

GAUZE MASKS PREVAIL UNTIL FLU IS EXTINGUISHED

Health Officer Declares San Francisco Will Wear Them Until East Conquers Plague

marked Decrease in New Cases Reported; Were 77 Deaths and 531 New Cases Yesterday

"San Francisco will continue to wear gauze masks until the epidemic has been brought under control in the Eastern cities where it is still raging."

Such is the decision of Dr. William C. Hassler, health officer for San Francisco.

In the meantime the Board of Health will not reopen the theatres and all health restrictions will continue in force until further notice.

New cases of influenza in this city for the past twenty-four hours until 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon totaled 531. Seventy-two of these bore dates between October 25 and 31, and 378 had dates of November 1, 2 and 3. Only eighty-one cases were reported by phone.

77 DEATHS YESTERDAY.

Seventy-seven deaths were reported yesterday.

San Francisco's decrease in the number of Spanish influenza cases and the success achieved here in combating the disease has brought a flood of telegraph inquiries from Eastern cities as to the methods used here.

"Gauze masks." This was the only answer dispatched by Dr. W. C. Hassler, local health officer. Today all the large population centers over the nation are donning the "flu mask," which first became popular here. San Francisco had achieved such a signal victory that even Uncle Sam ordered the use of masks on the army transports en route to France, while the Legislature of the State of Washington made the wearing of the mask compulsory there.

Harry Zemansky, Registrar of Voters, last night declared that the police officers at each polling booth today would enforce the law pertaining to the wearing of masks by the citizens and that he had cautioned all the election officials who will occupy the booths that the law applies to them as well.