

99 PER CENT OF CITIZENS WEAR MASKS

Health Officer Hassler Confident
That Public Co-operation Will
Cause Abatement of Epidemic

Yesterday's Reports, While Serious,
Include Cases That Ought
to Have Been Reported Before

Captain Harry George, commandant of the Mare Island navy yard, has acceded to a request to aid in the battle in San Francisco against the influenza epidemic by sending down a complete naval hospital corps' outfit to be installed in the new Red Cross buildings in the Civic Center next Wednesday.

Announcement to this effect was made last night by John A. Britton, chairman of the Red Cross, who was elated at this promise of co-operation from the Mare Island navy yard.

The corps to be sent down by Captain George will consist of five doctors, forty orderlies, sixty laboratory assistants, a master-at-arms, a cook and two assistants.

Two hundred beds will be installed in the Civic Center, and the influenza patients will have the benefit of the constant services of the naval unit.

Ninety-nine per cent of the people on the streets of San Francisco yesterday were masked. This is the estimate of Health Officer William C. Hassler.

"It is one of the best signs of the spirit of San Francisco in meeting this situation, that this large proportion of them at once complied with the law and co-operated with the health authorities," declared Dr. Hassler. "The period of incubation is from one to three days and we are very hopeful that the good effect of this general masking will be shown in a lower report of new cases and deaths in the next few days."

Reports of the influenza situation up to 5 o'clock yesterday were as follows:

New cases reported yesterday	2,005
Deaths yesterday	94
Cases since beginning	12,223
Total deaths	477

MANY REPORTS DELAYED.

By no means all of the new cases reported yesterday developed during the day.

Some of the "new" cases came to the attention of physicians as long ago as October 22.

The physicians of San Francisco have been so busy that many have not had time to make a formal report every day.

For this reason Dr. Hassler has asked every physician to forego making a complete report when pressed for time, and to telephone the number of new cases daily, sending in a full report later.

This warning was issued by Dr. Hassler:

I ask everybody to continue to wear the masks no matter what somebody tells you. Experience shows that when physicians and nurses working among patients down with influenza are careful to wear masks they do not contract the complaint. When they are careless, they do contract influenza. That is the best reason in the world for every one to continue to wear the masks.

DON'T SMOKE ON CARS.

Dr. Hassler added a word about the practice of many who lower or raise their masks on the street cars to indulge in a smoke. Dr. Hassler's advice is "Don't."

To a question as to whether there should be public concerts in the Park and other places tomorrow, Dr. Hassler said he saw no reason for stopping these open-air gatherings so long as everybody gets masked.

He would offer no suggestion as to the period that this siege of influenza will continue beyond saying that in the military camps the usual course has been about two months, the men being under orders to comply with every regulation.

It all depends on the willingness of people to go masked and see that others do.

SERUM READY TUESDAY.

Anti-influenza serum culture is going ahead well at the University of California, at the laboratories of the Board of Health and at the Cutter Laboratories.

By Tuesday at the latest it is believed there will be enough serum ready for the treatment of all comers.

Stations will be established at the University of California Medical College, at the Lane College, at the Children's Hospital and other places where the public will be treated.

TEMPORARY HOME PROVIDED.

City authorities yesterday placed the Juvenile Detention Home in Mission street at the disposal of the Red Cross for the care of children who have been exposed to influenza.

Children of parents who have been attacked by the disease, but have not themselves developed illness, will be sent there for observation.

Should the children develop influenza they will be sent to St. Vincent's School, one of the buildings made available by Archbishop Hannan, where they will be treated.

J. C. Astuda is in charge of the