

SCHOOL NURSES ARE RELEASED

Guelph Hospital Staff is Further Depleted, So the Schools Are Closed

STAYNER DOCTOR DIES

Tried to Carry on Though He Was Himself Suffering From Influenza

(Special and C. P. Despatches.)

Guelph, Oct. 27.—At a special meeting of the Board of Education this evening it was decided to release the three school nurses, who have been doing good work since the epidemic started, to assist at the General Hospital, and to close the public schools for one week or longer if considered advisable. The nurses were released at the request of the directors of the hospital, and it was not considered wise to operate the schools without their supervision.

The nursing staff at the General Hospital was further depleted this morning when Miss Forgie, the Lady Superintendent, her assistant, Miss Frew, and three other nurses, were taken down.

Stayner Doctor Falls in Fight.

Stayner, Oct. 27.—Dr. J. A. Johnston succumbed early yesterday morning to an attack of pneumonia following influenza, after an illness of ten days. Although quite unfit he had been attending influenza patients for a week, and was unable to fight the disease when he gave in. He was a prominent and popular citizen, having served on the School Board and Town Council, and was also a member of the Masonic Order and Canadian Order of Foresters. He was in his sixty-fifth year and leaves a wife and three young children.

Guest at Hotel Dies.

Mrs. Jessie Brittain of Hillsdale, Ont., who was a guest at the C. P. R. Hotel, took ill with influenza, and this was followed by pneumonia, which caused her death Friday evening.

Improving at Cobourg.

Cobourg shows some improvement. The number of cases daily is lessening. Cobourg has had altogether more than 200 cases, with six deaths from influenza and pneumonia. At present three local doctors are confined to their beds, which makes the situation a difficult one for the remaining physicians to cope with. About 26 are sick at the On-

tario Military Hospital, but some nine or ten of these cases were brought here from another town. Three of the nursing sisters are also sick. The Cobourg Hospital is taxed to its fullest capacity.

Other Ontario Points.

The "flu" situation in Stratford is practically unchanged. There have been few new cases reported in the last few days, but the death rate continues high, running from three or four to eight or nine daily, as has been the case for the past two weeks. Yesterday there were five deaths, and several other cases are considered hopeless.

The "flu" epidemic appears to be rapidly subsiding in St. Thomas, according to reports from the health authorities. Only one death occurred from the contagion during 48 hours, bringing the total number of deaths up to 25. About six new cases were reported yesterday, all of a mild nature.

One of the victims of Spanish influenza in Brantford was George Trill, who passed away on Friday night. He was a director of the Barber & Ellis Co. He was born in Hamilton, but entered the firm's employ in Toronto. He was an active Mason, and will be very much missed in a number of circles in the city.

The influenza epidemic is slackening in severity in Brantford. New cases are now much fewer, and the death list is comparatively low.

Not only has the St. Catharines Board of Health declined to raise the ban on public meetings, including churches and theatres, but it was decided that all business places should close at 8 o'clock. Arrangements were authorized to prepare for the opening of an emergency hospital. One hundred cases of influenza were reported.

B. C. Paper Mills Crippled.

Vancouver, Oct. 27.—Owing to the large number of influenza cases at Powell River, which has seriously crippled the working force of the big paper mills, the plant was closed Friday. The number of cases reported there is 190, out of a total population of 1,500. The situation thus created is serious for large users of paper, and may mean a big reduction in the size of Vancouver newspapers depending on Powell River for supplies.

Is Spreading Around Alberta.

Edmonton, Oct. 27.—Between 175 and 180 new cases of Spanish influenza were reported Friday, making over 600 cases in all. Three more deaths due to the disease occurred, after only two days' illness in each case.

Beginning yesterday, the wearing of gauze masks is compulsory on all except in the home.

One soldier died at the military hospital.

A comprehensive district nursing scheme was organized Friday night by the municipal and health authorities. The disease is reported to be spreading in the country districts. Drumheller is the worst centre, with 600 cases in a population of 800. All of these are down, including the telephone operators. Two deaths occurred there Friday from the disease.

Great Increase at Winnipeg.

Winnipeg, Oct. 27.—The Spanish influenza rate broke all records here yesterday with a leap forward to 90 cases before noon. Two more deaths were reported. Twenty-two of the new cases were among the military, and all barracks and military hospitals except the Exhibition grounds camp were placed under strict quarantine.

Conditions in Halifax.

Thirty new civilian cases of suspected Spanish influenza were reported to the Halifax Health Board up to noon Saturday. The military authorities reported 20 additional cases. There were two deaths in Halifax from the disease during the 24 hours and one in Dartmouth.