

Polio Conference Expected To Recommend 5 To 9 Age Group Get Priority on Shots

Washington—(U.P.)—The White House polio conference opening here Friday is expected to recommend that children between five and nine years old be given top priority on Salk vaccine shots.

Information being assembled for the meeting by federal health officials shows the children in this age group face the greatest danger and therefore need the most protection.

The next highest priority is

expected to be assigned to children who are less than five. Following that would be youngsters between 10 and 14 and then those between 15 and 19.

Fair Distribution Wanted

President Eisenhower personally called for the conference to make sure the great new weapon against infantile paralysis is distributed fairly throughout the country.

Taking part will be representatives of the medical profession, the drug industry, local public health groups and the Department of Health, Education and Welfare under Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby.

Mrs. Hobby is known to be

hopeful that the conference will agree quickly—possibly in a day—on a voluntary control plan assuring every child that needs vaccine an equal opportunity to get it.

Annual Payment Eyed

A bill was introduced Monday by Sen. Pat McNamara (D-Mich.) to pay \$10,000 annually to Salk, who received no profit or special monetary award for his labors.

The heart of the government recommended distribution plan is expected to be a priority system geared to serve the needs of the children who appear, statistically, to be in the greatest danger.

The five to nine group ranks highest on this score because it accounts for more than 27 per cent of all polio cases. The children under five are a close second, accounting for more than 24 per cent. The 10 to 14 group stands at 15 per cent, and the 15 to 19 at 8 per cent.

Ike Proposes Salk Be Named National Hero

Augusta, Ga.—(U.P.)—President Eisenhower today proposed Dr. Jonas Salk as a new national hero for his discovery of the polio vaccine.

If Mr. Eisenhower has his way, Congress will rush through legislation which will make it possible for the chief executive to confer a new award for "distinguished civilian achievement" on the scientist-doctor next Friday.

On Friday at 2 p.m. the Chief Executive will receive Salk and Basil O'Connor, president of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, to thank them for their contribution to the unending battle against one of the world's most cruel and crippling diseases.

To Receive Thanks

Salk and O'Connor were invited to the White House Friday afternoon to receive the President's personal thanks and congratulations for the success of the Salk vaccine in combating infantile paralysis.

According to the White House, legislation will be introduced in Congress this week setting up a new award for civilian achievement and Mr. Eisenhower would be pleased if the bill whipped through Congress in time to make the first award to Salk Friday afternoon.

Domiciliary Lists 150 Cases of 'Flu

One hundred fifty cases of influenza at the Camp White Veterans Administration domiciliary center were reported to the county health department last week.

The number of cases has necessitated a "quarantine" of the station until the outbreak subsides. Other influenza cases were reported from Ashland, Medford and Jacksonville.

Total number of disease cases reported was 212, including 18 of chickenpox, 22 of measles, 1 of infectious mononucleosis, and 2 each of German measles, scarlet fever, strep throat and pneumonia.

The influenza outbreak brought the total number of disease cases to the highest point in about two years.

Oakland Incident Cost Man Six Years

Roseburg — (U.P.)—James Darrell Fenty, 28-year-old Indio, Calif., man who held his wife at gunpoint for 23 hours last month, has been sentenced to six years in the Oregon state penitentiary.

Fenty told Judge Carl E. Wimberly he had been trying to get custody of three children from his wife following their separation. She refused and he accosted her with a gun at her Oakland, Ore., home.

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WHO SEZ IT DOESN'T HURT—Most of the several hundred children receiving Salk vaccine at the first clinic in Bristol, Tenn., took the needle without flinching but not Peggy Sue Slevins, 7, who let go with a loud shriek as Dr. Hugh Griffin pierced her arm.

Scientists To Study Dr. Einstein's Brain

Princeton, N. J.—(U.P.)—Scientists today began a study of the great brain of Dr. Albert Einstein.

The shy physicist who died in his sleep early Monday had asked that fellow scientists study his brain and other vital organs and they were removed shortly before his body was cremated Monday afternoon.

"His brain looks like everybody else's," a pathologist remarked after a brief examination. But scientists planned to study the gray mass carefully for any physical manifestation of its extraordinary capacities.

Disposition of the ashes of the humble man whose name was known throughout most of the world was not expected to be ordered for some time. Einstein's stepdaughter, Margot, with whom he lived, has been confined to the Princeton Hospital where the scientist died but was expected to be released soon.

An autopsy disclosed that Einstein died of a rupture of the aorta, the main artery of the body. He was quietly admitted to the Princeton Hospital Friday after he was seized with severe nausea.

No funeral services were held for the scientist although he was not an atheist. He once said he believed in God as a "superior reasoning power, which is revealed in the incomprehensible universe."

He also said, "I cannot believe that God plays dice with the universe. God is subtle but He is not malicious."

The flag flew at half mast Monday at the Princeton Institute for Advanced Study where Einstein was a staff member and passing employees gazed reverently into the cluttered office

B47 Disappears On Alaska Flight

Fairbanks, Alaska—(U.P.)—The disappearance of a strategic Air Command B47 on a flight from Eielson AFB to the Aleutian chain was reported here yesterday by the Air Force.

The men were aboard the plane which was attached to the Strategic Air Command's 26th Reconnaissance Wing, Lockburn, O., and was temporarily in Alaska as part of the SAC overseas rotation plan, said Maj. John K. Orr.

The plane, which was on a routine training and familiarization flight, left here Sunday morning, estimating its return in one hour. The big 600 mph jet bomber was last heard from five hours after takeoff when it gave its position as 100 miles southwest of Attu at the tip of the Aleutian chain.

A search was under way for the missing plane. At Columbus, O., a Lockheed Air Force Base spokesman said three captains were aboard the plane.

The men were identified as Capt. Lacie C. Neighbors, Miami, Okla., Capt. Richard E. Watkins Jr., Washington, D.C., and Capt. Robert N. Brooks, University City, Mo.

Devotee of Preservation Afraid Pet Project Doomed

Silsbee, Tex.—(U.P.)—A retired railroad conductor who is dedicating most of his time to preservation of a thicket is afraid his efforts are doomed.

Actually he is beating the drums for no ordinary thicket. This one covers 3,300,000 acres in southeastern Texas.

The retired railroad conductor, R. E. Jackson, president of the Big Thicket Association, says botanists and scientists have told him there are more rare species of plant life in the huge thicket than can be found in the same area any place else in the world.

The area centers in Hardin and southern Polk and Tyler Counties. It has a dense growth of hardwoods, including cypress, tupelo, black gum, willow, water oak and magnolia. Palmetto, water lily, hyacinth and rare orchids are also found in the interior.

In places, the untamed jungle-like area has such dense growth that men have been known to become lost and never be seen again.

On the edge of the Big Thicket, as Texans call the area, is the state's only Indian reservation. The Alabama and Coushatta tribes live there, but only about

300 of them live on the reservation proper.

Not Much Hope

Jackson, as president of the association he set up 28 years ago, has spent much of his own money and time making trips to Washington and to Austin to plead with legislators for acts preserving the thicket for posterity.

He has made little or no progress. He said he was told no funds are available for such projects.

His fight, he believes, has already been partially lost. Roadways have been cut into the heart of the thicket. Timber is being cut down ruthlessly. Oil exploration teams have invaded the area, cutting down and destroying rare plants and trees.

Jackson fears the area will be ruined before he can win his fight to have it declared a national or state park.

Key To Preservation

Some Houston nature-lovers may be the key to preservation of many of the rare plants. "They have formed what they call the 'Little Thicket Association' and are digging up some of the plants on acreage they purchased on the fringe of the thicket. Some of the plants are being transplanted for cultivation."

Jackson, too, is doing his best to preserve a few rare species. He has explored the area thoroughly and now has some of the rarest of the plants transplanted in his back yard.

He feels the forest is lost. Now he's just trying to save a few of the trees.

Families Welcome at Library Department

The weekly "family night" open house of the junior department of the Medford Public Library will be this evening, when the department is open until 8:30 p.m. Library patrons are invited, according to Mrs. Nora Jane McKay, junior librarian.

She reported that some 50 new Boy Scout merit badge pamphlets have arrived and are ready for circulation. More are on order.

A number of new books have been added to the "mothers' story hour" collection, including "Songs to Grow on," "Bible Children," "Wish on the Moon," "Off to Bed," "Hurry, Skurry and Flurry," and "Horton Hears a Who!"

"The American Indian," an illustrated book, has been added to the reference collection.

Legislative Group Reaffirms Support Of Broad Tax Base

The legislative committee of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce yesterday morning reaffirmed its support of a fiscal plan which would widen the tax base in Oregon.

The action was taken after reports from the state legislature indicated that both a sales tax and an increased income tax may be submitted to the voters of the state at the next general election. The committee endorsed the proposal that both tax plans appear on the ballot, and allow the voters a choice as to the best means of meeting the state's deficit.

Opposes Tax Ban

The committee also voted to oppose passage of Senate Bill 266, which would reserve to the state the right to levy an income tax, and barring cities from this tax. (The measure passed the house yesterday by a 31 to 29 vote, and now goes to the senate for consideration.)

The committee took the view that the state should not limit the taxing power of cities, many of which are facing problems which require sources of revenue other than those now being used. Portland recently passed an income tax measure, and it was this action which caused the legislature to consider the matter.

The group voted to oppose House Bill 476, which would impose stricter regulations on the operation of day nurseries and kindergartens in Oregon.

Motor Vehicle Bill Signed by Governor

Salem — (U.P.)—Gov. Paul L. Patterson said today he has signed into law Senate bill 85 transferring the motor vehicle division from the secretary of state's office to a separate department under the appointive power of the governor.

The measure will go into effect July 1, 1956.

The Senate yesterday passed several House-approved budgets for state agencies and institutions, including those for Fairview home, MacLaren boys school, Civil Service Commission, Public Utilities Commission, Bureau of Labor, Department of Finance and Administration, State Board of Forestry and Oregon Liquor Control Commission.

Chest X-Rays Slated Wednesday, Thursday

Chest x-rays will be given at the county's two chest x-ray centers during out-patient hours again this week, according to the Jackson County Public Health association.

and Community on Wednesdays from 3 to 6 p.m. A charge of \$1.75 is made for each x-ray to cover the cost of the film. No appointment is necessary.

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