

More Frequent Polio Shots May Be Needed by Child in Clean Home

By DELOS SMITH
United Press Science Editor
 New York—(U.P.)—A renowned authority on polio believes the child in a clean home in a clean neighborhood may have to be vaccinated more often than the child of a dirty home in a dirty neighborhood if the Salk anti-polio vaccine is to give him the same lasting immunity to the disease.

This "maybe" opinion of Dr. Joseph L. Melnick, professor of epidemiology, Yale University School of Medicine, was based upon 1. a scientific study of the residents of a clean and of a dirty neighborhood in Charleston, S. C., and 2. and the fact that no one can now be positive as to how lasting is the immunity to polio which is bestowed by the Salk vaccine.

Impressive Evidence
 In Charleston, Dr. Melnick and his collaborator, Dr. Mary Walton of the U.S. Public Health Service, found impressive evidence that a person who has

polio in a form so mild he doesn't know he's ill, does not acquire enough immunity to protect him against a second bout. On the other hand, a series of such undetected minor bouts with polio viruses ended up by giving him an immunity no less lasting than a person who had been seriously ill and had recovered.

The question is: Does the Salk vaccine, which is made of "dead" viruses and thus cannot produce illness at all, stimulate the antibody chemistry of the body more lastingly than a very live virus encountered under natural conditions which failed to produce signs of illness?

All this, the doctors said, was "an interpretation of the data" but one which "may have a bearing on the requirements for success of a vaccination program." Basically their data from Charleston demonstrated all over again that polio viruses get around among human beings living in soiled surroundings much more freely than among

those living in clean homes with good plumbing and proper attention to garbage disposal.

Exposed More Frequently
 The children of the dirty Charleston neighborhood acquired natural immunity to polio much earlier than those of the clean neighborhood, simply because they had been exposed much more frequently to polio viruses. The data of the scientific study showed that the younger the child, the more often did its blood reveal the presence of anti-bodies of polio which were not enough to give immunity. But the older the child of the dirty neighborhood, the more likely was the presence of fully immunizing antibodies.

Would Strengthen Immunity
 Thus, if the Salk vaccine's immunity was no more or only a little more lasting than the passing immunity bestowed by one "silent" infection, minor encounters with live viruses in natural circumstances would serve to renew and strengthen

Tone of Phonograph Said Improved by Ceramic Cartridge

New York—(U.P.)—A ceramic cartridge for phonographs is tailored to make conventional record players sound something like high fidelity units. The cartridge is the small gadget at the end of the tone arm that holds the needle.

You can install the "pickup" cartridge yourself. It's available for players ranging from one to three speeds. The cartridges are said to provide wide frequency range, low distortion and good tracing.

And the children of dirty homes would be more likely to encounter live viruses than those of clean homes and so their body chemistry would get more lasting results from the vaccine.

The study was detailed in the Yale Journal of Biology and Medicine and was of importance in the understanding of how polio viruses get around—its "epidemiology." As the scientists pointed out, the "by the high ratio of inapparent to clinically recognizable infections."

College Urged for High School Grads

Champaign, Ill.—(U.P.)—University of Illinois placement officers have some valuable advice for 1955 high school graduates.

If you want to cash in on today's shortage of technically trained personnel, spend the next four years in college.

"Assuming the present economic situation continues, the demand for scientifically trained persons will continue as far as we can see ahead."

That's the way the university's assistant dean of the college of engineering, Prof. Wendell E. Miller, summed up the situation.

He said that last year there was a shortage of 20,000 engineers in the nation. The supply

will run behind demand at least until 1960, he added.

Bulging school enrollments make the outlook for teaching jobs bright for years ahead, said Prof. J. L. Trump, who heads teacher placement at the U of I.

He pointed out the most critical shortage now is for elementary grade teachers. The "baby boom" that followed World War II is now reaching grade school.

"Four years from now we'll have teacher shortages in almost every teaching field," Trump said.

Demand for college-trained personnel also will continue to rise in many other fields, particularly in chemistry and chemical engineering, according to Prof. Leonard E. Miller.

Agadir, Morocco, has a golf course frequented by goats that sometimes mistake golf balls for food, says the National Geographic society. Any ball swallowed by a goat can be replaced without loss of stroke or distance.

Washington—(U.P.)—The White House said Saturday the question of President Eisenhower going to San Francisco for the United Nations 10th anniversary celebration next month is still "open" and "under consideration."

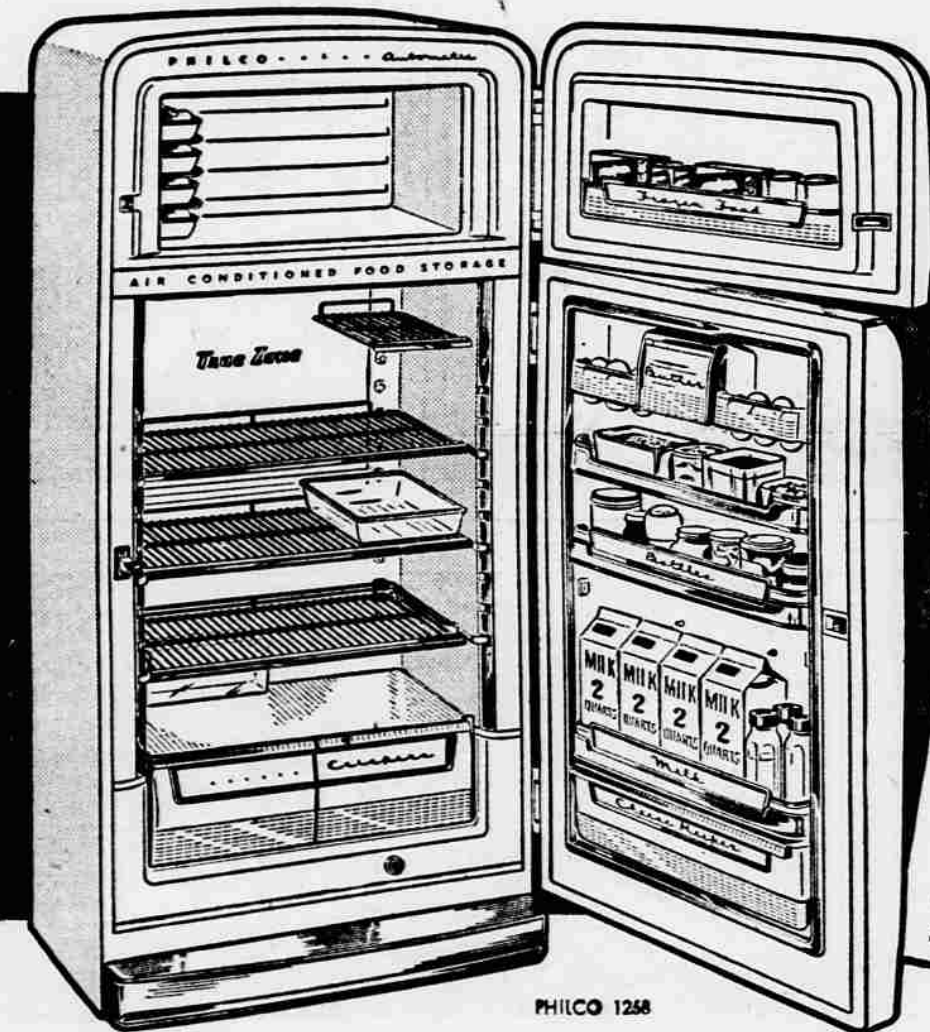
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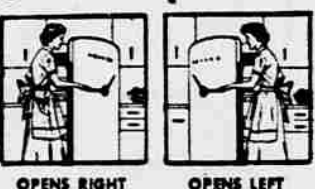
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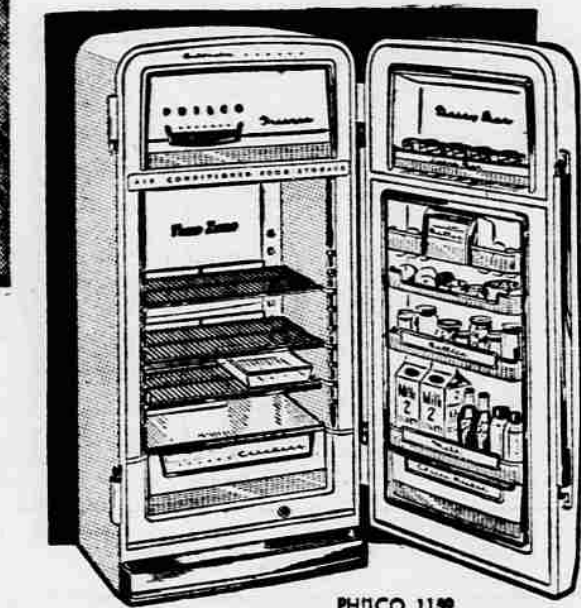
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