

U. S. Surgeon Will Probe Polio Epidemic

Plan Consultation;
No New Cases
Reported Thursday

United States Senior Surgeon A. G. Gillan of Washington, D. C., is being sent to Billings for investigation of the poliomyelitis epidemic and for consultation with health officers, Mayor H. E. Biddinger announced Thursday.

Meanwhile, no new cases had been reported to city or county health officers Thursday, fifth day of a rigid self-imposed quarantine. The last of the eight deaths which have occurred among Yellowstone, Big Horn and Carbon county residents was Sunday.

Mayor Biddinger's announcement of the arrival later this week of the surgeon was made following the receipt of a telegram from C. L. Williams, associate chief of the bureau of state services, who notified the mayor that Gillan is leaving immediately for Billings. The surgeon is being sent in response to a request from the mayor that an official come here to make a study of the epidemic with the objective of controlling spread of the disease, possibly determining its cause.

Since outbreak of the epidemic there have been 23 cases among Billings residents, 19 among those residing in Yellowstone county areas outside the city limits and eight from areas outside the county.

The quarantine, which was imposed Saturday in Billings and Monday throughout the county, restricts children under 18 to their own premises, bans public meetings and closes churches, schools, theaters, bars and other places of assembly. It does not, however, affect other businesses. Adults are free to come and go as usual.

Two Billings parents pleaded guilty Thursday afternoon to allowing their children to violate the quarantine and were fined \$25 each by Police Judge George J. Hutton. Since the quarantine went into effect, 40 parents have been targeted for violations.

"Exceptionally fine compliance" in rural communities with the quarantine order was reported Thursday by Sheriff Herbert Bailey, who said that Wednesday night he visited Huntley, Worden, Pompeys Pillar and Ouster to check rumors that there had been violations in those towns.

Eight Deaths Reported in County

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