

Halloween Carnival Is Banned in City

Pierrots and Pierrettes of
Pittsburgh Are Forbidden
Confetti and Parades in
Central Districts Tomorrow
Night—Influenza Is Cause.

Pierrette weeps and Pierrot frowns and Harlequin sulks in a corner somewhere, for Carnival sits over Pittsburgh this Halloween without even a rainbow shower of confetti from its iridescent wings.

Like an ill-petured Pantomime, influenza forbids the gay festival of the masks to which the city is wont, each year at October's end to give itself. Those avenues of downtown Pittsburgh, East Liberty, Northside and Southside, which are transformed, every October, into highways of revelry, seething with a maelstrom of mummies, will hold their commensure, everyday atmosphere undisturbed by shouts and laughter and horn blasts and clanging bells or by the flash of warm colors and bright eyes.

A ghost of the old spirit will remain.

Although Charles E. Stuchard, director of the department of public safety, has instructed the police department to forbid the congregation of crowds in the central and suburban centers of the city, he has permitted the celebrants who desire to mask through the streets to do so in their own neighborhoods. Pumpkin lanterns and fantastic costumes are not banned. Parties where all the old-time games of grandmother's day may be played are not under disapproval.

But the processions of merry-makers, though hundreds of spectators in the neighborhood of celebrations are forbidden. The throwing of confetti, though mischievous and harmless expression of the carnival spirit, is prohibited, because, this year, it is not harmless, but a dangerous means of spreading influenza. Ticklees and brushes are banned as they have been in other years.

Patriotism too has made its appeal to the maskers. The use of any food substances, such as beans, peas and the like, and of other commodities, such as soap, has been prohibited by order of the Federal food administration. War has made the waste of these materials a flagrant failure of patriotism.