The Spanish Flu of 1918

Document #1

A public health nurse teaches a young mother how to sterilize a bottle. [Credit: National Library of Medicine]
http://1918.pandemicflu.gov/pics/photos/Nurse_Helps_With_Baby_Formula.jpg
A street cleaner in New York during an outbreak of Spanish influenza, which hit in 1918.

http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/01/nyregion/01bigcity.html
A warning posted in a 1918 issue of the New York Times

By educating people on how influenza could spread, public health officials hoped to help people avoid it. [Credit: National Library of Medicine]

http://1918.pandemicflu.gov/pics/posters/Careless_Spitting.jpg
http://www.stanford.edu/group/virus/uda/
Harsh measures were taken against those who disobeyed laws forbidding spitting. [Credit: North Dakota Historical Society]
http://1918.pandemicflu.gov/pics/newspapers/Arrested_for_Spitting.gif
I had a little bird
and its name was Enza
I opened the window and in-flu-enza

Children's jump rope rhyme heard nationwide during the height of the pandemic.

http://www.stanford.edu/group/virus/uda/
Local health departments warned those who were ill to stay away from theaters and other public places. [Credit: Office of the Public Health Service Historian]
Chronological map of the influenza epidemic of 1918. Based on preliminary reports from 370 localities, indicating the approximate dates on which the disease reached an epidemic stage.
Nurses and doctors attempted, often unsuccessfully, to protect themselves from influenza. [Credit: National Archives and Records Administration]
http://1918.pandemicflu.gov/pics/photos/Nurse_With_Mask.jpg
Policemen in Seattle wore masks in the belief that these would protect them from influenza. The masks provided no real protection. c. 1918.
http://1918.pandemicflu.gov/pics/photos/Washington_State1.jpg
Public health nurses often traveled great distances to reach patients. [Credit: National Library of Medicine]

Street car conductor in Seattle not allowing passengers aboard without a mask. 1918
http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/influenza-epidemic/records-list.html
Traditional remedies for colds and coughs remained popular remedies. [Credit: National Library of Medicine]
http://1918.pandemicflu.gov/pics/posters/Throat_Lozenges.jpg
When it came to treating influenza patients, doctors, nurses and druggists were at a loss. [Credit: Office of the Public Health Service Historian]

http://1918.pandemicflu.gov/documents_media/06.htm