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TWO "RECESS" PERIODS A DAY FOR WAR CLERKS

Workers Required to Take the Air
Mornings and Afternoons as
Health Measure.

Ordering two fifteen-minute "recess" periods a day for all workers, the War Department has taken a decided step to combat the influenza, and one which probably will be followed by all the government departments of Washington.

"All officers and employees of the War Department are required to take a recess from 10:30 to 10:45 in the morning and from 3:45 to 3:00 in the afternoon, and during this time they will walk, weather permitting, in the fresh air and sunshine," says the official order issued by the adjutant general of the Army.

In leaving and returning for this recess employes must make use of the staircases of the buildings, instead of the elevators.

Viewed as Aid to Efficiency.

"It is believed that this will tend to keep all in good health and that the time lost will be more than made up by the greater amount of work that will be done during hours of actual work," according to the order.

Scenes at the old land office building at 7th and E streets, now occupied by the office of the provost marshal general, were typical of those at all buildings occupied by bureaus of the War Department.

Colonels, majors, captains, privates strolled around, getting the fresh air, an occupation indulged in by woman clerks by the score, and the little Girl Scout messengers.

Gongs are rung to summon the workers to the open air, following which they all troop out, elevators remaining motionless. The "recess" reminded necessarily of scenes during school recesses.

The step taken by the War Department is, in effect, an adoption of the recess system in vogue in the schools of the United States these many years. The departmental "recess," however, is taken for a different reason than recesses are granted pupils in schools.

Other Departments May Follow.

Other departmental heads had the plan under advisement today, and there seemed little doubt that by next week every federal department and bureau in the city will have adopted the scheme.

If the plan works out as anticipated, really resulting in "greater amount of work that will be done during hours of actual service," there seems no reason, some declared, why the system might not remain in effect in the departments for good and all, especially in the spring, summer and autumn.

Officials are taking care to see that employes really go out into the "great outdoors." Any who showed a hesitancy about "beating it" for the street were unceremoniously shooed through the big fire door onto the sidewalk.

"If you are too sick to go outdoors, go home," said an official. "And if you are 'on the job,' when that bell rings, go out into the open—the air is great."

TO HELP FIGHT SCOURGE.

Six Medical Officers Shifted From
St. Elizabeth to Meade.

Six officers of the Army Medical Corps stationed at St. Elizabeth Hospital, this city, have been sent to Camp Meade, Md., to assist in the treatment of influenza and pneumonia cases at that camp.

They are: Capt. James R. Gormley and First Lieuts. Michael E. Costello, Hubert M. English, Roy K. Goddard, John I. Marker and Albert C. Reitzel.

Deaths Reported.

The following deaths have been reported to the health department in the last twenty-four hours:

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INFLUENZA UNABATED IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Several Deaths Reported Within
Last Few Days—Baltimore,
Meade, Annapolis Cases.

ROCKVILLE, Md., October 11.—Within the last few days several residents of this county have died as a result of the influenza, which continues unabated in all parts of the county.

Mrs. Elisabeth Burton, wife of Walter T. Burton, died yesterday at her home near Burtonville following an illness of only a few days. She is survived by her husband and three children. Before her marriage she was a Miss Siper of this county.

Earl Beall, twenty years old, son of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Beall, died at his home near Cedar Grove of pneumonia, following the influenza.

Miss Virginia Douglas Thomas, daughter of Maj. and Mrs. George M. Thomas of Rockville, died a few days ago at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, where she was a nurse pupil. She contracted the influenza from patients she had been nursing, and was ill only a few hours.

Edward Carroll Cissel, twenty-two years old, died at Camp Meade, Md., where he had been stationed a short while as a member of the United States Army. He was a son of the late G. O. E. Cissel of Wheaton, this county. The funeral took place from St. John's Catholic Church, Forest Glen, yesterday afternoon, burial being in St. John's cemetery.

County Commissioner Hazel Metzger is among the more prominent residents of this county who are down with the influenza. His condition is reported to be serious.

BALTIMORE, October 11.—There were reported yesterday in the city 114 deaths from influenza and 2,358 new cases.

CAMP MEADE, October 11.—Fifty-seven deaths and 181 new cases were reported yesterday, showing a decided improvement over the preceding twenty-four hours.

ANNAPOLIS, October 11.—Three deaths and five new cases, a slight improvement, are reported at the Naval Academy.

EIGHT PER CENT OF WAR CLERKS ARE STRICKEN

Officials Take Every Precaution to
Prevent Spread of
Disease.

Roughly estimated, about 8 per cent of the entire force of the War Department in this city is incapacitated by the influenza epidemic. The highest percentage of absence on account of sickness—19 per cent—is in Col. Love's division of the surgeon general's office in the frame building in the Smithsonian grounds. The percentage is high also in the ordnance bureau in Henry Park.

On the other hand there has not been a single case of influenza in the office of the appointment clerk, where there are seventy-five employes.

Every precaution against the spread of the disease has been taken by the officials of the War Department. All the employes are required to spend fifteen minutes, twice a day, in the open air and in their absence the rooms and corridors are given a thorough airing.

MRS. S. C. SEMMES DIES.

Mother of Two Local Business Men
Succumbs at Lansdowne, Pa.

Mrs. S. C. Semmes, mother of Charles W. Semmes of the Semmes Auto Company and E. B. Semmes, well known automobile men of Washington, died yesterday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. L. J. Eastman, at Lansdowne, Pa.

DR. NEWELL TO AID Woman's Clinic Physician Will Fight Influenza.

Dr. L. Evadell Newell, resident doctor at the Woman's Evening Clinic, has arranged to give her services several hours a day in aiding the prevention of the spread of influenza. Dr. Newell will visit persons suffering from the disease from 9 to 12 o'clock in the morning, 3 to 5 o'clock in the afternoon and after 7 o'clock in the evening.

Calls by telephone or by person should be left at the clinic before 9 o'clock in the morning for visits dur-

ing the day. Visits made in the evening will be by request to calls made after 9 o'clock in the morning. Friends have donated automobiles for Dr. Newell's use in making visits.

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