

SYMPTOMS OF NEW DISEASE

Spanish Influenza is Found in Ontario Among Soldiers at Polish Camp

Spanish influenza, which has been epidemic in some portions of Europe, and which recently made its presence known in the United States, has been found in Ontario. The only definite report of this epidemic existing in this Province comes from the Polish Camp at Niagara-on-the-Lake, where about 100 patients are in hospital, according to the A.D.M. S. Department at Military Headquarters. Rumors of a few cases in the northern part of the Province have also reached the city.

Hon. W. D. McPherson, the Provincial Secretary, and Col. J. W. S. McCullough, Chief Officer of the Provincial Board of Health, had a conference yesterday in regard to the matter. With the hope of facilitating the prevention and treatment of cases which may develop in Ontario, the Provincial Board of Health has been authorized to issue a circular regarding the subject to all the physicians in the Province.

Col. McCullough said yesterday that all the units affected with the disease in the military camp have been quarantined. Thus far no evidences of the influenza have been detected in the camp of Canadians near the Polish soldiers. The present outbreak seems to be a different form of disease to the epidemic of 1889, which lasted about three years and spread rapidly over the civilized world. The cases so far located are not as severe as those of thirty years ago.

Resembles Influenza.

The disease, Col. McCullough explained, resembles influenza. It is an acute febrile infectious condition of three or four days' duration. The most important symptoms are: Sudden onset with chills, severe headache, with pain in the back and limbs, and a general feeling of malaise. The face is flushed and herpes appears on the lips in some cases. The fever runs from 99 to 102 degrees, and occasionally 103 to 104 degrees. The highest point is reached on the second day, when there is a sudden drop, and by the fourth day the patient is well. Many cases develop a harsh cough with thick sputum, and some cases develop into pneumonia. The period of fever, as well as the total course of the disease, is shorter than in ordinary influenza, and there are less gastrointestinal symptoms. The disease is spread by germs carried in the nose and throat, and the infection is generally passed from one person to another by direct personal contact, drinking utensils, use of common towels, etc.

"The public is warned to avoid contact with these cases," Col. McCullough said, "and anyone becoming infected is advised to remain in bed and have a physician's advice."