

CALL GOES OUT FOR NURSES IN INFLUENZA WAR

Red Cross Committee Pleads for Volunteers to Combat Malady in City

The Red Cross influenza committee is making the situation of the city leaders has performed in its efforts to combat the epidemic which in 1918 was so deadly and disastrous.

Nurses and other workers in the city are being urged to volunteer to combat the epidemic.

The nurse of a family was the one practical step which is being taken. If we have several cases in a family, he said. The afternoon we were called to attend a case where five in one family were dying. A nurse had been there a week ago and her advice had been followed. The disease could have been checked.

A special plea was made yesterday at Red Cross headquarters for volunteers from the ranks of trained nurses who have married and left the profession. Three hundred more trained nurses are needed at once. In addition, four or five hundred women who can serve as emergency nurses in the homes of stricken families will be needed today. With this force available, it was confidently said, the death rate can be materially reduced and the epidemic halted.

NEW YORKERS ASKED

In no case should a qualified woman hesitate to offer her services on the ground of financial inability to serve any officials. The Red Cross is willing to pay for services of qualified women who cannot afford to volunteer without pay.

At the new influenza headquarters twenty departments have been organized each in charge of an executive responsible for the special detail assigned by the general chairman.

A telephone exchange has been installed. When a call for aid comes in over the wire, a visiting nurse is sent at once to make an investigation. The motor corps department is responsible for getting the nurse there in the shortest possible time. After her investigation, the visiting nurse advises the assignment department of the needs of the particular case, and the proper relief is given at once.

WORKERS COLLABORATE

The Red Cross influenza headquarters correlates its work with the Board of Health and the various hospitals of the city, and there is no confusion or overlapping of work. Immediate help and efficiency, with correlation of existing agencies, is the motto of those in charge of the fight.

"Great credit is due to the work of the doctors, nurses and volunteer helpers, who have worked so faithfully," said John A. Britton of the San Francisco Chapter of the Red Cross yesterday. "Many of the doctors and nurses have been working twenty hours a day without a thought of themselves."

The most pitiful case that came to the attention of the Red Cross workers yesterday developed when a call came in from a family where the mother and five children had reached the last stages of pneumonia. The old grandmother, feeble and helpless with age, was doing her best to minister to the needs of her stricken ones. The father lay in a drunken stupor on the floor and the grandmother, with tears in her eyes, told of his cruelty in beating the children as they lay moaning with pain. A nurse was placed to attend to the mother and the doctor said: "Will police help be attended to the father."

IN THE NEWS

Special Bureau of The Chronicle

Reliefing Operation Through Donations have increased from influenza in two days in including Anderson, Keener and Green.