

Papers of Mayor James Rolph

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Enclosed in: Answer to Benadict
1918, P. 5

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THE AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION.



EXECUTIVE OFFICE, 126 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

Hon. James Rolph, Jr.
Mayor of San Francisco,
San Francisco, Cal.

November 25, 1918.

Honorable Sir:-

It is not unlikely that before many months your region will have a recurrence of influenza. You will probably have an unusual amount of pneumonia and bronchitis during the next three years. If you are inclined to doubt this statement, read the reprint that we are sending you of an article from the November American Journal of Public Health. Here, Evans and Heckard point out that in the great influenza epidemic of 1890-93, the second year was worse than the first. Certainly it behooves all of us who are responsible for the health of the people to learn all we can concerning influenza, and lay our plans.

For this reason, influenza has been made the central theme of the annual meeting of this Association to be held at Chicago, December 9-12. The health officers of this country and Canada and other authorities who have been busy studying this disease will report their results.

There will be discussions of closing assemblies, stagger-hours for transportation, vaccination against pneumonia and influenza, sera and other preventive and curative methods. From these discussions should come plans as to what can be done to ward off this devastating disease.

Representatives from your health department should be at the meetings and bring back to your people the latest information concerning influenza. If you personally can come also, we assure you that it will be worth while. Later, you should by all means have a conference of your health committee for planning your fight against influenza.

We shall appreciate your informing us upon the enclosed post-card who will represent you at the Chicago meetings.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary.

AWH:DDH

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