

FITCHBURG FOLK URGED TO BALK AT VACCINATION

Woman Urges Residents to
Choose Arrest Instead—
Denied Use of Church on
Request of Mayor

**33,000 RESIDENTS
ALREADY TREATED**

**3700 Immunized Yesterday
—School Children Slated
to Be Given Virus Today—
Mayor Says He Doesn't
Wish to Violate Privileges
of Free Speech**

Fitchburg, Jan. 17—(AP)—Residents of Fitchburg, required by an emergency ordinance to be vaccinated as a precaution against a threatened smallpox epidemic, tonight were urged by Mrs Jessica Henderson of the Citizens' Committee against Vaccination, of Boston, to choose arrest in preference to vaccination.

Refused Use of Church

Mrs Henderson addressed a group of citizens at the home of Dr Marlon H. Wilder, an opponent of vaccination, after trustees of the First Universalist church, where she was scheduled to speak, cancelled her lecture at the request of Mayor Joseph N. Carriere, and Dr Robert F. Burns, chairman of the city board of health.

In a communication to the trustees, Mayor Carriere said he did not wish to infringe upon the rights to free speech of any group but that he felt it would not be wise to have a lecture given on the subject of vaccination at this time.

33,000 Vaccinated

During the day 3700 residents were vaccinated at six public clinics, bringing to 33,000 the number who had complied with the emergency edict. The city's population is 41,000. Vaccination of school children was scheduled to begin tomorrow.

"If you are threatened with vaccination or arrest," Mrs Henderson told her listeners, "choose the latter as the safer."

Dr Wilder told newspapermen after the meeting that the antivaccination group in Fitchburg was gaining new members daily.

Rev Max A. Kapp of the First Universalist church said he personally favored vaccination, but believed opponents should have the privilege of expressing their views.

TWO BANDITS LOOT WARE GAS STATION