

ASSERT INFLUENZA IS A NEW DISEASE

Experts Declare Present Epidemic Is Far From Being Old Malady by Same Name.

Organism Which Produces It Is a Virus Which Escapes Finest Filters.

Influenza isn't influenza. That is to say, the present epidemic of so-called influenza isn't real influenza—not the old, established, recognized kind.

It is a new disease caused by an organism that hasn't been isolated. The regular influenza bug, known as the influenza bacillus, has been found in extremely few cases of the present epidemic.

Laboratory experts at the American Public Health Association meeting this week at Chicago were more agreed in this opinion than on anything else, according to James E. Bauman, acting state health commissioner, who returned yesterday.

Defies Isolation. The organism causing the present disease is a virus which passes through the finest filters, like the smallpox virus, so that nobody has isolated it or knows what it is.

As for best methods of combatting the epidemic no agreement was reached.

"Every health officer appeared to be convinced enough to think his methods were the best," said Bauman. "I know that I didn't find where we could have done anything more in Ohio, and I don't think any state had better success than we. I became reassured that there is no way of stamping out the disease—that the best one can do is to string out the epidemic to enable the doctors to take better care of victims."

A vaccine properly prepared on a scientific understanding of the disease will do some good—may prevent some cases and make cases milder, Bauman said, adding there still isn't sufficient conclusive evidence, in his opinion, to warrant the state department to take it up officially.

The best thing yet developed in the way of vaccines, Bauman said, is a convalescent serum used as a remedy, not a preventive, which has been administered in the navy more than in the army.

This serum, developed from the blood of a patient who has recovered, has good results if given a victim with the same type of influenza as the patient from whom it was taken.

Method is Explained. This is the procedure: From the arm of a patient who has recovered and whose temperature has been normal for several days is drawn 400 cubic centimeters of blood.

This is allowed to stand for 24 hours until the solids have formed a clot, leaving about 300 cubic centimeters of pale, clear, watery serum.

This is centrifuged to remove every remaining blood cell, and if the blood has shown under every test that it is pure, it is ready for use. A hypodermic needle is inserted into the arm vein of the patient to be treated and from 100 to 200 cubic centimeters of the serum injected directly into the blood stream.

The larger body being unable to arrive at any conclusion as to recommendations, a committee was named to study and analyze the vast amount of data submitted and suggestions made. This committee, if it can come to any conclusions, is expected to report in a few days and mail its recommendations to delegates by probably the middle of next week.

Parents of Columbus girls attending Western College for Women, Oxford, are receiving a letter from Dr. W. W. Boyd, president, asking co-operation in keeping the young women from unnecessary exposure to influenza during their Christmas vacation. The epidemic so far has not found its way into the college and the officials wish to use every precaution in having the same condition exist after the holidays. Western College closed yesterday to open again Jan. 7.

CRANBERRIES AT 25 CENTS A POUND; WOW!

Fruit Scarce and, of Course, It Costs Much More to Get 'Em to Market.

Cranberries at 25 cents a pound! Quotations have ascended to an altitude never before reached, according to local dealers. You ought to consider yourself glad to get them at that price, dealers say, for the berries are scarce.

Wholesalers ask \$20 a barrel for them. These prices are almost double those of last year, when you could buy all that you required. In 1918 they were even cheaper than last year. Then you bought 'em by the quart, now by the pound.

Increases in cost of labor, shipping and packing materials, also poor crop conditions, are blamed.

COAL BIN COLLAPSES; SELLING BY CITY HIT

Columbus' municipal coal pile is in a hard way. One of the bins, in which about 500 tons of coal was stored, let loose and 300 tons were dumped on the ground, blocking the roadway to the other bin.

No coal can be loaded from the bins into wagons until the roadway is partly cleared, according to Nathan A. McCoy, superintendent of the city street cleaning department, in charge of the coal, which may be the first of next week.

ROAST YOUNG TURKEY
Dinner today. The Dunn-Taft. Co. —Adv.

CITY'S DEATH RATE TAKES HIGH SPURT

Columbus Mortality Last Week Is Greatest of Any Large City in Ohio.

Situation, However, Is No Surprise to Municipal and State Health Officials.

Columbus for the week ended last Saturday had the highest death rate of any large city in the state, according to comparative figures of the United States public health service. Its rate was 37.7 per 1000 population, against 32.9 at Cincinnati; 23 at Cleveland; 17.7 at Toledo, and 16 at Dayton.

This, however, was expected by both City Health Officer Kahn and the state health department. Until recently Columbus had a lower rate than the other cities.

"No health officer needs put himself on the back over a low death rate and think his community is going to get off easy," said Dr. E. J. Schwartz, head of the state division of communicable diseases.

Epidemic in Orphanage. "Columbus for awhile had fewer cases and fewer deaths in proportion to population than other cities. That merely meant that the city succeeded in spreading the epidemic over a longer period, and this, as a matter of fact, results in fewer deaths."

"But 40 per cent of the population is to have influenza and any community that is far from this still has something coming." There are only a third as many cases now as there were in the first spell of the epidemic, and the percentage of deaths is not nearly so high, according to Dr. Schwartz. The comparatively few communities that are severely stricken now escaped lightly the first time, he says.

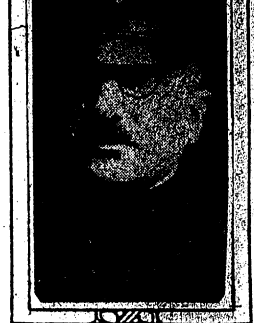
Dr. Schwartz agrees with the recent statement of Dr. Kahn that there will be more, or less influenza all winter and that there will be a recurrence, but not an epidemic of it next winter.

Only six influenza deaths were reported to the city health department yesterday. This is a drop from 14 the day before. One hundred and four new cases were reported, of which 87 are at St. Vincent's Orphanage, East Main Street.

Two hundred and sixty-one of the 350 children and 11 of 25 sisters at the orphanage were down with the disease yesterday. No deaths have occurred there. Five nurses and four physicians went to the aid of the institution yesterday. The situation was declared well in hand so far as nursing, medical and hospital facilities are concerned.

Former Local Captain Wins Honor in South

Captain Herbert W. Fisher



Captain Fisher has recently been appointed post surgeon at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga.

Before he entered the military service he had an office at Grant Avenue and Main Street and was one of the staff of surgeons at Grant Hospital.

SAYS CONVICTED THUG TRYING TO SAVE PAL

Prosecutor Declares Man Sent Up for Life Would Shield the Real Murderer.

Assistant County Prosecutor Hugo Schlesinger believes Samuel Haskins, negro, said to have made a confession that he fired the shot that killed Walter Higginson, Mar. 21, last on the Front Street sidewalk, is trying to make things easy for his pal, Charles Halstrom, who goes on trial Monday for first degree murder in connection with the crime.

Edward Stuyard, colored, also is implicated in the murder. The three robbed Higginson before slaying him. It is charged. Haskins was tried early this week. He decided to plead guilty after his trial had been started. Judge Evans sent him to the penitentiary for life without hope of pardon. Haskins is said to have told attorneys representing Halstrom that he fired the fatal shot. Schlesinger declares Haskins is trying to shield his pal.

According to Schlesinger, the state has evidence showing that Haskins killed Higginson. Halstrom had admitted, Schlesinger says, that he had his revolver that was used.

Permission was given Attorney Frank M. Raymond and J. N. Schooley, representing Stuyard, to take depositions of Haskins, Stuyard, Weaver, Johnson and Fawcett today. The couple testified Haskins told them he had killed Higginson.

C. T. WARNER VICTIM OF FLU IN HOSPITAL

C. T. Warner, 65, of 1215 N. 1st St., of Grant Avenue, died at the Columbus hospital yesterday.

Continued suppression of the epidemic is the hope of health officials.

LABOR PIONEERS OF 18 COUNCILMEN

Columbus Federation of Labor Movement for Increasing Membership of Council

Petitions Will Go Into Effect Today—Special Election May Be Called

Steps toward putting into effect the Columbus Federation of Labor move to amend the city charter, increasing city council membership to 18, will be taken today.

The issue can be brought to popular vote by the filing of petitions bearing signatures of 1000 of the voters of Columbus, both men and women. City Attorney Kauffman said last night when asked by State Journal representatives. The executive committee of the Columbus Labor News Association, directed Holmes, Dugan and Anderson attorneys to start preparation of petitions today.

Takes 6000 Signatures. Election statistics for 1917 in last municipal election showed 6000 male and woman voters. Hence the petitions would have to bear approximately 6000 signatures.

After the petitions have been filed the city attorney says he will provide council that draft an ordinance submitting the question of amending the charter to popular vote.

If there is no regular municipal election within 60 days of the date of passage of the ordinance, the charter provides for submission of the issue at a special election. The only hitch according to Schlesinger is that council is given no time limit to pass the ordinance after the petitions have been filed.

Say Seven Inadvisable. Thus it may hold on the question as long as it pleased council and damage the cause.

City council is composed of seven members now. The Federation of Labor wants the move a month ago and in the attitude of council on the issue is favorable controversy is proceeding between city's various labor organizations. J. C. Trickett, O. K. Gilbert and George W. Compton, all members of the meeting of the executive committee last night.

Old Auto Tags and Piles From Far and Near

Old auto tags and piles of old cars are being donated to the city of Columbus. The tags are being used for the city's new license plates. The piles of old cars are being used for scrap metal.

Continued Suppression

Continued suppression of the epidemic is the hope of health officials.

Pure! Delicious! Sensibly Priced! A Full Assortment!

Christmas means CANDY, of course.

It is as much a part of Christmas as the mistletoe and holly.

It is more important than the mistletoe and holly.