

INFLUENZA ORDINANCE

AND MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION

Proclamation by the Mayor of the City of Fort Wayne, Indiana

Of the passage and taking effect of ordinance of said city for the protection of the public health and for the prevention and suppression of influenza.

WHEREAS, there is now prevalent throughout the city of Fort Wayne, Indiana, a serious epidemic of influenza endangering the health and lives of the inhabitants of said city; which epidemic has already cost the lives of

many of the citizens, and may, unless strict quarantine regulations are put in force and public gatherings prevented or limited, kill hundreds more; and,

WHEREAS, the Common Council of said city in special session assembled at the council chamber in the city hall on the evening of December 14, 1918, in order to suppress and check said epidemic, did, by unanimous

vote of the fourteen members of said council there present, out of the fifteen members elect of said council, pass General Ordinance of said city No. 865 as amended, entitled: "An ordinance for the protection of the public health of the city of Fort Wayne, and for the prevention and suppression of the disease of influenza," which said ordinance is in words and in figures, as follows, to wit:

GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 865. (As Amended.)

AN ORDINANCE for the protection of the public health of the city of Fort Wayne, and for the prevention and suppression of the disease of influenza.

Whereas, Influenza, a serious contagious and infectious disease and a menace to the health and lives of the inhabitants of Fort Wayne, is now prevalent and epidemic in said city, and an urgent necessity exists for the immediate checking of the further spread of said disease by quarantine regulations, and the preventing and limiting of public gatherings. Now therefore,

Section 1. Be it ordained by the Common Council of the City of Fort Wayne, Indiana, that all houses wherein a case or cases of influenza or pneumonia exist, shall be placarded in a conspicuous place, with cards to be furnished by the health department.

All persons having such disease shall be isolated in such house, or in a hospital or other place designated by the Board of Health, and no person shall be allowed to enter said sick room, except the attending physician, nurse, or members of the health board and health officers and clergyman, without permission of the city health officer or one of his assistants.

Section 2.—Every physician engaged to treat a case of influenza, or who shall have personal knowledge of any case of said disease, shall immediately report to the Board of Health each individual case by name and location. When a physician is not employed, the responsible head of the family, or in case of boarding houses, hotels or lodging houses, the manager thereof

shall immediately report the case in writing to the Board of Health.

Section 3.—All individuals in any house wherein a case of influenza or pneumonia following influenza exists, shall be prohibited from leaving the premises as long as the house remains placarded. However, individuals in the said house not afflicted with the disease, who are engaged in gainful occupations, may be permitted to follow such occupations upon the express condition, however, that they do not frequent public meetings, churches, schools, theatres, pool rooms, billiard halls, or any place where people from time to time congregate in considerable numbers, and provided further, that such individuals will avoid coming in contact in whatsoever manner with the patient or patients in the said house.

Section 4.—All such homes shall be placarded by or under the directions of the Board of Health, and said placard shall be removed only by the Board of Health and not until at least four days after the temperature has registered normal in the last case occurring in such family. After patients have recovered from influenza, or pneumonia following influenza, the house shall be thoroughly aired, woodwork washed with soap and water, or an approved disinfectant, and all bed clothing used by the patient shall be boiled or thoroughly cleaned and aired under direction of the Board of Health.

Section 5.—That all schools, public or private, Sunday schools, high schools, continuation or trade schools, music schools, business colleges and academies in the city, be hereby discontinued until public notice shall be given by the Board of Health, allowing their resumption, when the present epidemic of influenza is over.

Provided, however, that such pro-

hibition shall not apply to any such schools as shall require all persons attending such school to sit not closer than six (6) feet one from the other, that this prohibition is not to apply to boarding schools or colleges where students must remain on the premises, or other institutions for instruction in affiliation with or under control of the Federal government.

And further provided that in such schools so exempted from this order, no dining assemblies be permitted except for meals, military purposes, or purposes incident thereto.

And provided, however, that this prohibition is not to apply to schools, colleges or academies where private instruction is given to groups of students, not to exceed five in number.

Section 6. That no child of 15 years or under shall be permitted to attend or frequent any public meetings, theatres, movies, stores, or any place where people from time to time congregate in considerable numbers. And that such children shall not be permitted on the streets or street cars in said city after 7 o'clock in the evening unless accompanied by their parents or guardians, until public notice shall be given by the Board of Health to the contrary, when the present epidemic of influenza is over.

Section 7. That all public furnaces, the public library and all branches thereof, and all swimming pools and tanks in the city be hereby discontinued until public notice shall be given by the Board of Health to the contrary, when the present epidemic of influenza is over.

Section 8.—That all ice cream parlors, soda fountains and soft drink places shall serve ice cream and drinks only in individual sanitary paper containers, provided, however,

that the usual china or glassware can be used on condition that after each individual service they be sterilized by boiling not less than 10 minutes, and provided further that not more than five people shall be served at one time at any counter, and not more than two people at one time at any table, and that in either case, that all spoons or other utensils used by customers shall be boiled not less than 10 minutes after each individual use.

And that all hotels and other public eating places that serve all dishes, silver and service ware of every kind after each individual use, said sterilization to consist of live-steam treatment for not less than 10 minutes, or immersion in boiling water for not less than 30 minutes, until public notice shall be given by the Board of Health to the contrary, when the present epidemic of influenza is over.

Section 9.—That all stores and offices of every nature shall cease dry sweeping, and substitute therefor wet mop, vacuum cleaners or sweeping compound.

Section 10. That all churches in the city be hereby discontinued until public notice shall be given by the Board of Health to the contrary, when the present epidemic of influenza is over. Provided, however, that this order is not to apply to such churches where the congregation is so seated as to occupy alternate seats, and in no case shall a person be seated nearer than two feet to another person.

Section 11. That all department stores, all 5 and 10 cent stores, and all other retail places of business in the city be hereby discontinued until public notice shall be given by the Board of Health to the contrary, when the present epidemic of influenza is over. Provided, however, that this order is not to apply to

such department stores, 5 and 10 cent stores, and retail business establishments as do not permit of more than one customer to every six square feet of floor space, and do not allow crowding in any part of such store, and do not permit bargain counters or special demonstrations in such stores, and providing that no loitering shall be allowed in such places.

That the advertising of special sales, and especially a suburban day, be discontinued until public notice shall be given by the Board of Health to the contrary, when the present epidemic of influenza is over.

Section 12. That all bowling alleys, billiard halls, pool halls and shooting galleries, be hereby discontinued until public notice shall be given by the Board of Health to the contrary, when the present epidemic of influenza is over. Provided, however, this order shall not apply to such bowling alleys, billiard halls, pool halls and shooting galleries as do not permit loitering on the premises, nor permit spectators to be present, and only permit those to be present who are actual participants in such indoor amusement.

Section 13. That all theatres, moving picture houses and concert halls be hereby discontinued until public notice shall be given by the Board of Health to the contrary, when the present epidemic of influenza is over. Provided, however, that this order is not to apply to such theatres, moving picture houses and concert halls as restrict the number of persons attending such place to 50 per cent. of the capacity of such theatre, moving picture houses and concert halls, and that only every alternate seat be occupied.

Section 14. That all lodge meet-

ings, society meetings, fraternal meetings, club meetings, or meetings of similar organizations be hereby discontinued until public notice shall be given by the Board of Health to the contrary, when the present epidemic of influenza is over. Provided, however, that this order shall not apply to any such meetings as require all attending to sit not nearer than two (2) feet to any other person.

Section 15. That all dances, basket ball games, boxing bouts, conventions and exhibits of every kind and nature be discontinued until public notice shall be given by the Board of Health to the contrary, when the present epidemic of influenza is over.

Section 16. That the street railway company shall insure that all its cars be properly ventilated and that they be disinfected at the end of each day's run, or before starting on the next day's run, until public notice shall be given by the Board of Health to the contrary, when the present epidemic of influenza is over.

Section 17. Any person, firm or corporation failing to comply with or violating any of the provisions of this ordinance, shall, upon conviction be fined in any sum not more than Three Hundred (\$300.00) Dollars, or be imprisoned not more than three (3) months, or both.

Section 18. Whereas an urgent necessity requires the immediate operation of this ordinance for the protection and suppression of the prevention and suppression of influenza, this ordinance shall be in full force and take effect as soon as proclamation is made thereof by the Mayor of Fort Wayne, and copies of said ordinance and proclamation are posted in three public places in each of the wards of said city.

AND, WHEREAS, an urgent necessity requires the immediate operation of this ordinance for the protection of the public health of said city and the prevention and suppression of said epidemic of influenza, as delay may result in the needless loss of many lives, which said urgent necessity has been determined by the Common Council in said ordinance,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, W. Sherman Cutshall, mayor of the said city of Fort Wayne, by virtue of the powers conferred upon me by the laws of the state of Indiana, do hereby publicly proclaim that the above and foregoing General Ordinance No. 865 as amended, of said city shall take effect from and after the date of this proclamation after copies of

said ordinance and proclamation shall have been posted in three (3) public places in each of the wards of said city.

Done at said city of Fort Wayne, Indiana, this 14th day of December, 1918, at 11:55 p. m.

Witness my hand and the seal of said city,

(Seal)
W. SHERMAN, CUTSHALL,
Mayor of the City of Fort Wayne.

Attest: W. T. JEFFERIES,
Clerk of said City.