

# Doctors Shocked by Complacency Shown By American Public for Salk Vaccine

Editor's note: Following is the second in a series of three articles on the Salk vaccine situation.

BY ROBERT E. JACKSON  
United Press Correspondent  
New York—(U.P.)—Doctors are shocked by the complacency of the American public toward the continuing danger of polio.

The arrival of Salk vaccine did not mean the departure of polio from the American scene. Even in 1956, a "light" year, polio struck someone in this country every 35 minutes.

One out of four of these victims was an adult—a woman who no longer could care for her children, a man who ceased to be a bread-winner for his family. The rate of polio among adults is rising, and when it hits them, it hits hard.

**Five-Sixths Not Vaccinated**  
Yet on March 1, five-sixths of the adults between 20 and 40 still had not bothered—or been able—to get even one shot of Salk vaccine. These 35 million persons could say that the risk was not great, but the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis warns:

"Millions of children and adults are as open to the terrors of polio today as if Dr. Salk had never existed."

On March 1, three-fourths of the high-school age youths in the United States, many of them dismissing polio as a "kid's disease," had failed to take the first step toward protecting themselves against the possibility. However remote, of a lifetime in a wheelchair or an iron lung.

**Poor Reasons**  
These people cite a variety of reasons—"Just haven't got around to it," "Why should I pay \$3 or \$6 a shot while others get them free?" "There's a shortage of vaccine in my community," "I thought it was only necessary for the children," "I didn't know polio was any longer a problem," "I was waiting to see, after all that bad vaccine trouble a couple of years ago, if it's really safe."

To a degree, the public can plead that its apathy be pardoned. A look at the stories and pronouncements of two years ago shows such phrases as, "There will still be polio—this year... diphtheria and typhoid used to kill far more people—before they were brought under control... end of a long fight..."

Headlines, based on the statements of polio fighters, asked "What next?" As if the battle were over. Then the first new warnings of the continuing peril went unheeded.

This winter, President Eisenhower himself led the appeal for everyone under 40 to line up for Salk shots—only two per cent of polio cases occur after 40. Singer Elvis Presley came to New York and took a shot heard 'round the teen-age world.

The American Medical Association ended two years of cautious study and waiting by urging its doctors to join local officials in an all-out campaign.

## MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Second Section MEDFORD, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 1957 8 Pages

### Medford Area Selected for Air-Borne Pollen Project

The Medford area has been selected by Oregon State college department of botany and plant pathology as one of 15 localities throughout the state designated for a three-year project study of Oregon air-borne pollen and fungus spores.

The announcement was made by the Oregon chapter of the

"It seems to me," said Dr. David B. Allman, president of the AMA, "that we face a situation where we have sacrificed thousands of lives, years of research and millions of dollars in search of something that after we found what we were looking for, we refused to use it."

Gunnar Gunderson, chairman of the AMA board of trustees, asked, "Why does this lethargy exist when only a few months ago there was a hysterical demand for the vaccine?"

Now, although some faces are as pink as the vaccine due to the temporary shortage which developed in mid-campaign, the drive is clicking. More than half of New York's 4,434,369 under-40 residents have at least one shot. San Francisco administered 3,855 shots on the second day of its program. In Dallas, 340,000 persons were vaccinated in six weeks. Mayor Paul Steiner in Waukesha, Wis., says the drive there "seems to be catching on." His family has been vaccinated and he will be. Pittsburgh, Salk's proud hometown, has a "model" program.

Business firms, labor unions, doctors, clinics, newspapers, civic groups have pitched in. Typical is Benham, Tex., where the Buddy Wright Post 48 of the American Legion and the Washington-Burleson County Medical Society are sponsoring a drive for free shots under 20 and \$1 a shot over that age.

But on March 1 there were still 58 million Americans under 40 with no shots and 40 million who lacked the full protection of three shots. Only 7 million adults had received even one shot, and only 1 million had three.

Arkansas reported a successful drive but a shortage of doctors to administer shots in some areas. Atlanta was concentrating on children with a shortage of funds for an adult program. Tallahassee, Fla., health officer Dr. Joe Bistowich was undisturbed by shortage but worried by the apathy which had seen only one out of 10 adults and one-third of the children inoculated.

### New Mexico Firm Files Suit Against Flying Service

Cutter Carr Flying Service, Inc., Albuquerque, N. M., has filed a suit in circuit court here for recovery of \$2,725 from Elmont, Don O. and Ralph D. George, doing business as the Rogue Flying Service, Inc., in Medford.

The plaintiff further states that on Jan. 3, 1957, the defendants formed the corporation of Rogue Flying Service, Inc., and transferred to the corporation planes, tools, hanger, property lease and other miscellaneous assets in exchange for stock in the corporation.

The New Mexico firm charges the defendants with negotiating the transfer without notifying the plaintiff and doing it with the "fraudulent intention of putting the property beyond the creditor's reach."

The plaintiff seeks \$2,725 plus six per cent per annum interest on the note, annulment of the transfer of assets to the corporation and judgement against the defendants for costs of the legal action.

Robert D. Dames, Medford attorney, is representing the plaintiff.

### American Foundation for Allergic Diseases, a cooperating agency, which has made an initial appropriation of \$2,000 to start the study.

With S. M. Dietz as coordinator, coworkers in the project will include representatives of experimental stations in communities throughout eastern and central Oregon and mid-Columbia areas selected for the study.

Objectives of the project, the chapter states, are to arrange for regular daily collection of air-borne pollen grains and fungus spores; to identify the higher plants and fungi which yield such grains and spores; record the frequency and duration of such occurrences, and to publish the results, with the approval and cooperation of the Oregon chapter of the Allergic Diseases foundation.

Reasons for the undertaking as set out by the chapter, is the need of physicians and others engaged in the study and treatment of the allergies for detailed knowledge as to the distribution and nature of air-borne pollens and fungus spores over the state, and particularly over the more densely settled areas.

The study is planned also to point up and correlate experiences and results of the more or less active investigation during the past 40 years of the agents of wind-borne allergies in Oregon.

Washington—(U.P.)—Sen. Richard Neuberger (D-Ore.) has asked the Senate Appropriations Committee to provide \$593,000 for rehabilitation of Timberline Lodge.

## Quotes From the News

By UNITED PRESS

Washington—President Eisenhower, before the Advertising Council on the possibility of a tax cut next year: "As much as we hate taxes, it (peace) is an objective that overrides our aversion to high taxes—if taxes are needed."

Hollywood—Philip May, neighbor of Hungarian actress Eva Bartok's ex-boy friend, Francis Murray, on a brawl between Murray and Miss Bartok's second husband, Alexander Paal: "I'm used to crazy things happening in these hills (Hollywood Hills) but this is the craziest yet."

London—Laborite Mrs. Eirene White, moving an amendment in the House of Commons on a films bill: "I am told that in the United States, the general attitude is that children are little adults and can see adult film. Some of us might think that adults are only large children when we look at American films."

Washington—Deputy Undersecretary of State Robert D. Murphy, announcing the State department has no intention of allowing American newsmen to go to Red China as long as Americans are held prisoner there:

"To do so might well destroy their (the prisoners) last chance for freedom and would most certainly be giving in to a form of blackmail."

Chicago—Clarence Green, 32, mayor of Dalton, Ga., on why he turned up as a laborer in a Chicago paper factory: "I just got sick and tired of small town politics."

### Grange Notes

County Grange Council

The Jackson County Grange council will meet Saturday, April 31, at the Central Point Grange hall. Representatives of all subordinate Granges have been requested to attend.

R. A. James, Secretary

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Eden Suffers Relapse Of Abdominal Disease  
Wellington, New Zealand—(U.P.)—Sir Anthony Eden suffered a "slight relapse" of an abdominal disease and doctors have ordered him to speed up his time for hospitalization at Boston.

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