

ALL THEATRES ARE CLOSED TO PREVENT EPIDEMIC

Action Taken After Conference
Between City, State and Federal
Agents; Applies at Once

Influenza Inroads Grow More
Serious, Say Officials; 743
New Cases, 15 Deaths Reported

Theatres, moving picture houses, dance halls, and all other places of amusement in San Francisco were ordered closed for an indefinite period at a special meeting of the Board of Health last night, to insure a speedy control of the Spanish influenza epidemic.

Decision also was reached to close schools, churches and to prohibit even the appearance of performers at cabarets until further notice. Parties in private homes are included in the ban.

The closing order was effective at 1 o'clock this morning and the chief of police was directed to see that the demands of the Board of Health are strictly adhered to.

Liberty Loan meetings are not to be held in any public place or STATE BOARD MEETS TO-DAY.
A meeting of the State Board of Health has been called for today, at which orders similar to those decided upon by the city health authorities are expected to be operative throughout California immediately.

Present at the special meeting last night were officials of the city, State and Federal health departments, representatives of practically every local theatre, moving picture house and cabaret. Mayor James D. Clark, Dr. Moore, director of the State Council of Defense; doctors and other prominent in civic life.

A unanimous agreement was voted at the action of the Board of Health. Representatives of entertainment houses strongly urged the indefinite closing of all places where people are apt to gather in order that the disease will be eradicated quickly.

743 NEW CASES.
Dr. William C. Hassler, city health officer, said last night that there were 743 new cases of Spanish influenza reported yesterday and fifteen deaths. This brings the total number of cases in this city since the outbreak on Oct. 2, 1918, and the total number of deaths to 842 and eight.

He said that of the 2,867 cases reported up to the present active, leaving 651 who have recovered. The disease lasts from four to five days unless complications set in, he declared.

Medical men explained that the epidemic will last probably from three to five weeks longer. At the same time it is expected to be suppressed absolutely.

Mayor Tolp, who was forced to leave early, assured the Board of Health that he will support fully any action deemed upon.

ACTION COMES LATE: MOORE.
Director Moore of the State Council of Defense said he was amazed that the State Board of Health and the Governor had not taken such prompt action earlier to prevent the gathering of large crowds.

Captain David C. Kieren of the 10th Infantry department, representing the White, said that orders had been issued to instruct persons found exposed in theatres, moving picture houses, etc. He further stated that military officers have been instructed to inform people seen sneezing in public places, and to advise their superiors.

1830 CASES IN OAKLAND.
Dr. E. F. Jones, Oakland public health officer, said last night that 1,830 cases of influenza and 15 deaths had been reported in that city. Nothing was mentioned in those places of amusement in other bay cities.

Up to a late hour last night there were 76 Spanish influenza patients at the San Francisco hospital. Accommodations are being taxed exceedingly. It was said, but a limited number of beds are being held for those whose condition is such as to warrant their being sent to the institution.

All Public Meetings Are Banned Under City Order

The following is a proclamation issued by the Board of Health last night at a special meeting to consider the Spanish influenza epidemic:

Whereas, There exists at this time in the city and county of San Francisco and throughout the State of California an epidemic of Spanish influenza of the virulent type; and

Whereas, The number of cases, to wit, 2,867, now existing in San Francisco, and the daily increasing number reported by physicians, indicate a very grave situation which can only be met by the most radical measures; therefore

It is moved, seconded and carried that the Board of Health hereby directs the health officer to carry out the following measures for the protection of health and in order to insure a speedy control of the present epidemic of influenza; closing

All places of amusement, including theatres, moving picture houses, concert halls, dance halls and dances in cabarets, cafes and hotels, and all forms of entertainment in any or all of them.

All lodge and fraternal meetings and gatherings.

All penny arcades, merry-go-rounds and other or similar types of public amusement places.

All private dances, balls, club gatherings and social gatherings of whatsoever nature and kind.

And further:

That all Sunday School classes, church services and socials be discontinued.

That all Red Cross activities be eliminated with the exception of such war activities agreed upon by the health officer and a Red Cross committee.

That community singing be discontinued.

That the Municipal Auditorium be closed during the prevalence of the epidemic.

That a permit must be secured from the Board of Health before any public meeting can be held.

That the chief of police be requested to act in accordance with this proclamation and see that the orders of the Board of Health are obeyed.

That all public and private schools and kindergartens be closed until further notice.

This proclamation shall go into effect at 1 a. m. on Friday, October 18, 1918.

OPEN AD BEST REMEDY FOR INFLUENZA

-DR. WOODS HUTCHINSON
Famous Boston Physician, Visitor
in San Francisco, Advises as to
Care of Epidemic Victims

The open air treatment is the best and only treatment for Spanish influenza in the opinion of Dr. Woods Hutchinson, famous physician of Boston, who arrived at the Palace Hotel yesterday.

Dr. Hutchinson came to San Francisco to advise with the State Social Insurance Commission on details of the proposed State social insurance bill. He is, however, a proponent of the working of Lloyd George's famous social insurance legislation in England and will communicate to the commission the views of the many promoters of the plan of special hearings which are to take place at the Palace Hotel on Monday and Tuesday concerning treatment of influenza. Dr. Hutchinson said:

My advice to persons showing the symptoms of Spanish influenza is to go to bed and to place their beds on the porch or on the open air, having such facilities to be provided as to permit the fresh air in the great panacea for the influenza evil, and in addition to this the patients should be fed food which is rich in vitamins, called for and they should be given plenty of fruit juice and milk.

In Boston, out of 100,000 cases, 100,000 died, and in California, of hospital cases, 20 to 30 per cent of patients died, whereas in the patients who slept in tents only 10 per cent died.

I am hopeful that, with better social conditions and with a better climate, the epidemic will not be so severe as in the past. This influenza is the same as that which visited us in 1830, with this difference, that the 1830 epidemic principally affected the lungs, and was not so deadly as the present epidemic, which affects the lungs. In general terms, it may be said that the epidemic is attacking more than 10 per cent of the population of our cities, and of those affected one in 30 or 60 dies.

It is a mistake to close the public schools. Theatres and such places should be closed by all means, for where the public congregates indiscriminately. But with our present good methods of school hygiene, I consider children are safer in schools than when they are running about back alleys, playing in back yards or running into each other's houses.

It should also advise the public to don gauze masks in street cars, and in other places where crowding takes place.

Dr. Hutchinson recently returned from a visit to all the European fronts. He expressed his surprise that the Spanish influenza had affected Europe only in a very mild form, compared to its vicious attacks in America, saying:

"In Europe the influenza has been comparatively mild. In Spain only 600 persons died, and England only had 2,000 deaths. No one knows or understands why it shows up so bad here, nor can we comprehend why it attacks almost exclusively persons between 20 and 45 years of age."

Dr. Hutchinson scouted the idea, which has been frequently advanced and practiced, that the consumption of alcohol and whiskey was a preventive against the disease.

He said: "Do not take whiskey against the influenza. It does not kill the germs; they are too tough. Whiskey merely stimulates for a moment, and then it depresses the heart and weakens the fighting power."

Dr. Hutchinson is high in his praise of the working of social insurance in

U. S. DIRECTING CALIFORNIA 'FLU' WINDUP

INFLUENZA FIGHT CASES 19,000

WASHINGTON, October 17.—The public health service now is actively directing the fight against Spanish influenza in thirty states in addition to the whole of New England and the District of Columbia. Particular attention is being given to providing nurses and consulting physicians for these communities where the doctors are unable to meet all calls made on them. The epidemic continues to spread in many sections. In a few States the number of new cases is showing decreases.

Joseph Kelly, chief deputy to the coroner and consulting physician for the Hospital, a victim of the epidemic. He was taken ill two days ago. Kelly resided with his wife at 1274 Twenty-third avenue and was one of the most widely known attaches of the coroner's office.

A new wave of influenza in all camps during the 24-hour period up to that time totaled 4,454, as against 5,465 the day before. Pneumonia cases decreased from 1,819 to 1,809 and deaths were 684, a decrease from yesterday's total.

Reports on the influenza situation were received from 18 states. Most of these dealt with conditions as they existed several days ago and added little to news dispatches previously sent out from the States affected. They showed that the disease had reached epidemic proportions in Nebraska and was spreading in California, New York, Missouri, Kentucky, Iowa, Illinois, North Dakota, Ohio, Washington and Wisconsin. Conditions were described as serious in Oregon, Minnesota, West Virginia and Tennessee.

The federal aid fund for fighting the epidemic, Senator Lewis of Illinois today introduced a bill in the Senate to appropriate \$10,000,000 in addition to the \$10,000,000 already provided by Congress. The money would be expended through the health departments of States and municipalities.

PULL ASSEMBLIES CLOSED.
SACRAMENTO, October 17.—An order closing all places of public assemblage in Sacramento was issued today surgically, immediately, because of influenza. Schools were excluded.

"We have received reports of 112 cases and we do not believe the epidemic has been reached in Sacramento," said Health Commissioner G. C. Simpson.

Influenza Kills Soldier.
MARYSVILLE, October 17.—Lawrence Gray, 23 years old, son of Mrs. Mary Gray of this city, who enlisted in the Cavalry Reserve about a year ago, died Tuesday at the Mare Island Navy Yard from influenza. Besides a mother he is survived by three brothers, among whom is Dr. Everett Gray, lieutenant at Camp Kearney, and Supervisor Will Gray of Sutter county, and two sisters.

SACRAMENTO, October 17.—Spanish influenza cases in California now total 19,000, according to reports received by the State Board of Health up to 5 o'clock this afternoon.

Guy R. Jones, assistant secretary of the board, said there was still a gradual increase in the epidemic throughout the State. He said the disease is twice as prevalent in the smaller cities as in the metropolitan areas.

Deaths from influenza were reported today from the following cities: Pasadena 2, Oakland 5, San Diego 2, Tulare county 1, Los Angeles 9, San Francisco 1.

SUBSIDING IN SAN JOSE.
SAN JOSE, October 17.—The influenza epidemic in this city is slowly subsiding. Most cases reported today were from families already having a case reported. It will be several days, however, before public places are again opened.

29 DIE AT FREMONT.
SAN JOSE (CAL), October 17.—Twenty-nine men have died in the present epidemic at Camp Fremont from pneumonia superinduced by Spanish influenza, according to an official report made today.

There have been 177 cases. Colonel Smith division surgeon declared that the influenza peril at Camp Fremont is passed.

2 DIE AT SAN MATEO.
SAN MATEO, October 17.—Influenza claimed its second victim here when Mrs. Pauline V. Blanchard, wife of John N. Blanchard, died today after an attack of only a few days. She was 36 years old and leaves a husband and two children. Thurlow Murray, 23, died yesterday morning of pneumonia.

RECEIVED FOR LIBERTY BUREAU

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