

More Polio Inoculation Programs Cancelled; Government Action Sought

Federal Safety Standards for Salk Shots Claimed 'Fantastic'

Washington — U.P. — Some vaccine manufacturers today described the government's proposed new safety standards for Salk shots as "fantastic" and "impractical."

They said privately that federal experts "went overboard" in suggesting a vast testing and retesting program which would stagger the facilities of drug firms and virtually shut down the nation's inoculation program.

Stand Modified
But they said the government somewhat modified its stand during a marathon safety conference which ran from early Monday until nearly midnight here Monday night.

As a result, one company representative said he hopes the final decision in the matter by U. S. Surgeon General Leonard A. Scheele will be "more favorable" from the industry's viewpoint.

When Scheele will announce his decisions is uncertain. There were some indications he might act today. But industry sources said they did not expect an announcement until at least Wednesday when federal officials and vaccine makers will hold a final scheduled meeting.

Secret Conference
The Public Health Service called in the country's six polio vaccine manufacturers and polio experts Monday to discuss the adoption of new federal standards for the making and testing of Salk shots.

Meanwhile, officials of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, the American Medical Association and the Association of State and Territorial Health Officers were summoned to a secret conference today on the same subject.

The talks were aimed hopefully at deciding the future of the limping vaccination program once and for all and at ending more than 40 days of confusion for American parents.

To Determine Release
Scheele's decisions will determine when vaccine held up by the government is to be released and when millions of children across the nation will receive their shots. One source said the surgeon general already has started drafting a white paper on the whole vaccine situation for President Eisenhower and the public.



CURIOS ABOUT NEEDLE used in injecting Salk polio vaccine, Remi Gay Meyer, 7½, asks for, and gets, real close-up view of instrument during mass inoculation of New York children. Remi's eyes tell complete story of her reaction. (International)

Law Changes Noted For Herbicides

Recent changes in laws governing custom applicators of herbicides require that any equipment used for this purpose be registered with the state department of agriculture.

Previously no registration was required. Also new is a license fee of \$10 for each applicator, according to M. R. Hubbell, president of Oregon Ground Sprayers, incorporated.

A change in the financial responsibility regulations now require that each sprayer be able to put up \$25,000 bond upon judgment for damage to crops. Previously, the required amount was \$10,000, Hubbell said.

Hubbell said anyone interested in obtaining a license may contact S. Ray Kelso, supervisor of plant industries of the state

department of agriculture at Salem.

Water District Bonds Sold; System Planned

Bonds totaling \$85,000 were sold by the Grandview water district at a meeting of the board of directors tonight on the joint bid of the U.S. National Bank and Blythe and Co. The bid was \$98 per \$100 of par value and an effective interest rate of 3.369 per cent.

The district will purchase water from the city of Medford, and will have connections to both Medford mains, which go through the higher portion of the district, permitting a gravity flow of water to subscribers in the area.

Confusion Blamed For Decision To Postpone 'Shots'

By UNITED PRESS

Calls for government action to end the confusion over the Salk anti-polio vaccine increased today as three cities cancelled their mass inoculation programs. Meanwhile, an Idaho man died of bulbar polio after his two children had received Salk shots and a United Press survey showed that 99 children had come down with polio after receiving inoculations.

The mass inoculation of school children was halted in Brockton, Mass., Milwaukee, Wis., and Alameda, Calif. At least 10 states have already postponed their programs.

But in Los Angeles, where officials earlier had announced a postponement, the county ordered second shots to begin today. Officials said 20,000 of 50,000 eligible for vaccine would be able to get it. The city plans to begin second round shots Monday if enough vaccine is on hand.

In each of the three cities which acted yesterday, confusion and indecision were named as some causes.

The Alameda program came to a halt when 24 doctors who were to give the shots made a flat announcement that they would not cooperate.

Indecision Blamed
The doctors said indecision on the part of the government officials had created confusion in the public mind and the public had not been properly informed about the revolutionary vaccine.

At Brockton, shots which were to have started Thursday were called off until fall. City health officials said parents of from 600 to 2000 school youngsters had withdrawn their children from the program. "The unstable condition concerning vaccine" was blamed.

Milwaukee officials also had harsh words for the administration of the vaccine program as they ordered that all Salk inoculations stop until further safety tests can be made.

Health Commissioner E. R. Krumbiegel said the city wanted to be sure that children did not catch polio from the vaccine and that they did not become "carriers of the disease."

The problem of whether Salk-inoculated children could possibly be polio "carriers" assumed greater urgency in Boise, Ida., with the death of 35-year-old Peter B. Rockne.

Rockne's two children had been inoculated with Salk vaccine manufactured by the Cutter Laboratories of Berkeley, Calif. He died of bulbar polio yesterday.

The Boise father was one of 22 persons in Idaho who have caught polio after coming in "household contact" with children who have received Salk shots.

Three Cases Fatal
In addition, 19 vaccinated children have become ill with polio—three of them fatally—and there are 37 polio cases in the state. The state health department announced the disease has reached epidemic stage among Idaho's 6, 7 and 8-year-old children.

A United Press survey across the nation and in Hawaii showed that a total of 39 children have come down with polio after receiving Salk vaccinations. Five have died.

California was the worst afflicted state with 36 cases, followed by Idaho's 19. There were eight cases in Texas, four in both Louisiana and Pennsylvania, three each in Oregon, Nevada, Georgia and West Virginia, two in both Illinois and Hawaii, and one each in Missouri, Delaware, Virginia, New York, Colorado, Indiana, Ohio, Washington, Mississippi, Michigan, Connecticut and Arkansas.

The rising number of cases has been the prime factor in the government's ban on the Cutter vaccine and its refusal to approve release of new vaccine from four other pharmaceutical houses.

As a result, parental reluctance to let children receive the shots increased in such cities as New York and San Francisco. In others, such as Chicago, short supplies of vaccine threatened to bring the program to a dead halt.

At New York yesterday, only 66.2 per cent of the eligible children showed up for shots, as compared with 69 per cent

Findings in Cutter Vaccine Investigation May Hold Key To Program, NFIP Head Says

By DELOS SMITH
United Press Science Editor

New York — U.P. — Basil O'Connor, president of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, indicated Monday night that findings in the Cutter vaccine investigation may hold the key to the entire polio inoculation program.

He urged the federal government to reveal "at once" the results of the study.

"Until it is known whether or not the Cutter situation was due to inadequacy of testing requirements, on which I express no opinion, that situation cannot

be used as the basis for increasing testing requirements," O'Connor said.

Safer Vaccine
Dr. Hart E. Van Riper, medical director of the foundation, noted that vaccine manufactured by pharmaceutical firms other than Cutter had been proven even safer than the vaccine used in the mass testing last spring. Authoritative sources expressed fear that imposition of new and "impossible" safety standards may force the four pharmaceutical houses whose vaccine has not been challenged to stop manufacturing it.

This, they said, would kill the whole vaccinating program for the summer at least.

Vaccine Called Safe
City Health Commissioner Leona Baumgartner said the fall-off "is a direct result of the continuing delays and indecision on the national level . . . the vaccine we are using is safe."

Across the nation in San Francisco only 37 per cent of the eligible children took part in the first round of shots, which was completed yesterday.

In Chicago, only a tiny number of parents have withdrawn their children. But Board of Health President Herman Bundesen said vaccine supplies being used to give the second round of shots will probably be used up by tomorrow.

A shortage of a different sort turned up at New Haven, Conn. Officials reported that 1260 shots of the vaccine had disappeared and police began questioning every person connected with the vaccination program.

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