

History Snapshots:

The Influenza Pandemic of 1918-1919



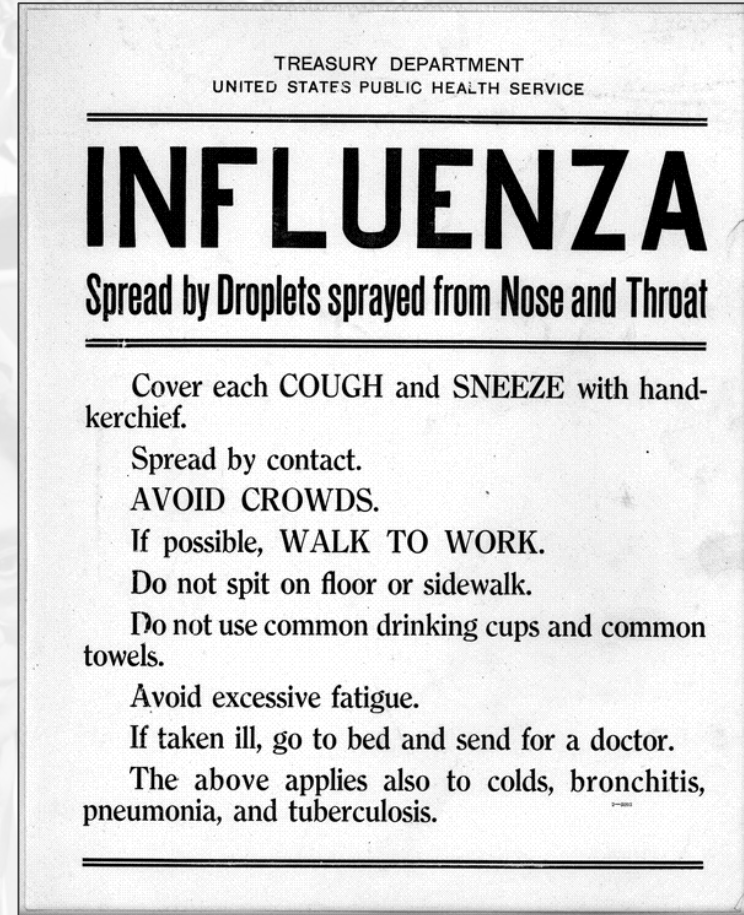
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History Snapshots:

The Influenza Pandemic: a nation reacts



During the fall of 1918 and winter of 1919, the world was rocked by an epidemic of influenza known as the Spanish Flu. This strain was exceptionally lethal. While the mortality rate is impossible to establish, it is estimated that 675,000-850,000 Americans died from influenza that year.



History Snapshot

The Influenza Pandemic of 1918-1919: What would you do?

What do you think would happen if most of your classmates came down with the flu. What if your town or even the entire state of Texas caught the flu?

Do think our response to the flu today would be different than what happened during the Influenza Pandemic of 1918-1919? To find out, complete the activity for this lesson.

Word Teach!

What do these words mean?

Influenza

Tuberculosis

Pandemic

Epidemic

History Snapshots: The Influenza Pandemic of 1918-1919: a personal account



This letter written by Rev. Dr. Thomas McHutchin Cunningham shows how the flu affected his town.

Stamford, Tuesday Oct. 15, 1918.

Synod met Oct. 8, but on account of Spanish Influenza we closed our business Thursday night the 10th instead of Friday night. Other public gathering places in Waxahachie were closed Thursday morning, but we were given special privilege. I enjoyed Synod very much. The item which consumed most time was the matter of the proposed removal of the Orphans Home. Nothing was done and I think it is a shame that they have to agitate a matter that seems to be so well fixed already.

The Wedding which was supposed to have taken place Friday night at Hamilton was indefinitely postponed because of the sickness of both the Bride and Groom. They are to let me know when it is to be and if possible I will go.

Rev. Cunningham, Thomas McHutchin. "Letters of Rev. Dr. Thomas McHutchin Cunningham." 1918 to 1927.

Permalink: <http://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph24653/m1/30/?q=oct.%201918,%201918>

History Snapshots:

The Influenza Pandemic of 1918-1919: newspaper accounts

Students will examine newspaper articles published in 1918 during the flu epidemic to learn how a small Texas community responded to the pandemic.

For this Texas History Snap Shot students will need to view the Tulia Herald newspaper online by following the permalinks provided on slides 7, 8, and 9.

How to view the articles:

- from the slide, click on the newspaper image
- then click on the zoom link, located on the right side of the page
- locate and read the article

History Snapshots:

The Influenza Pandemic of 1918-1919: Considerations



Questions to consider as you read:

What are the concerns of the Tulia Herald issue of December 20, 1918, about the dangers of secondary infections?

How did the Influenza epidemic changed the nature of every day life for the citizens of Tulia?

Consider how the town handled the large number of infected citizens.

By 29 November 1918 how many citizens of Tulia were afflicted with Spanish Flu?

History Snapshots:

The Influenza Pandemic of 1918-1919: a Town Reacts



The Tulia Herald (Tulia, Tex),
Vol. 9, No. 51, Ed. 1, Friday,
December 20, 1918

Read the articles:
“After Influenza What?”
and “How to Avoid
Tuberculosis.”

Click on newspaper

<https://education.texashistory.unt.edu>

History Snapshots:

The Influenza Pandemic of 1918-1919: a Town Endures



The Tulia Herald (Tulia, Tex),
Vol. 9, No. 49, Ed. 1, Friday,
December 6, 1918

Read the articles
“The Influenza Siege” and
“Influenza Epidemic is Well
Under Control.”

Click on newspaper

<https://education.texashistory.unt.edu>



History Snapshots:

The Influenza Pandemic of 1918-1919: Tulia Affected



The Tulia Herald (Tulia, Tex),
Vol. 9, No. 48, Ed. 1, Friday,
November 29, 1918
(excellent)

Read the article
“Influenza Epidemic has Hit
Tulia Hard Blow”

<https://education.texashistory.unt.edu>



Click on newspaper

History Snapshots:

The Influenza Pandemic of 1918-1919: Learn More

Resources:

- The Influenza Pandemic of 1918
<http://virus.stanford.edu/uda/>
- The Navy Department Library: “The Pandemic of Influenza in 1918-1919”
<https://www.history.navy.mil/research/library/online-reading-room/title-list-alphabetically/i/influenza/the-pandemic-of-influenza-in-1918-1919.html>
- National Archives and Records and Records Administration: The Deadly Virus The Influenza Epidemic 1918. <http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/influenza-epidemic/>
- CDC Emerging Infectious Diseases “1918 Influenza: the Mother of All Pandemics”
https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/12/1/05-0979_article