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FINAL

Membership Of Negroes Questioned

Officers Must Attend Hearing

By JULIAN SCHIER
Charlotte News Staff Writer
The Mecklenburg County Medical Society has been called on the carpet by the North Carolina Medical Society over the question of Negro memberships here.

The officers of the local society were notified yesterday that they will have to appear before the State Society's House of Delegates at Pinehurst Monday to show cause why they should not be expelled.

The disagreement concerns the admission last May of Negro physicians admitted to the local Society. The News learned from reliable sources.

In Raleigh, Executive Secretary James T. Barnes of the State Society confirmed that the State Society had written to the Mecklenburg group about an appearance before the State Society's House of Delegates at Pinehurst starting Sunday.

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTION
The Mecklenburg group has been asked, Mr. Barnes said, "to appear before the House of Delegates relative to their position in regard to their charter and its compliance with the constitution and by-laws of the State Medical Society."

The letter was received here yesterday but did not specifically mention the Negro question. However, it is understood the only difference between the wording of the state constitution and by-laws and that of the local society is the deletion of the word "white" in the constitution wherever it appears.

The move by the State Medical Society came somewhat as a surprise. The Mecklenburg Society's cabinet met on the matter last night. Although the action was not wholly unexpected, it came very close to the State Society's meeting in Pinehurst and caught the local society off guard.

OPPOSITION KNOWN
The membership of the Mecklenburg society has known for some time that the state society had opposed its change in the constitution. Officers of the Mecklenburg Society either could not be reached or did not wish to comment on the turn of events.

One prominent member did say it was hoped the matter could be settled without an appearance before the House of Delegates.

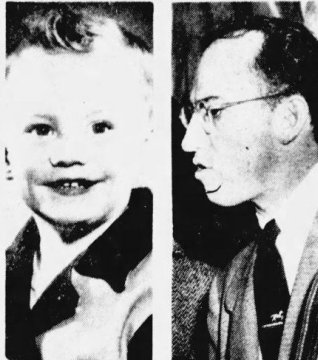
Dr. Zack Owens, president of the State Medical Society, could not be reached at his home in Elizabeth City. He was out of town. CHANGE MADE IN 1954
The question has been simmering since April 6, 1954.

At that time the Mecklenburg group, on an amendment to the constitution and by-laws by Dr. Hugh Verner, voted to admit Negro members. This was to be accomplished by emitting the word "white" wherever it appeared in the constitution and by-laws.

However, such a motion must be tabled for 30 days before final ratification.

In the meantime, at the State Society's meeting, the Negro question was tabled.

When the question of the proposed change was brought up, the question of the proposed change was brought up.



RONALD FITZGERALD, 4, of Oakland, Calif., became partially paralyzed in one arm a week after getting a polio vaccine inoculation. His mother, a registered nurse, said she bought the Cutter Laboratory vaccine at a drug store and administered it to her son. Dr. Jonas Salk (right), developer of the vaccine, agreed with other authorities that withdrawal of the Cutter vaccine was the "safe thing to do." (AP)

Assembly Today
Committee Gets 'Home Rule' Bills

RALEIGH.—So-called "home rule" legislation was sent to a subcommittee today when it came before the House Committee on Constitutional Amendments.

The two bills introduced by Rep. Clyde Shreve of Guilford would submit to a vote of the people constitutional amendments designed to give local government units many powers now held by the State Legislature.

If the constitutional amendments were adopted, citizens of county or town would vote on the adoption of a "home rule" charter which would set out methods of exercising the new authority.

Shreve claims his measures would lift the burden of handling local legislation from the general assembly, giving it more time to deal with state problems.

The committee also sent to a subcommittee a bill by Rep. Ross Sawyer of Pasquotank to extend the pay period for legislators from 90 to 120 days, plus 25 days for an extra session. The pay rate is \$15 per day, and \$30 for presiding officers, would not be changed.

BILL APPROVED
Meanwhile, S. E. N. A. T. E. Judiciary Committee approved a bill to create a licensing board for refrigeration contractors.

Robert Broughton, representing the Refrigeration Trade Assn., told the committee the industry felt it should be granted the legal right to do certain plumbing and electrical work incidental to the installation of refrigeration equipment.

Under the present law, he said, people who want work done on their refrigeration systems are forced to call in licensed electricians and plumbers instead of the people best qualified to do the job.

He said the proposed bill would give the industry the same status as licensed electricians and plumbers.

DRIVING PROPOSAL
The committee referred to a subcommittee a bill by Sen. Edward L. Owens of Washington to permit hearings for persons caught on the facts in all countries.

The bill is designed to help the State Department in its efforts to identify and locate persons who have been convicted of crimes in other countries.

Public Health Authorities Back Vaccine
Public Reassured
Shots Effective

By FRANK CAREY
AP Science Reporter

WASHINGTON.—Public health agencies expressed anew today their confidence in the Salk polio vaccine, even as they checked the possibility that some batches from one of six makers may have been faulty.

Intensive tests were ordered after it was reported that eight children had been struck by polio—one fatally—within a week of receiving their first polio shots. Four other suspected cases of the disease were reported.

In each case, the vaccine used was manufactured by the Cutter Laboratories of Berkeley, Calif., which said more than 750,000 doses of its product had been issued.

USE HALTED
As a "precautionary measure," all further use of Cutter vaccine was ordered halted pending tests, and the inoculation program was stopped in most of the West Coast areas where it was supplied for free use in the schools.

But Surgeon General Leonard Scheele of the Public Health Service called for continuance of the program in other areas of the country, where vaccine supplied by five other drug firms have been used without reported incident.

"We believe that the immunization program against poliomyelitis should continue," he said in a statement, "and I urge that parents and children scheduled to take part in the vaccination program continue to follow their plans."

SON TO GET SHOT
He said his 7-year-old son will receive his first shot as scheduled early next month.

Meanwhile, federal and state authorities worked in California to determine whether it was faulty vaccine or merely coincidence which caused the polio cases at this time.

Five of the eight diagnosed cases occurred in California. Two other cases were reported from Pocatello, Idaho, and one from Chicago.

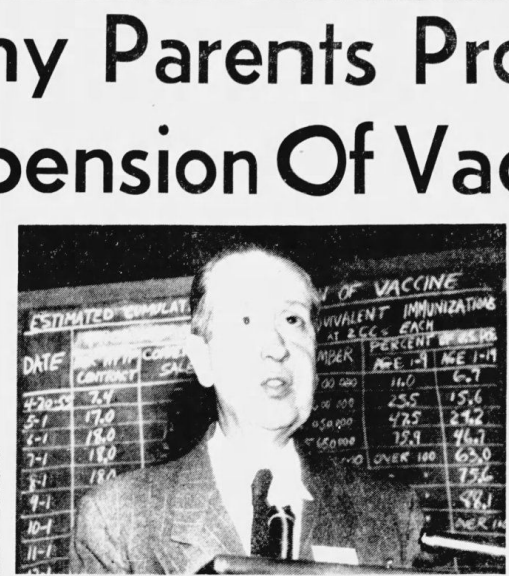
Another suspected case was reported from Los Angeles where a 12-month-old child had been inoculated with a vaccine supplied through commercial channels.

INCUSSION TIME
Officials said it normally takes 10 to 14 days after exposure to polio to develop, and emphasized it is possible that all the stricken children were developing the disease before they received their shots.

The Cutter vaccine was supplied for mass inoculations in parts of California and in Arizona, New Mexico, Idaho, Hawaii and the District of Columbia.

Commercial use was made in other areas of the country. All the Cutter-manufactured vaccine bears the company's name.

The mass inoculations were halted immediately in California, Arizona, New Mexico and Idaho, but health officials in Nevada said they would continue the giving of first shots and that no cases of polio had been reported among the children vaccinated.



DR. LEONARD SCHEELE, SURGEON GENERAL OF U.S., ANNOUNCES WITHDRAWAL OF CUTTER VACCINE. There Is No Cause For Alarm By Parents Of Children Who Have Been Inoculated, He Says. (AP)



PHYSICIAN IN MODESTO, CALIF., GIVES IMMUNIZATION SQUAD ORDERS TO STOP WORK. Group Gets News Just After Giving Cutter Vaccine To 350 Children. (AP)

Viet Nam Rule At Stake

Fire, Battle Rage In Saigon

By JOHN RODERICK
SAIGON, Indochina.—Flames burned a square mile of Saigon tonight and hundreds were killed or wounded in bloody fighting for control of South Viet Nam's government.

The American-supported Premier Ngo Dinh Diem declared war on the insubordinate rebel Binh Xuyen society after a triple attack on Diem's palace, army and police headquarters.

Three battalions of Nationalist infantrymen and parachute troops, supported by tanks, pressed the attack on the 5,000-man private army of the Binh Xuyen.

Diem had held off direct military intervention because of French fears such action would touch off civil war.

Initial fighting appeared to be favoring the well-equipped Diem forces, which outnumber by far the estimated 3,000 men of the Binh Xuyen.

Diem's troops killed over 400 principal garrisons and posts held in Saigon and Cholon, the Chinese sector of the capital several miles from the French section. The total population of the city, swollen by an influx of refugees from the North, is about two million.

The Nationalists three artillery battalions near Cholon.

Bethel Plans To Resume Next Week
New Consent Forms Will Be Sent Out

By HARRY SHUFORD
Charlotte News Staff Writer

City County Health Officer M. B. Bethel said today he has received a wave of protests against the suspension of the mass anti-polio inoculation program here.

The program will be resumed next week, he said.

The inoculation of first and second graders, now in progress, was ordered halted at a meeting here last week by the local Medical Society officials last night.

The order came following disclosure that eight children who received vaccine produced by Cutter Laboratories of California had contracted polio.

AWAIT CLARIFICATION
In a statement last night Dr. Bethel said the local program would be suspended until the national situation was clarified. Both he and State Health Officer Dr. J. W. B. Norton of Raleigh indicated full faith in this program.

At the local meeting last night concern was expressed that strong objections would be caused among parents if the inoculations of school children continued on schedule.

In view of reactions received by noon today Dr. Bethel said he had no longer made it his policy to send out new parental consent forms this week, with vaccinations needed to complete the local program being authorized by a master list made up from the new forms.

HALFWAY THROUGH
The local program was halted midway through the first week of vaccinations, with only children scheduled for shots today and tomorrow remaining to be given first shots.

Under the new plan children who had been slated to be vaccinated today and tomorrow will receive their shots next Thursday and Friday.

Second shots for children, who were vaccinated Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, will be given on schedule starting May 16, with the new parental consent.

The only change from the original program being made is that children scheduled for shots today and tomorrow will get both first and second vaccinations one week later than the original schedule.

MEETING PLANNED
Dr. Bethel said he will attempt to get members of the city and county boards of health together today to discuss the situation.

The local health officer stressed parents that none of the vaccine being administered in the mass school program came from mass school program came from mass school program.

Apartment And Hotel Burn
12 Known Dead In 2 Chicago Fires

CHICAGO.—Separate fires in a hotel and an apartment building claimed at least 12 lives today.

The bodies of eight victims, including that of a fire captain, were recovered from ruins of the Green Mill Hotel. The other four victims, including three children, died in the apartment house blaze.

Twenty-two residents of the four-story hotel near downtown Chicago, leaped from upper floor of the hotel and were injured.

What's Inside

Table with 2 columns: Category and Value. Includes Business, Classifieds, Comics, etc.

Evening Prayer

Our God and heavenly Father, surely, to live without prayer is to live without God. Let us pray for the world, for our country, for our families, and for ourselves. Amen.

Winds Postpone Atom Tests For Third Time

SURVIVAL CITY, Nev.—Atomic test chiefs took another gamble and lost today. The big Atom Defense test was postponed for a third time.

Jelke Gets 2 To 3 Years In Society Vice Case

NEW YORK.—Mickey Jelke today was given a prison sentence of two to three years on his conviction in the cafe society vice case.

The sentence was imposed on the young heir to an oleomargarine fortune after a 13-minute plea by defense attorneys for leniency.

Jelke, who was tried twice, was convicted of inducing Pat Ward to give a live prostitution and of attempting to induce Marguerite Cordova to do the same.

His first conviction was thrown out because the trial judge excluded press and public during presentation of prosecution testimony.

The sentence given in the second trial was less than that imposed after the first—three to six years. He could have received a maximum term of 40 years. Jelke is 25 years old.

Our Weather

Fair and mild today. Mostly fair and cool tonight. Tomorrow, scattered showers. High yesterday—71. High today—74. High tomorrow—76. Low this morning—59. Low tonight—55. Sunrise 5:36 a.m.; sunset 7:06 p.m. More Weather Data on Page 7A