

# GOVERNMENT'S DOCTORS HERE FOR EPIDEMIC

## Three Physicians Fresh From Afflicted Cities of East Join Local Medical Forces.

### FEWER NEW CASES HERE

The report from the bureau of infectious diseases for the period beginning at 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon and ending at 1 o'clock this morning showed a decrease in the number of influenza and deaths as compared with yesterday's report. The figures are 20 influenza cases, 51 pneumonia, 57 with a total of 128 for the former and 120 for the latter. Deaths from influenza and its complications totaled 15, as against 14 yesterday. There were 3 from influenza, 15 from pneumonia and 6 from complications.

With the approval of Dr. Rupert Blue, director general of the United States health service, three government physicians fresh from duty in the influenza-stricken sections of the New England states, are in the city to assist in fighting the local epidemic. Their services were obtained as the result of a request made to Harrisburg and Washington by a committee from the Coal Producers' Association. The latter organization feared that the influenza epidemic of the United States would suffer if the epidemic were not taken in hand in the mining sections.

### FOLLOWING WAVE.

Later this advance guard of physicians will be joined by 50 or more others who will be withdrawn from the east as the epidemic subsides. They will follow the wave across the country and offer every assistance possible to physicians working in each community. In addition to the doctors, the Government will also furnish a number of nurses. For the most part their work will be confined to the mining centers and to the industrial districts where epidemics are being manufactured. The war program will be given first consideration in every community.

The Government physicians and nurses will work in harmony in this district with Dr. Karl Shaffle and Dr. Adolph Koenig of the state, Inspector William H. Davis of the city department of health and school and Red Cross physicians.

The Government physicians are Dr. J. H. Kerr, Dr. William M. Keen and Dr. Marion Glenn. Their first work will be at Carnegie, Donora and at the mines of the Pittsburgh Coal Company where the number of cases warrant immediate attention.

The court house annex on Ross street will be opened late today as an emergency hospital for influenza cases. The Marine Hospital at the Arsenal will also be pressed into service, and arrangements made to erect a tent hospital at the Washington park playgrounds.

### BOROUGHES NEED NURSES.

The situation in the boroughs is in some cases worse than that in the city because of the difficulty of obtaining nurses and hospital facilities. In Williamsburg the EMAs have offered their Ross street club house. It has a capacity of 250 beds and is equipped with two kitchens, cooks and everything that is needed. There are 750 persons in Williamsburg. During the last month there have been 68 deaths, the largest in the history of the borough. At a meeting held last night the local Red Cross organized to assist in finding nurses and in furnishing housekeepers where an entire family is stricken.

Courtesy Samuel C. Jamison yesterday addressed a letter to the state health department, urging the reopening of churches and amusements. He said that to his mind the situation warranted it. The opinion of most medical men is, however, that the ban on such things will not be lifted for at least one week and perhaps longer.

H. K. Porter yesterday offered his home and grounds in Oakland to the army authorities as a hospital. The offer was made through Major F. W. Day, head of the army medical service here.