

# DECREASE IN CASES NOTED DURING DAY

Dr. Hassler Warns Against Any Let-Up in Precautions Against Malady

PLAGUE UNDER CONTROL

Many Are Inoculated With Vaccine; Banks Set New Hours for Closing

**U**TTERING a warning yesterday against any let-up in the precautions taken against influenza, Dr. William C. Hassler, City Health Officer, said that no more new cases were coming in than should be expected.

The official total yesterday was 1243 new cases for the twenty-four hours. The number of new cases actually reported was more than 400 greater, but on the ground that the total included large numbers of cases that should have been reported as much as four days ago and many duplications, the Health Officer ordered the subtraction made.

The grand total of cases for this city was 15,999 at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon, with 677 deaths.

Deaths yesterday numbered 90. The high days last week when the number of new cases ran close to and above 2000 for some days now begin to show in the number of serious cases. While the daily total of new cases is dropping, the Emergency Service records show that the number of pneumonia cases is climbing. Pneumonia cases handled by the Emergency Service numbered 78 last, Thursday, 83 on Friday, 108 on Saturday, 131 Sunday, and were expected to run still higher for yesterday.

This increase in serious cases following several days after the reports of new cases began to go down is explained by the surgeons as due to the fact that several days usually elapse before an influenza case reaches the point of pneumonia.

## SITUATION SERIOUS

The hospital situation was reported yesterday to be serious. At midnight Sunday night the San Francisco Hospital was completely full, and all day yesterday the Emergency Service was fighting for beds for the incoming cases. The discharge of convalescent patients supplied some beds at the San Francisco Hospital, additional beds were secured and a new ward was opened.

In addition the city took over 250 beds in the Children's Hospital, which are to be used for women and children. The Daniel Webster School, near the Union plant of the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corporation, has been turned into a hospital, with fifty beds. Under the direction of Archbishop Edward J. Hanna, a recuperating hospital with sixty beds is being made ready at St. Vincent's School.

Nevertheless, the great bulk of the cases are proceeding without serious complications. Up to Sunday night, out of a total of 14,756 cases, considerably more than half, or 8466, had been discharged as cured or had passed the four-day period without sign of complication. Of the 6290 cases still remaining unreported, 717 were pneumonia cases at the San Francisco Hospital.

## DEATH RATE HEAVY

The death rate is said to have been particularly heavy in the Italian

rate for natives of Italy resident in this city is not more than twenty each month, the records of the Board of Health, show the deaths of 110 since this influenza epidemic started. This, of course, takes no account of persons born in this country of Italian parents.

The arrival of 50,000 doses of Leary vaccine from Boston last night in charge of Edward E. Moore, secretary to Mayor Andrew J. Peters of Boston, brought the available quantity of vaccine in this city up to a point where it is now said that there is as much as the doctors of the city can handle.

## PHYSICIANS GET SUPPLIES

The supplies have been distributed generally to physicians and to hospitals for free inoculation of the public. The chief depot in the city for the administration of the vaccine is at the Central Emergency Hospital, where at least one surgeon is on duty day and night for this purpose. Yesterday there was a constant procession of men and women through the operating room where the vaccine is administered. Altogether more than 700 doses have been given at the Central Emergency Hospital since the vaccine was first available last Friday night.

Other depots where inoculation with the vaccine may be had free of charge are the Children's Clinic at the Children's Hospital, Lane Hospital, the University of California Hospital, the Fairmont Hospital and the Harbor Emergency Hospital. Mount

Zion Hospital is giving free of charge inoculations of Leary vaccine to all who apply at the dispensary, 1607 Scott street, near Post, Superintendent Louis C. Levy announced yesterday.

## MANY INOCULATED

The vaccine is given hypodermically in three doses at intervals of twenty-four hours. The first of the subjects in this city to receive their third "shot" were given it Sunday night. Hospital stewards and nurses who had the third dose were at their work as usual yesterday. Some of them said they had had the slight headache and fever that was expected to follow the inoculation, while others said they had felt no effects at all.

The St. Francis Hotel received from Indianapolis last Friday a shipment of vaccine for the inoculation of the 800 employes of the hotel. The work of vaccinating the employes began Saturday and was continued yesterday. Scores of employes, from the executive staff down to the bell-hops, have been vaccinated.

A warning was issued yesterday by Health Officer Hassler that no precaution should be omitted by the person who has been given the Leary treatment. Masks, he said, should be worn continuously. A person who has been made immune, he said, might still act as a carrier and communicate the disease to others. Particularly, he added, should persons who have recovered from an attack of influenza continue to wear the mask. Such persons, he said, are able to communi-

weeks afterward. All who have had the influenza, he warned, should wear their masks at home for the protection of other members of the family.

Because of the epidemic all the member banks of the San Francisco Clearing-house Association put into effect yesterday an order to close at 2 P. M. instead of 3. On Saturdays the banks will close at noon as heretofore. The rule is to remain in effect until further notice.