

INQUIRE INTO FLU OUTBREAK

**Board of Health and Military
Confer To-day on Local
Situation**

DEATH TOLL MOUNTING

**Hospitals Are Taxed to Capacity, but Conditions Among
Soldiers Improve**

Two deaths and many more cases of "Spanish Flu" were reported last evening. Sixteen members of the police force are reported off duty with the disease. The deaths were those of Mrs. Kathleen Meade, aged twenty-nine years, of 130 Mutual street, who died in the General Hospital, and Mrs. Maude Small of 2 Priscilla street, who died at the Western Hospital. Twenty new patients were admitted to the General Hospital, making a total of eighty patients. Four were admitted to St. Michael's Hospital and this gives this hospital seventeen patients, two of whom are in a serious condition. Half of the nursing staff at Grace Hospital are ill and a number of suspected cases were admitted last night. A number of cases were also admitted to the Western Hospital.

The epidemic of "Spanish influenza," despite the healthful weather the city is now experiencing, is not abating. The death toll is mounting up, and the disease continues to spread vigorously throughout the city. Among the soldiers the conditions continue to be encouraging, but throughout the civilian population of the city numerous people are succumbing to the disease after very brief illnesses. The city schools have been invaded and two deaths have been reported from one of them. A special meeting of the Health Board has been called for to-day, when military representatives will join with the civic authorities to discuss the situation. The M.O.H., Dr. Hastings, is in Washington to-day to consult with the American authorities on the outbreak of the disease, but requests for nurses for outside points are being refused on account of the severity of the epidemic here, and their scarcity.

The most of the local cases so far have been in the camps of the Royal Air Force, but a marked improvement has been noted there. The improvement is noticeable in so far as new cases are concerned. At the Hamilton Camp the R.A.F. is having the most trouble, as the cases there are of a severe type, and complications have set in in a number of instances. The situation at the Military Base Hospital is said to be easing up, and only a few minor complications have set in.

Hospitals Are Crowded.

All the hospitals are taxed to capacity, and cases are being turned away from some of them. All have closed their doors to visitors, with a view to minimizing the danger of the epidemic as far as possible. As influenza has not been included in the reportable list because under ordinary conditions there would be confusion between true influenza and colds, only a few cases are being reported to the health authorities. Sixteen deaths from the epidemic had been reported up till yesterday. Of new cases reported to the City Hall yesterday eight were in one family.

While admitting that the situation among the soldiers was acute, Lieut.-Col. L. E. W. Irving, A.D.M.S., claimed yesterday that the authorities had the outbreak well in hand. At the Niagara camp there are about 100 cases and at Camp Borden about 40. Two deaths have occurred at Hamilton where there are nearly 200 cases. Major-General Logie stated yesterday that the winter quarters of the troops at Exhibition Camp and Hamilton were ready for occupancy, and that the men would be moved just as soon as permission was granted by the medical men. It was his opinion that the Railway Troops would go to Hamilton either on the 9th or 10th instant. The expectation is that the Hamilton men will be moved on Wednesday and those coming to Toronto on Thursday. The Women's Building is once more fitted up as a camp hospital. The Siberian Force, which is in training at Niagara, will be left there for the present in accordance with the wishes of Brigadier-General Bickford.

One of the city hotels has been severely hit by the epidemic.

Nurse Teaches School.

The influenza has also attacked the schools and some of the teaching staffs are badly depleted and many of the children home ill. In the Pape Avenue School 25 children from one room are away with influenza, three teachers are sick, and two pupils who attended this school are dead. Six of the staff of the Harbord Collegiate Institute are down with the disease, while a number of the other schools report several children and some cases teachers ill. Ten out of 28 of the teachers at the Roden School, Hiawatha avenue, are reported ill, and a registered nurse, who is visiting in the city from New York, was asked to take a class yesterday. This school may have to be closed.

That the overcrowded street cars might help to spread the influenza epidemic was a reason advanced by a civic solicitor, Mr. C. M. Colquhoun, yesterday in the First Division Court, in asking for a hasty hearing of the Toronto Railway Company's appeal against the fine imposed on them by the Ontario Railway Board for failure to supply new cars. "Why all the hurry now?" asked Chief Justice Sir William Meredith, in pointing out that the case must be taken up in due course. "It's most important to the public," was Mr. Colquhoun's reply, "at this period when a serious contagious disease is in our midst, there should be as little overcrowding as possible."

One east end physician yesterday reported that he had over eighty cases on his list, and druggists throughout the city state that never in their experience have they been called upon to fill so many prescriptions.

Whole Family Laid Up.

A nurse for one of the large departmental stores in her rounds recently found a whole family laid up

with the disease and no one to look after them. Every effort she made to get them into a hospital or to secure a nurse was futile. She did what she could herself and was then relieved by one of the store managers.

Weston has now become one of the centres of the "Spanish Flu" epidemic. One of the town's doctors last evening stated that he had handled thirty cases during the day, with many more reported. In his opinion the disease was similar to the attack of grippé prevalent twenty-five years ago.

A Call for Nurses.

The need for women, experienced or inexperienced, to assist in home nursing in the city on account of the present epidemic of Spanish influenza is so great that the Home Bureau Nursing Association last evening had twenty-five urgent appeals for help to which they had no one to send in response. Some sufferers could not get any food, as there was no one to wait on them. Anyone who can give her services, either voluntarily or for pay, in this most urgent work for humanity's sake, please telephone North 1534, or call at 517 Yonge street, between 1 and 5.

Lieut. Sidney A. Lang of Indian road West Toronto, died at the Officers' Hospital, St. Johns, Que., Sunday morning from Spanish influenza. Lieut. Lang was the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Lang. The funeral will be held from Steers' undertaking parlors this afternoon.