

Why? Because It's Still Very Much Around

Doctors Poise Sabin Knockout Punch at Polio

By JERRY UHRHAMMER
Of the Register-Guard

Not so many years ago, mere mention of the word conjured up visions of hundreds and thousands of human beings, young, old, middle-aged, with brace-supported limbs or lying in "iron lungs."

But then came the serum developed by Dr. Jonas Salk and polio did a tailspin.

Across the nation in 1961, according to the U. S. Public Health Service, new cases of polio totaled 1,264—a drop of 97 per cent below the annual average of 38,727 set in the pre-vaccination years from 1950 through 1954.

Less and less has been heard of polio.

Three Good Reasons

Yet, next Saturday and Sunday, hundreds of doctors, nurses and volunteer workers will be manning clinics at 11 locations in Lane County to administer the new Sabin polio vaccine to all comers. The Lane County Medical Society, sponsoring the clinics, is hoping for a turnout of at least 125,000.

Why so much concern about polio?

One, it still exists. Reports indicate the virus is attacking small children again with unusual violence. Two out of five paralytic admissions to hospitals in 1960 were children under five years of age. Nearly two-thirds of all cases were under 10.

Two, isolated epidemics are continuing to break out, usually in sections where the population has failed to take advantage of the availability of Salk vaccine.

And three, thanks to the new Sabin polio vaccine, a chance now exists to wipe out polio.

Here are some detailed questions and answers about polio, and the Sabin vaccine, which may throw light on why doctors are urging everyone to attend next weekend's immunization clinics.

A Three-Headed Disease

Q. Just what is polio?
A. Polio is actually a three-headed animal, with three known types of virus. Too small to be seen with a microscope, the disease-causing agent reproduces only in living cells.

All three types of virus are far more widespread than believed earlier. In fact, it's possible to have polio without knowing about it.

The usual infection does not lead to death or paralysis. The virus enters the body through the mouth and passes into the intestinal tract. It multiplies rapidly in the intestinal tract, but in the vast majority of cases is confined there and causes no symptoms, or only mild ones such as sore throat, headache, fever, upset stomach—even vomiting.

And meanwhile, the body is busily manufacturing antibodies to clear out the invading virus. This may take some weeks, during which time the infected person is a mobile carrier, spreading the virus to others. A child who brings it home is virtually certain to give it to his brothers and sisters, and parents as well.

Spine Is Real Goal

Q. What about the paralysis?

A. The danger begins if the virus breaks out of the intestinal tract into the bloodstream. Even now, antibodies might still successfully fight off the virus.

But perhaps once in several hundred cases, the virus breaks through to its real goal—the cells of the central nervous system in the spinal cord and brain. Then, for the first time, the characteristic symptoms appear: headache, stiff neck, painful muscles and joints.

All three types of paralytic polio are bad. The spinal type damages nerve cells in the spinal cord which control the lower muscle groups in the body. The bulbar type involves cranial nerves and others in the base of the brain which control circulation, swallowing and breathing. Paralysis of this sort can very quickly lead to death. Bulbo-spinal polio is a combination of the two.

Salk Vaccine Limited

Q. Why are vaccines important?

A. Once the disease is contracted, there is no drug that will cure it or stop it. The only cure is prevention.

Q. How do the vaccines work?

A. The Salk vaccine, of killed polio virus, sets up a barrier of antibodies in the bloodstream which helps protect against the advance of the polio virus into the nervous system.

The Salk vaccine, however, does not block entry of the polio virus into the intestinal tract, nor does it prevent the

virus from making free use of the intestinal tract to thrive and multiply. This a person whose bloodstream is protected by Salk vaccine can continue to be a walking carrier of infection.

'Best Ultimate Protection'

In contrast, a vaccine developed by Dr. Albert Sabin of Cincinnati—made of live but attenuated (weakened) polio virus—not only stimulates the production of antibodies to keep viruses out of the nervous system, but helps protect the intestinal tract as well.

Q. Why is it important to have a large segment of population vaccinated with the Sabin serum?

A. Because the more people vaccinated, the fewer carriers of polio virus.

Many medical authorities consider the live-virus vaccine as the best ultimate protection against paralytic polio because of its ability to eliminate the inoculated individual

as a carrier and thus, in Doctor Sabin's words, "break the chain of transmission."

Q. If you've already had the Salk vaccine, should you get the Sabin vaccine too?

For All Age Groups

A. Doctors say yes, simply because it gives more protection.

Q. Is the Sabin vaccine safe?

A. Well over five million people in the nation have now taken the Sabin vaccine. In Cincinnati, Doctor Sabin

has recorded no subsequent cases of polio (except that of a single individual who came from outside the area) since his vaccination of 181,000 people, mostly pre-school and school children, beginning in April, 1960.

Q. Who should take the Sabin vaccine? Any age limits?

A. Doctors recommend that all age groups should be inoculated. If you have an infant under three months, consult your pediatrician.

Clinics Are to Be Held In County High Schools

Next Saturday and Sunday's Sabin oral vaccine clinics will be held in 11 junior and senior high school buildings throughout the county.

The hours will be from 11 a.m. standard, noon daylight, to 7 p.m. standard, 8 p.m. daylight.

The clinic sites are Willamette High, South Eugene High, North Eugene High, Thomas Jefferson Junior High in Eugene, Springfield and Thurston High Schools in Springfield, Siuslaw High School in Florence, Junction City Junior High School for that area, McKenzie High School for the upper McKenzie area, Oakridge High School for that area and Harrison School for Cottage Grove.

Coupon books for the vaccine are on sale at various drug stores at \$1 per person for three doses with a maximum charge of \$5 for a family of five or more.

The clinics are being sponsored by the Lane County Medical Society.

Hot Topic Awaits UO Debate Forum

The Oregon Union, forum for debate started at the University of Oregon last year, will hold its first meeting of this year on Tuesday with one of the nation's hottest subjects up for debate—atmospheric testing.

George Streisinger, associate professor of biology and research associate in the University's Institute of Molecular Biology, will take the negative side on "Resolved: That Atmos-

pheric Testing is to the Best Interest of the United States." Affirmative side will be taken by Walter Stahl, assistant professor of radiobiology in the School of Science at Oregon State University.

Streisinger, member of the university staff since 1960, is a graduate of Cornell. He received his doctorate from the University of Illinois. Hungarian-born Streisinger has made an intensive study of the problems involved in nuclear fall out. He has a distinguished background in science research.

Stahl, has been on the OSU staff since 1959. Prior to that he had been with the Division of Radiological Health of the U. S. Public Health Service. A graduate of Harvard, he holds an M.D. from Harvard Medical School. He is the author of "Hazards of Medical Radiation Exposure in the Nuclear Age" published in the Proceedings of the 1958 Geneva Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic



Stahl Streisinger

Energy. The Oregon Union debate is a free form type in which the debaters give formal presentations and then the meeting is open to inquiry and statement from the audience.

The program on May 1 will be at 7 p.m. standard, 8 p.m. daylight, in the Dads Lounge of the Erb Memorial Union. The public is invited.

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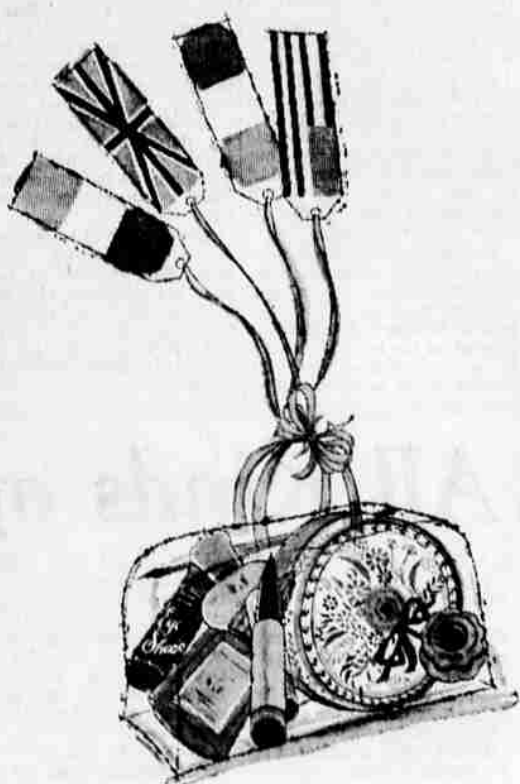
Wheelbarrow, Greased Pig Races Set

Greased pigs and wheelbarrow races will highlight the Children's Hospital School Benefit Show at the Lane County Fairgrounds today.

The show, sponsored by the Lane County Mounted Sheriff's posse, will begin at 1 p.m. standard, 2 p.m. daylight.

Eight greased pigs will be turned loose in the area, and children under 12 will try to catch the pigs. The child who catches a pig may return it to the posse, where he will receive a \$5 award, or he may keep the pig.

There is no admission to the fair, but a donation will be accepted for the Children's Hospital School.



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Gwen Verdon

star of stage and screen comments...

"SPORTSWEAR ON A SPREE"

Thursday, May 3 • CHANNEL 9 • 8:30 p.m.

SEE the great American sportswear of Catalina, White Stag and Majestic THURSDAY NIGHT on our TELEVISION SHOW! We took all these new, exciting summer fashions to the ISLE OF CAPRI and now they're at Bon Marche Russells and ready to be taken on YOUR vacation. GWEN VERDON, star of stage and screen, will take you on this pleasant trip and we'll take you another step with luncheon and dinner fashion shows in our TIMBER ROOM Friday!

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BMR
reporter

Don't dare to make any plans for next Thursday night! You'll want to be home, comfortably relaxed, to watch our television extravaganza over Channel 9 at 8:30 p.m.

When we say "extravaganza," we mean it. This is a real production filmed in Capri, Italy and starring Gwen Verdon, star of screen, television and stage. She'll tell you all about the clothes you're seeing and she'll also tell you that these very same clothes, fabulously chic in their European settings, are available right here in the BMR. The backgrounds against which the fashions are photographed will take you on a quick but delightfully picturesque tour and you'll enjoy the composition of top-flight photographers.

Watch Thursday's paper for a program that will guide you on the tour and make it more enjoyable for you. And, of course, the TV show is only the beginning because we'll be modeling these same clothes right here in the store.

If you can't lick 'em, join 'em. No matter how we all fight commercialism as opposed to sentiment, it's now considered positively un-American not to give your mother a present on Mother's Day.

You can make a challenging pleasure out of choosing the gift and the sentiment will come shining through when you use your ingenuity and understanding. Mothers come in all shapes and sizes these days. The young matron who's having her very first Mother's Day deserves a very special gift, equal to her new status. And the mothers who remember way back—before there was a Mother's Day—are deserving of extra thoughtful tributes as well as all the mothers "in between."

Our entire store is jam-packed with gift ideas for mother ranging from things for her to use in the house, through the hobby and special interest categories to the wonderful world of personal adornment.

Beautifully timed for the other's Day observance is our May White Sale in the linen department on the first floor. Just walking through the section is like seeing a garden springing into bloom because there's color everywhere—in sheets, towels, blankets, table linens and patio accessories.

Very new and very beautiful is a floral printed electric blanket and the price is only \$16.99. Another favorite for many mothers are the elegant new Williamsburg print sheets that give a bedroom new life. Another trick to create new decor in the bathroom is to choose towels in two contrasting colors—black and red or red and pink. Alternate them on the towel racks and you've a room with flair.

Next time you're planning to meet a friend for lunch, make it the Timber Room. You can't help but love the food and you'll have a grand time greeting friends.