

50,000 CASES FORESEEN BY DR. HUTCHINSON

Eminent Expert Says San Francisco Is Confronted With Serious Spanish Influenza Epidemic

Red Cross to Make Vigorous Campaign, Co-Operating With Public Health, Federal Officials

San Francisco is confronted with a most serious situation in the Spanish influenza epidemic, which must be met by the utmost effort on the part of every citizen, according to Dr. Woods Hutchinson, the eminent expert, yesterday at a special meeting at the San Francisco Red Cross headquarters.

Dr. Hutchinson said, in his opinion, there would be not less than 50,000 cases here to cope with, and that open-air hospitals must eventually be provided to meet the emergency.

He emphasized before the Red Cross officials and the Department of Health officials the importance of exertion to the utmost to fight the spread of the disease and infection.

He asserted that he based this partly on his very recent experiences in Boston, where the epidemic had reached a most alarming stage.

RED CROSS TO GO TO LIMIT

Upon that expert opinion the Red Cross decided to go to the limit of their resources to bring before the people of San Francisco the seriousness of the situation, which up to this time, it was said, had not been fully impressed on the public mind.

To that end the most vigorous campaign is being worked out by the Red Cross co-operating with the Public Health officials and those of the Federal Government.

At a meeting last night the San Francisco Chapter districted the city into nine divisions, each of which will have a local headquarters in charge of social welfare and food supply for the stricken homes of the district.

Twelve volunteer workers will be needed by each of the district committees, to assist with the care of children and various other duties, as distinguished from the work of doctors and special nurses, all of whom will now be supplied by the Board of Health.

IN HEALTH BOARD'S HANDS.

The new arrangement places the supplying of doctors and trained nurses entirely in the hands of the Board of Health, leaving the influenza committee of the Red Cross to devote all its energies to the matter of food supply and social welfare in the homes.

Following is a list of the districts with headquarters, and those in charge:

San Bruno district—Mrs. Matilda Eberg, headquarters to be announced later.

Mission district—Mrs. James Rolph, Jr. and Mrs. L. Birnbaum, headquarters, Sixteenth and Julian streets.

Potrero district—Mrs. H. A. Williams, headquarters, Jackson-street playgrounds.

Richmond district—Mrs. James Kerrigan, headquarters, Star of the Sea auxiliary, Fifth and Clement streets.

Telegraph Hill—Miss Alice Griffith and Miss Johnson of the Telegraph Hill settlement, headquarters, 1730 Stockton street.

Western Addition—Mrs. Milton W. Rosenblatt, headquarters, California and Webster streets.

Sunset district—Mrs. J. Jamison, headquarters, Eighth avenue and Irving street.

Red Cross Shop district—Mrs. John Metcalfe, headquarters, 332 Stockton street.

St. Agnes district—Mrs. John Dillon, headquarters, 1032 Page street.

CITY TO HAVE 70 AUTOS.

Lieutenant Strong of the Twelfth Naval District medical staff, reported that 70 men, motor cars and ambulances would immediately be placed at the service of the city.

The action of the Health Department in requiring that face masks be worn at all times in public and in private, was indorsed.

Those present included John A. Britton, chairman of the San Francisco Chapter; Harry R. Bogart, manager of the chapter; Dr. W. C. Hassler, Health Officer; E. H. L. Gregory, chairman of the Red Cross influenza committee; Lieutenant Strong, U. S. N.; Dr. R. G. Broderick, superintendent of San Francisco Hospital; Dr. Woods Hutchinson, Dr. Somers and Lawrence Einstein, Board of Health Commissioners; and Arthur H. Barendt, president of the Board of Health.