

STIC MOVE R SMALLPOX CONTROL TAKEN

Make Arrests of Persons Violating Health Regulations, Dr. Mueller Warns.

Intensive campaigns to prevent spread of smallpox, including arrest and penalizing of persons failing to report cases of the disease, will be begun in Rock Island according to a statement of A. N. Mueller, city physician.

Further step in the effort to control the disease will be the presentation to the city council at their next week of an ordinance punishing the contagiousness of disease by prevention of attendance at public schools.

approval has been given, according to Dr. Mueller.

Will Make Arrests.

Drastic steps must be taken to remedy this condition, the city physician said, and there will be no excuse accepted and no hesitation made in making arrests of those who violate the ordinances for the control of the disease. The public, he said, must be impressed with the importance of care in this respect, and the danger to the public health of the neglect of the disease. Suspicious illness with eruption should be reported, and the patient should remain at home until a diagnosis is made.

The ordinance to be presented at the next council meeting provides: "Whenever smallpox exists in the city of Rock Island, no child, teacher or other person employed in or about a school building shall be admitted, received, or retained in any public, private or parochial school in said city or shall be permitted to attend school who does not present to the proper school authorities a certificate signed by a legally licensed physician to the effect that he or she has had smallpox or that he or she has been successfully vaccinated within five years."

Authority for the ordinance is found in the ruling of the supreme court of Illinois that it is the duty of all municipal authorities to enforce such reasonable rules and

regulations as will stamp out disease and promote public health.

Not Prevalent.

The disease is not now as prevalent in the city as last year, according to Dr. Mueller, when there were nearly a hundred cases at this time. The danger of its spread

is not serious if steps for its control be taken at once, and if the public acts upon the advice of health authorities and observes regulations.

The move to take imperative action to enforce these regulations was advised by S. S. Winner, in-

spector on the state board of health, now in Moline, in a letter to Dr. Mueller.

In pointing out that the observance of these rules and the exercising of care on the part of individuals in cases of disease is a duty of citizenship, and directed to-

ward the public welfare, Dr. Mueller quoted from the Illinois Health News, which says:

"The American people as a whole are fair and clean and honest. They may be thoughtless, but when made to think of the moral aspect of their action they are inclined to get

right. If the average citizen can be made to see that his action in evading quarantine and in fleeing the physician not to report a communicable disease, is an unfair, dishonest and cowardly act opposed to every principle of good citizenship, we are satisfied that he

will meet his obligation in the majority of instances without hesitation.

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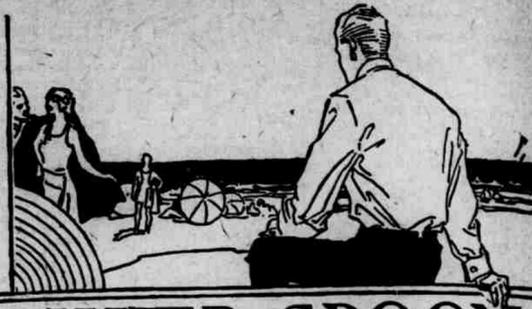
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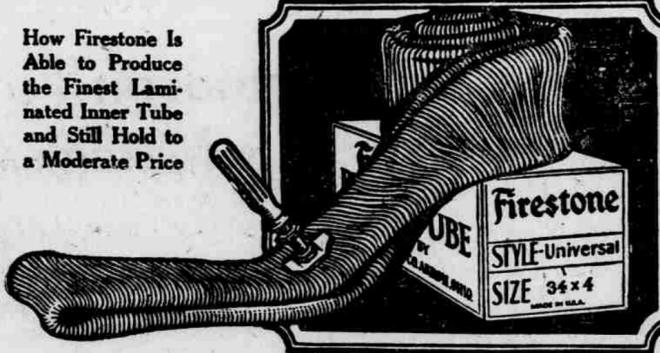
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