

More Than Half Salk Shots Idle

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Public Health Service report indicated today that more than half the Salk polio vaccine shipped to private physicians and health departments remains unused.

Surgeon General Leonard Scheele commented, however, that some accumulation is necessary both to prepare for mass inoculation programs and to provide a reserve for second shots, and added:

"The distribution and use of the vaccine appears to be proceeding in a reasonably satisfactory manner."

At the same time, he asked that parents, private physicians and health officers in those areas where vaccine is available cooperate in using supplies as rapidly as possible.

The health service report was based on estimates from 36 state and territorial health officers.

It said that about 45 per cent of the vaccine shipped to their areas under the voluntary control program prior to Nov. 30 had been used by that date.

The preliminary estimates indicated that about 3,200 cubic centimeters—or doses—were given 2-200,000 children and expectant mothers in the 36 areas from July 31 through Nov. 30.

Use of the vaccine under the voluntary control program, which became effective July 31, is in addition to that under the free program of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. The service said more than 13½ million c.c.'s had been used by the NFIP to vaccine about seven million children.

Almost a fourth of the unused vaccine reported is held by New York and California. Both states, the health service said, are getting ready for mass programs.

"This is the ideal time for vaccinations," Scheele said in a statement. "The safety and effectiveness of the vaccine are now well established. Injections should be given as soon as vaccine is available in local areas in order to assure protection to as many children as possible before the next polio season starts."

Scheele's statement made no mention of a report from Pennsylvania yesterday that some vaccine there was becoming outdated because of lack of demand.

A spokesman said the service knew nothing to indicate that any large volumes of the product might be becoming outdated. Use of the vaccine within six months of production is now recommended, although officials say longer storage does not affect safety.

AA Completes Party Plans

Plans were completed Friday for the annual New Year's Eve Party of Alcoholics Anonymous in the AA Center, 120 Riverside.

A buffet supper, dancing and other entertainment will be preceded by an open meeting at which a Klamath Falls minister and surgeon will give their views on the drinking problem.

The guest speakers will be the Rev. Galen Onstad, pastor of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, and Dr. Raymond Tice, Sheriff Murray Britton will be a special guest.

The meeting is scheduled for 8:30 p.m. Saturday.

It also was announced that the regular weekly closed meeting of AA will be held in the center at 8:30 p.m. Friday. This meeting is for alcoholics only.

At the Saturday night party there will be members and friends of the organization from Grants Pass, Medford, Ashland, Bend, Camp White, Lakeview, Alturas and Yreka.



THE REV. AND MRS. LOWELL PRINZING

Church Plans Revival Talks

Rev. Lowell Prinzing will begin a series of revival services, at the Assembly of God Church, Eighth and Oak streets, Sunday evening, January 1, at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Prinzing at the present time, is pastoring the church at Jackson, California. He is the son of Rev. Kelsey Prinzing who had a successful ministry in Klamath Falls for several years. Since leaving here, Rev. Prinzing Sr. has pastored at Lodi, California.

Mrs. Prinzing, the former Wanda Smith, will accompany her husband to Klamath Falls. She will interpret his messages to the deaf by the sign language, having learned the language while attending the Central Bible Institute, Springfield, Missouri.

Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Prinzing will be welcomed back to the Basin area by their many friends. The public is cordially invited to attend these services, which will continue every night except Monday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m., January 1 to January 8.

GROTEWOHL RETURNS

BERLIN (AP) — Prime Minister Grotewohl of East Germany returned by air to Berlin Friday from a month's trip to the Orient. While away, he signed a treaty of friendship and mutual aid with Red China.

WINDSORS BOARD SHIP

CHERBOURG, France (AP) — The Duke and Duchess of Windsor boarded the Queen Mary Thursday night for New York and their annual winter visit to America.



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Doctor Describes How Polio Shots Step Up Protection

By HART E. VAN RIPER, M.D., (Editor's note: This is the fourth of a series of five articles on what parents should know about the Salk polio vaccine. Under Dr. Van Ripper's direction the National Foundation sponsored the research development of the vaccine and he is in charge of the Foundation's program for vaccinating children in the first and second grades of school. The March of Dimes Drive in Klamath County begins January 3.)

"Johnny had one shot of Salk vaccine at school. Then school closed and we were informed by the principal that there would be no more vaccinations until reopening in the fall. I understand that three shots of Salk vaccine are necessary, the second within two to four weeks after the first. Does this mean that Johnny's first shot was wasted and that he will have to begin all over?"

The answer: If Johnny gets his second shot when school reopens—or in fact at any time within the next school term—the first shot will not have been wasted and he will not need a new "first" shot, according to evidence presented by Dr. Salk.

With the first shot, something begins to happen in the body, with these two results:

One, there is production of polio antibodies, not only in persons who have produced them before, but also—and here is the important point—in those who have not. Polio antibodies are tiny particles in the blood that protect against virus invasion of the brain and spinal cord where the damage may be done.

Two, the system begins to be more sensitive, more readily alerted, to any future need for antibodies, and to any future stimulus to their production.

The second shot, within a period

of 10 days after it is administered, carries both these desirable results further: more antibodies, higher sensitivity. It probably lengthens, too, the time in which they will hold good.

But the sensitizing effect of the first shot will endure, in most cases, through the better part of a year. That is why the child who already has one shot can go through the summer without getting the second and not have to begin over.

Here is the recommended schedule: Two doses, of one cubic centimeter each, the second preferably (but not necessarily) two to four weeks after the first, and a third or booster shot of one cc at least seven months after the second shot and before the next polio season.

With the third, or booster shot, the antibody count goes soaring far above the level achieved by the first two. Within nine days of the booster injection, immunity to paralytic polio is about as high as it is in patients who have recovered from natural infections. Indeed, in one sense it is better, because the Salk vaccine protects against all three types of the polio virus, whereas this does not occur in a single natural infection.

Under the program sponsored by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, all children in the first and second grades of school as of spring, 1955 were offered the first two shots of Salk vaccine. That program, though delayed in some localities, will be completed this fall.

If you did not request vaccination of your child when the first shots were being given, your child is no longer eligible under the National Foundation program. However, if you have changed your mind, the chances are that vaccine will be available to doctors through commercial channels soon enough so that your doctor can give the child the two shots and the booster seven months later, all before the "polio season" begins next summer. If you do make this decision,

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it is best to start the shots early enough to beat the 1956 season. If your child has received one shot under the National Foundation program, he is eligible for the second shot. The public health authority in your community can advise you as to time and place. But it is most important to remember that the third or booster shot, about which you must see your own doctor, is essential. You cannot be sure that you are giving your child the fullest protection possible if you neglect this. While the first two shots give protection equal to that shown among the 440,000 children who were given the vaccine in the field trial of 1954—that is, an effectiveness of between 60 and 90 per cent—the two-shot immunity is only temporary.

Dr. Salk and his fellow-scientists do not know yet whether the protection given by the whole course of three shots is lifelong or, indeed, just what its duration is, and whether further boosters may be necessary at regular intervals.

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