

MENINGITIS CASES LESS, ONLY 2 NEW

No Deaths Reported Tuesday
or Wednesday in Fort
Worth.

CITY HELPS PILOT POINT

Serum Forwarded on Mayor
Davis' Orders — Health
Board Meets in Dallas.

MENINGITIS DEVELOPMENTS HERE WEDNESDAY.

One positive case and one suspicious case reported up to 2 p. m. Wednesday. Physicians have hopes latter is not meningitis.

No deaths Tuesday or up to 2 p. m. Wednesday.

Number of cases to date: Fifteen in Fort Worth; one in county.

Number of deaths to date: Eight in city, one in county.

Three cases under treatment of serum in temporary meningitis ward at Medical College hospital.

Dr. O. Lee Jones, former city physician, named to assist City Physician Trimble. Additional clerk will be employed.

Epidemic reported at Pilot Point fifty miles from Fort Worth. Disease breaks out in school there. Two cases in one family and serum is sent by Mayor Davis to physicians there.

Situation in Fort Worth schools reported satisfactory. No cases among pupils. Ninety-five per cent of pupils in attendance Wednesday.

The Fort Worth meningitis situation Wednesday had a most hopeful outlook.

Two new cases, one doubtful, were reported. There have been fifteen cases and eight deaths in the city, and one fatal case in the county in the two weeks the disease has prevailed here.

It was stated at the mayor's office Wednesday that while the precautions of the citizens as advised by the board of physicians, appeared to be bearing the results hoped for, the vigilance of the authorities has not been relaxed and will not be, however satisfactory are the reports of the Fort Worth cases and deaths.

No Relaxation in Work.
Fort Worth's ability to pass the crisis, it was stated, will depend upon the continued care of the citizens, the use of the preventatives as suggested by the advisory board and cleanliness.

The most satisfactory results are reported in cases where the antimeningitis serum has been used. One of the cases, a child of 4 years, which appeared to be one of the most severe yet reported, is rapidly recovering and Drs. J. B. Cummings and J. B. Shannon, the attending physicians, say the sufferer is now out of danger.

One of the favorable signs is the fact that not more than one case in a family has been reported here so far. As Mayor Davis called the physicians in conference early and issued an appeal to the public to guard against personal contact with victims and the use of the spray and medicines, as suggested, has not been delayed, there

has been less danger than ordinarily in spreading.

Help Pilot Point.
An epidemic has broken out at Pilot Point, according to a report which reached here Wednesday, and there are families that have more than one member stricken. The disease broke out in the schools.

Pilot Point, through Dr. R. O. Braswell, made an appeal for serum Wednesday. James Liston, private secretary to the mayor, provided the serum requested for the use of Pilot Point physicians.

Ed Appleton, 20, of Arlington, one of the pitchers for the Fort Worth baseball team last season, was stricken with the disease at his home in Arlington. Appleton developed the disease Sunday morning and is reported to be in a serious condition.

All children at the high school were assembled Wednesday morning in the auditorium, where Superintendent Cantwell told them of the plans of the schools in regard to meningitis. He announced that at the moment physicians thought it advisable, the schools would be closed. Ninety-five per cent of the pupils were reported in attendance on Wednesday morning.

School Board Meets.
Members of the school board held another conference with the physicians advisory committee Wednesday. The physicians advised them against closing the schools. One reason is that not a single case has been found among school children. If one should be found the schools would be closed at once, and all pupils notified to take the precautions advised by physicians.

Against closing, it is pointed out that the children will congregate anyhow in play or at motion picture shows or other places and that they are better off in the modern school buildings with their perfect cleanliness and ventilation than they would be with the schools closed.

When the schools are closed, if that should become advisable, the school board members will ask the city also to close the picture shows, churches, theaters and all other places where the children would be brought together. That such a step will be needed, they do not consider likely.

POLICE ORDERED TO STOP ALL SPITTING

Orders for the arrest of all persons spitting in street cars or on the sidewalks were issued to the police Wednesday by Chief Renfro as an aid in the campaign to prevent meningitis getting a hold in Fort Worth.

The orders were given for arrests in all cases where the officers witness the spitting.

With the street car windows all closed for the winter, the cars at the end of trips show that the ordinance is being violated to a great extent. The closed cars afford an easy medium for the transfer of germs. Street car conductors also have orders to enforce the antispitting rule. Suggestion has also been made that the conductors pay some attention to the car ventilators, many of which do not seem to have been opened all winter.

"This is not a time for trifling," says Chief Renfro. "We have the ordinance against spitting, dangerous and filthy enough at all times. Meningitis, we are told, is most readily communicated through the mouth, throat and nose, and, therefore, from spitting. The police will do all they can to prevent spitting in the cars or on the sidewalks. We ask the public to assist us in this effort to prevent disease."

File to South Texas.

AUSTIN, Jan. 10.—The morning trains, coming into Austin from North Texas today, brought over fifty families to Austin as refugees from the meningitis stricken sections of North Texas, while equally as many families continued on to San Antonio. The families ranged from a membership of one or two children to as many as five.

This influx of people direct from the storm center of the epidemic causes some apprehension locally and the health authorities are busily engaged today in trying to locate the newcomers so as to keep them under surveillance.

There have been no materially new developments in the meningitis situation in South Texas reported to the state health department, but information from North and Central Texas is to the effect that a dozen or more cases have developed among the negroes in several places between here and Waco, while three cases are reported among negroes to the east of this city in the country.

Temple has notified the state health department that all schools, moving picture shows and churches have been closed and will remain closed there until all danger has passed, notwithstanding the fact that no cases have developed there as yet.

Here in Austin, while the schools have not been closed, a large number of parents took their children out of school this morning, and it is more than likely that the schools will close if any more cases other than the two now here develop. These two cases are reported as getting along very nicely.

Health Board Meets.

DALLAS, Jan. 10.—An effort to secure spinal meningitis serum for distribution throughout Texas will be made by the state board of health. County attorneys are urged to prevent practice on meningitis by unauthorized persons and also dilatoriness of physicians in reporting the disease. The disease is most prevalent among negroes.

These were the main points made by the state board of health today in formal resolutions adopted at its special meeting here to consider the meningitis outbreak.

Dr. Abraham Sophrian, the New York meningitis expert, received word today that his mother is dying in New York. He said he would remain in Texas to help fight meningitis.

Twelve new cases in Dallas since noon yesterday and five deaths were reported to the city board of health up to noon today.

Three of the new cases were negroes. Following are the state board of health resolutions:

"Resolved, That the president of the state board of health be authorized to use every effort to secure a supply of the approved New York board of health serum for distribution throughout the state.

"The state board of health further advises that owing to the great prevalence of the disease among the colored race, it recommends that local health authorities invite and encourage the co-operation of colored physicians.

"Recognizing the importance of early diagnosis and immediate use of the serum, the state board of health urges upon county attorneys the prosecution of all unauthorized persons prescribing for such people and any one delaying a proper diagnosis and treatment, as such delays tend to further spread

of the disease and prove fatal to the individual.

"On the appearance of the disease in any community the state board of health advises the closing of public schools, discourages public gatherings and further advises the closing of places of public amusement, at the discretion of local health authorities. The disease being conveyed by carriers (people apparently well) the state board of health wishes to emphasize the immediate necessity of antiseptic nose and throat sprays."

Marshall to Close Schools.

MARSHALL, Texas, Jan. 10.—A joint meeting of the Harrison County Medical Society, the Marshall school board and city commissioners resulted in a recommendation that the schools be closed and that everyone so far as possible stay away from public places to prevent the spread of meningitis. Mayor Cayen issued a proclamation in line with these recommendations. There are no cases known in Marshall now, although there was one death here yesterday.

Disease at Terrell.

TERRELL, Texas, Jan. 10.—City Health Officer Dr. W. H. Neely today reported one case of meningitis here. Rigid precautions to prevent spread were at once taken.

Quarantine Abolished.

SIREVEPORT, La., Jan. 10.—Despite protests of Mayor Eastham, the local board of health has abolished the meningitis quarantine that the mayor established last Sunday against Dallas, Waco and other points in North and East Texas, and also refused to request the state board to put on a statewide embargo against Texas.

The vote was 3 to 2. The two members appointed by the mayor voted to have the quarantine effective thirty days, but three members appointed by the governor took the opposite position.

Another Paris Case.

PARIS, Texas, Jan. 10.—A case of meningitis developed here this morning.

Case at Houston.

HOUSTON, Jan. 10.—Just when the local officials were congratulating themselves that meningitis had been stamped out of the city the fifth case developed last night, the patient being a negro.

Sophian Unable to Visit Waco.

WACO, Jan. 10.—A telephone message was this morning received by City Health Officer Minnock from Dr. Abraham Sophian of New York, stating that he might not be able to come now to Waco to deliver a lecture, but that he would come in about ten days if possible.

Many here claim that the disease is contracted more from exposure to cold and damp than from contact, and in support of this is the increase in cases yesterday following the intensely cold weather.