

San Franciscans

Again Don Masks Next Friday

SUPERVISORS PASS ORDINANCE TO PROTECT CITY AGAINST FURTHER SPREAD OF MALADY

Board Rushes Law to Print Following Wrangle; Nelson Only Member to Vote Against Measure

SAN FRANCISCO will remask next Friday night.

The Board of Supervisors passed the mask ordinance to print yesterday. The vote stood 15 to 1, Supervisor Charles A. Nelson voting against the ordinance. Supervisor Joseph Mulvihill, himself ill with influenza, sent word to the Board to have the minutes of the meeting record him as in favor of passing the ordinance to print. Supervisor Eugene Schmidt was in Sacramento.

Despite assurance from the Mayor that the majority of members of the Board of Supervisors had made up their minds to re-enact the mask ordinance and that no arguments would change their votes, members of the Board permitted debate.

CITIZENS PROTEST ACT

Before the debate had ended the Supervisors were told by citizens opposed to the mask that everything from thoughts of health to a Russian patent food would prevent and cure influenza. May Dillonbeck told the Mayor and Supervisors that the situation would cure itself if the municipal authorities cleaned up the city, the water supply and the sidewalks. One man, past 80, asserted he would not wear the mask and defied the authorities to arrest him. The Mayor invited him to sit upon the platform and the invitation was accepted.

MASKS HIGHLY PRAISED

Representatives of the County Medical Society told the Board of Supervisors that the mask was the best preventive against the disease. President A. H. Barendt of the Board of Health asserted the Board "was trying to save lives and protect health," and that the mask was the only known means of doing so. "We want to put out this blaze," said Barendt, "and we don't want you to hold us back any longer."

Dr. William C. Hassler, Health Officer, told the Board the mask was necessary to prevent drastic steps such as closing the places of amusement and prohibiting public gatherings. He asserted that up to 5 o'clock there had been 612 cases and 37 deaths.

Supervisor Nelson in voting against passage of the ordinance to print told the Supervisors that exemptions should be made by physicians' certificates that the masks would prove injurious in certain cases. He asserted 91½ per cent of the population of San Francisco was against wearing the masks and pointed to the danger of musicians being arrested as they blow their horns going down

the street and of the stilling of song in the throats of singers by policemen backed by the mask ordinance.

Supervisor Gallagher, who introduced the ordinance, asserted that the police had common sense and that no musicians or singers had been arrested as they sang or blew their horns. Gallagher refused to consider an amendment or elimination of the penalty and the matter was put to a vote.

"WOULD-BE TRAGEDY"

Mme. Grosjean told the Board passage of the ordinance "would be a tragedy." Supervisor Gallagher twice interrupted the speaker upon the claim he was misquoted. When the speaker said Gallagher had told a friend that he had not worn the mask during the life of the original ordinance Gallagher denied making the statement.

When the ordinance had been passed to print, Gallagher urged the Mayor to ask all heads of municipal departments to use their efforts to induce employes and the public to remask before the ordinance becomes effective. The Mayor promised to do so.

MANY NURSES NEEDED

Mrs. L. M. Hall, manager of the Board of Health relief committee, reported that she was short eighty-five nurses last night and that 100 will be needed by this morning. "The situation is really urgent," she said, "as many of these cases are badly in need of nurses."