

INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC IS ON WAY WEST

Tremendous Increase in Death Rate in Army Camps Reported to Authorities in Washington

Commandant Harry George of the Island Navy Yard yesterday ordered the yard quarantined to prevent the spread of influenza. One case has developed. Officers and shipyard workers living in Vallejo are permitted to go back and forth. The navy men will not be permitted to take part in the Liberty Loan parade and the football schedule has been cancelled.

WASHINGTON, September 27.—Spanish influenza, sweeping through all but thirteen of the army camps and apparently beyond control in many Eastern communities, has caused a tremendous increase in the death rate of the army at home.

For the week ending September 20 the Surgeon General's office reported to-day the death rate was 4.4 per cent, compared with 2.3 per cent the preceding week.

Six thousand eight hundred and twenty-four new cases were reported to the office of the surgeon general of the army during the twenty-four-hour period ending at noon. This was an increase of 685 over the new cases reported yesterday, and brought the total for all camps to 42,367.

Pneumonia cases showed a slight decrease, 717 new cases being reported to-day, compared with 723 yesterday. Deaths to-day were 170, mostly from pneumonia.

Apparently the situation at Camp Devens, Mass., has been gotten into hand. For the second successive day there was a decrease in the number of new cases reported. The number of new pneumonia cases also decreased. Influenza is increasing at Camp Pike, Ark.

The Surgeon General's office said the epidemic may be expected to sweep westward with a still greater increase in mortality in the next few weeks.

MILLION TO FIGHT DISEASE.

After consulting with health officials, Senator Weeks of Massachusetts today introduced a resolution appropriating \$1,000,000 for the public health service's campaign. The resolution was referred to the appropriations committee, Majority Leader Martin promising its prompt consideration as "matter of vital importance."

Provost Marshal General Crowder, discussing the postponement of October draft calls on account of Spanish influenza, said no serious delay to the military programme would result.

STATE CALL CANCELED.

SACRAMENTO, September 27.—Adjutant General Borree this afternoon received official instruction from Provost Marshal Crowder that the October 7 draft calls of 1,976 men to Camp Kearny and 400 men to Camp Lewis have been canceled, due to the Spanish influenza epidemic. The order does not affect the call for 600 dited service men to entrain for Fort McDowell, beginning September 30.

RUSH AID TO BOSTON.

BOSTON, September 27.—Word that scores of physicians and nurses were being rushed to Massachusetts from various sections of the country in answer to the State's call for aid in fighting the epidemic of influenza and the weather bureau's promise of continued sunshine, admittedly the best preventive of the disease, greatly encouraged local and State health officers today.