

MINISTERS OBJECT TO THE CLOSING ORDERS

BELIEVE CHURCHES SHOULD HOLD SERVICES.

Order Changed By City to Request—Some Will Hold Services on Sunday, They State.

Following the appearance before the city commissioners yesterday morning of a committee of local ministers, including Revs. Willis G. Clark, Charles Mercer Hall, Dr. E. F. Campbell and J. O. Ervin, in which they protested against the order of the city authorities that churches must be included in public places which would have to close during the influenza epidemic, the commissioners modified the order to a request. It is understood that several of the ministers will hold at least one service Sunday, while others will not hold any services until the ban is lifted.

The petition presented by the ministers follows:

"We, the undersigned, do hereby express our regret at the proposed order completely closing the churches and the suspending of public worship, because of the prevailing epidemic.

"None can deny," writes John Fiske, "that religion is the largest and most ubiquitous fact connected with the existence of mankind upon the earth." The sole reliance upon material forces and scientific measures as far as any corporate action is concerned; the corporate approach to God denied to everyone, sanctuaries closed, in a time of great suffering, sorrow, and death; the tacit assumption that the civil authority is supreme over the spiritual in all things—is an intolerable thing. Religion bids us to appeal to God at all times, and that not only privately, but by public prayer in our churches. Such has everywhere been the custom of centuries. And people, even those who are not professing Christians, expect it. They look to us as ministers of God to lead them in public supplication.

The argument that people can pray in private, as well as in public, is the old and well-worn argument against all church going. Public worship is a part of our life as taught by the Master.

"With due respect for those in civil authority, yet having in mind also the decision of Judge Connor, of the federal court, that a municipality has no power to close a church on account of the present sickness, we desire to express our opinion that it is inconsistent to close churches, and, at the same time, allow people to congregate in the street cars, department stores, railroad stations, hotels, factories, etc."

"In a time of such suffering and peril it is more important to pray to God, all the people being called together for that purpose, than to carry on business. There is far less danger in a church, where people gather to pray for a brief hour, than in any crowded place where the people throng all through the day."

"One service appears to us to be the minimum of our public duty on the Lord's Day. We therefore, with the greatest respect for the good judgment of the health officer and of all interested, express the hope that at present, at least, this may find approval."

"W. F. Powell, Willis G. Clark, Charles Mercer Hall."

232 NEW CASES WERE REPORTED IN "FLU" EPIDEMIC YESTERDAY

Government Asked for 125 Beds and Equipment—Permission to Use Them Expected Today—Soup Kitchens Open and Public Places Close Down Under Orders.

Following the passage of the strictest ordinance ever enacted here, it is believed, for the enforcement of the closing order, as passed by the city commissioners yesterday morning, Asheville closed down tight, in the fight to prevent the spread of the influenza epidemic here. Reports to the city health authorities yesterday showed 232 new cases, the highest ever reported in the city in one day, in the present epidemic or during the epidemic of 1918-1919, the highest number for any one day last year being 212. While the number of cases is much larger than those reported last year, the deaths are fewer, the disease being milder this year.

Under the law, as passed by the board yesterday, all stores must close at 6 p. m., and no provision is made for them remaining open after that time on Saturday night, the exception being drug stores, which, however, can sell only drugs after 6 p. m., and cafes and hotels. No social gatherings of any kind will be permitted and the police will keep the move-on law in force, on the streets.

With the soup kitchen at Park avenue school completely overrun yesterday with calls for food, the local Red Cross committee has completed arrangements for opening another soup kitchen in the Masonic temple this morning. Members of the canteen corps are distributing the food to the destitute sick of the city.

A committee yesterday, consisting of Mayor Roberts, S. Lipinsky and T. W. Raoul, visited Oteen hospital and the given event was held by Col. Lyette, the commanding officer, that 125 beds with full equipment, an ambulance, or anything else at the hospital would be forthcoming just as soon as approval is secured from the war department at Washington. The committee wired the secretary of war and Senator Overman yesterday, asking that this permission be granted and confirmation of the matter is expected at any time.

Arrangements are being perfected for opening the emergency hospital at the new High school building, just as soon as it is felt the hospital is needed.

The ordinance as passed yesterday follows:

Be it ordained by the board of commissioners of the city of Asheville:

Section 1. That all moving picture shows, vaudeville or other theaters within the corporate limits of the city of Asheville, are hereby required to close and remain closed until the revocation of this ordinance.

Section 2. That all schools conducted in the city, both public and private, are required to close immediately upon the passage of this ordinance, with the exception of schools operated as boarding schools.

Provided, such schools will not be allowed to operate for the purpose of instructing pupils residing without said schools.

Section 3. That all social or fraternal organizations within said city such as fraternal orders, lodges, dances—public or private, clubs of any kind, parties or receptions, and all other social gatherings are hereby required to suspend all gatherings of any kind or nature, pending the revocation of this ordinance.

Section 4. That all stores operated in said City are hereby directed and required to close for business and not permit customers within their doors later than 6 o'clock p. m. each day.

PROVIDED, drug stores may remain open for the purpose of dispensing drugs and other necessary medical supplies.

PROVIDED FURTHER, that the provisions of this ordinance shall not apply to cafes, restaurants or cafeterias dispensing food only.

PROVIDED FURTHER, that nothing in this ordinance shall be construed as to allow any stores or other business enterprise to dispense soda water, cigars, tobacco, periodicals of any kind, or anything else that might be classed as unnecessary, after the closing hour named above.

Section 5. That all street cars and motor busses, operating in said City, for the purpose of transporting passengers over the streets of the City are hereby required to keep open one-half the windows in such street cars or motor busses at all times while in operation.

Section 6. That all soda fountains or other places, where soda water or soft drinks of any kind are dispensed, are required to serve such soda water or soft drinks in sanitary paper cups, each cup to be immediately destroyed after use.

PROVIDED, that ice cream must also be served in paper cups or dishes, and such paper cups or dishes destroyed immediately after use.

Section 7. That all public gatherings, of any kind, character or nature, are hereby prohibited, whether specifically mentioned in this ordinance or not, pending the revocation of this ordinance.

Section 8. That any person, firm or corporation violating any of the provisions of this ordinance be and is subject to a penalty of Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars for each and every such offense.

Section 9. That this ordinance being for the immediate preservation of public health and safety, is hereby declared an emergency ordinance, effective immediately upon its passage.

I move the adoption of the foregoing ordinance, this the 29th day of January, 1920.

Approved as to form: GEO. PENNELL, Corporation Counsel.

GALLATIN ROBERTS, Commissioner.

TWO DIET KITCHENS WILL BE OPENED TODAY

CALL FOR AIDES AND OTHER HELP ISSUED.

Physicians Explain Need for Trained Nurses and Ask for Their Release If Possible.

Leading Asheville physicians have recommended and are urging all persons having trained nurses in their employ that wherever possible their services be dispersed with so that the nurses can assist in rendering aid to influenza patients. It is pointed out that a nurse who is retained to attend one patient for ordinary diseases, can be working under the direction of physicians in emergency hospitals or when placed in a family where there are several cases, administrator unto the needs of several people. If those who can will dispense with their trained nurses during the epidemic here it is assured they will have been instrumental in saving several lives.

Nurses have been known to care for from 15 to 20 influenza patients at a time. Of course the physicians do not ask that very ill persons be deprived of their trained nurses, but this request is for those who could be cared for by some other than a trained nurse.

Mrs. T. S. Rollins, in charge of the relief work being carried on by the local chapter American Red Cross yesterday issued an appeal for volunteer nurses' aids, stating that the need is imperative even at the present while there are less than 500 cases in the city.

Also those who will assist in preparing food at the Park avenue school diet kitchen, in charge of Mrs. W. T. Randolph, are asked to telephone Mrs. Rollins at No. 147 early this morning.

The kitchen at the Masonic temple will be opened today on account of the fact that the Park avenue school kitchen was overrun yesterday.

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The Resolution.

Section 1. That all churches and religious organizations of all kind, character or nature, are hereby respectfully requested to suspend all gatherings of any kind, until, in the opinion of the health officer and the board of commissioners of said city, such gatherings may be had without damage to our citizens.

Section 2. That the police department be instructed through the commissioner of public safety, to devote every attention to the enforcement of the ordinance adopted today relative to the prohibition of gatherings of all kinds.

Section 3. That the said police department be further instructed through the said commissioner of public safety, to energetically enforce the municipal ordinance prohibiting loitering or interference with traffic on any street or sidewalk in said city.

Section 4. That all parents are

requested to suspend all gatherings of any kind or nature, pending the revocation of this ordinance.

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THREE SCHOOLS IN THE COUNTY CLOSED

SWANNANOVA, BLACK MOUNTAIN AND OAKLEY SUSPENDED.

Rural Schools Will Be Closed as the Need Arises—Influenza Reported in the County.

The Black Mountain, Swannanovia and Oakley schools were ordered closed yesterday by the county board of education acting upon the advice of County Physician W. H. Scruggs. This action was taken because a number of cases of influenza were found to exist in the two towns and in the thickly settled Oakley schools district in Biltmore township. Dr. Scruggs stated last night that the cases were not very serious and that on account of the large number attending these schools the action has been taken as an effort to suppress the spread of the disease.

No general closing order will be issued by the board of education Chairman J. D. Murphy said last night, and the board will in all probability continue to act upon the recommendations of the county physician.

The rural schools will be closed where it is found that several cases in that particular community exist, and Dr. Scruggs is keeping in communication with the various committees to ascertain the prevalence of the disease in the several districts. It is probable that some other schools will be closed but as yet it has been found necessary to close only the three.

Yesterday Commissioner G. F. Stradley and County Welfare Officer T. H. Parker while in the rural sections of the county found nine homes in need of help. In all these homes neighbors were induced to render the proper assistance. It was stated that while about half the number were found in destitute circumstances that several families in moderate circumstances only needed personal attention.

In one home all members of a family of nine were found confined to their beds, save one who had died and whose lifeless form had been moved by the sick sons and daughters to the hall. The county will render assistance to this family, and when neighbors were told of the serious plight of these people they went to their aid.

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Three More Days of Our
JANUARY CLEARANCE SALE

Yes, there are only three more days left in which to take advantage of our sale prices. Don't pass up an opportunity like this.

Spring Dresses, Suits and Millinery
Of Superior Beauty

Loevenbein Rutenbergs
45 PATTON AVE.

HAD I TAKEN CALOMEL I WOULD BE SICK, WEAK NOW

But I took "Dodson's Liver Tone" Instead and Feel Grand—Calomel Nauseates—Salivates!



STOP ITCHING ECZEMA
Penetrating, Antiseptic Zemo Will Help You

Never mind how often you have tried and failed, you can stop burning, itching eczema quickly by applying Zemo. Furnished by any druggist for 35c. Extra large bottle, \$1.00. Healing begins the moment Zemo is applied. In a short time usually every trace of eczema, nettle, pimples, rash, blackheads and similar skin diseases will be removed. For clearing the skin and making it vigorously healthy, always use Zemo, the penetrating, antiseptic liquid. It is not greasy and it does not stain. When others fail it is the one dependable treatment for skin troubles of all kinds.

The E. W. Ross Co., Cleveland, O.

Citizen Want Ads Bring Results

An Ordinance

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On the Square---Between the Avenues

COME TO OUR STORE TOMORROW — WE CONTINUE OUR

January Special Value Sale

SUITS AND OVERCOATS

\$25 VALUES UP TO \$45

No Odds and Ends—No Old Styled Left-Over Garments!

All Newly Arrived Direct From Our New York Factory

BE SURE YOU SEE THESE WONDERFUL VALUES BEFORE YOU BUY ELSEWHERE

SEE OUR WINDOWS

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