

Public Cautioned Against Relaxing In Influenza War

Vaccine Not Perfect, De- clares Dr. Billings of U. S. Health Service

Dr. W. C. Billings of the United States Public Health Service, 24 New Montgomery street, yesterday cautioned the public against believing that anti-influenza vaccine is 100 per cent efficient in preventing the disease and warning people who have taken the vaccine not to relax in prescribed hygiene and sanitary measures. Dr. Billings' statement follows:

To the Public: The amazing number of inquiries received at this office in which the questioners refer to the vaccine cure makes it apparent that a feeling is growing in the public mind which, unless it is checked, may become universal enough to result in a condition which would constitute a real danger.

I feel, therefore, that I should say to the people of this State that the two Massachusetts commissions, composed of very eminent medical men, and the United States Public Health Service Hygienic Laboratory are of the unanimous opinion that there is as yet no known vaccine which will confer anything like 100 per cent immunity against influenza.

They are also unanimous in agreeing that there is no evidence that unfavorable results have followed the use of the vaccine.

It is, therefore, necessary to very earnestly caution all persons that their responsibility in no way ceases because they have taken vaccine and that they must continue to follow just as carefully as before the advice which has repeatedly been given as to personal and general hygiene and sanitary measures.

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