

STRICKEN ILL ON WAY HOME

Young Chatham Man's First Visit From West After Ten Years

OTHER PATHETIC CASES

"Flu" Situation Improving in Many Places—Climax Believed Past

(Special and C. P. Despatches.)

Chatham, Oct. 24. — The epidemic appears on the wane here. One victim to-day was Russell Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jehiel L. Smith, who died of pneumonia following influenza. He lived in British Columbia for fourteen years, and was on his way home for the first visit in ten years, when stricken. He is survived by his parents, one sister, Mrs. R. J. Clements, and two brothers, Percy of Chatham, and Theodore, in Toronto.

Donald McWilliam Succumbs.

St. Thomas, Oct. 24. — (Special.) — Donald McWilliam, of the law firm of McCrimmon, McCrimmon & McWilliam, died at Amara Wood Hospital late Wednesday night following a week's illness of influenza, with ensuing complications. He was one of the most brilliant young barristers of this city, graduating from Osgoode Hall in 1916, being one of the youngest lawyers in the history of Canada to attain his qualifications, being only 21 years of age at the time. He recently recovered from a severe attack of inflammatory rheumatism, and his death is believed due to his weakened condition. He was born and received his early education in Dutton, where his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Archibald McWilliam, reside.

Ex-Principal a Victim.

Harriston, Oct. 24. — Geo. Shannon, a farmer, 35 years of age, died at the hospital here last night after some ten days' illness, of pneumonia. He taught school for five years. Up to a year ago he was Principal at Chatsworth. He was a son of the late Thomas Shannon, and a brother of J. H. Shannon, lawyer, here. One brother, Ross, is overseas.

Two Young Married Men Taken.

Tillsonburg, Oct. 24. — Dr. J. H. Hooper, Medical Officer of Health, states that the climax of the influenza epidemic has not yet been reached in the town. Several new cases were reported to-day, also two deaths. After an illness of only five days of double pneumonia, Clarence Eilow, aged twenty-nine years, a popular resident, an employee of the Borden Milk Company, passed away this morning. He leaves a wife and small son who are just recovering from the disease. He was a member of Otter Lodge, No. 59, and C.O.F. Court Liskar.

Frank Johnston, thirty-one years old, passed away at his home on Talbot avenue this afternoon from pneumonia. He leaves a wife and small child.

General Vaccination.

Kingston, Oct. 24. While the influenza epidemic is under control here, the Medical Officer of Health has decided not to permit churches, schools and theatres to reopen until next week at least. Queen's University expects to reopen on November 5. Kingston doctors are now well supplied with vaccine made by Dr. Reed of Queen's Medical Laboratories, which is giving excellent results, and the people generally are being vaccinated.

From Other Points in Ontario.

Among the five deaths recorded in Belleville in the past twenty-four hours is that of Alfred J. McLeod, grocer, aged fifty years, an ex-Alderman of the city and a former High School Trustee. He had been ill but five days. Death was due to pneumonia. Another grocer, Alex. McAnuley, died at the age of thirty-one years of pneumonia. Wilbert C. Eggleston of the Bell Telephone staff here, has succumbed to the same disease. He was thirty-two years of age.

Thirteen deaths occurred from Spanish influenza and pneumonia in London yesterday. The situation is somewhat improved, although the death rate is higher than yesterday. The city issued a proclamation calling on women to help in the homes that are stricken.

St. Thomas authorities report that the spread of the "flu" seemed to have reached its peak and is rapidly on the decline, no new cases having been reported during the past twenty-four hours. Three more deaths occurred Wednesday evening and Thursday morning, bringing the total number up to nearly twenty.

Galt had seven deaths in twenty-four hours, and considerably fewer new cases, so the doctors think the crest of the epidemic there has been passed. The latest victims are: Mrs. A. McNichol, 62 Forest road, aged sixty-three; Mrs. G. Webster, 122 West Main street, aged thirty-six; Mrs. David Hartings, 22 East street, aged thirty; Dirvan Samoyallan, 55 Spruce street, aged thirty; Mrs. Peter Smith, 62 Bruce street, aged twenty-three; Lew Chue, 36 Water street north, aged thirty, and Mrs. Alex. Johnston, Dickson street.

Rapidly on Decline.

Montreal, Oct. 24. — The Spanish influenza epidemic was considered to-day by the members of the Board of Health to be rapidly on the decline. The deaths reported during the hours of midnight and noon to-day were 62 and the new cases 462.

Deaths Fall Off 75 Per Cent.

Quebec, Oct. 24. — The influenza epidemic is gradually disappearing from this city. Very few cases were reported to-day, while the number of deaths has fallen off 75 per cent.