

# Several Days to See Epidemic at Peak, Says Board

## Health Authorities and Physicians Organize to Fight Disease

Up to 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon 1371 new cases of influenza had been reported to the Board of Health, the largest number turned in for any day since the epidemic began. The number of deaths reached seventy-three for the day.

The total number of cases reported in San Francisco now reaches 8767, with 309 deaths.

Opinion in the Board of Health was that the epidemic has not reached its height in this city. The number of cases reported each day is expected to increase regularly for some days.

Mortality, it was stated, has been greatest between the ages of 23 and 40. Physicians point to this in the fact that the disease first became general in this country at Camp Devens among men of draft age and has shown the same character in its spread over the country.

The Board of Health had forty volunteer physicians and thirty-five inspecting nurses working under its direction yesterday. Many specialists, particularly the eye, ear and nose experts, have temporarily abandoned their regular practice to serve in the fight against influenza. By today, through the aid given by the Red Cross, the Board expects to have its emergency work thoroughly in hand.

Dr. A. G. Meyer of the University of California Medical Department, is preparing to develop cultures of anti-influenza serum. In response to the call for volunteers to give up blood for this purpose no less than a dozen offered themselves through the Board of Health yesterday. Men between the ages of 24 and 35 have been asked for, as the subject from whom the blood is obtained must be of the general age of the classes most attacked by the disease.