

HOLDING DOWN THE EPIDEMIC

**Apparently Drastic Measures
of Health Authorities Are
Effective**

BUSINESS IS AFFECTED

**Many Industrial Plants Are
Crippled From Lack
of Help**



RICHARD REID,
Agent-General of Ontario, who died in
London, Eng., after an operation for
appendicitis.

The drastic measures taken by the city to check the spread of the influenza epidemic are beginning to produce results, if the record of deaths since Saturday noon is any criterion. The number of fatalities registered at the City Clerk's office yesterday was 117. This figure was for two and one-half days, from the time the office closed Saturday until 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon, and compares with 87 deaths, the registration for the 24-hour period ending at 5 o'clock last Friday afternoon. That was the high record for the city. It may be that a number of the deaths which occurred during the week-end have not yet been registered, and that the maximum or peak has not been reached. This remains to be seen, but the health officials, who are doing everything that can be done to reduce the mortality, believe that the action taken will bring the desired results, and they are hopeful that after this week at most the number of casualties will gradually decrease.

The total number of deaths from the epidemic in Toronto since October 1st and up to 5 p.m. yesterday was 619. It is interesting to note in this connection that about twice that number of deaths have occurred in Montreal in the same period. Toronto's high record of 87 deaths, recorded last Friday, compares with over 160 on several days in the city of Montreal, so that the situation in that city is much more serious than in Toronto. Ottawa also has suffered more than Toronto when the population is taken into consideration.

Influenza and Pneumonia.

Of the 117 deaths recorded here yesterday, covering the week-end, 80 were due to influenza and 37 to pneumonia. A number of these fatalities occurred several days ago, and were not registered until yesterday. For example, of the 37 who succumbed to pneumonia, one died on the 12th, eight on the 15th, seventeen on the 19th, ten on the 20th, and one on the 21st. Of the influenza fatalities two occurred on the 16th, four on the 17th, nineteen on the 18th, twenty-nine on the 19th, twenty-three on the 20th, and three on the 21st October. All the deaths occurring on a given day are never registered at the City Clerk's office on that day, and it might be necessary to wait a week in order to make a curve showing the fluctuation of the epidemic during the first three weeks of October.

The outbreak is interfering more or less seriously with the carrying on of business, many of the industrial plants and large stores and warehouses of the city being crippled owing to the large number of workers suffering from the malady. The Bell Telephone Company, for instance, has over four hundred operators on the sick list; a large manufacturing company engaged in munitions work has a similar number under the weather, and others have fared in a like manner.

Many Nurses Ill.

There are between eight and nine hundred influenza and pneumonia patients in the hospitals of the city, in addition to thousands of cases that are being nursed at home, including a number of serious cases and a large number of mild cases. Between one and two hundred of those in hospital are nurses who have contracted the disease from patients or from other sources. Miss Jean Thistlewaite of Vankleek Hill, one of the nurses at the General Hospital, was a victim of the influenza. Serums are given to the patients in the hospitals, while vaccine is given to the nurses and attendants who desire it. There are no fewer than forty of the nurses of the Health Department affected by the grippe, and the department is making another appeal for voluntary workers.

The splendid work of carrying soup to the helpless victims of the disease, which was started by the Danforth Avenue Methodist Church, is being carried on by the Boy Scouts, who are also engaged in distributing literature to the manufacturing establishments and warehouses in the city. These pamphlets