

3633 Deaths from Grip in Boston

*200,000 Boston People
Were Grip Sufferers,
Dr. Brough Estimates*

Health Expert Computes Deaths from Epidemic at 3633 – Conditions in State Improved – Ban Expires Sunday

More than 200,000 cases of influenza have prevailed in Boston during the present epidemic, which is now slowly but surely growing to a close, according to Dr. David Brough, deputy commissioner of health in charge of the medical division, who expressed this opinion yesterday. Dr. Brough based this approximation of cases on the number of deaths which up to the last night totaled 2882 from influenza alone and 3633 from influenza and pneumonia combined, since the outbreak of the mortality-making wave.

The deputy-commissioner computed that about this number or approximately one-fourth of the entire population of Boston, had been affected during the course of the influenza wave assuming that for every person who dies about 100 or less were infected with the disease.

Figures marking the progress of the present pandemic wave of influenza in communities and military organizations which are in the possession of the health department show that the number of persons affected in ratio to the number of deaths has been about the same as it is now computed to be – have been – in Boston. In the navy from three to five of the enlisted men in the various communities in which they were attacked by the disease is moderately estimated that 100,000 men in the navy have been affected by the disease, but in this respect the influenza germ may and must have made no greater impression upon them than would a cold, severe or slight. In Spain it is estimated that 20 per cent of the entire population was infected with the disease which in that way earned for itself the dreaded appellation of “Spanish fever.”

A total of 34 more deaths were reported at the health department last night for the preceding 24 hours than on Sunday, but this apparent sudden rise in the deaths recorded was annotated and the increase was attributed to the two holidays, Columbus day and Sunday, which came together. The deaths reported last night were 94 from influenza and 25 from pneumonia, a total of 119. On Sunday the record showed 72 deaths from influenza and 13 from pneumonia, while Saturday 103 from influenza and 18 from pneumonia.

Predict Lowering of Death Rate

Health officials expect that today the number of deaths recorded will be as low as on Sunday, when the total was 85 from both maladies, but it may be a few days before an appreciable drop will be recorded. The deaths reported yesterday are all said to be in cases where the disease was contracted a fortnight or so ago. The number of deaths from pneumonia reported yesterday – 25 – was low, although it was 12 higher than the previous day. Health officials say that this is the beginning of the pneumonia season of the year.