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NO. 34



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Who Pays Quarantine Bills?

(In response to an inquiry from a citizen of Hammonton, the following letter was received. We publish it because the above question has been asked.)

Board of Health of the State of New Jersey.
TREASURY, AUG 24th, 1904.

It is not in accord with the prevailing practice in progressive localities to try to deprive any one of his liberty because of scarlet fever, except the patient himself and the necessary nurses and attendants. It is unnecessary and impracticable to prevent the bread-winners of the family from engaging in their usual business occupations; and if the patient is properly isolated in the dwelling, there will be little risk of spreading the disease through the agency of those who live in the house. Moreover, it is a fact which is well established, that nothing short of a prison will hold an entire family in domestic quarantine for a period of six or seven weeks, and it is therefore useless as well as unreasonable to undertake to enforce such a requirement.

If in any given case the health board believes that the family cannot be trusted, and that the patient will not be kept properly isolated, then the patient should be removed to a hospital provided by the municipality. Under these circumstances, the city or town will pay all expenses which attach to the care of the patient.

It is not customary for the city or town to pay for the care and treatment of patients who remain in their own houses; and there are several strong reasons why this should not be done. A person who is affected with an infectious disease has no claim upon the public merely because he is infected, and the public interests are concerned in his case only because he may under some circumstances be a source of danger to others. If he is indigent, he may of course be pauperized; but he is bound by both duty and law to prevent a spread of the disease to other persons. So long as he or his friends or relatives take every precaution to prevent the disease from spreading, he may be left alone; but when he or his family disregard the rights of others, by careless, heedless, or intentional exposure of the patient to other susceptible individuals, then the law provides that the health board may take measures to limit the spread of the disease. They may isolate him in his own domicile, or remove him to a place provided by the municipal authorities. To be allowed to remain in his own home during a prolonged sickness, due to scarlet fever, is usually considered a great privilege, and few persons will violate proper restrictions for the protection of their neighbors under these circumstances.

Certainly they have no right to expect the authorities to pay for their care and maintenance under these conditions. If they prove to have no regard for the welfare of other persons, then they must be dealt with summarily, and it may become necessary to burden the treasury, temporarily, with the cost of their support as in the case of other violators of law.

Very respectfully,
HENRY MITCHELL, Sec'y.

Dr. F. O. Burt had a narrow escape. Thursday evening, approaching Thirteenth Street crossing, he held up while a down train passed, then started to cross, but looked south just in time to pull back enough to escape a north-bound express. He heard no signal of the train's approach.

About nine o'clock last Saturday night, as H. L. McIntyre went into his barn, one of the horses was made frantic by the tightening of a rope about his neck, and in its plunges threw Mr. M. against the partitions and manger until he was badly injured about the head and body. Luckily, he crawled into a position whence he could get out of the stall. It was a narrow escape from a horrible death. The rope which made trouble was put on by an employee, who "couldn't find the halter."

Dr. J. A. Waas,

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Young People's Societies.

This space is devoted to the interests of the Young People's Societies of the various Churches. Special items of interest, and announcements are solicited.

Y. P. S. O. E.—Presbyterian Church:
Meets Sunday evening, at 7:00.
Topic, "Standing alone for God."
Rom. 8: 31-39. Leader, Miss Carrie Garcelon.

Y. P. S. O. E.—Baptist Church:
Meets Sunday evening, at 6:45.
Topic, "Standing alone for God."
Rom. 8: 31-39. Leader, John E. Hoyt.

Jr. C. E., Sunday afternoon at 3:00:
Topic, "What our missionaries are doing for China." Matt. 9: 38.

Epworth League,—M. E. Church:
Meets Sunday evening, at 7:00.

Junior League on Sunday afternoon, at 3:00 o'clock. Topic, "A safe rule to follow." Col. 3: 21.

Church Announcements.

Notices of Church meetings are of public interest, and no charge is made for their insertion. Weekly changes are urged.

Baptist Church. Rev. Wilshire W. Williams, Pastor. 10:30 a. m., "The Christian religion a reality." 7:45 p. m., "The devil in disguise."

Union Services.—Presbyterian and Methodist congregations. 10:30 a. m., in the Presbyterian Church. 7:00 to 8:00 p. m., in the M. E. Church.

St. Mark's Church.—Rev. Paul F. Hoffman, Rector. Sunday services as usual.

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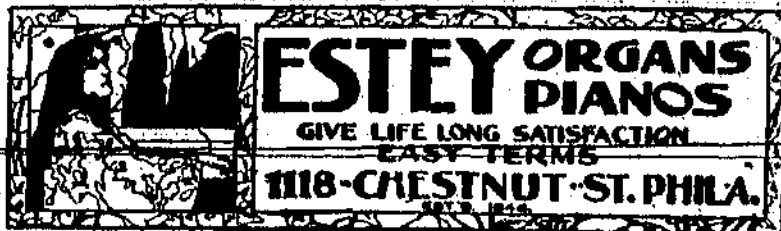
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Dated July 16, 1904.
BENJAMIN FOGLETT, per se.
29-35. pr. fos, \$9.00

The cost of these booklets largely exceeds the above prices, and all money obtained from their sale will be kept separate from the general funds of the Board of Trade, and be used exclusively for advertising the Town in other ways.

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