

# PLAYHOUSES TO BE DARK TEMPORARILY

Managers Decide to Join in  
Campaign to Stamp Out  
Current Malady

## PLAYERS PROVIDED FOR

Companies to Be Held Intact  
in Several Cases Pending  
Time of Resumption

By WALTER ANTHONY

**T**HE thespian, like Othello, finds his occupation gone, out, unlike Othello, will be busy again.

Though the Rialto is as dark as a musical comedy stage at 9 A. M., there prevails no general gloom, and the consensus of opinion is that since the attendance at the playhouses of the city had suffered materially from the upset state of the public's mind, it is better to close them tight, fighting the influenza meanwhile to a quick and decided finish, then to re-open with a restored public confidence and, in accordance with San Francisco's tradition, just as though nothing at all had happened.

Hardship is necessarily the result, but disaster will be averted through the solvency of the local theaters, from the treasuries of which the players are to be permitted to draw the necessary funds to keep the wolf from the wings and the hotel clerk in a reasonable frame of mind.

### COMPANY TO BE RETAINED

Perhaps the theater to feel most keenly the closing order of the health authorities is the Alcazar, which was on the eve of a rejuvenation. It was to have opened today in an articulate play. It was to have left its motion picture career behind. It was to have become once more the theater of pre-fire days, when its stock organization was a traditional feature of San Francisco's amusement life. Manager E. D. Price announces, however, that there will be no abandonment of players or plays and that just as soon as the health authorities deem it wise, the Alcazar will open with its New Alcazar company in the new play called "Upstairs and Down." Meanwhile the company will be held intact.

The Columbia Theater's hardship is scarcely less. It was in the first week of a success which promised to be notable. Crane Wilbur's "Common Cause" had excited much attention, had proved to be excellent melodrama, splendid propaganda, and had been produced through the medium of a most competent company. Its engagement at the Columbia Theater was to have extended up to November 4, at which time William H. Crane in "The Very Idea" was booked. J. J. Gottlob of Gottlob, Marx & Co. announced that should the theaters be opened between now and November 4, "Common Cause" will be restored to the Columbia Theater stage, and then sent out on the road, providing the theaters of the Pacific Coast are opened in sufficient numbers to justify the tour. William A. Crane's booking at the Columbia, meanwhile, will be protected, providing, of course, the authorities lift the embargo in time.