

# INFLUENZA IN S. F. INCREASED BY 207 CASES

San Francisco Hospital Ordered Turned Over to Victims of Disease; Barber Shops Warned

Health Authorities to Discuss Plan of Closing Dance Halls, Theatres, Churches and Schools

Spanish influenza in San Francisco yesterday was increased by 207 cases. To date there have been 903 cases reported to the Board of Health.

More drastic precautions have been ordered, and others are being considered by the Public Health authorities to curb spread.

The street railways yesterday were ordered by Dr. William C. Hassler, health officer, to keep the windows of all the street cars open at all times unless the weather forbids.

Following this action an important conference was held at the Board of Health last night.

It was decided by the Health Board to devote the San Francisco Hospital wholly to the care of influenza cases, and to find other room for the other patients now in the hospital. This action will provide upward of 300 beds, and the Red Cross has undertaken to provide the extra beds needed by the hospital. A canvass of the private hospitals in the city for the purpose of knowing how many cases could be given hospital treatment in case of an unexpected increase in the epidemic brought the information that all the private hospitals are now working to capacity. But the Health Board decided that in an emergency the private hospitals would be required to handle all emergency and general disease cases.

## BARBERS WARNED.

Owners of barber shops were advised by the health officers yesterday to guard against the spread of influenza by watching the health of their employees.

This action was taken after a general notice had been issued to owners of all theatres that any patron sneezing in the audience should be immediately requested to leave.

Dr. Hassler stated that a special meeting would be held today to consider the advisability of closing churches, theatres and schools.

Three physicians and four nurses in the public health service and three social workers employed by the Board of Health were attacked by influenza yesterday.

Dr. Hassler stated that the three social workers contracted the disease while inspecting public dance halls.

The corps of volunteer doctors organized Saturday is ready to care for those patients who are unable to employ medical attention. Cases from this source should be reported to the Board of Health.

## RULES APPROVED.

The following requirements, recommendations and suggestions of the Board of Health are approved by the Committee on Influenza of the San Francisco Chapter of Red Cross, and strict compliance with them is urgently requested:

**STREET CARS**—All street car windows should be kept open. If you must use street cars, avoid doing so during rush hours.

**DANCING**—You are urgently requested to refrain from dancing in public places, as this is one of the most active and harmful means of spreading infection, through the dust raised, close contact with people and intermingling of breaths.

**CROWDS**—Avoid congregating in crowds, as infection easily becomes wide-spread and the greater the number of people gathered together in any one place the more far reaching will be the harm.

**NURSES**—Release all trained nurses from private service except where the illness is such as to make the use of a nurse absolutely necessary. Many more nurses are needed than are available.

**HOSPITALS**—Hospitals are requested not to take in any cases which do not absolutely demand hospital care. This is necessary in order to have the greatest number of beds possible available for influenza cases.

**PUPIL NURSES**—These should volunteer for additional hours' work each day over their regular hours, thereby releasing a large number of graduate nurses for influenza cases. These are badly needed.

**CLEANLINESS**—Streets should be kept particularly clean and it is vital that personal cleanliness be given unusual attention, particularly as to children.

**REPORT CASES**—All cases should be reported immediately to the Board of Health; the patient put to bed at once and a doctor called, regardless of how light the illness appears to be. If this is done, there is little danger of serious results, but a few hours' delay is extremely dangerous.

**DOCTOR'S ORDERS**—Be certain to follow your doctor's orders to the letter, especially when he tells you to remain in bed a certain number of days after you feel perfectly well.

Motion picture theatres in Berkeley were ordered closed yesterday by Mayor Irving. All student gatherings other than class meetings have been stopped at the University of California, where there are several cases of influenza. One death occurred in Berkeley.

Miss Grace Rowe, a teacher, died yesterday of influenza at her home in Alameda.

Several few cases were reported in Oakland, but the situation is believed to be well in hand.

## HELPED STOP EPIDEMIC.

**JEROME (Ariz.), October 14.**—Officials of the health service here announced today that the closing of schools, theatres and churches had aided in the control of influenza. They said they believed the peak of the epidemic was past. There have been 100 deaths here attributed directly to the epidemic and 55 additional deaths believed to be traceable to it.