

GRIP SHOWS NO LET UP IN STATE

Burlington Physicians Aid Twin Cities; More Towns Close Places.

(Special to The Messenger).

Burlington, Oct. 3.—The influenza situation in the state remains about stationary, with a slight increase in the number of cases if anything, according to reports arriving at the offices of the state health board. Barre and Montpelier are still the cities hardest hit by the epidemic. Many more towns and villages throughout the state have put a ban on public gatherings of all kinds. In Stowe, while there are only a few cases, the health authorities have prohibited all public gatherings, closed the schools and churches and have warned the parents of children to keep the youngsters on their own premises.

Thirteen cases of grip have been reported thus far in Essex Junction and the lid has been clamped on there.

Reports from Middlebury show the situation there somewhat more encouraging and it is expected cases of the disease will steadily decrease from now on. The annual fall boys and girls exhibition of farm products and fancy work, which was to have opened to-day on the fairground has been indefinitely postponed because of the influenza. Ceremonies at the college Tuesday, upon the taking over of the school by the government, as a unit in the students reserve corps, were given up. The college is under strict quarantine and the grounds are under guard.

But one case of influenza has been reported from Shelburne but the health officer has decided to take the disease in time and has closed the place to all public gatherings, as well as shutting schools and churches.

In the Queen City the number of cases are slightly increasing despite all efforts to check ravages of the disease. Two deaths were reported yesterday from the Mechanical school, and St. Pauls Parish house has been turned over to the men of the school.

In the Capital city seven deaths have occurred during the past 24 hours, and there are many more cases which are extremely serious with slight hope of recovery. Many of those whom have fallen victim to the disease are young people. Algerman, H. P. Ryan was seriously ill here yesterday, and it was necessary to send to Burlington for an additional supply of oxygen, the supply in Montpelier having been exhausted. Seven funerals took place yesterday. Four Burlington physicians motored to Montpelier and Barre yesterday and put in the day helping in both cities.

About 100 cases of influenza have been reported in Rutland and the conditions there are becoming rapidly worse according to reports received to-day. Yesterday 27 Rutland homes were placed under quarantine. Many cases have developed into pneumonia, three persons in one family having developed this complication. A meeting of the Rutland Board of Health was held last evening and drastic steps were taken to enforce the recent closing order. Parties no matter how small are banned and members of families are warned not to mingle with other families. The city is mobilizing all its nursing forces including those who have had any experience in care of the sick. There was a great scarcity of nurses in the city prior to the epidemic and it is recognized that with the rapidly increasing number of influenza cases the city faces a serious crisis.

All state institutions have been closed to visitors, in order to guard against carrying of the disease to the inmates. This includes the Industrial school, the House of Correction, the State Prison, the state hospital and home for feeble minded.