

Spanish Influenza 1918

Influenza Timeline

- ▶ **Sept. 23, 1918 – Quarantine at military camp**
- ▶ **Sept. 30 – Flu reaches Rowan**
- ▶ **Oct. 3 – News from Raleigh about closings**
- ▶ **Oct. 5 - Red Cross mobilized for food and care**
- ▶ **Oct. 7 - Board of Health [BOH] puts stringent steps in place to check influenza**
- ▶ **Oct. 12 - The close order extended to county churches & schools**
- ▶ **Oct. 28 - BOH orders all businesses to close at 4 pm except drug stores & restaurants**
- ▶ **Nov. 11 – War over; Restrictions eased but continuing concerns**
- ▶ **Dec. 13 – Resurgence of flu**
- ▶ **Dec. 26 - Board of Health lifts bans on closings**
- ▶ **Jan. 6, 1919 – Schools open**

September 23, 1918

The Salisbury Post

The first warning of what was to come.

— W S S —

SEVIER IS PLACED UNDER QUARANTINE

First Suspected Case of Spanish Influenza Makes Its Appearance and Soldiers and Entire Military Reservation is Placed Under Quarantine.

(By Associated Press.)

Greenville, S. C., Sept. 23.—Soldiers and the entire military reservation of Camp Sevier has been placed under quarantine on account of the development of the first suspected cases of Spanish influenza in the camp.

The quarantine will remain effective so long as the authorities consider there is danger of a possible outbreak of the malady.

— W S S —

September 30, 1918

Flu reaches Rowan

Two cases of Spanish influenza have been reported from East Spencer, the victims being Mr. Wallace Swarringen and his mother. Both are doing nicely and are considered out of danger. An East Spencer young man, Mr. Gideon Fesperman, a student at the State University, also has the disease and is in the hospital there. He is also improving nicely. So far as is known there have been no cases in Spencer proper.

SPANISH INFLUENZA ENROUTE

Two Cases at the Passenger Station Sunday—Afflicted Men Were On Their Way Up Western Road.

There were two cases of what was pronounced as Spanish influenza at the passenger station Sunday, the victims being two men who had been working at some of the government works in Virginia. They were on their way to their homes at points up the Western road and were quite sick when they arrived here. They spent the day here, awaiting the departure of a train last night, and during their stop were quartered in an off section of the station and no one allowed to come in close contact with them and no danger of others becoming infected was anticipated.

Red Cross Canteen Workers



CANTEEN WORKERS — This photo shows a group of Salisbury women who were canteen workers affiliated with the Red Cross here during World War

I. From 1917 to 1918, they met all troop trains, dispensed cigarettes, candy, cigars, fruit baskets and other delicacies to the servicemen.

The women operating the canteen at the train depot providing hospitality for traveling soldiers discontinued their work at the depot in order not to spread influenza.

October 1918

The public took little notice of the quarantine at the military camp or a few cases of flu.

The focus was still on the war.

Do Your Holiday Shopping Early and Buy Liberty Bonds

Salisbury Evening Post

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

VOL. 14, NO. 210 SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA SATURDAY, OCT. 6, 1918. PRICE TWO CENTS

WEATHER FORECAST
Fair tonight and Sunday;
warmer.

CAROLINIANS SMASHING HINDENBURG LINE

King Ferdinand Abdicates Bulgarian Throne

THE FRENCH, BRITISH AND SERBIANS CONTINUE THEIR ADVANCE

ONE EDITION
2 CENTS

AMERICAN TALK

Giving and Lending.

Stop saying you've given your cash to aid.

When you haven't given a cent;
All that for Liberty Bonds you paid
Was not GIVEN at all, but LENT.
You have LENT some money to stop
the storm.

So safety you still may live;
The logs who are wearing the uniform
Are the fellows who really GIVE.

They're giving their all till the war
shall end;
You're doing a bit at a time;
It may pinch a little when cash you
need.

But their cash is sublime.
They go into battle, nor count the cost
As the murderers foe they face;
You count your investments—there's
nothing lost,
And the interest grows quiet.

Don't be so complacent—'tis not
worth while;
Stop putting yourself on the back,
Doing "your bit." Why, you aid to
your pile.

With each page of the almanac!
Doing your bit with the money you
lend.

At a price, to your Uncle Sam!
You're helping yourself when you aid
extend,
But the GIVING is all a sham.

Lend till it hurts, if it's all you can
do;
Don't stop at what you can "afford"
Lend till you feel that you're in the
war too.

Your confidence will be your reward,
Cut out your comforts, get down to
hard pan.

Take heed of the crumbs and the
scraps.

Lend ever cent you possibly can,
And then you'll have GIVEN, per-
haps.

—N. A. Jennings in N. Y. Herald.

All lies and no truth makes the
Hun a despicable fellow.

Hang a Prussian General for every
French and Belgian town destroyed

FRENCH-AMERICANS SMASHING POSITION

German Lines in Champagne Being Hit Hard; Enemy Forced to Withdraw Important Lines.

FIGHTING DESPERATELY TO STAY THE ADVANCE

In Region North of St. Quentin the British and French Continue Vigorous Pressure.

(By the Associated Press)

French and American troops are smashing into the German position in Champagne and have forced the enemy to withdraw from valuable ground in the hill country near the Suippe river.

East and west of Argonne and northwest of Rheims there has been heavy fighting to the advantage of the allies.

On the northern sectors hostilities apparently have quieted down.

By advancing northward over the heights of Blanc Mont and the Meleh farm the French and Americans have placed the Germans in the

TAR HEEL BOYS IN THICK OF FIGHTING

With the British They are Smashing Desperately and Going After Big Section Hindy Line.

GERMANY'S GREATEST SINGLE LINE THREATENED

General March Announces Troops Going Over at Rate of 250,000 a Month Without Let Up.

(By the Associated Press)

Washington, Oct. 5.—The American advance northwest of Verdun threatens the greatest single line of communication between German and the western front. General March, chief of staff, said today, and General Pershing's forces have now reached a point within 18 miles of the great artery.

The progress of Pershing's forces has caused the German general staff to throw into this sector many divisions of reinforcements, the chief of staff said, but despite this the Americans have not only maintained the positions won but have pushed forward until now they are facing General Kraemer's line of defense.

AMERICAN SOLDIER AND NURSE



KING FERDINAND OF BULGARIA ABDICATE SFAVOR CROWN PRINCE BORIA

(By Associated Press.)

Copenhagen, Oct. 5.—The official Austrian correspondence bureau has given out a dispatch from Sofia dated Friday stating that King Ferdinand of Bulgaria abdicated Thursday in favor of Crown Prince Boria. The new king, it is declared, has already assumed the office.

FRENCH-AMERICANS SMASHING POSITION

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MORE EXPLOSIONS AT PERTH AMBOY

Several Hundred Believed Killed and Many are Injured When Plant is Wrecked.

PEOPLE LEAVING THE CITY BY THOUSANDS

One Town Completely Devastated and Great Property Lost—Results—Fires Follow.

(By Associated Press.)

FRENCH-AMERICANS DRIVING THE HUN

Under Pressure of These Troops in Champagne Germans Retire and Give Up Territory.

EMPEROR'S TROOPS TRY TO RAID AMERICAN POSITION

Local Gains Create a Situation Enabling the Enemy to Offer Stiffer Resistance.

(By Associated Press.)

October 3, 1918

- ▶ Raleigh takes steps to close down all public gatherings
- ▶ 300 hundred cases in the capital – 103 just the day before
- ▶ 115 cases at both schools for the blind and 150 at the state college

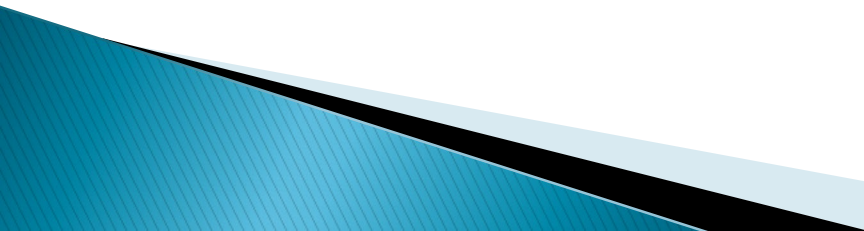
— W A S —
**RALEIGH TAKES STEP
AGAINST INFLUENZA**
—

Will Probably Close Schools, Churches, Picture Houses and Theatres and Other Public Places—Many New Cases and Some Deaths.


(By the Associated Press)

Raleigh, Oct. 3.—The commissioners of Raleigh are today considering the closing of the city schools, churches, picture and other theatres and all places of public gatherings until the danger of influenza epidemic has passed. This course is recommended by the city physician.

October 5-7, 1918

- ▶ **The Red Cross in Salisbury was already working on an Influenza Emergency Committee.**
 - ▶ **The women who had been working the canteen were prepared & willing to help.**
 - ▶ **By October 7, the committee had been appointed and was working to suppress the flu and alleviate the epidemic.**
- 

Work of the Influenza Committee

- ▶ **No trained nurses were available so they relied on volunteers to provide nursing care**
 - ▶ **Provided nutritious meals for the sick, initially preparing food for 60-80 people, eventually 130-180 daily; the kitchen was open 10-15 hours a day until November when the need dropped**
 - ▶ **The Salisbury Red Cross Motor Corps delivered meals to afflicted households as well as ferrying volunteer nurses to and from houses**
- 

October 12, 1918

Trying to control the spread

Rowan County Board of Health was particularly concerned about glasses at soda shops that were reused without being sterilized. Paper cups were encouraged.

People were asked not to congregate on the streets but to conduct business and go home.

Schools and churches all over the county were closed.

**HEALTH BOARD
EXTENDS RULES**

**All Churches and Schools of the
County Are to be Closed Until
Further Notice.**

**PUBLIC ASKED NOT TO STAY
ON STREETS TONIGHT**

**Simply Attend to the Necessary
Business and Then Go Home
Tonight.**

The Rowan County Board of Health in session today continued the order made on the 6th inst., the same to apply to the whole county, therefore all schools and churches will be closed until the order is repealed by the Board of Health.

In reference to the order discontinuing the canteen service, permission was granted the ladies to be on duty and look after wounded and overseas soldiers, all other activities of the canteen workers, such as looking after sick, is herewith put under the direction of the whole time health officer, Dr. Warren.

The board asks that the people do not congregate on the streets tonight, but are urged to simply attend to the necessary business they may have and go home. The health officer was ordered to instruct all meat markets, restaurants, grocery stores, ice cream parlors, and all places where soft drinks are sold, barber shops and all places where public gatherings are made to follow the laws and requests of the health board.

Mask Against Influenza



As a means of preventing the spread of influenza the North Carolina State Board of Health strongly urges that doctors, nurses and others attending patients sick with this disease wear a mask over the mouth and nose. The manner of wearing is shown in the above picture. The mask should be made according to Red Cross directions, in size about eight by five inches, consisting of four layers of fine mesh gauze, or buttercloth. Do not use coarse mesh gauze, as experiments have shown that protection is not given even when as many as eight layers of the coarse mesh are used. The mask may be sterilized by placing in boiling water for a few minutes and used over and over again. The same side should always be worn next the face and for this purpose one side should be marked, say with a black thread. The precaution is simple, costs almost nothing, and is most effective. PLACE A MASK OVER YOUR MOUTH AND NOSE AND HELP THE SICK OF YOUR COMMUNITY. CAREFULLY WASHING YOUR HANDS AFTER ATTENDING EACH PERSON. IN DOING THIS THE CHANCES OF INFECTION ARE PRACTICALLY NONE.

Coughs and Sneezes Spread Diseases



As Dangerous as Poison Gas Shells
**SPREAD OF SPANISH INFLUENZA
MENACES OUR WAR PRODUCTION**

U. S. Public Health Service Begins Nation-wide Health Campaign.

November 11 – WAR OVER

- ▶ Celebrations & Parades
- ▶ Restrictions Ease

**A CELEBRATION
PLANNED TONIGHT**

Parade and Formal Exercises Will Be in Order Tonight—While Exercises to Take on Nature of Solemn Thanksgiving and Jollification.

**PARADE AND
FIRE WORKS**

There is going to be some celebration in this man's town this evening, flu or no flu. Realizing that the celebration was due to arrive and that it would be all but useless to try and head it off, Mayor Woodson said, let'er go, and go she will.

At 7:30 the parade and music and fuss will begin. Bring something to make a noise with you and also a light; dig up the old torch used in the last political demonstration.

Continuing Concerns

November 21, 1918

RULES GOVERNING MANAGEMENT FLU

Adopted by the Rowan County Board
of Health for Parents, Guardians,
Householders and Adults Capable of
Transmitting the Disease.

Health Officer Protests

Dear Mr. Editor:--

Yesterday, November 18, 1918, the Superior court was convened by Judge Long and Solicitor Hayden Clement for the purpose of administering justice to a few criminals that were comfortably lodged in the county jail.

For six weeks our loyal citizens of Rowan county have patiently co-operated with the county board of health in an effort to eradicate the severe epidemic of influenza. The people have stood by the quarantine like men. Churches, schools and business houses have been closed, probably for the first time in history. They did it willingly because they felt that they were serving the best interest of the citizens of the county. And they unquestionably were.

Mid-December 1918

Resurgence of flu

Mr. E. D. McCall, who has so faithfully nursed many cases of influenza is now herself a victim to this disease, we regret to say.

MRS. SAMPSON.

Closing of Schools.

On account of the epidemic of influenza the school board decided to close the schools, and not re-open until January. Many of the children were genuinely sorry when this announc-

W S S
RED CROSS BAZAAR CONTINUES

Ladies Still Holding Forth at Courthouse, Selling Articles and Serving Meals.

The Red Cross bazaar in the courthouse continues through today and tonight and the ladies are still selling fancy and useful articles and serving lunch and meals. The bazaar will run through today and tonight and the ladies are expecting a liberal patronage on the closing day.

The weather has been inclement but the patronage has been fairly good, but it should be a record day today. The cause is a most worthy one and the public is asked to patronize the bazaar liberally in the closing hours. The place is inviting, the meals are tempting and many articles useful for Christmas presents are on sale. Go out and help the good women in their efforts to raise funds with which to prosecute their work. The need is urgent, now that the influenza sufferers are again to be looked after.

Christmas 1918



With continued help of Red Cross, Rowan starts recovery.

December 26, 1918

Rowan County Board of Health lifts Ban

**THE INFLUENZA BAN
GOES OFF THURSDAY**

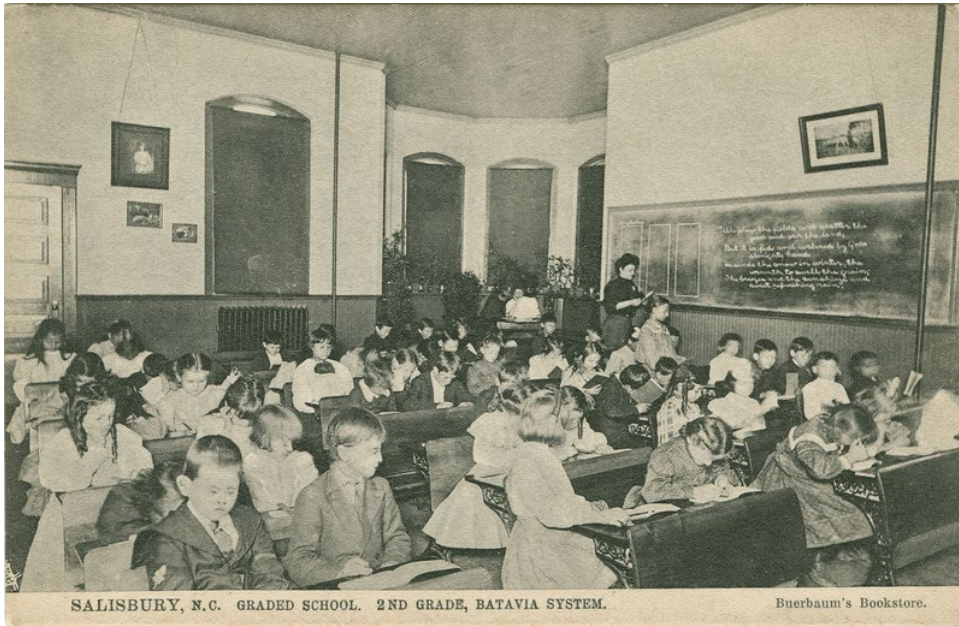
County Health Board Held Meeting Monday Afternoon and Took This Official Action.

**NUMBER OF NEW CASES
DAILY ON THE DECREASE**

Unnecessary Public Gatherings Discouraged—Infested Homes Still Under Quarantine.

The Rowan County Health Board held a meeting yesterday afternoon to canvass the influenza situation in Salisbury and Rowan county, hear reports from the physicians of the city and county and Dr. A. J. Warren, county health officer.

January 6, 1919



CITY SCHOOLS OPEN.

Book Studies Resumed After Close of Several Weeks—Number of Children Yet Remain Out.

The city public schools, Ellis street, N. Main street, West Ward, Innes street, and the negro schools, resumed work this morning after a close down of several weeks, starting with a cessation on account of influenza and remaining closed over the holidays. There was a large attendance at the opening today, but quite a number of children in whose homes there are cases of influenza are still held out and will be until the sufferers of flu in their homes recover. It is believed now that the schools will complete the term unhindered. However, whenever a case of influenza appears in a home from which a child is attending school it is required that children from this home quit school until the disease disappears from such home.

The schools have been hard hit by the flu since opening up in September, being forced to close twice and there has only been two brief intervals of school period.