

**NEWS ARTICLES – Everett School**

Kansas City Gazette  
Kansas City, Kansas  
Friday, 23 November 1894  
(microfilm located at KCKs Public Library)

**MUST DO SOMETHING**

Prompt Action Necessary to Suppress Diphtheria

**TWO DEATHS YESTERDAY**

Several Cases Reported and a Number of the Everett School Pupils Have Withdrawn---School Board Meets Tonight---The New Pasteur Remedy

Roy Kraus, aged 5 years, died yesterday at 103 Everett Avenue of diphtheria. There are other children in the family down with the dread disease. The Kraus family live near the Everett school, the pupils of which are gathering up their books and leaving in large numbers. Freddie, the 4-year old son of Mr. and Mrs. William Rodekopf, of Sandusky avenue, also died of diphtheria yesterday and there are children in this family affected. Despite the alarm that has been manifested by the parents the children of the Everett school, the board of education has not yet taken any action or signified its intention to close any of the schools. However, the board will meet tonight to discuss the matter and something will probably be done. That urgent action is needed cannot be denied. Unless prompt measures are taken the disease will become epidemic. In Kansas City, Mo., there is already considerable alarm felt owing to the number of cases that have broken out there and the authorities are thoroughly aroused to the dangers of the situation. They are thinking of using the **new Pasteur remedy**, a serum taken from the blood of horses which have been inoculated with diphtheria microbes. This has been found an excellent cure for diphtheria and membranous croup when applied in the early, stages. New Orleans in purchasing the remedy by public subscriptions. New York city furnishes its own supply. Dr. Waring, the health officer of Kansas City, Mo., announces his intention to ask the council of that city to make an appropriation to obtain the serum for use there. His plan is to sell it to the physicians at cost.

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**NOT ALARMED**

The School Board Sees No Occasion Yet for Radical Action

**THOSE DIPHTHERIA CASES**

On the Strength of the Report Made by Principal Howard of the Everett School in Reference to the Kraus Case, the School Will Not Be Closed

Despite the alarm manifested in the Everett school district regarding diphtheria, the board of education, on the strength of a report made by Principal Howard, decided last night that at present there was no occasion to close the school. The board is of the opinion that the present panic is entirely unnecessary. In reference to the death of the little Kraus boy, a half block from the school, which has been the cause for alarm, Prof. Howard stated to the board

that there was a dispute between the physicians as to whether this was really a case of diphtheria. Dr. Miller reported to him that the child had died of tonsillitis, and the other three children who had reported as down with diphtheria were up and around the house suffering only from sore throat. Prof. Howard visited the house and the father, Mr. Kraus, made the same statement as Dr. Miller

The only other case of diphtheria in this district reported was at 722 Washington avenue and none of the children there had been to school. There had been no possibility of exposure to the disease. At the police station, however, four cases of diphtheria were reported on the books as being in the Kraus family. Over 40 per cent of the scholars at Everett school have been withdrawn owing to the scare and if it continues the school will have to be closed anyway. Prof. Hanks says that he would close the schools promptly if he is warned of any danger, but the reports brought to him as coming from the attending physicians do not warrant such action. He says he made a personal visit to one of the houses where diphtheria was reported and found that the child had been sent out of town to a relative, so there was no danger from that source.

Prof. Hanks has taken plans to get reports regular from the police of all cases of contagious diseases and this is the list he has obtained for November:

November 1, 515, Washington avenue scarlet fever; November 14, 722 Washington avenue, diphtheria; November 16, 406 Everett, diphtheria; 517 Sandusky, diphtheria; 649 Sandusky, diphtheria; 642 Franklin, scarlet fever; 814 North Seventh, diphtheria. County Health Officer Cornell is making an investigation of all the cases in the city and will report to the school board Monday. If he discovers that there have been any exposures among school children and recommends the closing of any of the schools Prof. Hanks says it will be done promptly. In the mean time the board thinks there has been more alarm than is necessary.

Yet the apprehension among the people of the city, particularly in the Everett district refuses to be allayed. This is accounted for by the fact that the reports claimed to have been received by the board of education is not fully informed of the danger.

For instance while one physician in the Kraus family case reports it as tonsillitis, the other reports it as diphtheria. This causes a lack of confidence in any of the reports and the people whose children are sent to the Everett school are still of the opinion that it ought to have been ordered closed last night. They are afraid that other cases of tonsillitis in the city may prove to be diphtheria.