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**ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED**

The engagement has been announced in Pittsburgh of Miss Elizabeth Whightman Mellon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Alexander Mellon, and niece of Andrew W. Mellon, secretary of the treasury, to John B. Sellers son of Mrs. Harry D. Sellers of Pittsburgh. Mr. Sellers is a cousin of John B. Guthrie of 730 Walden road.

An informal, illustrated talk by Mrs. Emma Hodge, 220 Woodstock avenue, Kenilworth was the program given at the College club Wednesday morning.

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**1927 — HEALTH FINE**

**State Health Director Records Passing  
Year as Among Healthiest Years in  
Illinois History**

Predicting superb health conditions for the holiday season, Dr. Isaac D. Rawlings, state health director, declared this week that the next two weeks give promise of closing one of the most healthful years in the history of the state. Deaths fell 3288 below the corresponding 1926 period during the first nine months of this year in spite of a population increase estimated at 100,000. Pronounced declines in mortality from pneumonia and influenza feature the record, while substantial decreases in fatalities mark the 1927 course of tuberculosis, whooping cough, scarlet fever and measles. Communicable diseases in general accounted for 2352 fewer deaths during the first half of 1927 than in the first half of 1926.

"Armed with the benefits of unprecedented prosperity, people have been able to combat contagious diseases and ill health in an unusually effective way this year," Dr. Rawlings said. "Greater economic resources have enabled the public to take advantage of preventive and control methods heretofore beyond the reach of many. Never before has public health service been employed so generally nor to better advantage. Never before has so much sanitary construction in reference to public water and sewer systems been done. Never

have people utilized medical and nursing services more intelligently. Never have the common people enjoyed more adequate nor cleaner food supplies and never have they been more comfortably clothed and housed.

"The result is an unusually healthful condition in the state. Pneumonia, influenza and tuberculosis, three diseases that prey upon people whose physical resistance is low because of inadequate diet, over-crowding, unhygienic habits, ill health, etc., caused 2236 fewer deaths in the first half of 1927 than in the first half of 1926.

"Diphtheria is the only communicable disease that has manifested a significant increase over the 1926 record. Deaths from this infection are running about fifty per cent higher than in 1926. This unfortunate rise is more than offset, however, by the marked reduction in most of the other common contagions.

"Based upon an estimated population of 7,314,000, the mortality rate for the first nine months of 1927 was 11.1 per 1000 people against 12.1 for the corresponding period in 1926. Reports of contagious diseases indicate that this favorable condition still prevails.

"It appears that the state is about to experience one of the most healthful holiday seasons that it has ever enjoyed and that the people are facing the difficult winter months, the most sickly period of the year, under the most favorable conditions."

**Ask Good Fellows' Help  
for War Vets' Families**

The last call before Christmas comes from Mrs. Joseph Joyce of Kenilworth for volunteers to act as Good Fellows for the families of disabled veterans of the World war. There are wives and children who need your help.

Food, clothing and fuel are needed above all else. Those who wish to finance a Christmas basket for a family are invited to communicate with Mrs. Joseph Joyce, Kenilworth 2134.

Names of these families are provided by the United States Veterans' bureau and they are thoroughly investigated to determine whether there is real need.

Tom Gillet, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter N. Gillet, 533 Roslyn road, Kenilworth, and Jerome Spiegel, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Spiegel, 424 Washington avenue, Wilmette, are returning home from the University of Michigan for the holidays.

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