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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Health Acts.

REGULATIONS FOR THE PREVENTION AND MITIGATION OF INFLUENZA.

UNDER the powers in that behalf conferred by section 19 of the *Health Act* 1915 on the Minister of Public Health to exercise the powers, rights, and authorities vested in the Board of Public Health, I, the undersigned, the Honorable John McWhae, His Majesty's Acting Minister of Public Health for the State of Victoria, do make the regulations following under the authority exercisable by the said Board by section 173 of the *Health Act* 1915, as amended by the *Health Act* 1915 (No. 2), in consequence of an order in that behalf made under section 172 of the *Health Act* 1915 by the Governor in Council such Board so enabling:—

(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Influenza Regulations 1919 (No. 3), and shall come into operation forthwith upon publication in the *Government Gazette*.

(2) In the construction of these Regulations—

“Authorized person” means any person authorized in writing by the Council to carry out any duty under these Regulations.

“Board” means the Board of Public Health.

“Council” means the council of any municipality.

“Contact” means any person who has been in any room at the same time as any person suffering from influenza.

“Clerk” means the town clerk of any city, town, or borough, or the secretary of any shire council.

“Patient” means any person suffering from influenza.

(3) The “Influenza Regulations 1918,” made by the Board on the 20th November, 1918, are hereby repealed.

(4) The occupier of every house wherein any person is suffering from influenza or the symptoms of influenza, shall forthwith, on becoming aware of such person's condition, report the occurrence in writing to the clerk of the municipal district in which such house is situate, and such report shall include the name, age, and sex of the person so suffering and the exact location of the house.

(5) Every medical practitioner shall forthwith, on becoming aware of the existence of any case of influenza, send a report in writing to the clerk of the municipal district in which the patient resides, and such report shall include the following particulars:—

Name of patient—

Address—

Age—

Sex—

Is patient satisfactorily isolated—

Should patient be removed to hospital—

If aid is required, state nature of same—

(6) Every patient shall be isolated at his residence, or, if such residence is unsuitable in the opinion of the Officer of Health, at any special place provided for the purpose.

(7) Every patient treated elsewhere than at a public hospital shall be kept in isolation until the Officer of Health gives consent to his release.

(8) Every contact shall submit to such treatment or preventive measures (which may include isolation) as the Officer of Health specifies and for such period as he directs.

(9) No person other than the nurse or necessary attendants shall visit any patient at any private house except under the conditions specified by the Officer of Health.

(10) The Council shall, wherever necessary, cause a house-to-house visitation to be made by an authorized person in order to ascertain whether any case of influenza exists or whether these Regulations (where applicable) are being observed, and every occupier shall assist such authorized person and shall truthfully answer any question relating to influenza.

(11) The Officer of Health or other officer may, if authorized by the Council, isolate any house or part of any house wherein there is any patient, and he is hereby empowered to take such action as is necessary to effect this purpose.

(12) The Council may, by such means as it deems expedient, order the cleansing, purifying, ventilation, and disinfecting of houses, schools, churches, buildings, and places of assembly or entertainments by the owners or occupiers or persons having the care and ordering thereof.

(13) The occupier or person in charge of any house or place wherein any person dies of influenza shall cause the body to be buried with the least possible delay and, if ordered by the Officer of Health, within 24 hours of death.

(14) Every medical practitioner, on certifying to the death of any person from influenza, shall forthwith report the occurrence by telegram or by the speediest means possible to the Secretary of the Board, and every such report shall include the name, age, sex, and date of death.

(15) Every Council shall (provided reports are received) forward daily to the Secretary of the Board a list of cases notified, showing name, age, sex, and address of patient and name of notifying practitioner.

(16) Every superintendent or person in charge of every public hospital wherein patients are treated shall forward daily to the Secretary of the Board by telegram or other speedy means the following return:—Admissions, discharges, deaths, total cases in hospital, and number of vacant beds.

(17) Every Council and its officers are hereby authorized, required, and directed to superintend and see to the execution of these Regulations, and to provide for the supply of medicines and other substances for the prevention or cure, and for affording to persons afflicted by or threatened with influenza such medical or other aid as may be required.

(18) Any person who fails to comply with any of the foregoing regulations, or is guilty of any neglect or disobedience thereof, is, by section 388 of the *Health Act 1915*, thereby guilty of an offence against that Act, and is liable to a penalty not exceeding £20, and to a penalty not exceeding £5 nor less than £1 for each day during which such offence is continued, besides any cost or expenses which may be incurred in remedying his default.

JOHN McWHAE,
Acting Minister of Public Health.

Made at Melbourne this eighth day of May, 1918.