

BODY LEFT FIVE DAYS ON SHELF

Health Authorities Report
Shocking Conditions in
the North End

2 UNBURIED BODIES FOUND IN E. BOSTON

Shocking evidences of apparent neglect by North end undertakers in the failure to bury the bodies of three children, victims of the grip, were brought to the attention of the board of health last night, and a far-reaching investigation of undertakers' methods where reports warrant inquiry at this time will be started today by Dr. William C. Woodward, Boston commissioner of health.

Discovery of yesterday's cases followed description in the Herald last Friday and Saturday of deplorable conditions in the North end. In one case of an unburied child, disclosed yesterday, the body of the infant was found "on a shelf, covered with a rubber cloth, with rubbish on top of it."

Body on Shelf Five Days

The body, that of Michael Alfieri, 28 months old, had lain in the undertaker's shop since it was removed there from the Alfieri home, 66 Frankfort Street, East Boston, on Thursday morning last. "It was decomposed and in bad condition, with offensive odors therefrom," according to the report filed in the health department last night by Police Officer Roger Flynn.

The undertaker's shop was that of Raffaele Guarante at 415 Hanover Street. Patrolman Flynn discovered it there yesterday after being led there by the father, Leo Alfieri. The father had visited the undertaker's shop alone and with relatives several times since Thursday, making frantic appeals to have the remains of his little one buried. At the time the body was removed from the Alfieri flat he made a contract with the undertaker, agreeing to pay \$82 for the burial.

Demanded Pay in Advance

According to the story told by the father yesterday, the undertaker demanded payment in advance, but this was not until Monday, although he had had possession of the body since Thursday. Yesterday the undertaker, according to the police, demanded of the father a doctor's certificate of death. The physician who had treated the child could not be located, and the father, almost crazed with grief, had his case brought to the attention of the health commissioner.

The two children of Giovanni Golantuono of 61 Lubec street, East Boston, a boy aged 5 years and a girl aged 6 months, died on Thursday. Their bodies were still in their home yesterday when visited by the authorities, and the double-funeral will not take place until today. This was the second case of seeming neglect on the part of an undertaker...