

BOARD TO FORCE MASK WEARING BY ORDINANCE

Measure Drafted by City Attorney to Be Passed at Meeting Today

ALL MUST COVER FACES

State and City Health Officials and Mayor Agree on Need for Action

A special meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be held at 2 o'clock this afternoon to make the wearing of masks by every person in San Francisco compulsory. This was decided last evening after a conference held by Mayor Rolph and representatives of the State and City Health Boards. The ordinance has been drawn in City Attorney Lull's office and will be introduced by Supervisor Andrew Gallagher. Members of the Board say its adoption is assured.

EFFECTUALLY CHECKED

From Mare Island, where thousands of sailors are being prepared for service, comes the reassuring word that the influenza has been effectually checked and that the period of its devastations was limited to sixteen days through the immediate and effective use of masks. Lieutenant J. J. Hogan, aid to Commander J. L. Nielsen, in charge of Mare Island station, brought this word last night to Dr. Hassler at the meeting of the Board of Health. Dr. Hogan has been through the entire campaign against influenza at Mare Island. He has seen the effectiveness of masks, he says, in a positive as well as a negative way—positive in the case of the doctors and nurses who put them on immediately and negatively in the case of some who refused to believe in the efficacy of masks. The former were and are immune. Death invaded the ranks of the latter.

DECREASE BEGINS

As soon as the use of masks was made obligatory the decrease in the number of cases began, until now only incoming recruits who bring the malady with them are being treated. He admitted that San Francisco's problem is different because of the stubbornness of some in refusing to wear masks. In a military or a naval camp orders must be obeyed and that is the reason why the naval camp was visited with comparative lightness and why the visitation was so brief.

"In the very beginning of the influenza visitation," he said, "and before the use of masks was general, several nurses and doctors were stricken. None have been since the masks were donned. That, I think, is the answer to the question. I have slept in infected tents, have worked over patients violently ill. Nurses, medical corps men and other doctors have done the same. They have been untouched by the disease if they wore masks.

Three Influenza Don'ts Announced By Dr. Hassler

HERE are three "Don'ts" by Dr. W. C. Hassler, city health officer, for war on influenza:

First—If you have been ill, don't get out of bed for four days after your temperature is normal, if you want to avoid pneumonia.

Second—Don't wait for a doctor, they are rushed now, but go to bed, take a physic and drink lots of water when the first symptoms appear.

Third—Don't fail to wear a mask; even if you have been vaccinated you are liable to reinfection.