
Delaware, 1918 flu epidemic, and our families

Mary Anne Vincent

Primary Goals

History of flu epidemic of 1918

Impact in Delaware, USA, and world

Resources

Secondary Goal

- Write about relative who died in epidemic

First awareness

- Death certificate of Catherine (O'Connor) Doughten
- Background
 - 1st generation Irish-American
 - Stay-at-home mom
 - mother of 13
 - Five under 18

Death certificate – gr grandmother

How long was she ill?

STANDARD DEATH CERTIFICATE
DELAWARE

1 PLACE OF DEATH
County Wm. North
Hundred Wilmington
or Wilmington
City Wilmington

2 FULL NAME Leathem C. Doughlin (Daughter)

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

3 SEX Female 4 COLOR OR RACE White 5 SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED OR DIVORCED Married

6 DATE OF BIRTH Oct 11 1866

7 AGE 52 yrs. mos. ds. If less than 1 day, hrs. or min.?

8 OCCUPATION (a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work at home
(b) General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which employed (or employer) Housewife

9 BIRTHPLACE (State or country) Del

10 NAME OF FATHER Wm. Cornes

11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (State or country) Ireland

12 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER Leathem

13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (State or country) Ireland

14 THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE
(Informant) James Doughlin
(Address) 846. Poplar St

15 FILED _____, 1918 REGISTRAR.

16 DATE OF DEATH 10 27 1918

17 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from 10 7 1918, to 10 27 1918, that I last saw him alive on 10 29 1918, and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at a m.

The CAUSE OF DEATH * was as follows:
Pneumonia

Contributory Influenza (Duration) yrs. mos. ds. 7
Secondary (Duration) yrs. mos. ds. 13

(Signed) W. B. P. Stewart M. D.
10 27 1918 (Address) 402 E 4th

* State the Disease Causing Death, or, in deaths from Violent Causes, State (1) Means of Injury; and (2) whether Accidental, Suicidal, or Homicidal.

18 LENGTH OF RESIDENCE (For Hospitals, Institutions, Transients, or Recent Residents)
At place of death 3 yrs. mos. ds. In the 52 State yrs. mos. ds.
Where was disease contracted? Same
If not at place of death?
Former or usual residence Same

19 PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL Delaware Cem DATE OF BURIAL 10-31 1918

20 UNDERTAKER James F. Chudler ADDRESS 1011 2nd

No maiden name

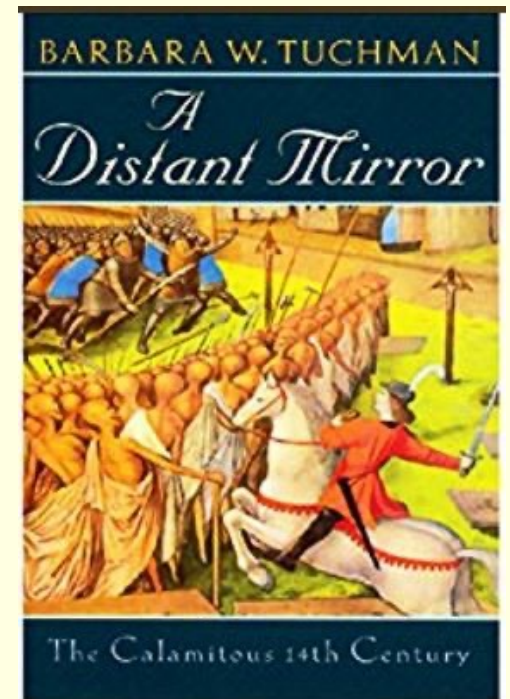
Pneumonia; 7 days

Influenza; 13 days



Other epidemics

- 10 plagues before exodus
- Black Plague 14th century
- Smallpox 20th century
- Polio 20th century
- AIDS 1980s
- Ebola 2014
- Zika 2016
- SARS 2002-2003
- COVID-19 Dec 2019 - present



Evening Journal –

29 July 1918, p10

SMALLPOX AT LAUREL.

LAUREL, Del., July 29—Smallpox, which has been epidemic in the eastern part of this district for several weeks, has reached Laurel.

History of the Flu Epidemic

- April 1917 USA
 - 3.7 million men in crowded military camps
 - Outbreaks of measles, mumps, meningitis, pneumonia, influenza
- February 1918 – San Sebastian, Spain
- Spread by sailors
 - English in Freetown, Sierra Leone
 - New Zealand crew and passengers infected
 - Gambia, Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal, So. Africa

History of the Flu Epidemic

- March 1918 USA
 - Ft Riley, Kansas
 - Camp Taylor, near Louisville, KY
 - San Diego
- April 1918 La grippe – France
- May/June 1918 – London and royal fleet
- July 1918 Denmark; 1890 survivors not ill

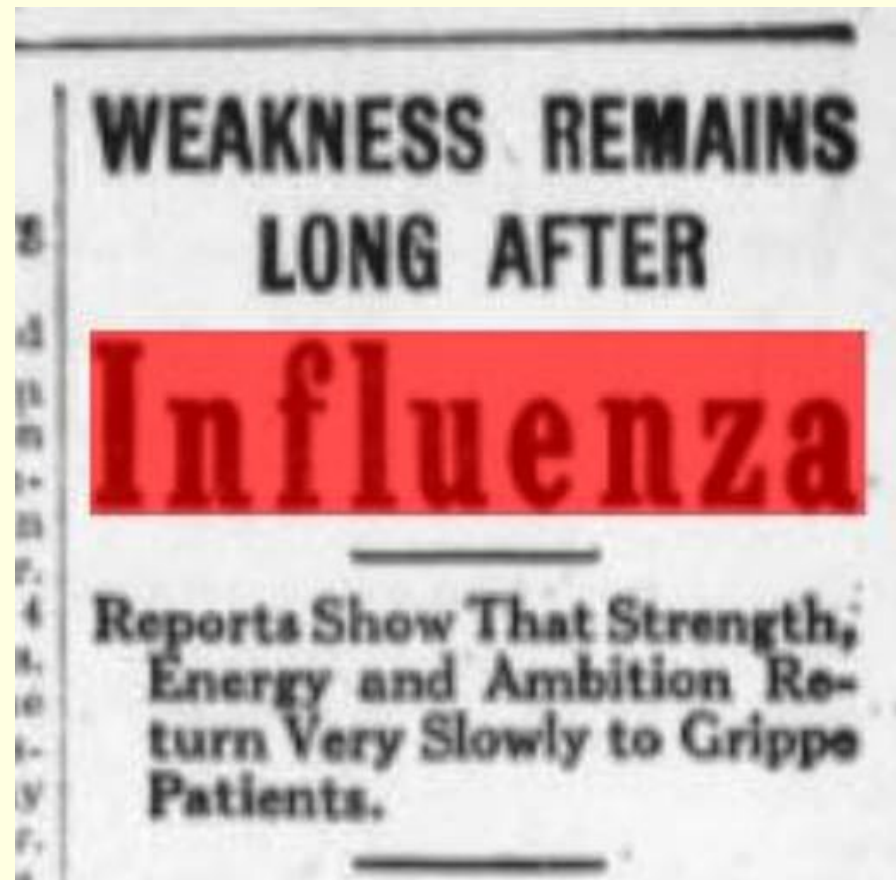
Stats on pandemic

- Influenza killed between 20 and 50 million people worldwide. Estimates of 1/5th to 1/3rd of the world's population infected with influenza
- The Flu Pandemic killed more people than WWI. (The war claimed 16 million lives.)
- 1/2 of US soldiers who died in Europe during WWI, died of influenza.
- Flu killed approx. 675,000 Americans
- The pandemic was so severe that from 1917-1918, life expectancy in the US fell by about 12 years.

1918 Flu symptoms

- Starts with typical symptoms: chills, fever, body aches and cough
- Rapidly progresses to a form of respiratory failure.
- Ears, lips and face became ashen
- Feet turned black
- Lungs filled with fluid
- Cytokine storm – overreaction of the immune system

“It ain’t over till it’s over.”



Library of Congress

CHRONICLING AMERICA
Historic American Newspapers

- Drop down [1777-1963] 1918, Delaware
 - Influenza (729); pneumonia (636); Spanish flu (24)

 - Wilmington Evening Journal
 - Middletown Transcript
 - Newark Post
 - Smyrna Times

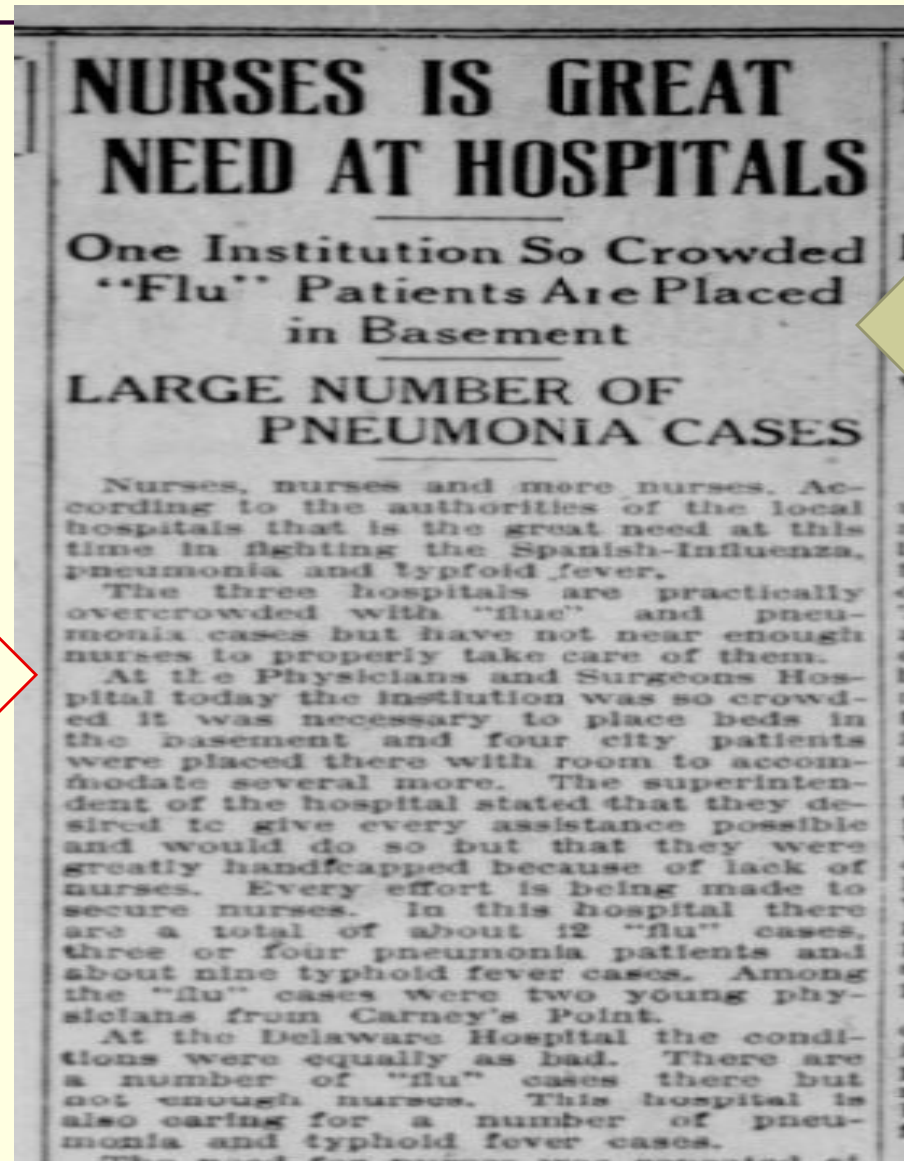
- Scrolled to look for October 1918 (32)

Impact on Wilmington

Evening Journal,
28 Sept 1918
Page 1

Physicians and Surgeons
Hospital

Delaware Hospital



Evening Journal, Sept 28, 1918, p1

CITY TO FIGHT DISEASE SPREAD

Board of Health to Prepare Hospitals for Treatment of Influenza

The City Board of Health has not received any further reports from physicians in regard to the number of cases of Spanish influenza in the city, either yesterday or this morning, consequently there is a great deal of uncertainty as to the epidemic situation. Another death from the influenza has been reported, that of Patrick Casdily, of Philadelphia, who was employed here by the Empire Construction Company. Mr. Casdily died at the Delaware Hospital last night. He had been admitted to the hospital on Thursday night.

On the whole the number of critical cases has been few. The most serious condition is that of the shipworkers, munition makers and other men in war industrial work, who are boarding in the city. Many of them are lying sick of the disease in their boarding houses with next to no care. They are spreading the disease through the boarding houses, and men who are being stricken or are not over the disease are spreading the malady through the industrial plants, which is bad for war work.

At a meeting of the Wilmington Council of Defense, held this morning in the Public Building, Dr. R. M. Elle-
(Continued on Page Eleven.)

Bad for war
work

Shipyard
workers;
boarding
houses

FATHER AND CHILD DIE OF INFLUENZA

Death struck a heavy blow in the home of Mrs. Grace Doughty, No. 1624 Laurel street, when on Thursday evening her husband, Harry T. Doughty, aged 27 years, died as a result of the Spanish influenza. Yesterday afternoon the five-year-old son, Harry A. Doughty died from the same disease.

The husband was formerly employed as a motorman on the Wilmington and Philadelphia Traction Company and only recently resigned to accept a position as brakeman with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. Mr Doughty was born in Millville, N. J., and has been living in Wilmington for the last five years. He was a member of the Pennsylvania Railroad Relief Association, Diamond State L. O. L., No. 122, and Cookman M E. Church.

MR. THOMS IMPROVES.

John A. Thoms, Jr., the well known pianist who is ill with Spanish influenza at Cape May, where he is a member of the Naval Reserves Band, has improved today. His parents received word to that effect this morning.

by Field Marshal Haig on the whole battlefield. The fighting continued throughout yesterday and last night.

"Our operations have been materially helped by the admirable work of the engineers. Within less than four hours

DELAWARE SOLDIER DIES OF "FLU" AT DIX

Samuel C. Yearsley, of Port Penn, a soldier at Camp Dix, was among the 74 members of the camp who died with influenza-pneumonia yesterday. He is survived by his wife who was formerly Miss Mabelle Voshell, of Delaware City. They were married last February.

John W. Hayman, a soldier from Salisbury, Md., died at the same camp yesterday.

MR. TOWNSEND IMPROVES.

Word was received this morning that L. Scott Townsend, banker, who is a patient in the Union infirmary, in Baltimore, continues to improve. He spent a restless night, but this morning his condition was improved, nevertheless.

A feeling of security goes with CLOVER DAIRY MILK.—Adv.

27, 5

74

Never assume

8 Oct 1918

56; pneu/flu

28; pneu.

26; pneu.

28; pneu.

28; pneu.

53; chronic-
myocarditis

Wilmington Morning News Wilmington, Delaware Tuesday October 8, 1918 5

Obituary

MRS. CATHERINE SHAW, 1802 West Seventh street, aged 56 years, died October 2. Funeral services will be held on Wednesday. Interment at Riverview Cemetery.

MRS. JULIA SHEPPARD, 1811 Oak street, died October 4. Funeral will be held on Wednesday morning. Requiem mass at St. Elizabeth's R. C. Church. Interment at Cathedral Cemetery.

MARGARET E. QUINN, aged 26 years, died October 4. Funeral private, from 114 West Seventh street, on Wednesday morning, at 9 o'clock. Interment at Cathedral Cemetery.

MRS. ETHEL MASON KANE, aged 28 years, died October 2. Funeral services will be held from the residence of her mother, 215 West Eleventh street, on Thursday at 1 o'clock. Interment at Mt. Olive Cemetery.

MRS. DORA MASON, 4 Hazeldell street, Cathlin row, aged 28 years, died October 7. Funeral services will be held Wednesday afternoon. Interment at Silverbrook Cemetery.

MRS. MARY E. DOUGHTEN, 212 South Harrison street, aged 53 years, died October 4. Funeral services will be held this afternoon. Interment at Riverview Cemetery.

Mary Elizabeth Doughten
August 14, 1865 - October 4, 1918
Maiden name Johnson
Married William Howe Doughten
July 16, 1887 - August 5, 1911

RIVERVIEW CEMETERY
ESTABLISHED 1872
HAS BEEN PLACED ON THE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF
HISTORIC PLACES
BY THE UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR



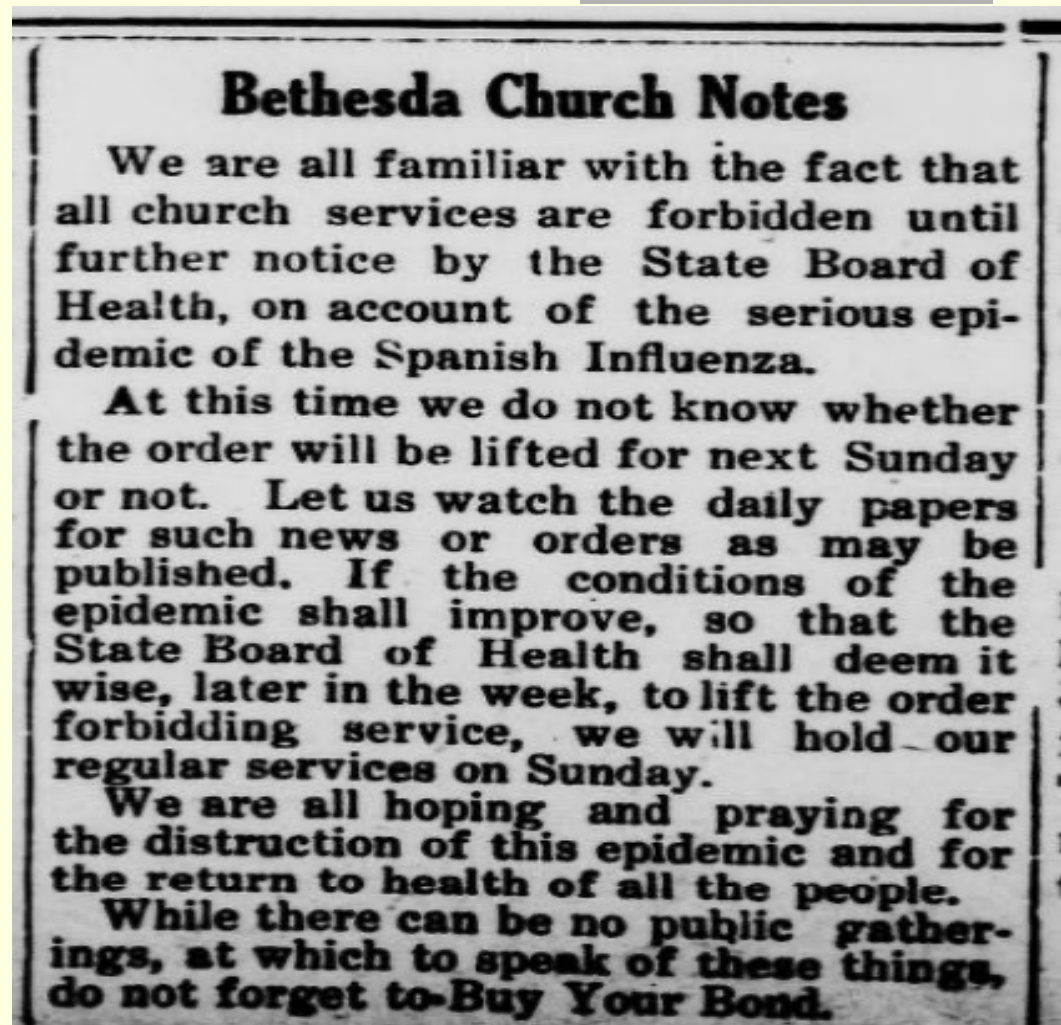
Impact on Delaware

■ *Middletown*

Transcript

12 Oct 1918, p 8

“All church services are forbidden until further notice...”



Newark *Post* 16 Oct 1918

Doctors Win Influenza Fight

Number of New Cases De-
creasing Daily

Local Pharmacy Keeps Pace with Demand For Drugs

The influenza epidemic has reached the apex and is now on the decline. Such is the belief of those in close touch with the situation in Newark and vicinity. The doctors, druggists and volunteer nurses have put up a brave untiring fight and feel that now victory is theirs,

IS YOUR NAME RECORDED HERE

IF NOT, IN THE HOUR OF YOUR COUNTRY'S NEED, WHY NOT?

SUBSCRIBERS REPORTED AT THE BANKS IN NEWARK

Smyrna Times, 23 Oct 1918, p 8

8 THE SMYRNA TIMES, WEDNESDAY

NEWS OF CLAYTON.

And Local News Budgets from Cheswold, Kenton
Blackbird, Townsend, Thoroughfare Neck,
Leipsic, Brenford, and Their Vicinities.

CLAYTON.

John L. Graham, Jr., bookkeeper of the Clayton Bank has been substituting at Hartly Bank for Cashier Jones who is ill with influenza.

Elmer Guy Hummer a former resident of Clayton, died at his home in Richmond Park in **Wilmington**, Oct. 12 of pneumonia following influenza, after an illness of eight days. His remains were taken to his former home at Marydel and laid to rest in the family burial ground at Templeville, Md.

Two minor wrecks occurred on the Delaware Division of the P. B. and W. Railroad last week. At the Clayton yard, three freight cars were derailed

TOWNSEND.

Several Cases of Influenza About Town—Locals and Personals

Townsend, Oct. 22—L. L. Maloney, wife and two children, Robert Beard-sley and wife, Mrs. John Townsend, Mrs. J. P. Pritchard and daughter, Helen, Miss Corinne Outten and Miss Lillian are among the number ill during the week from the "flu."

Friends of W. Gilbert Poore, a well-known young man of Townsend, have received letters from him during the past week, stating that he had been ill with pneumonia at Camp Meade. Mr. Poore says that he soon go in training for the army, he now being a member of the Third Battalion. Mr.

KENTON

Kenton Goes "Over The Top" in Liberty Loan Drive Raising \$57,000.

—Locals and Personals.

Kenton, Oct. 22—The Fourth Liberty Loan Drive ended on Saturday, October 19th, and as usual Kenton went "over the top." Her quota was \$55,000 and she showed her patriotism by subscribing \$57,000.

There are a number of influenza cases in and near town. We are glad to be able to report that they are all getting along very nicely.

Word was received here last week of the death of Mr. Dora Hazel, of Richardson Park near **Wilmington**, but formerly of Kenton. Mr. Hazel had just recovered from an attack of typhoid fever and had been able to be out when he contracted the Spanish Influenza. After an illness of but a few days he died on Wednesday morning, to the sorrow of his many friends. Mr. Hazel is survived by his wife who before her marriage was Miss Cora Frederick and two children, Mildred and Frederick. His remains were brought to Kenton on Saturday last, by auto and interment took place at the Baptist Cemetery.

Everybody is staying home.

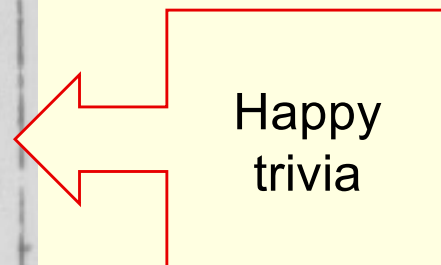
Died

Died

Pneu.

Smyrna Times, 23 Oct 1918, p 8

W. J. Johnson, of **Wilmington**, one of the oldest and most popular conductors of the Delaware Division of the Pennsylvania Railroad, has been in Port Deposit attending the funeral of his brother, Nelson Wier Johnson, an influenza victim. He also went to Washington to see his son, Edward F. Johnson who is ill with influenza, but is seemingly recovering. The son is an assistant to Joseph P. Tumulty, secretary to President Wilson.



Cardiff BBC news - 12 Oct 2018

In Cardiff, the worst of the epidemic started in October.

Doctors were struggling to cope and some schools were closed. Undertakers were overwhelmed - there was even a shortage of coffins - with 37 funerals on one day in October and Army labour corps drafted in to dig graves. There were reports of bodies being transported in carts from the docks. One man was so delirious with fever, he fell to his death from his bedroom window.

Peculiarly, the epidemic did not affect the very young or very old quite as much. Of the deaths in the city, 44% involved younger adults, aged 25 to 45. Older people are now believed to have gained more immunity from a similar infection during their lifetime.

Impact on USA

- Ogden, UT, *Standard*, 15 October 1918, p 6

FOUR DEATHS ARE REPORTED IN INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC AND A RED CROSS NURSE ARRIVES

The Spanish **influenza** outbreak shows no signs of diminution, said Inspector George Shorten this morning. The number of cases reported today is 70, with a great number in serious condition.

which are now to be had in the office of the board of health. Any persons attending to the nursing of **influenza** patients are encouraged to wear one of these masks and procure it from the health office.

BABY DIES OF THE LOCAL EPIDEMIC

Isabella Blanchett Aultz, 2-year-old daughter of L. Aultz, died this morning of Spanish **influenza**, at the home,

Seattle – 6 October 1918



Ashland, OR *Tidings*

7 December 1918. p 1

SCHOOLS CLOSED IN ORDER TO CHECK SPREAD OF FLU

A meeting of the school board was held Tuesday night at which it was decided to close the schools until December 30, owing to numerous cases of **influenza** breaking out among the pupils and teachers. Many cases of sickness are reported in the schools, and a number of pupils were being detained at home on account of fear of contagion, so it was thought advisable to close the schools entirely in order to check a spread of the disease in this manner. A number of teachers living nearby have left for their homes until after the Christmas holidays.

TEACHERS' EXAMINATIONS POSTPONED INDEFINITELY

Jacksonville, Ore., Dec. 14, 1918.
To Teachers Expecting to Take
Teachers Examinations Dec. 18 to
21, 1918:

On account of danger of spreading **influenza**, and on account of the action of the County Court in closing the court house during the coming week, the state teachers examinations will not be held at Jacksonville December 18 to 21 as announced thru the press recently.

Several counties in the state are facing similar conditions and are thus compelled to postpone the examinations.

Riverside, CA – 3, 20, 29 Oct 1918

Personal Mention

Lester Hampton who returned from Denver on Thursday night, was taken sick on Friday and his case has now developed Spanish **influenza**.

Alfred Daniels, a brother in law of Lester Hampton, has Spanish influenza.

Health Officer W. S. Davis orders that all schools and other public places remain closed in Corona for at least another week.

3rd

SLIGHT INCREASE IN INFLUENZN EPIDEMIC

Board of Health Opens Emergency Hospital; To Continue Quarantine

There was little change in the Spanish influenza situation here yesterday, the increase in the number of cases reported being slight. Approximately 25 cases developed during the day, most of which were mild.

There was but one death Saturday, from influenza, that being a Sherman institute student. Two other pupils at the school are said to be critically ill. The number of cases there is 456, it was stated last night.

An emergency hospital was put into operation here Saturday morning and already several patients are being cared for. Its location was not disclosed by the board of health. Should it be filled, two other hospitals will be pressed into service, the use of additional buildings having been offered the authorities.

Schools, churches, theaters and all public meetings will be banned until further notice. If possible the quarantine will be made more rigid, rather than lightened.

Teachers to Get Pay
Word came to Riverside from Sacramento yesterday that teachers made idle in the state on account of the influenza epidemic will receive their pay. Several hundred teachers in Riverside county will be affected by this ruling.

EPIDEMIC WANING IS BELIEF BASED LATEST REPORTS

closed

State Library - wj100

MOHAVE COUNTY MINER

AND

OUR MINERAL WEALTH

Vol. XXXVII.

Kingman, Arizona, Saturday, November 2, 1918

No. 1.

UNITED WAR WORK CAMPAIGN STARTS NOV. 11 REGARDLESS

The United War Work Campaign will start November 11, in spite of the **influenza** epidemic that prevails throughout the country.

CASES DOING WELL

The **influenza** epidemic has not gained much headway in Kingman the past week, there being a total of about twelve cases scattered throughout the town and twenty-one in the hospital.

Of the 21 patients at the hospital, 5 from Hackberry, 2 from Yucca and the balance from Kingman. Two were discharged yesterday, Ruby Cole and Andrew Anderson and others are rapidly on the road to recovery.

There are five or six who are very sick. Gus Rofinot is steadily improving.

Mrs. Walker who had been appointed head nurse is now sick at her home from overwork and an attack of influenza.

The patients now at the hospital are Miss Ruth Russell, Caroline Wagner, Mrs. Bartholomew and baby, Mrs. W. A. Davidson and daughter, Mrs. Emma Brand, E. Douglas, G. Rofinot and baby, Everett Johnson, Geo. Moody, Donald Wagner, Jimmy Martinez, John Aronsen, Hackberry; John Ryan, Yucca; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Wade and baby, Hackberry; L. A. Harrison, Kingman.

Patients

Impact on Indiana



Influenza Deaths	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921
January	111	72	925	311	48
February	182	71	554	1,284	54
March	105	70	948	431	45
April	59	127	269	105	22
May	24	54	64	46	32
June	13	6	26	24	6
July	3	1	13	13	6
August	3	7	17	6	11
September	6	64	18	6	17
October	5	2,092	30	15	22
November	15	1,767	32	18	16
December	39	1,970	33	31	32

Source: Year Book of the State of Indiana for the Year 1922.
Annual Report of the Division of Vital Statistics Year 1921

CHURCHES AND SUNDAY SCHOOLS INCLUDED IN THE CLOSING ORDER

Saloons Shut Up Tight by Drastic Quarantine Promulgated by State Health Department; Schools Open

ALL PUBLIC MEETINGS MUST BE CALLED OFF

Gatherings of All Kinds Unlawful Under Terms of the Spanish Influenza Ruling; Situation Is Serious

All places of amusements and saloons in the city were closed to-day, all churches and Sunday schools ordered to discontinue services until further notice; meetings, lodge sessions, public

Quarantine on Influenza Is Observed Here

The effect of the state-wide quarantine designed to check the ravages of influenza and pneumonia is widely felt in the city. How stringent is the ruling may be seen by the following curtailment of ordinary activities:

All churches and Sunday schools must be kept closed.

All saloons are closed until further notice.

Theater and motion picture places have closed their doors.

Tomorrow's football game between Technical High and Wilkes-Barre cancelled.

Drill of Harrisburg Reserves postponed.

Funerals may be attended only by close relatives

Hostess House at Civic Club is closed.

Dance halls are kept dark.

All public meetings must be postponed

LIBERTY LOAN CAMPAIGN HARD HIT AS RALLIES ARE CURTAILED

New Plan For Increasing Interest in Big Drive May Be Worked Out to Meet Conditions Caused by Quarantine

MANY BONDS ARE SOLD TO CITY'S WORKINGMEN

Lodges and Stores Coming to Aid of Nation by Making Heavy Subscriptions; Hold Meetings in the Open Air

The state health department's orders directing the abandonment of meetings of all kinds will result in a reorganization of the Liberty Loan campaign in Harrisburg, and the balance of Dauphin county, in all the other counties of the drive

Situation serious

Hardest hit city – Quaker City

- Where it all began - early September



28 September 1918

Liberty Loan Parade 10 AM



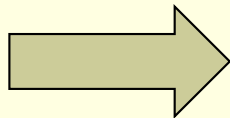
1 October 1918 – Phila.

OCTOBER 1, 1918

HUSBAND AND INFANT DEAD FEW HOURS, WOMAN DYING

Influenza Attacks Extremely Poor Widow, Whose Newly Born Child Dies Shortly After Father—Three Other Tots Nearly Starved—Negroes Were Nurses

<h3>CITY DEATH TOLL TREBLED BY GRIP</h3> <p>Fatalities Mount From 1191 to 3234, Influenza Causing 1697</p> <h3>PNEUMONIA KILLS 938</h3> <p>Eighty-one per cent of the 3234 deaths occurring in this city in the week ended yesterday were due to influenza and pneumonia.</p> <p>The week's mortality was the greatest ever known in Philadelphia, far exceeding last week's, which was the highest up to that time.</p>	<h3>FIVE NURSES DIE; MARTYRS TO DUTY</h3> <p>54 Ill of Influenza at Philadelphia General Hospital</p> <h3>REFUSE TO QUIT WORK</h3> <p>Worn by long hours of brave fighting against the influenza, five nurses of the Philadelphia General Hospital have died martyrs to duty.</p> <p>Fifty-four other nurses at the institution have been stricken with the malady. Several of them have contracted pneumonia and are in a critical condition.</p>
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From San Diego – 3 October 1918

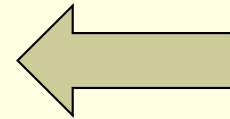
PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 2.—Spanish influenza continued to sweep through Philadelphia and suburban towns today, hundreds of new cases and many additional deaths being reported. All the hospitals are crowded.

The number of new cases reported in the last 24 hours numbered 658, an increase of 23 over yesterday.

Fatalities from influenza and pneumonia reported numbered 143. Few physicians are reporting cases and it is estimated by health officers that there may be 20,000 in the city and surrounding towns.

School authorities estimated that about 4,000 pupils are afflicted with the disease.

Delaware county, adjoining Philadelphia, in which many great war industries are situated, has been hit hard.



Crisis in Philadelphia

- Doctors, nurses
- Dental students, student nurses
- 200+ Sisters [Influenza Pandemic and the Sisters – Catholic Historical Research Center of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia \(chrc-phila.org\)](http://chrc-phila.org)
- Seminarians dig graves
- Family and friends dig graves
- Morgue overflowing
- Coroner and morticians
- 7 times # deaths

9 October 1918

■ Gloucester and Camden, NJ

12 MORE GRIP DEATHS IN DAY IN GLOUCESTER

Fewer New Cases, However,
and Epidemic Is Believed
Under Control

Although there have been twelve deaths from influenza in Gloucester since yesterday noon, Dr. Harlan S. Miner, president of the Gloucester Board of Health, believes the epidemic is at last under control. Fewer new cases have been reported in the last twenty-four hours than in any similar period since the epidemic started.

PRISONERS DIG GRAVES

Sent From Camden Jail to Help Relieve Funeral Stress

Six prisoners have been sent from the Camden County jail to assist in the digging of graves at Evergreen and New Camden Cemeteries to prevent delays for funeral processions reaching the cemeteries with victims of influenza and pneumonia. Including yesterday, 196 deaths from pneumonia and six from influenza had been listed at the City Hall, where burial permits are recorded, while records at the offices of the Board of Health showed 2403 cases reported by fifteen physicians, with thirty doctors yet to report.

Cooper Hospital is filled with patients, and it has been planned to open another ward. The Homeopathic and the Municipal Hospitals also are crowded, while at the Emergency Hospital arrangements are being made for the opening of another ward on the first floor for the accommodation of about fifty more sick.

18 October 1918

- Philadelphia Mayor Thomas Smith released statement – city would contribute \$75 for funeral of influenza victim (\$1285 in 2020 money)

Philadelphia – Camden - Gloucester

- Decrease in illnesses and death – week ending October 25

The total number of influenza and pneumonia cases for the week ending October 25 here shows a marked decrease over the previous week. The official tabulations of the health bureau shows a falling off of 1577 cases.

The **influenza** cases reported this week number 1839, pneumonia cases, a total of 3021. Last week's figures were 2953 influenza cases, 1645 pneumonia cases, a total of 4598.

During the last twenty-four hours 294 deaths were reported. Of these 185 were due to **influenza** and 109 to pneumonia. Yesterday 302 deaths were reported.

Camden saloons will remain closed until the **influenza** epidemic ban is lifted in Philadelphia.

Officials there will take no chance of a repetition of the reign of terror that followed a rush of **Philadelphia's** undesirables across the river when the bars reopened yesterday. Gloucester, however, will allow saloons to remain open.

Annotations:

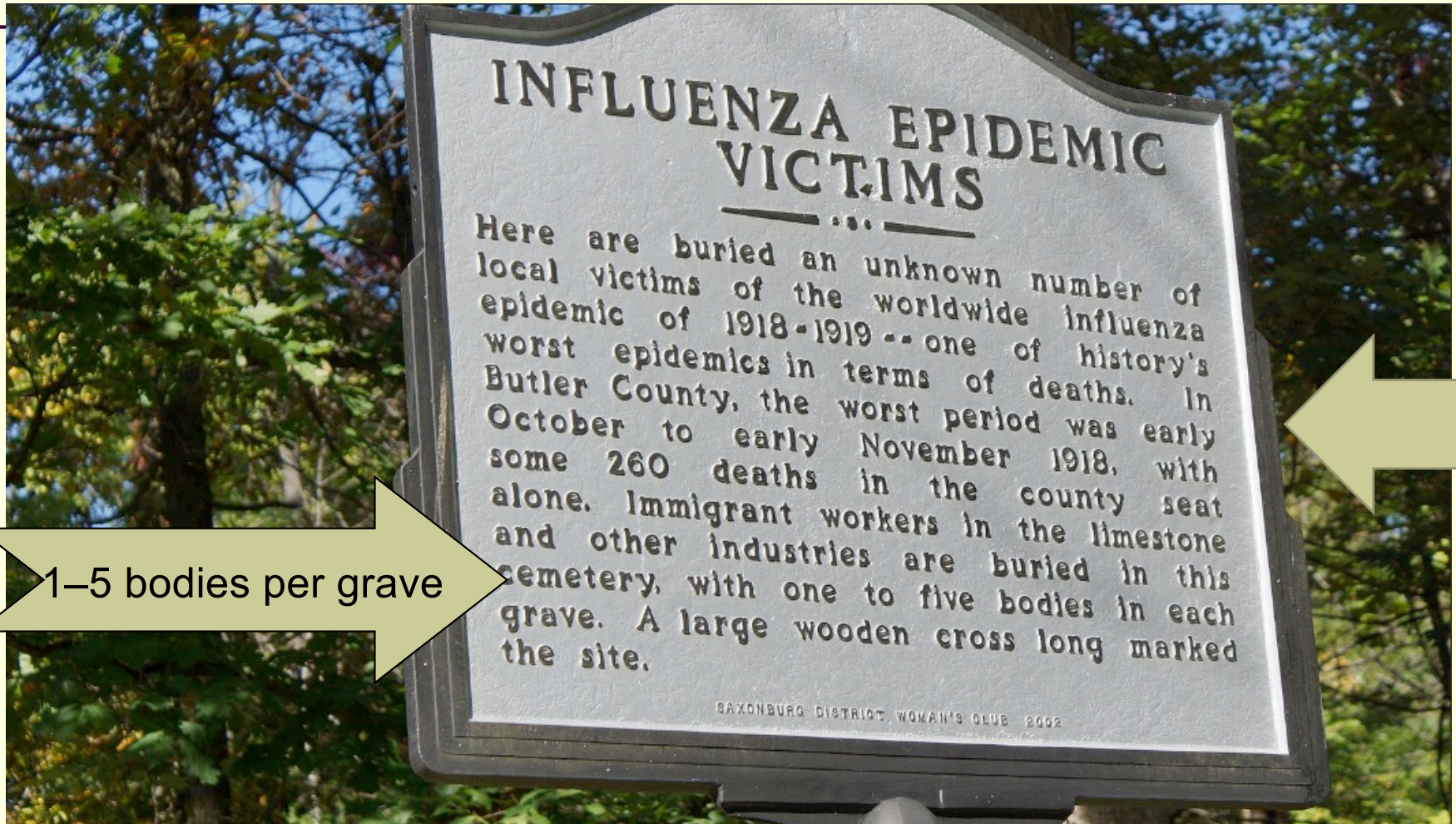
- This week - 3021
- Last week - 4598
- Camden - Saloons closed
- Gloucester – saloons remain open

Delaware River separates PA - NJ

- Ferry needed to cross river in 1918



BUTLER COUNTY, PA PLAQUE

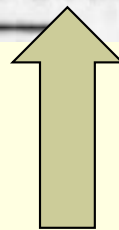


1-5 bodies per grave

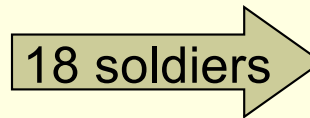
Impact on war effort and home

THIRD DEATH IN FAMILY
New Cumberland, Pa., Oct. 26.—
Relatives in New Cumberland received word of the death of Mrs. Lillie Carrol, of Charles street, Harrisburg, from pneumonia after a brief illness. Mrs. Carrol is survived by her husband, Raymond Carrol, and three small sons. She is the third death in the Carrol family in a short time. Two brothers of Mr. Carrol having been killed in France.

Age 37, flu 5
days, pneumonia
3 days



18 soldiers



EIGHTEEN DIE AT MARSH RUN

Large Number of Fatal Cases
of **Influenza** and Pneumonia at the Depot

New Cumberland, Pa., Oct. 26.—
Eighteen soldiers have died of influenza at the government plant at Marsh Run in the past ten days. Undertaker M. A. Hoff is busy night and day with the work in town and preparing the bodies for transfer to the soldier's homes.

5 November 1918

Drastic Armistice Terms For Germany Agreed Upon; Lansing Sees End of War With Acceptance



HARRISBURG



TELEGRAPH



Old Star-Independent

LXXXVII - No. 26 - 14 PAGES - "DAILY TELEGRAPH-TELEGRAM"

HARRISBURG, PA.

TUESDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 5, 1918

"LANSING SEES END OF WAR WITH ACCEPTANCE"

"SAPPHIRE"

HOME EDITION

YANKEE VICTORY CUTS OFF HUN RETREAT; GERMANY'S FATE UP TO EMPIRE'S RULERS

ENEMY UNABLE TO STAND BEFORE NEW ALLIED ASSAULTS

Ghent Isolated by Foch's Drives Which Menace Mons and Maubeuge

AMERICAN ARMY DOMINATES FOE'S COMMUNICATION LINES

Pershing Within Ten Miles of Sedan While His Guns Are Tearing Rail Lines Needed by Enemy

With the German retreat apparent through Lansing directly and by the news received in the west side of the Rhine, French and British, Belgian and American troops are making head at the enemy's line in northern France and Belgium. These United States are located a short distance west of Valenciennes, where they are now making progress which denotes the German withdrawal from the West.

From the front lines to the rear of the Rhine, the American army is making steady progress. French, British, American and Belgian troops are making the enemy retreat on the West.

Line Is Being Moved
According to the latest news the American army is making steady progress between the Rhine and the Alps. The American army is making steady progress on the West. The American army is making steady progress on the West.

Maybe This Will Take the Taste For War Out of His Mouth



ARMISTICE STRIPS POWER FROM HUN; PARIS FORECASTS ITS ACCEPTANCE

News Fall Short of Expectations; End of Hostilities in Agreement in Washington

AMERICAN OFFENSE IS FOLLOWED BY ENEMY

Allied Successes in French Front Leave Little Doubt in War Days of Victory by Lansing's Statement

Washington, Nov. 5.—(Special Telegrams.)—The American army is making steady progress between the Rhine and the Alps. The American army is making steady progress on the West.

Washington, Nov. 5.—(Special Telegrams.)—The American army is making steady progress between the Rhine and the Alps. The American army is making steady progress on the West.

YANKS DOWN 1000 ARMEN

With the American army in the West, the American army is making steady progress between the Rhine and the Alps. The American army is making steady progress on the West.

AUXILIARIES GET CREDIT FOR BIG TASKS FOR WAR

Special Credits Made Available
Great Undertakings of
Local Chapter

The American army is making steady progress between the Rhine and the Alps. The American army is making steady progress on the West.

AMERICANS FACE GERMAN FIRE IN BITTER WARFARE; BRIDGE BLOWN UP

Warfare Between German Hosts at Brindley on Western Front; Destroyers Take "Monkey's Head"

AMERICANS FACE GERMAN FIRE IN BITTER WARFARE; BRIDGE BLOWN UP

The American army is making steady progress between the Rhine and the Alps. The American army is making steady progress on the West.

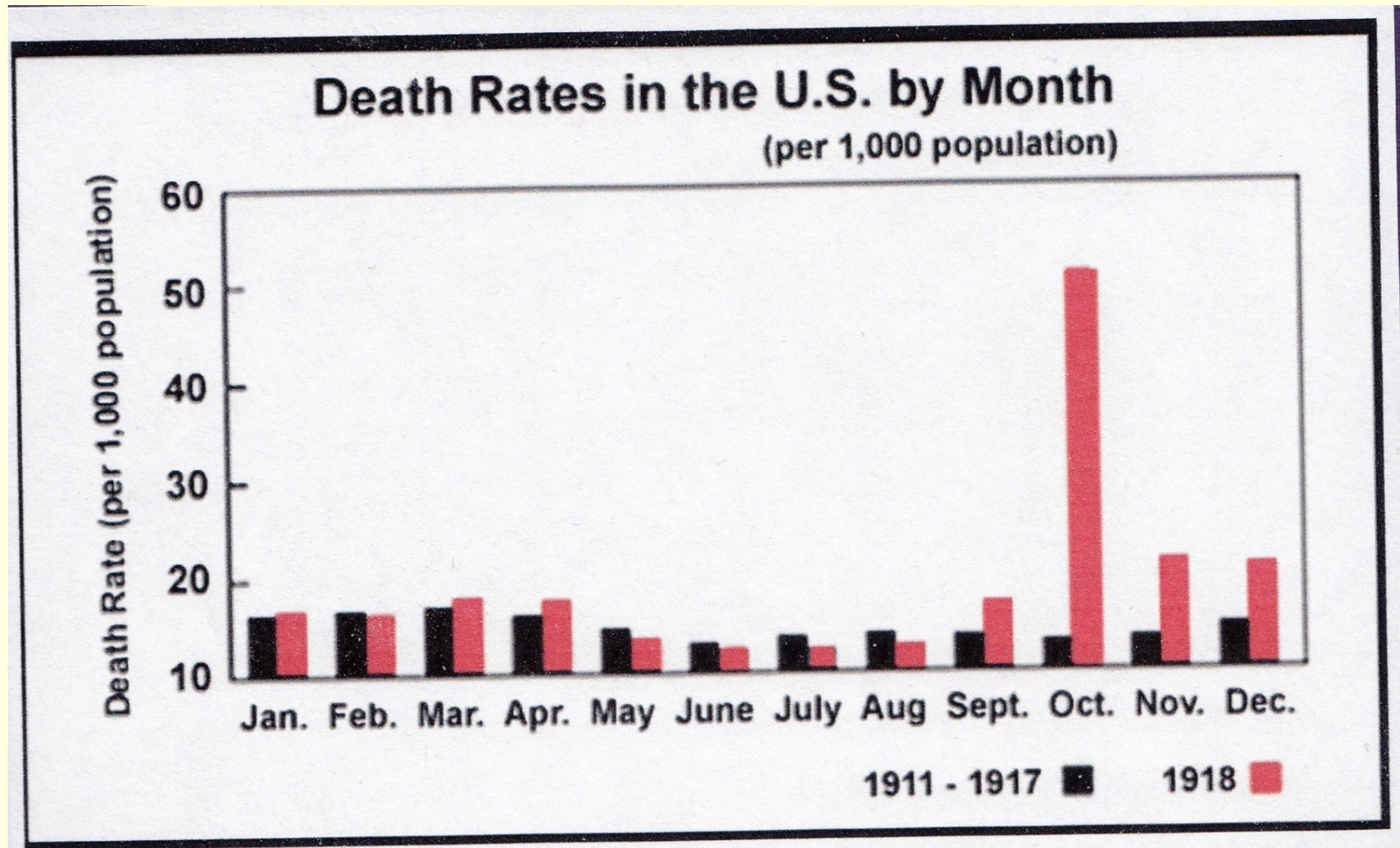
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The American army is making steady progress between the Rhine and the Alps. The American army is making steady progress on the West.

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Comparison - Deaths in USA

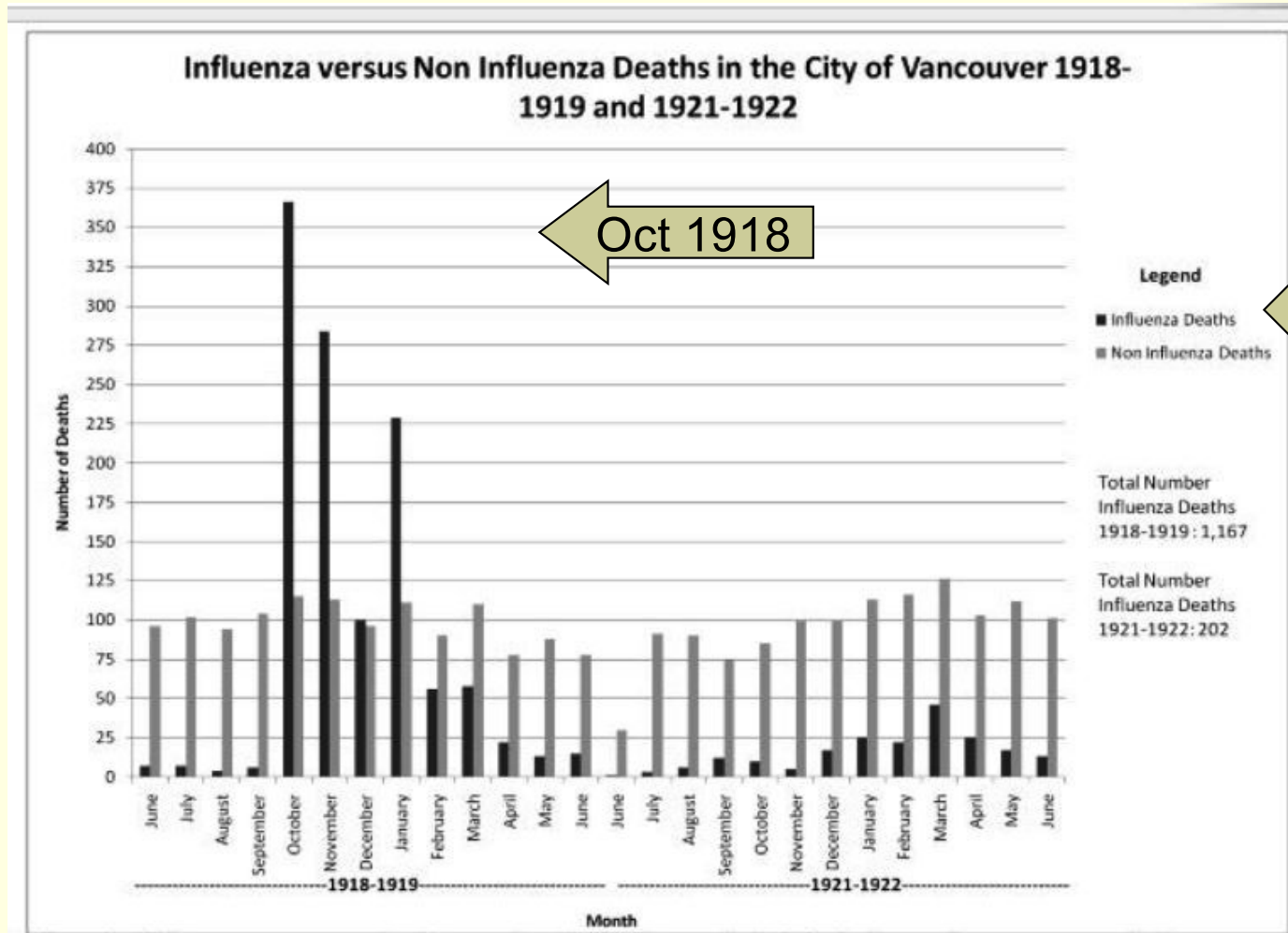


St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver, BC



St. Paul's Hospital in 1923
PROVIDENCE HEALTH CARE

Comparison # deaths in Vancouver



Young adults;
employed;
lived in N and
N W city

Philadelphia and Vancouver, BC

INFLUENZA DEATHS FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE EPIDEMIC TO THE END OF JANUARY 1919

<i>City</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Death Rate per 1,000 of population per annum</i>
Spokane	428	8.3
Seattle	1,328	11.1
Chicago	12,400	12.4
St. Louis	3,207	13.4
Portland	1,363	13.5
Toronto	2,284	14.3
New York City	27,362	14.4
Newark	2,348	15.8
Winnipeg	1,021	16.7
Los Angeles	2,969	17.0
Buffalo	2,742	18.8
Boston	5,771	19.1
Washington	2,892	20.8
Pittsburgh	4,972	22.9
San Francisco	3,616	23.1
Vancouver	795	23.3
Baltimore	4,358	23.6
Philadelphia	14,198	24.7

Resources

■ Newspapers

- Newspapers.com \$
- ChroniclingAmerica (NARA)
 - 1777 - 1963
 - 17.6 million pages Jan 2021; 18.5 Sept 11; 18.6 today

GenealogyBank \$

- NewsLibrary \$

■ YouTube

Additional resources

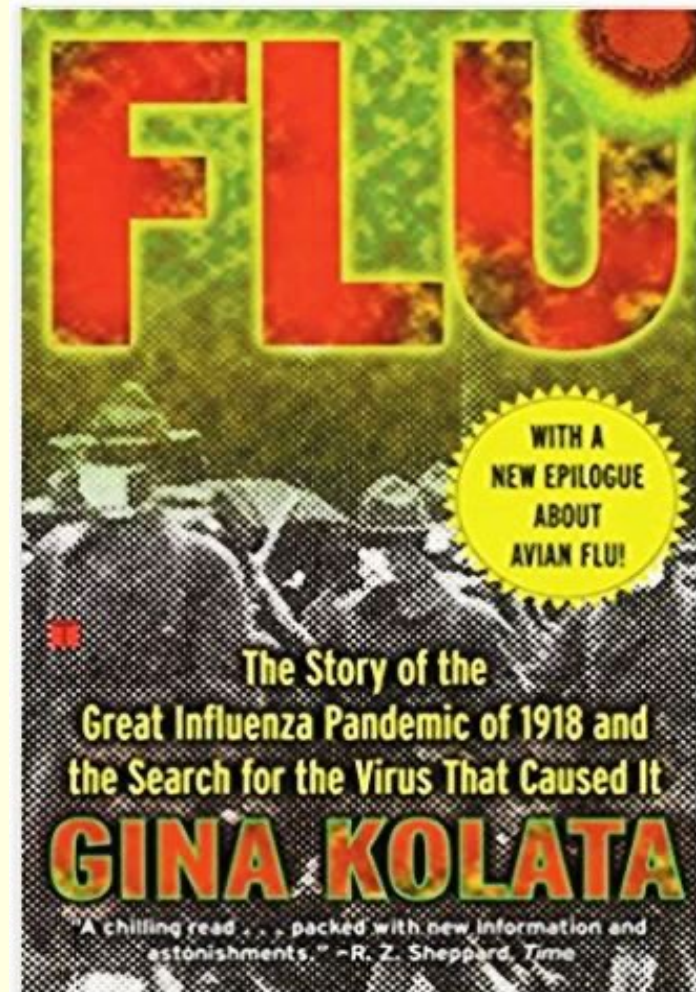
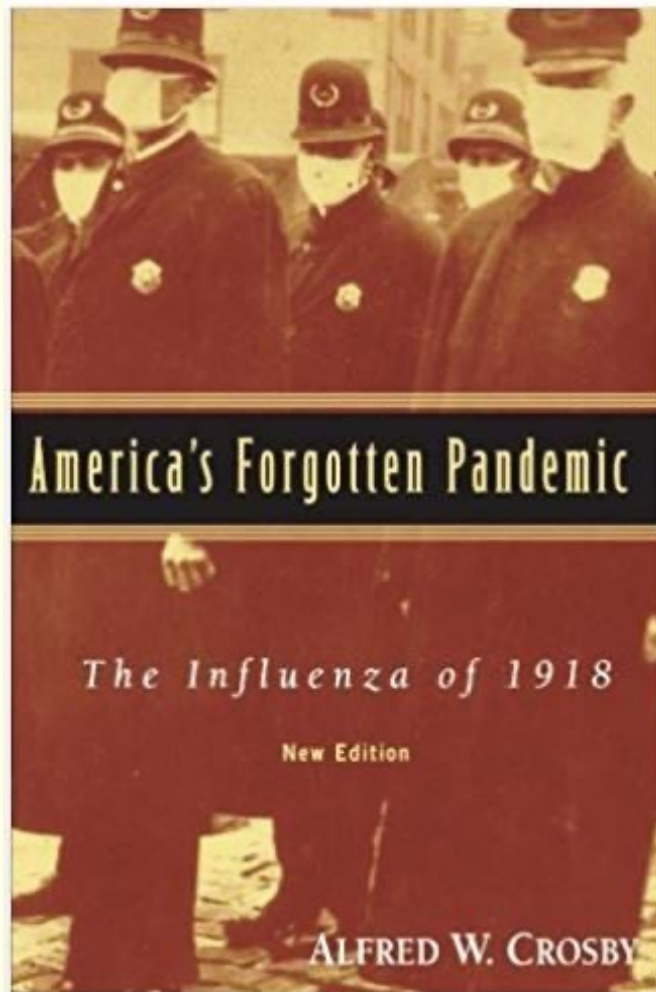
- Compare the 1910 and 1920 census records
- Look at death certificates if they exist
- Check local history societies for articles about the 1918 Flu Pandemic
- Some localities published names of people who died from the flu.
- Check local newspapers for obituaries
- Research general information about the Pandemic on Google and YouTube, specific states and cities

Books

- Google “1918 flu epidemic”
- Wilmington Library — card catalog
 - Very, very, very dreadful: the influenza pandemic of 1918 – *Albert Marrin*
 - Pale Rider: the Spanish Flu of 1918 and how it changed the world – *Laura Spinney*
 - More deadly than war: the hidden history of the Spanish flu – *Kenneth Davis*
 - September 1918: war, plague, and the World Series – *Skip Desjardin*
 - The Pandemic Century – *Mark Honigsbaum*

References in Delaware

- 1918 Influenza Pandemic – Delaware Digital Newspaper Project (udel.edu)
- Lesson plan – grades 6 – 8 DPA-Online-Lesson-Plans-Logo-Horizontal.png (2400×375) (delaware.gov)
- A hundred years ago, another pandemic ravaged the world (delmarvanow.com)



Write about relative

- Flesh out the person
 - Gender
 - Work
 - Adult
 - Education
 - How long ill
 - Photo
 - Burial – who dug grave

What to do with bio

- Local genealogy society newsletter
- Local historical society
 - Newsletter
 - Vertical file
- Blog
- Facebook

Letters: Heed lessons of 1918 flu (delawareonline.com) [4 April 2020]

Thank you for printing [the informative article on the Spanish Flu that devastated my family in New Castle in 1918.](#)

As Dr. Alexa Silver said, the spread of the flu started in Philadelphia's Liberty Loan parade on Sept. 28, 1918. On Oct. 11, 2018, my grandmother Catherine Murphy was admitted to the Emergency Hospital located in the Sheriff's House on Market Street in New Castle.

By Oct. 13, she was dead. She was 30 years old. She had just given birth to my uncle Henry 8 months earlier — her sixth child in 12 years of marriage — and had had cholera a few months before.

My mother Catherine, age 10, Catherine Murphy's oldest child, was also a patient at the same hospital and saw them taking her mother's body out of the hospital. She never forgot it.

A week later, my Aunt Maria died at age 2. She had been a patient in an emergency hospital for children within St. Peter Parochial School on 5th Street. She and her mother were buried in the same coffin in St. Peter's Cemetery.



Catherine Murphy was one of three family members to die from the 1918 flu. Now, her granddaughter says, people should take precautions. *Courtesy Of Kay Keenan*

How the 1918 Flu Epidemic in Philadelphia Affected My Family

By: Mary Anne Vincent

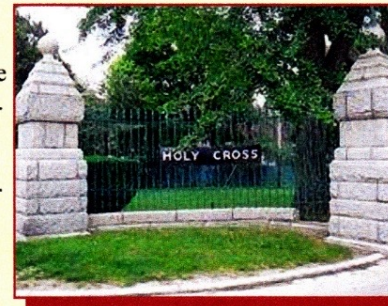
One summer afternoon in the mid 1970s I showed my father a copy of his grandmother's death certificate. I had just obtained it earlier that day in Wilmington, Delaware.

"**I don't remember her alive**", he said to me, "but I do remember her dead. She was waked in our living room." He was four years old at the time. His grandmother, Catherine (O'Connor)

Doughten died 27 October 1918 at the end of the flu epidemic.

Earlier this year I was in contact with my father's second cousin who is 87 and lives in West Chester, Pennsylvania, a city located near the Delaware River between Wilmington and Philadelphia. This cousin mentioned that he had two aunts, who were from Philadelphia, who died a day apart in 1918.

As I was scrolling through NewspaperArchive.com over Labor Day weekend I came across an article describing an awful scene at Holy Cross Cemetery, Yeadon, PA (my mother's maternal grandparents are buried there). More than 600 coffins were piled up waiting for burial. I couldn't imagine why that could possibly be. Then I looked more carefully at the date – 17 October 1918. The cemetery had only two machines capable of digging holes big enough for mass graves. Family members were at Holy Cross digging graves for their loved ones. Catholic men who were studying for the priesthood were sent from St. Charles Seminary to help dig graves.



These above incidents impelled me to do more research on the 1918 flu epidemic in Philadelphia.

Most of us probably think of this epidemic as one occurrence. Actually, it came in four waves, the second, September to December 1918 being by far the most severe.

The population of the City of Brotherly Love was about 1.8 million in 1918. Some 16,000 Philadelphians died in the second wave, seven times the usual number of deaths for that period.

As a former history teacher, I have long been interested in the interplay of disease/epidemics and how it affected history.

Millions of Americans were stricken with influenza in 1918; more than 548,000 of them died. By way of comparison: 15 million people died during the four years of World War I; 30 million died in a six month period from the flu.

Philadelphia was hit harder than any other urban area. This epidemic couldn't have come at a worse time. Because of World War I more than 25% of Philadelphia's doctors and a great number of nurses and other health care workers were in uniform. Student nurses and medical students were called upon to help. It took the city several weeks to ban public gatherings thereby lessening exposure to the unknown virus.

On 28 September 1918 there was a Liberty Loan rally in Philadelphia attended by an estimated 200,000 people. According to an article in the *New England Journal of Medicine* within three days of the rally every bed in Philadelphia's 31 hospitals was filled. Within ten days of the rally so many people had died that the city morgue was overwhelmed with hundreds of bodies. Because there was a shortage of coffins a streetcar manu-

16,000

(Continued on page 10)

How the 1918 Flu Epidemic in Philadelphia Affected My Family Cont.

(Continued from page 9)

facturer had its woodworking shop stop its usual production and make coffins.

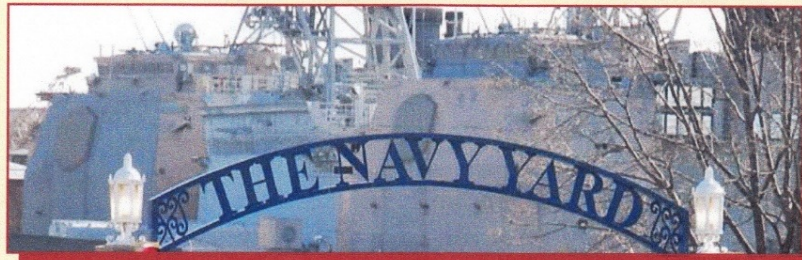
The priest in charge of Philadelphia Catholic Charities organized a group to collect bodies from back streets, alleys, and tenements. One day they brought 200 bodies to the city morgue.

As I read articles and newspaper accounts of this epidemic I could not help but reflect on the parallel with the Great Plague that swept through Western Europe in the mid 1300s. In her book, [A Distant Mirror](#), Barbara Tuchman describes the horrors of that plague and its effect on society. Healthy people became ill and died in a day or two. Carts went through city streets collecting dead bodies and depositing them in mass graves. If it took a while to get to bodies the stench was overwhelming. Sometimes parents would be found dead and their healthy young children nearby.

My mother's father worked in the Philadelphia Navy Yard for four decades after he was discharged from the army in 1901. The first reported case of influenza was on 12 September 1918 at the navy yard. A week later 600 sailors were hospitalized at the yard. How did the local paper report this? "No Concern Felt" on page 4 (the war of course took first page coverage). If my grandfather did contract "Spanish Influenza", he recovered – maybe because he moved to New Jersey two years before. Or maybe he was among those (50%+) who chose not to go to work in order to avoid illness. After all, he had a wife and six young children at home.

Mary Anne Vincent

P.S. If you had relatives who died in Philadelphia during this epidemic and you have been unable to obtain death certificates that may be because the coroner was too overwhelmed to make them.



Coroner
overwhelmed

Ramifications

- 20 – 40 age group
 - Starting families
 - Stimulate economy
 - Employed; eventually take over economy and government
 - Old and very young vulnerable to economic downturns

Questions? Comments?

Thank you
for attending today.

