

# RED CROSS BATTLES INFLUENZA SUCCESSFULLY WITH IMPROVED EQUIPMENT AS CREST IMPENDS

## Appeal Still Goes Forth for Mothers to Volunteer to Aid Poor Families; Supervisors Praise Mercy Workers; 35 Belles Offer Autos and Selves to Aid

**W**ITH influenza cases showing in growing numbers that the crest of the visitation is being reached, the Red Cross is finding itself better equipped than ever to handle the multiplying cases, though Mrs. Ezra Stimson, in charge of assignment cases, is still urging the mothers of San Francisco to volunteer their noble selves to the cause of suffering families where poverty watches with diseases and invites a raising mortality rate.

While the lesson is costly, it will be priceless—this lesson that the public is learning from the Red Cross. If the Red Cross had ever been in the public mind a sort of abstraction, a symbol or a principle, that conception of it has passed into one where in the Red Cross stands the biggest humanitarian force in the world and a bulwark of strength in this city. At the outbreak of the malady the coffers of the Red Cross were opened like sluice boxes when mountains disgorge their gold, and \$50,000 was turned loose for the immediate uses of the Red Cross and in aid of the sick and the poor, to buy medicines, comforts and to fight death.

### EVIDENCE OF WORTH

The Board of Supervisors took time at yesterday's busy special session to express its opinion and the opinion of San Francisco concerning the Red Cross and its workers. The resolution was introduced by Andrew Gallagher. Here it is:

"Your splendid organization can always be depended upon to meet any emergency, and your co-operation with the Board of Health in this crisis is another evidence of the worth and dependability of the American Red Cross."

From all quarters came tangible evidence of the public's regard and love for the Red Cross. Automobiles were needed in large numbers. These were donated yesterday, though today there will be need for still more. This, it was pointed out by Red Cross officials at 30 Montgomery street, is a most vital matter, because nourishment, medicines, doctors and nurses have to be moved against time, and minutes mean life in many instances daily recurring. So, if you have an automobile that you can spare, come to the Red Cross headquarters, 30 Montgomery street, and learn the joy that is born of giving.

### BELLES VOLUNTEER

Thirty-five young women, whose names are frequently in the society columns, volunteered their automobiles and themselves yesterday for the period of the epidemic. Each of the young women drives her own car in expert manner and each is eager to add her quota of help in a difficult emergency.

The California State Automobile Association has also risen to the necessities. A circular was issued yesterday and sent to all members urging them to make sacrifices to be of service to the Red Cross at this juncture when service is so sorely needed. "Lend your cars and yourselves" was the burden of the message to members.

Those who can spare their cars for no more than two hours a day are urged to do even that, while those who can turn over their cars and a driver without restriction, are pleaded with to do so.

"The handicap under which the doctors and the nurses are working in not having adequate transportation facilities, is most serious, said Secretary D. E. Watkins of the Automobile Association yesterday. "We have been requested by the Red Cross to assist in finding cars to remedy the situation. The cars must be provided with drivers. Those who can volunteer the use of their cars in this emergency, even if for no more than a couple of hours a day, are requested to communicate at once either in person or by telephone with the Red Cross headquarters, 30 Montgomery street."

Henry Brown, cashier of the Bank of Napa, was one of the many to make important donations yesterday. He turned over to the Red Cross his business block, 1026-1030 Mission street, for whatever uses the Red Cross committee on influenza desire. Chairman Gregory accepted the offer, saying he was sure it would be a valuable asset in the work, but had not decided last night just what function it would best fill.

### PRIESTS INSTRUCTED

Following up the tender of the resources of the Catholic Church in this city in the Red Cross campaign against sickness, Rev. Richard Collins, acting for Archbishop Hanna, issued the following instructions to the forty priests affected by the order of the Archbishop:

"Wherever sickness is reported and where aid, either because of poverty or for other causes, is immediately necessary, you are to use your own judgment and see that food, medicine and such other necessities are supplied at once. After first aid and assistance have been given, supplies should then be requisitioned by you through the nearest of the established agencies of the Red Cross. In other words, these agencies will then handle the question of further supplies for you.

"All nurses are to be supplied through the main headquarters of the Red Cross at 30 Montgomery street. Do not employ a nurse on your own responsibility. If you have some woman who is willing to act as a houseworker or a nurse and who feels that she cannot afford to donate her services, send her to Red Cross headquarters for enrollment and employment. She will be paid, and, if possible, assigned to work in your parish."

### CLASSES SHUT DOWN

Because every energy that can be summoned is being invoked by the Red Cross in the influenza fight, there will be a discontinuance for a week, at least, of the classes in "first aid." The classes in elementary hygiene and dietetics, however, as reacting in the present emergency, will be continued without interruption.

Efforts were begun yesterday to provide gauze masks for enlisted men. The naval auxiliary of the Red Cross made an urgent call for assistants to make masks for the sailors of the United States Navy. This was done in response to an official request from the department. Soldiers and sailors are instructed that they may receive masks by calling at 657 Market street or 1 California street, where War Camp Community Service centers are located and where a force of workers is busy making masks.