

MASK RULING TO BE ACTED UPON MONDAY

Business Men Declare Deaths
From Influenza Not Increasing;
Dr. Hassler Takes Issue

Mayor Rolph Decides Not to
Call Special Meeting of Supervisors
to Pass Ordinance

As the result of a meeting between the Mayor, Board of Health and representatives of the downtown business men yesterday afternoon the question of again making influenza masks compulsory was put over until next Monday's meeting of the Board of Supervisors. Whether the influenza has again reached such proportions as will warrant the passage of a mask ordinance was a question over which there was a wide difference of opinion.

R. V. Ross, representing the Christian Scientists, said the public was sceptical as to whether the masks were any preventive whatever of the influenza.

As against this view was the Board of Health which was unanimous in its opinion that the masks would stop the spread of influenza and it was only a question of how many deaths there would have to be each day before the public will demand them.

While the figures have not been made up for December 10 as far as reported the cases on December 1 numbered 123 and Tuesday's cases 176 with others to be heard from.

John Tait, representing the business men, produced the figures for the number of deaths for the first ten days in December, 1917 and 1918, and attempted to show that relatively there was no more sickness now than a year ago.

Dr. W. C. Hassler disputed the figures and said that to take but ten days was not a fair test and quoted figures for three months that took in the entire influenza period.

Mayor Rolph decided that it was not feasible to call a special session of the Supervisors this week, on short notice, and that the question of the ordinance will have to go over until Monday. In the meantime, however, he told the Board of Health that by that time it could be determined whether the influenza is greatly on the increase so that the Supervisors would feel justified in the passage of another mask ordinance.