Flu Files Assignment Pt. 1

April 9th, 1918 Jane Kim MACS 317



- About 4 months before the last battle of WWI
- All about the war + anti-Germany
 Updates on war efforts
- Wilson vs. Clemenceau drama
- Few misc. stories (ex. train wreck)
- Sports, finances, properties, help wanted, etc.
- No news of Spanish Flu



Adams Chewing Gum Ad

- Large ad early on in the paper
- Chewing gum does not help with headaches
 - o Actually can be a migraine trigger







Different Stages of Life

- Stories of births, engagements, marriages, and deaths all on the same page
- Far more deaths than happier events





THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR.

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THEEDAY MODNING NOVEMBER OF 1918

SEUED EVERY DAY AND SUNDAY | DAILY, by Carrier, St. 20 a Year. \ TWO CENT

FIRST U.S. ARMY UNITS ON WAY HOME

The Indianapolis Star
Tuesday Morning, November 26, 1918

NURSES ARE ILL OF SPANISH FLU

Frankfort Appeals to State Board for Aid—Free Vaccination Starts Today. [Special to The Indianapolis Star.]

FRANKFORT, Ind., Nov. 25.—An appeal to the state board of health to provide nurses for the emergency hospital here, which cares for influenza patients, was made today by Howard Cann, county chairman of the Red Cross. The three nurses at the hospital are ill of the disease. There was a decrease in the number of cases today, the total being twenty. There were two deaths.

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Acting in accordance with Governor Goodrich's proclamation for the appointment of an influenza commission in each county, Dr. W. J. Fernald, city health officer, appointed Mayor E. C. McMurtry, Sheriff J. W. Pence, Mrs. W. A. Doty, Andrew A. Laird, L. G. Hockman, superintendent of the local schools, and Jesse J. Doane to serve Free vaccination of eyerybody in Frankfort will be started tomorrow. Those who care to may pay the regular fee for inoculation and all money received above the cost of the serum is 40 go to the emergency hospital. Physicians will donate their services.

Jane Kim

MACS 317

9 October 2020

Flu File Interpretation

The Indianapolis Star wrote an article titled "Nurses Are Ill of Spanish Flu" and published it on November 26, 1918. Within the article, there are mentions of how hospital employees were contracting the Spanish Flu and that the city of Frankfort, IN would be providing vaccines to people in order to fight this flu. However, upon further research, there were no vaccines or other drugs to treat this flu and the first licensed vaccine showed up in the United States around the 1940s, well after the Spanish Flu had made waves (History.com). The media in the United States barely discussed the Spanish Flu initially. Even this article was a very short article on page 13 showing it's insignificance in comparison to other news stories or even some advertisements that had more prominence. While I believe that this was a good beginning to getting news of the flu out to the public, I don't believe it was enough. With all eyes on the War, even I would have been more concerned with family members returning safely or trying to support my family instead of worrying about influenza. During COVID-19, I've also witnessed how unimportant (some) Americans think the pandemic is. Just like with the Spanish Flu, people don't seem to realize the significance and the impact COVID-19 has on people until their loved ones or someone near to them contracts the virus. Of course, not everyone is affected in the same way - the same went for the Spanish Flu. This article also makes me think about all of the hospital workers and first responders being so openly exposed to the virus day by day but how little is being done to support them, just like in the article all the way from 1918.

References

History.com Editors. (2010, October 12). Spanish flu. HISTORY.

https://www.history.com/topics/world-war-i/1918-flu-pandemic#section_8 (1918, April 9). *The New York Times*.

Nurses are ill of Spanish Flu. (1918, November 26). The Indianapolis Star, p. 13.