

Polio Total Last Week Said Lowest Number In 6 Years

WASHINGTON — Only 1,260 cases of polio were reported last week, the smallest total for the comparable week in six years, the Public Health Service said Thursday.

The new cases ran 21 per cent below the 1,604 listed in the week ended Sept. 24.

For the year there had been 23,018 cases through Oct. 1, 7,881 of them paralytic. This compares with 28,292, including 10,183 paralytic, in the similar 1954 span.

A health service spokesman said the indications now are that this year's total "will be in the range of 30,000" against 38,741 in 1954.

There have been 21,955 cases reported for this "disease year," which began about April 1, compared with 26,739 in the corresponding 1954 period.

Last week's 1,260 cases compared with these totals in the corresponding weeks in the five preceding years: 1,951 in 1954; 1,455 in 1953; 3,542 in 1952; 1,405 in 1951; and 1,990 in 1950.

For the first time since early summer the weekly communicable disease summary omitted a cautionary note that no conclusions could be drawn from these case reports as to the effectiveness of the vaccination program.

Instead, it presented the report first made public last weekend that the number of cases reported among seven million vaccinated children throughout the nation is running 25 to 50 per cent below the rate to be expected without vaccination in the same age groups.

Boilermakers Accept 15-Cent Hourly Raise

SEATTLE — Union officials said Tuesday an agreement has been reached for a 15-cent hourly wage increase for 3,000 members of the Boilermakers' Union (AFL) in seven western states and Alaska. It would carry bonuses for some Alaska work in remote areas.

A. F. O'Neill, business manager of local 104 here, said local members will meet here Saturday to act on the proposal. He said negotiators are recommending acceptance.

It would raise the journeyman scale to \$3.27 1/2, O'Neill said, which would be \$131 for a 40-hour week. It also carries a special 40-cent increase for work on the Arctic radar system and in the Aleutians.

Reed College Students Picket French Consulate

PORTLAND — The French consulate was picketed here Tuesday afternoon by three young men who said they were Reed College students, protesting French rule in Morocco and Algeria.

Alfred J. Herman, the consul, said he asked the picketers to leave but they refused. He said he'd talk with college authorities about it.

The three identified themselves as René Seaman Amdur, 21, Berkeley, Calif.; David Lloyd Thomas, 19, Leon, Fla.; and Eugene Wilk, Polianov, 18, Menlo Park, Calif.

CENTURY MEMORIAL BEMENT, III.

BEMENT, Ill. — This town was founded a century ago. Three young men, Joseph Bodman, L. B. Wing and Henry P. Little paid the government \$125 an acre and donated the land.

Bement's first real house was built for Bodman in 1855 and it still stands on its original site.

F. E. Bryant, first cousin of poet William Cullen Bryant, moved to Bement in 1856 and became a leading merchant, establishing the first bank and serving two terms in the Illinois General Assembly. It was at his home, now preserved as a memorial by the state, that Lincoln and Douglas met in 1858 to plan their debates.

There were many relics for the centennial celebration. Among them was Bodman's bath tub and a chain used by Steve Hawks in switching freight cars with a yoke of oxen a century ago.

ASKS BANK REPORTS

WASHINGTON — The comptroller of the currency Thursday issued a call for a statement of the condition of all national banks at the close of business Wednesday, Oct. 5.

A similar call was issued by the Federal Reserve Board for the condition of its member banks which are not national banks.

Reclamation Bids To Be Let Next June, Says McKay

WASHINGTON — Secretary of the Interior McKay announced Wednesday the Reclamation Bureau expects to ask for bids on an estimated \$1 million dollars worth of major construction contracts by next June 30.

Reclamation Commissioner W. A. Desheimer said bid calls for construction of major structures on nine new starts for which Congress voted money this year are scheduled by the end of March.

Desheimer said the bureau is going to work on the \$10,386,000 worth of new starts at an "accelerated pace."

The new starts will include: Haystack Dam and equalizing reservoir on the Deschutes Project in Oregon; Roza power plant on the Yakima Project in Washington.

Desheimer listed by month the schedule of calls for bids on major works on the new starts. They include:

November 1955—Haystack Dam, an earth fill dam 83 feet high and 1,250 long on Haystack Creek near Madras, Ore.; Roza power plant, construction of a powerhouse to house one 11,842 kilowatt-ampere generator on Roza main canal near Yakima, Wash.

WRAP IT YOURSELF

WASHINGTON — The Post Office Department came up with a new service Wednesday—a free pamphlet on how to package and wrap your Christmas presents for mailing.

The pamphlet, complete with illustrations, will be available at all Post Offices after Oct. 15. It shows the kind of box to use, and how to wrap, tie and label it. Included also are hints on protecting the contents from damage.

Selective Service College Tests Set

WASHINGTON — Selective Service announced Thursday that its 1955-56 college qualification tests will be given Nov. 17 and April 19.

Students making a grade of 70 or above, or maintaining grades which put them in specified percentages of their classes, may be considered for educational deferment by their local draft boards.

Graduate students must make a grade of 80 or above to meet the criteria, or must maintain grades that put them in the upper one-fourth of their class.

Local draft boards have the final authority, subject to appeal, in saying whether a youth is to be given an educational deferment.

Students desiring to take the Nov. 17 test will mail their applications prior to midnight Nov. 1. Applications for the April 19 test must be mailed by midnight March 5.

Application cards and information concerning the tests will be available at local draft board headquarters, the announcement said.



CHIEF — Col. Inex Haynes (above), of Muleshoe, Tex., has been named new chief of the Army Nurse Corps. She assumed her post Oct. 4, 1955. (APWIREPHOTO)

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