

CAN KEEP DOWN THE MORTALITY

**Give in to Spanish Influenza
at First Symptoms, Says
Dr. Hastings**

SENDING OUT LITERATURE

**Health Dept. Asks Employers
to Advise Employees
About the Disease**

While there are doubtless thousands of cases of Spanish influenza in Toronto, Dr. Hastings, M.O.H., is confident that by following the instructions issued by his department from day to day the mortality, instead of being around one per cent., as has been the average in American cities, will be not more than one-half of one per cent. and possibly as low as one-quarter of one per cent.

By giving in to the disease at the first symptoms not only will the number of pneumonia cases be greatly reduced, but also the mortality. Employers of labor, Dr. Hastings said last night, would find that it would pay them from an economic standpoint to tell their employees who had symptoms of the disease to rest up. The loss of time from this course would be much less, he said.

From to-day the different branches of the Department of Health will be open day and night, and men from the sanitation and other branches will assist wherever possible in cases where the whole family are ill. At present the department are looking after the furnaces in a number of such homes as well as rendering medical aid. For homes where there are cases and no fuel the Property and Street Cleaning Department have volunteered to deliver fuel.

Nurses and Doctors Ill.

In the hospitals conditions are aggravated by nurses, doctors and other members of the staff being laid up by the disease. Many of the business houses and some of the departments at the City Hall have a large percentage of their employees on the sick list.

North Toronto seems to be afflicted by the disease out of all proportion to the population, although most of the cases are of the ordinary grippe, rather than the Spanish variety.

The Board of Health are sending out literature to schools, factories and industrial centres. The latest card is to be hung in hotels. Many of the children attending school are carrying camphor, and in some of the banks antiseptic washes and gargles are supplied.

Dr. Hastings yesterday addressed a letter to the Ontario Railway Board asking that overcrowding be avoided as far as possible by having all cars operated.

The Mayor Explains.

At a meeting of the Local Board of Health yesterday afternoon Mayor Church explained to the members and Dr. Hastings that he was under a misapprehension in criticizing the local M. O. H. in regard to military camps, which he had since found out were not within the jurisdiction of the M. O. H.

"I recognize that we have here," said the Mayor, "one of the best health departments on the continent, and a most excellent Medical Health Officer."