

TUCSON FOILS FLU BUG WITH MASKS TODAY

Order Requiring the Wearing of Masks Everywhere Except in The Home Became Effective at Midnight; Special Police Put on

The influenza epidemic is complicated for the people of Tucson today by a new menace—the police, augmented by twenty special policemen sworn in by Mayor Parker to assist in the enforcement of the “tee-total” mask ordinance, which became effective at midnight last night.

By the time The Star reaches its subscribers this morning policemen will be stationed in every street by which the downtown district may be reached. In effect, the business district is absolutely quarantined against the residence sections of the city and only those who wear masks may enter its boundaries. It was the plan of Chief of Police Frank T. Bailey to advise residents in this way of the new regulations, and to return to their home for their masks, all citizens who had ventured forth without a mask, of proper specifications, properly worn.

The new regulations with respect to masks may be stated briefly, contrawise:

Masks need not be worn within the privacy of the home.

Other than that there is no exception to the rule that masks must be worn.

All other provisions of the original order are still in force and will be as strictly enforced as the amendment to the order, concerning the wearing of masks. These provisions are: That persons may not loiter on the street and may not gather or congregate in any place. The modification of these provisions depends, in a way, upon the strict observance of the mask rule.

The effect of the mask rule will probably not be evident for several days, since, according to physicians, the incubation germ is from three to five days. In other words, a citizen may have worn a mask from two to four days, religiously, and still be attacked on the third or fifth day.

The number of cases reported to City Health Officer Clyne as developing yesterday was eight, and for the last four days the status of the epidemic, as indicated by new cases reported daily, has been two, four, six, eight. The situation in the county is about the same, according to reports, except at Mineral Hill, where the epidemic is said to be increasingly severe.

The full power of the city government and the office of the county attorney is back of the new health order. Mayor Parker has declared that he would see to the enforcement of any order which the health officer might issue, and Chief of Police Frank T. Bailey has assured the health officer that the provisions of the quarantine order will be enforced to the letter.