of a serum on which medical men agree to be a proven preventive these men will undertake to develop one. In the meantime the public is warned not to relax in the least its vigilance in observing the general rules which the department has laid down to prevent contagion.

Through F. A. Woods of the Red Cross sufficient of the serum now in use to inoculate 25,000 persons is on its way to Pittsburgh by special messenger.

All of the adjacent boroughs are in the throes of the epidemic. The same is true of adjoining counties, each of which has from 1,000 to 5,000 reported cases of influenza or some of its complications. The state physicians are preparing a chart showing the location of the cases and the communities worst afflicted.