

U.S. Army Base Hospital,  
Fort Sam Houston, Texas.  
December 3, 1918.

Mrs. R. G. Hazard,

Peace Dale, R. I.

Dear Madam:

Your son, Lieut. Thomas P. Hazard,  
is a patient in this hospital suffering from what is  
apparently a mild attack of influenza.

It is the custom of this  
institution to immediately inform those near and dear  
to the soldiers when they are sick.

At present he is doing nicely  
and receiving every attention. Should any changes  
take place for the worse, we will immediately  
notify you by wire.

Very respectfully,

AAB/SC  
*AKJ*

*F.C.A. Kellam, Jr.*

(F.C.A. Kellam, Jr.)  
Lieut. Col. ~~Major~~ Medical Corps, U.S. Army,  
Commanding.



CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L
If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.	

# WESTERN UNION



# TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

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RECEIVED AT 87 FAIRFIELD AVE. (NEAR MAIN ST.), BRIDGEPORT, CONN. ALWAYS  
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160NYA 22 1EX RUSH

PEACEDALE RI 1210P DEC 9 18

MRS M P B HAZARD

159  
CR TRAIN 173 COLONIAL EXPRESS DUE 122P BRIDGEPORT

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM VANAUKEN FORTSAMHOUSTON PIERRE HAS PNEUMONIA  
THINK YOU HAD BETTER COME AT ONCE WIRE WHEN YOU WILL ARRIVE STLOUIS.

M I MERRILL

113P



Sept 15

# 25 SAILORS IN CITY HAVE SPANISH GRIP

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Epidemic Prevalent in Atlantic  
Ports Hits Providence.

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## NAVY LADS IN HOSPITAL

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Enlisted Men Taken to St. Joseph's  
from Rumford Rifle Range in  
Past Few Days Suffering from  
Malady.—Dr. Chapin Looks for  
Spread of Disease.

The grip, not the old-fashioned kind that for many years was a regular caller here each winter, but the very latest brand that originated not long ago in Spain, and which has since been leisurely traversing the globe, has struck Providence, according to Superintendent of Health Chapin, and the city is threatened with an epidemic of the disease.

Some weeks ago when cases of Spanish influenza began to crop up in New York physicians here started to look out for it in Providence, believing that this city could not long escape it in view of the constant traffic between the two cities and the excellent opportunity for transmitting a contagious disease thus afforded.

Although none of the local physicians had ever seen a case of the malady they were thoroughly familiar with the symptoms, and it was not long before reports of suspects began to reach the office of the Superintendent of Health.

Among the first cases noted were those of a number of the Naval Reserves from Newport who were on duty at the State Rifle Range at Rumford and within a few days, 12 of these men were sent to St. Joseph's Hospital with well defined symptoms of the disease.

Friday, 11 more bluejackets were stricken and sent to St. Joseph's, making the total number now there 23, who are suffering from what, as near as the physicians are able to diagnose, is Spanish influenza.

Other cases are coming in from different sections of Providence and the Health authorities are satisfied that the city is in for a siege of the disease which made things so disagreeable in Spain, France and England only a short time ago.

According to Dr. Chapin, the malady as it is appearing here is very much the same as the old-fashioned grip, except that its course is much shorter and it is less serious in its effects.

The symptoms are much the same, the victim at first suffering from cold in the head, followed by fever, headache and backache. In some cases a cough accompanies the disease, and these are said to be the most serious cases, sometimes developing into pneumonia.

The disease is highly contagious, but, according to Dr. Chapin, little can be done to guard against it, because of the fact that the period of incubation is so short that the cases are not easily recognized and isolation will accomplish little or nothing.

"There is not much that can be done to avoid the Spanish influenza," Dr. Chapin said yesterday. "There are so many cases up and about that it is practically impossible to guard against the disease.

"If people talk and cough in your face, move away from them. Avoid crowds. When in doubt as to symptoms that may be developing, stay at home and call a physician. It is the only place for people with the grip."



October 3 -

# Spanish Influenza is Cause of 46 Deaths in State in Past 24 Hours

## Epidemic Assumes Serious Aspect in Rhode Island, Fatalities During Day Reaching New High Mark

28 Persons in Providence and Eight at Newport Are Latest Victims of Disease.—Additional Cities and Towns Close Schools.—Dr. Chapin Takes Action to Ascertain Exact Situation in This City

With 46 deaths reported yesterday the Spanish influenza epidemic is assuming a serious aspect in this State. The number of deaths reported during the last 24 hours is the highest since the epidemic hit Rhode Island. It is impossible to estimate the number of new cases yesterday, although it is not believed to be extremely large.

While Newport with 191 new cases and eight deaths yesterday continues to be the centre of the epidemic in this State, there were 28 deaths reported in Providence yesterday. Pawtucket reported three deaths. Outside of Rhode Island in near-by cities and towns deaths were reported as follows: Fall River six, Attleboro one, Taunton four and North Attleboro two. Several Rhode Islanders died yesterday in other parts of the country.

The situation in Rhode Island has become so serious that additional cities and towns decided yesterday to close their schools. Action toward this end was taken in Woonsocket, Pawtucket and Warwick, and in Seekonk, Mass. Superintendent Isaac O. Winslow of the Providence public schools said last evening that no action seems necessary here at the present time.

Steps to ascertain the exact situation were taken yesterday morning by Dr. Charles V. Chapin, Superintendent of Health of Providence.

Every physician in the city has been asked to report immediately every case of influenza or pneumonia under his care at the present time.

### VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

A call for volunteer workers was issued yesterday by the Providence District Nursing Association, as its force is overwhelmed with demands for service which it is unable to render.

There are many cases where every member in the family is ill, and in such cases there is an opportunity for some woman to go and take charge of things until the family is able to care for itself.

Large printed notices advising persons with colds or coughs not to enter, have

been placed by order of Dr. Chapin at every public assembling place, such as churches, theatres, bowling alleys, and other resorts and halls.

Until the reports from the physicians of the city are received, there is no way of telling the number of cases, but the authorities are of the opinion that the epidemic is not increasing. Good weather, it is said, will undoubtedly aid materially in reducing the danger of infection.

### DOCTORS ASKED TO REPORT

Dr. Charles V. Chapin, Superintendent of Health, yesterday sent to every physician in Providence a postcard notice asking for an immediate report on the number of influenza and pneumonia cases each physician has under his care. The doctors are also asked to express their opinion as to whether the disease is increasing or on the wane here.

Daniel E. Stoddard, a salesman for Young Brothers Company, died early yesterday at his home, 206 Adelaide avenue, of double pneumonia, which developed from an attack of grip. He was 26 years old and was treasurer of the Calvary Young Men's Business Club.

Mr. Stoddard was born in Warren and secured a business education in Providence schools. He was employed by the Revere Rubber Company at one time. Mr. Stoddard was a member of Calvary Baptist Church and St. Johns Lodge of Masons. He is survived by his father, Daniel W. Stoddard; his wife, Anna Elizabeth Stoddard, and two children.

Mrs. Sarah Ward Hale of 1447 Broad



# Local and Navy Authorities Act to Combat Spread of Influenza

## Epidemic Causes 39 Deaths in State During Day and Continues to Increase, According to Reports

### Providence Aldermen to Meet in Special Session with Dr. Charles V. Chapin, to Formulate Plans for More Extensive Cam- paign to Safeguard Public. Sailors Denied Shore Leave Until Further Orders, as Precautionary Measure

Thirty-nine deaths from Spanish influenza in Rhode Island were reported during the past 24 hours and health authorities in various localities stated last evening that the spread of the epidemic was undoubtedly on the increase throughout the State. Deaths of two Rhode Island soldiers at training cantonments were also reported.

As a result of the spread of the epidemic, the Providence Board of Aldermen will meet to-day to consider plans for combatting the disease and the naval authorities at Newport have prohibited sailors in the Second Naval District from being away from their stations except under particular circumstances. In Burrillville, where more than 250 cases are reported, schools have been closed and shows and other public gatherings prohibited until further notice.

The Aldermen will meet at the City Hall this afternoon at 3 o'clock and sit as a Board of Health, with Dr. Charles V. Chapin, city health officer, also present. The meeting was arranged yesterday at an executive session of the Aldermen, following their regular meeting, after Mayor Gainer had gone over the situation with them.

The Mayor stated that reports received by him were of a character to indicate that action by the city might become imperative, and he desired to place the matter before the board in order that the opinion of the members upon the situation might be obtained.

#### MAY CLOSE SCHOOLS

The points to be decided, the Mayor said, were whether the situation had attained a sufficiently serious aspect to warrant the city in changing its present attitude toward the closing of public gathering places and the schools, and whether the city should take measures to make provision for handling a more serious situation should it arise.

Superintendent of Health Chapin was called into the meeting and it was finally decided that the board should sit this afternoon as a Health Board, when any action to be taken by the city will be officially decided upon.

By order of the Commandant, acting

upon the advice of his medical aide, an order was issued yesterday stopping all general liberty in the Second Naval District, which includes not only the various stations at Newport, but also the submarine base at New London. No men in the service, excepting those who are bonafide residents of Newport, will be allowed ashore.

It was explained that the intent of the order is to prevent men from going to other cities, as the Y. M. C. A. in Fall River, frequented by navy men when visiting that city, is being used as a hospital. Further, it was stated that a letter had been received from the Providence health authorities urging that such a step be taken.

General liberty was suspended some time ago when the epidemic first made its appearance, but at that time it was not so stringent, the men being permitted in Newport, but prohibited from leaving the city. The present order imposes greater restrictions.

Capt. Martin E. Trench, the new commanding officer at the Torpedo Station, was taken ill yesterday, but his ailment has not as yet been diagnosed as influenza. Capt. Oman, Commandant of the District, who is ill with the disease, is reported improving.

Two deaths and 141 new cases were reported among the civilian population at Newport yesterday.

#### 1153 SAILORS ILL

There were 24 new influenza cases reported in the Second Naval District yesterday, 15 of these at New London and the other nine in the units about Newport. For the same 24-hour period there were 12 deaths, 10 at the Newport Naval Hospital and two at the Naval Hospital at New London. Fifty-three patients were discharged from the Newport Naval Hospital yesterday, leaving 1153 cases under treatment there, and the district headquarters reported that there were still 119 sailors and marines under treatment at the Providence hospitals.

There have been a total of 3250 cases of influenza in the Second District, of

which 500 have developed pneumonia and the deaths up to yesterday had mounted to 177, 33 of these being at New London.

Two new cases were reported at Fort Adams yesterday for the previous 24 hours, which brings the total number of cases at the Narragansett defences up to 85, with four deaths.

The Newport Board of Health announced yesterday that the Emergency Hospital would be opened this morning. The Newport Hospital had 24 cases under treatment yesterday, besides 10 of the nurses are ill, two more being added to the list yesterday. Twenty-nine cases are under treatment at the Red Cross Hospital and about half of this number are pneumonia cases.

While the present facilities of the Rhode Island, St. Joseph's and City Hospitals are overtaxed by the number of patients now under treatment, Dr. Chapin has learned that in the two first named institutions emergency arrangements can be obtained from this source, and it is believed that sufficient assistance can

be made for caring for a still larger number of cases, if nurses and beds can be obtained.

Dr. Chapin has been in communication with the Red Cross officials to find out what assistance in the way of nurses can be obtained from this source, and it is believed that sufficient assistance can be obtained to meet the emergency.

#### TO RECALL NURSES

The Superintendent of Health yesterday morning notified the authorities in Boston that to-day he would be compelled to recall seven of the nurses loaned to that city the beginning of the week, and that to-morrow he would have to recall the other two.

Dr. Chapin is of the opinion that much can be done to prevent the spread of the disease by intelligent co-operation upon the part of the public generally and particularly by persons suffering from symptoms of cold. To these he issued the following injunction:

"If you have influenza or if you have a cough or a cold and don't know whether it is influenza, stay at home.

"It is best for you.

"It will prevent others from catching the disease."

It was announced Wednesday through error, by St. Joseph's Hospital, that Mrs. Rose McKenna of 173 Holden street had died of influenza. Mrs. Rose McKenna, who had been a patient there for another disease, was discharged from the hospital several days ago as completely cured and in some way her name was given out instead of that of Mrs. Mary McKenna of 59 Rosedale street, who died there from influenza Wednesday.

Miss Grace L. Macomber, a student at the Women's College in Brown University, who died of influenza at the Rhode Island Hospital yesterday, is the daughter of Mrs. Henrietta Macomber of Springfield, Mass. She came here Sept. 23 for the opening of college and was ill only a few days.

#### INFLUENZA SAFEGUARDS.

The following recommendations are offered by Dr. Charles V. Chapin, Superintendent of Health in Providence:

Influenza is chiefly spread by droplets from the mouth and nose in talking, coughing and sneezing.

Keep at arm's length from everybody and the chance of thus getting it is small.

Don't go where you have to crowd close to others.

Don't let people talk in your face.

Put an influenza patient to bed at once in a separate bed and separate room.

Give a hot drink, cover warmly put hot water bottles about the patient. This is to bring on a sweat.

After the sweat has dried off the patient, open windows wide and keep them so. Do not let the patient get chilled, but do not pile on bed clothes.

Give a little nourishment, mostly milk.

Keep the bowels open.



# All Places of Public Assembly in This City Ordered Closed

## Restrictions Placed on Theatres, Schools, Churches, Etc., Beginning at 12 O'Clock To-night

### Aldermen Act to Curb Spread of Spanish Influenza.—41 Deaths in Rhode Island During Past 24 Hours, 15 Here.—Hun- dreds of New Cases.—Billy Sunday Meetings to be Held on Sundays Only

Acting under the powers conferred upon it as a board of health, the Board of Aldermen yesterday at a special session at City Hall issued an order closing all public and parochial schools, theatres, moving picture houses, public dance halls, and prohibiting all public meetings for religious services, except that the churches may hold their regular weekly service one day of each week. This action was taken as an emergency measure to combat further progress of the influenza epidemic in this city.

There were 41 deaths in Rhode Island yesterday as the result of Spanish influenza or pneumonia following the disease and the epidemic continues unchecked, according to all reports. Of the 40 deaths in the State yesterday 15 were in Providence. Westerly was next highest, reporting seven deaths during the day. So acute is the situation there barbers have been ordered to wear masks.

Other places in the State took action yesterday also to put a curb to the epidemic. At Warren the schools, theatres and saloons were ordered closed.

The order affecting Providence becomes effective at midnight to-night, and according to Mayor Gainer it will be rigidly enforced by the police authorities of the city.

#### \$5000 APPROPRIATED

The Aldermen also voted a special appropriation of \$5000 to be expended under the supervision of the health department in securing additional nurses and hospital equipment to care for any situation which may arise.

A committee composed of Mayor Gainer, Alderman Joseph Balch, chairman of the health committee, and Superintendent of Health Chapin, was named to see what can be done at once toward the expansion of hospital facilities in this city.

While this action was being taken by the Board of Aldermen, reports were pouring into the office of the Superintendent of Health which indicated that already the epidemic has secured a firm grip here.

One hundred and eight doctors reported 2460 cases of grip under their care, 1188 of which they characterized as "new" cases. Fifty-five of these physicians expressed the opinion that the epidemic is on the increase; seven that it is decreasing, while 46 failed to express any opinion upon the matter.

Reports from nearly 200 doctors are still to be received, and if the present ratio continues the number of cases will be more than doubled.

Following is the resolution adopted by the Aldermen yesterday in issuing their closing order:

"Whereas a serious epidemic of influenza is prevalent throughout the city of Providence; and

"Whereas, on account of the highly contagious nature of said disease all gatherings and assemblies of people constitute a menace to the health of the community; and

"Whereas, it is essential, so far as practicable to limit the assembling of people in public places; and

"Whereas, Surgeon General Blue of the Public Health Service and the State Board of Health have advocated that churches, schools and theatres in every

community where the epidemic has developed be closed; therefore,

"It is hereby ordered and decreed that from and after 12:01 o'clock a. m. Sunday, Oct. 6, 1918, all public and parochial schools, theatres, moving picture houses and public dance halls, and all public meetings for religious services be closed until further orders; except that churches may hold their regular weekly public service one day each week, if they so desire."

The meeting of the Aldermen was held at 3 o'clock in the City Clerk's office at City Hall. In opening it, Mayor Gainer stated that he had called the members together for the purpose of laying two propositions before them, first the need of closing public gathering places as a measure to prevent further spread of the disease, and second to de-

cide whether an appropriation should be made to provide additional hospital facilities against the future. The Mayor called upon Dr. Chapin for his views on the matter.

The Superintendent of Health declared that in his opinion, the closing of the schools and places of amusement would have no appreciable effect in checking the outbreak. "I have no objection to closing them, however," he said.

As to the necessity for greater hospital facilities, Dr. Chapin declared there could be no question of the need. "We are facing a very grave situation," he said. "This disease is likely to spread next week and by the end of the week we may have many more cases. We should by all means take measures to get nurses and to extend our hospital facilities."

Explaining his former statement that the closing of public places would have no effect upon checking the epidemic, Dr. Chapin declared that this city is well sown with this virulent disease and that to stop up a few avenues would not prevent its ultimate spread.

The brevity of the period of incubation he said made it most difficult to take preventive measures against the infection, since a victim might be walking around and mixing with others for 24 or 48 hours after becoming infected.

#### DIFFERENCE OF OPINION

A considerable difference of opinion existed among the Aldermen at first with regard to the extent to which the board should go in closing public places, particularly churches.

After considerable discussion, Alderman Bixby moved that the board go on record as against closing any of the places named, but this motion was defeated by a voice vote.

Soon after, the resolution finally adopted, was drawn and placed upon its passage. It was voted that a copy of the order be forwarded to the President of the school committee and the Board of Police Commissioners.

Before adjourning, the Aldermen adopted a resolution introduced by Alderman Bixby requesting the Rhode Island Company to properly ventilate its cars as a means of aiding the fight against the epidemic, and instructing the committee on railroads to see that such action is taken by the company.

Open cars already have been put into use during the rush hours by the Rhode Island Company, as a precautionary measure. Superintendent of Transportation Roscoe R. Anderson held a conference yesterday afternoon with President A. E. Potter and the board of trustees.

Various proposed measures relative to the epidemic were discussed, and it



that the company's available open places should be pressed into service in order to relieve congestion. This was begun last evening, and will continue daily during the two rush periods until the intensity of the epidemic has abated.

Superintendent Anderson and other officials of the Rhode Island Company had considered having the windows lowered in all the closed cars, but Superintendent of Health Charles V. Chapin was opposed to this plan on the grounds that it would tend to cause colds which would later develop into influenza.

The action of the Board of Aldermen was taken largely upon the initiative of Mayor Gainer. After the meeting the Mayor gave out the following statement:

"A week ago Dr. Chapin and I considered the advisability of closing places of public gathering and decided at that time that the situation did not warrant such action. Since then, however, the disease has spread in our city to such an extent that it seems to me the time has arrived when it was no longer advisable to allow things to continue in a normal manner. To-day Dr. Chapin has received reports from 108 doctors showing a total of 2460 persons affected.

"I called together in special session the Board of Aldermen. After a thorough discussion the action which I have outlined to you was adopted. It was recognized, of course, that all places of public gathering were not included in the order. There are undoubtedly many of these places which could have been included. The board followed as closely as possible the recommendation of Surgeon General Blue of the United States Public Health Service.

"The Board of Aldermen acted as a board of health in issuing its orders. The health powers of the board are very broad and there is no question but that the order can be enforced. I am firmly convinced, however, that the mere statement of the order will be sufficient.

"The people of the city, I am sure, will realize that this order, while drastic is issued solely in their interests and that it will be removed just as soon as conditions warrant. At the present time it seems as if the order may continue for about two weeks. Of course, this is more or less conjecture. The order will be rescinded at the earliest possible moment consistent with public safety.

"I earnestly request our citizens not to allow the action of the board to cause unwarranted apprehension. The situation is serious, but I believe it can be handled successfully. We need the active co-operation of everyone. If we receive that co-operation, our people need have no fear of the results."

#### MAYOR EXPLAINS ORDER

Mayor Gainer, when asked last evening why it was that the saloons and soda fountains here had not been ordered closed as in other cities, said that the Aldermen discussed that phase of the question and that they had complied with the recommendations of the State Board of Health and Government officials and they felt that they had gone as far as possible at the present time. Mayor Gainer said that churches must use their discretion in interpreting the order and that they could doubtless hold as many services one day a week as they deemed necessary. This would allow churches to hold morning and evening and other meetings on one day if they considered it necessary. The Mayor added that the churches should co-operate as far as possible in carrying out the orders.

It was announced last night that there will be three meetings as usual on Sunday at the Billy Sunday tabernacle. The plans now are to continue the meetings on Sundays only until the ban is lifted.

Reports received by Superintendent of Health Chapin up to noon yesterday from 74 doctors to whom requests for information upon the matter were sent Thursday, show that the physicians are treating 1647 cases of influenza in this city, of which 901 are "new" cases. There are still more than 200 doctors to be heard from, but the reports received are sufficient to indicate the extensiveness of the epidemic.

Thirty-nine of the physicians from whom the reports have been received state that in their opinion the epidemic is on the increase, while six express the opinion that it is decreasing. Twenty-nine

places of amusement.

The conference was called by Maj. John W. Keefe, M. D., director of the medical section of the Rhode Island Council of Defence.

"Drs. Harvey, Collins and Donley were appointed a committee to confer with Miss Fitzpatrick, superintendent of the District Nursing Association, to take up the matter of young women willing to assist in caring for the sick; also to acquire data as to the number of beds available in the city at the present time for patients and the advisability of asking the Federal Government for aid in obtaining nurses and physicians.

"The committee also voted to ask the Four-Minute men when addressing their audiences to ask them to observe the essential rules of hygiene and thus prevent the spread of the epidemic.

"The following were present at the meeting: Maj. John W. Keefe, Drs. Arthur T. Jones, Harold G. Calder, N. Darrell Harvey, H. A. Whitmarsh, Montafix W. Houghton, Harry W. Kimball, Richards, Fulton, Chapin, Allison, Day, Collins, Donley, McLeod, Bennett, R. Morton Smith, Latham, A. H. Miller, Budlong and Miss Fitzpatrick."

*This meeting held*

## Barrington D

The annual meeting of  
October 7, 1918, at 8 P.  
for the presentation of reports

Dr. Charles V. Chapin,  
Nursing Association Work

With our enlarged membership  
audience will be present.



October 8 (Tue)

# *Influenza Situation in This State Now Showing Slight Improvement*

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**44 Deaths in Past 24 Hours is Decrease from Previous Day's Figures**

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*Providence Has 5773 Cases and Seems Centre of Epidemic, While Newport Reports Are Most Encouraging in Several Days.—City and Town Authorities Take Further Action.—Use of Paper Cups Here Requested*

Although reports up to last evening showed that there are 5773 cases of Spanish influenza and pneumonia in this city, reports from other parts of the State were encouraging, and indicate that the general condition in Rhode Island has not shown any change for the worse, at least in the past 24 hours. Incomplete returns show that there have been 44 deaths in Rhode Island during the 24 hours ending at 2:30 o'clock this morning. This is a decrease of eight fatalities over the previous 24 hours.

The increase in the number of cases in this city between Saturday noon and last evening was 2223, the number Saturday noon being 3550. Reports received by Superintendent of Health Chapin showed that the number of new cases here is increasing. Reports for Friday showed 525 new cases, while Saturday 616 new cases were reported. Sunday's incomplete returns showed but 279 new cases. However, the last figure does not include reports from many physicians.

## **AUTHORITIES TAKE ACTION**

City and town authorities in various parts of the State are taking further action daily in an attempt to stamp out the disease. The Board of Aldermen here last evening in special session passed a resolution requesting all restaurants, lunch rooms, soda fountains, saloons and all public dispensers of cold drinks of any description to use individual paper beverage containers. In addition an appropriation of \$5000 was made to be expended under the direction of the Mayor and superintendent of health in combating the epidemic. The board had previously considered the matter in executive session. A committee, composed of Fred Mansfield, manager of the Crown Hotel, John Thompson, James O'Brien, Philip Bausch and James Black, was called before the board and advised of the pro-

## **INFLUENZA SAFEGUARDS.**

The following recommendations are offered by Dr. Charles V. Chapin, Superintendent of Health in Providence:

Influenza is chiefly spread by droplets from the mouth and nose in talking, coughing and sneezing.

Keep at arm's length from everybody and the chance of thus getting it is small.

Don't go where you have to crowd close to others.

Don't let people talk in your face.

Put an influenza patient to bed at once in a separate bed and separate room.

Give a hot drink, cover warmly, put hot water bottles about the patient. This is to bring on a sweat.

After the sweat has dried off the patient, open windows wide and keep them so. Do not let the patient get chilled, but do not pile on bed clothes.

Give a little nourishment, mostly milk.

Keep the bowels open.

posed action and urged to conform to its provisions.

This action was taken following the visit yesterday morning to Mayor Gainer of a delegation of citizens who had urged the closing of all public drinking places.



# Doctors Say Spread of Influenza Epidemic in City is Decreasing

## Reports of Large Number of Additional Cases Said to Include Persons Ill Several Days

*Seventeen More Deaths Reported, Bringing Number for Past 36 Hours Up to 35.—Newport, Westerly and Other Towns Also Report Abatement in Spread of Epidemic.—Shawomet Pastor Among Latest Victims of Disease*

But approximately 70 additional cases of influenza in Providence were reported by hospital authorities last evening, who stated that spread of the epidemic in the city had apparently been considerably lessened. Seventeen additional deaths from the disease were also reported, bringing the total number for the past 36 hours up to 35. The total number of cases of the disease in the city since the epidemic started is now 8414.

Although 361 additional cases were reported at the City Registrar's office yesterday noon, physicians stated last evening that this number could not be taken as an indication of the spread of the disease during the 24 hours covered by the report. Many of the cases, they said, had existed since the epidemic first started, but were not reported until the persons ill finally consulted a physician. The number of really "new" cases, they stated, would fall far short of the number reported.

Nine additional cases were reported among sailors in the Second Naval District, two of which are in the naval unit

at Brown University. One death was reported at the Newport Naval Hospital and five at the New London Naval Hospital.

### NAVAL SITUATION IMPROVES

Both the Newport and naval health authorities, however, express confidence that the epidemic is abating in the city and throughout the Second Naval District. The number of cases reported in Newport yesterday was considerably less than the number for the day before.

Two deaths were reported in Westerly yesterday, but spread of the disease there and in Pawcatuck, Conn., across the river, was said to be considerably checked.

Ten deaths were reported in Woonsocket during the 24 hours yesterday, but it was stated last evening that the number of new cases reported was less than on the previous day. The emergency hospital, in the city's high school building, will be opened this morning.

Two deaths were reported in Pawtucket last evening, two in Central Falls, one in Lincoln and six in towns in the Pawtuxet Valley. In each place, however, it was stated that spread of the disease seemed to be abating.

Among those who died from the disease last evening was Rev. Frank Bourne Cowell, 37, pastor of the Shawomet Baptist Church, in Warwick. He was taken ill with influenza about a week ago, pneumonia later developing.

Rev. Mr. Cowell was born in Plainville, Mass., and attended Brown University from 1904 to 1907. He later graduated from Crozer Theological Seminary and after a pastorate at Germantown, Md., came to the Shawomet Church several years ago. He is survived by his wife and four children. All of the children are now ill with influenza.

Just a week after his promotion Sergt. Harold F. Greene, son of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Greene, of Hamilton, died Tuesday at Camp Meade, Md., of pneumonia, following a short illness from influenza. He was a member of the Forty-second Company, Eleventh Battalion, One Hundred and Fifty-fourth Depot Brigade.

Private John C. Manning of Isett, Pa., a member of the Ammunition Train, died yesterday at Fort Adams, making the tenth death at the fort during the present epidemic. One additional case was reported at the fort last evening.

### TO CURB BIG STORE SALES

A conference between Mayor Gainer and heads of all the department stores was held yesterday afternoon at City Hall. Mayor Gainer called the business men together to request them to dispense with all big sales for the present and to see if something could not be done to lessen the congestion of traffic on the street cars during the rush hours.

The Mayor suggested that the department stores close at 5:30 in the afternoon during the epidemic. In this way, he said, thousands of employes who work in the stores would be removed from the

rush for cars, particularly at 6 o'clock in the evening, when the factories are letting out.

The meeting at City Hall was attended by representatives of the following-named business houses, all of whom, it was stated, had agreed to do anything considered necessary to stamp out the epidemic: The Outlet Company, Boston Store, Dimond's, Providence Public Market, The Shepard Company, Browning King Company, Kennedy's, B. H. Gladding Dry Goods Company and Cherry & Webb.

Following the meeting, Mayor Gainer, on behalf of himself, Superintendent of Health Chapin and Alderman Joseph Balch, chairman of the committee on health, issued this order: "It has been agreed by all the health authorities that the street cars are the most dangerous places for the spread of influenza. To avoid crowding the cars in the rush hours and to lessen the danger occasioned thereby, acting under the authority of the board of health of the city of Providence, we request that all offices in the city close at 5 p. m. and that the retail stores which have been in the habit of closing at 6 p. m. close at 5:30 p. m. until further notice.

"It is understood that this request does not apply to Saturday afternoon or evening, as the traffic during that period is more evenly distributed. It is also requested that all stores in the downtown section of the city eliminate all special sales and minimize their advertising, so that crowds will not be attracted during the continuance of the epidemic."

"Before issuing this order," the Mayor said, "we consulted with the representatives of several of the largest retail stores in the city. These gentlemen expressed approval of the request we had made and said they were willing to co-operate whole-heartedly in any way to help the Mayor and the health authorities to combat the epidemic."

## CAMPOR WON'T STOP GRIP IN SPITE OF GENERAL BELIEF

### Demand Upon Druggists Has Taken the Entire Supply.

Almost every drugstore in the city is experiencing a run on camphor, that penetrating odor and an aromatic cooling taste. And the cause is influenza. Somewhere the idea started that camphor was a preventive and that a small square would ward off grip. A suggestion was enough and people have flocked to the stores to buy up all the available supply.

Women come into street cars reeking of camphor and it does not come from their furs. They go along the street and sniff little unmistakable packages as they get into crowds. The camphor craze is not confined to the women by any means. Some men have been noticed who were carrying camphor, too.

When camphor failed at the stores, people have been known to carry around a few moth balls just to scare off germs. As a result, there isn't any camphor available in Providence stores at this time, according to all reports.

The credulity is not confined to this city. Boston has experienced the same state of affairs and the idea of the efficacy of camphor arose in that city. Some Bostonians have even telephoned here to friends, pleading with them to send a bit of camphor to help them through this time of trouble.

And the odd part of all this is that camphor doesn't do any good. Dr. Charles V. Chapin says in a few terse words, "To carry a piece of camphor will not stop the grip!" Camphor is very scarce now on account of the war. The price has soared and this general demand won't tend to lower it. Says Dr. Chapin, "Do not rely on such useless and superstitious means, but avoid infection and keep up your strength."

## MAYOR ASKS PHYSICIANS TO MAKE QUICK REPORTS

### Says This is Necessary to Watch Influenza Epidemic.

Mayor Gainer yesterday issued a statement calling upon the physicians of the city to report quickly every case of influenza coming under their care, so that the authorities can keep accurate and close watch of the epidemic and be in a situation to take such measures as may be necessary to handle it. The statement follows:

"It is unnecessary to emphasize the seriousness of the present epidemic in our community. Because of the spread of influenza, business has been seriously interfered with, schools have had to be closed, churches have had to curtail their religious services and essential war activities have had to be abandoned.

"The most important question for the city authorities to know at this time is whether the disease is increasing or diminishing, and when we are likely to reach the crest of the outbreak. This information is necessary, first, to know to



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## CITY EXPERIENCING MILD INFLUENZA RECRUDESCENCE

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**Disease, However, Physicans Say, is  
of Less Virulent Type.**

Reports being received from physicians indicate that Providence, like other cities of the country, is experiencing a mild recrudesence of the epidemic of Spanish influenza which attacked the city some weeks ago.

Superintendent of Health Chapin said yesterday that while there appears to be a considerable number of cases of the disease appearing here, it is in a much milder form than upon the previous occasion.

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