

Blaze Sweeps Apple Center

Watsonville, Calif. — (UPI) — A freak fire which leaped over rooftops from one section of town to another destroyed an estimated \$180,000 worth of property Saturday before volunteer and county firefighters could bring it under control.

The blaze, scattered by 35-mile-an-hour winds, also caused minor roof damage to a number of houses. But homeowners were able to control the small spot fires.

Fire officials, undecided as to the cause of the blaze, said it started in the Mann-Valentine apple dryer, a warehouse covering a third of a block. It spread to and destroyed two adjacent warehouses.

From the gutted Mann-Valentine building the fire suddenly leaped five blocks into the "old Watsonville" section of this central California apple-growing center destroying five homes, a church and a combination meeting hall-theater owned by a local Japanese association.

Fire Chief J. C. Haggerty said an "all county" alarm was sounded, bringing in 19 pieces of equipment from the surrounding towns. He said 90 professional firefighters and some 100 volunteers battled the blaze, which threatened to lay waste to whole sections of the town.

London — (UPI) — Reports persisted in western Europe Saturday that Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev is ill at his Black sea vacation retreat. The reports were denied in Moscow.

Early Vaccination of Children Against Polio Strongly Urged

By LOUIS CASSELS

Washington — (UPI) — Lance is a sandy-haired four-year-old boy whose worldly goods include a battered teddy bear and a nearly new tricycle.

The teddy bear sees a lot of action. But the tricycle is permanently parked in the garage.

Last summer—Aug. 12 to be precise—Lance came down with what seemed to be a slight cold. During the night he developed a high fever and pains in the neck. He was rushed to Children's hospital and placed in an iron lung.

Lance pulled through. But he will spend the rest of his life with braces on both legs and a nearly useless left arm.

His mother and father will spend the rest of their lives with the knowledge that it need not have happened.

They just didn't get around to giving Lance his polio shots.

It can happen to you—or to your child.

Polio has not been stamped out. There were 3,083 cases of paralytic polio in the nation last year—an increase of nearly 50 per cent over 1957.

Cases concentrated Most of the cases were concentrated among young children like Lance. The heaviest attack rate of all was among babies less than a year old.

"A lot of parents seem to have the idea that you don't need to vaccinate a child against polio until he's nearly ready for school," said a U.S. Public Health Service official.

"This is a tragic mistake. Every child should get his first polio shot within two or

three months after birth. The full series of three shots should be completed before the child reaches his first birthday.

"To wait is to gamble with a child's life."

Plentiful, Cheap The polio season will be getting underway soon. Salk vaccine is now plentiful and cheap. For those who can't afford the charge of a private physician, public health clinics are ready to administer free shots nearly everywhere.

To the bafflement and dismay of Public Health officials, millions of Americans are failing to take advantage

of this insurance policy against one of the worst disasters that can befall a family.

Of the total U.S. population of 175,000,000 people, only 60,400,000—slightly more than one-third—have been vaccinated against polio.

Children are not the only one who need Salk protection. Adults get polio too—especially young adults who are around children a lot. And the chances of death or life-long disability are much greater when an adult is stricken.

In earlier years, when Salk vaccine was scarce, the Public Health Service stressed the desirability of vaccinating everyone under 40. This gave rise to a widespread belief that those over 40 are immune from polio.

Vaccine for All It isn't so. The Public Health Service no longer speaks of vaccinating those under 40. It urges that everyone be vaccinated.

Even in the age brackets under 40, however, the job is far from completed.

Only half of all Americans under age 40 have had the full series of three shots.

In the most susceptible age group of all—under 20—only two-thirds are protected.

Lance's parents recall vividly reading a dispatch just like this in their newspaper at just about this time last year.

They meant to do something about it right away. But they didn't get around to calling the doctor for an appointment.

Your telephone is right over there.

Plane Falls Near West Lynn; 2 Hurt

West Lynn — (UPI) — A three-place Stinson airplane crashed in a field about 1 1/4 miles west of here Sunday evening, injuring two men aboard.

Taken to Portland Sanitarium was Williams Hendrickson, 33, Portland, who suffered two broken legs and was described in "serious" condition by hospital attendants.

Owner of the plane, A. W. Jeppesen, 31, Portland, was taken to an Oregon City hospital. He suffered lacerations of his knee and cheek and was in shock. Attendants there said he may have possible other injuries.

Clackamas county deputies said the plane traveled about 160 yards after it crashed. The crash occurred within two blocks of a residential district.



DANCED 'TIL DAWN — Still looking fresh, Princess Margaret leaves nightclub in Rome at 5 o'clock in the morning after a champagne and scrambled eggs party hosted by British Embassy Minister Henry Hohler (behind Margaret). The Princess arrived at the party shortly after midnight and changed partners for almost every dance. Man at left is plainclothesman.

Researchers Provide Extra Punch for Flu, Polio Vaccines

Atlantic City, N.J. — (Science Service) — Vaccines with an added punch may be available as a result of research reported here.

Two harmless, simple chemicals are used as vaccine additives, one for influenza vaccine and the other for polio vaccine, a research team at Charles Pfizer & Co., Inc., Terre Haute, Ind., told scientists here at the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology meeting.

So far, the additives have been used with flu vaccine tested on both animals and

humans, and with the polio vaccine given only to guinea pigs. Clinical trials with standard inactivated polio vaccine plus the additive, sodium alginate, are now underway.

The animal studies have given "rather significant results," Dr. Allen F. Woodhour told Science Service. However, he would not comment on possible effects of the additive on the current polio vaccine program—such as cutting the number of recommended shots or raising the vaccine's effectiveness.

In tests with the influenza vaccine combined with hexadecylamine (HDA), higher antibody levels were produced in the blood than with the standard commercial vaccine alone. It would be difficult to pinpoint the increased antibody level as a percentage increase in resistance to the flu, Dr. Woodhour said. There was extreme variation in response to the vaccine combination, both among the animals tested and the approximately 60 persons given the vaccine.

First Time in Pills This is the first time sodium alginate, added to the polio vaccine, has been used in a vaccine. Previously it had been widely used as a thickener in pills, ointments and other similar pharmaceutical products.

When injected under the skin or into muscle, Dr. Woodhour explained the compound forms a jelly-like mass. It combines with the calcium in the blood serum and in the tissues. This mass is said to be slowly absorbed into the body without injury or irritation. Although the response is delayed about two weeks in comparison with standard vaccines, antibody formation is then higher than has been previously attainable.

Drs. Keith E. Jensen and Joel Warren, also with Charles Pfizer & Co., were associated with Dr. Woodhour in the research.

Seek Private Funds, Nixon Tells Castro

Washington — (UPI) — Vice President Richard M. Nixon has told Cuban Prime Minister Fidel Castro pretty plainly that his "best hope" of economic help from the U.S. is through private rather than government capital.

Nixon, it was reliably reported, advised the visiting Cuban leader that U.S. government capital is limited because of many demands and because of the current drive for a balanced budget.

The exchange of views took place at a three-hour private conference in Nixon's capitol office last Sunday night. Only Nixon and Castro were present, but the vice president and Cuban leader have conveyed highlights of their discussion to others in their governments.

Nixon, it was understood, strongly emphasized his belief that Cuba's new regime needs to encourage a better climate for private capital investment.

Men's silk hats, invented in Florence around 1750, were not made in England until early in the 19th century.

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