

# Chickenpox Mild With Children, Doctor Says

K. H. SUTHERLAND, M.D., County Health Officer  
 Chickenpox, frequently called varicella in medical terminology, is a common and highly contagious disease of young children. The illness caused by the infection is most always mild in nature, without complications or lasting ill effects.  
 Though adolescents and adults seldom suffer from chickenpox, the infection may be more severe when it does occur in these age groups, and complications, including varicella pneumonia and encephal-

itis, are not infrequent.  
 The causative agent of chickenpox is the Herpesvirus varicellae. This virus is closely related if not identical to the one which causes herpes zoster, a painful neurological disorder that is much better known as "shingles." It is felt that the infection occurs predominantly as chickenpox in children and as shingles in adults.  
**SYMPTOMS** of chickenpox generally appear in about 14 to 16 days after infection with the chickenpox virus and in-

clude a slight fever, headache, loss of appetite, and bodily discomfort.  
 Within 24 hours after the first signs of illness, an itchy rash appears on the trunk of the body and remains concentrated there, although it also occurs on the face, scalp, and extremities as well. Vesicles appear on the mucous membranes of the mouth in most but not all cases of the disease.  
 It is characteristic of the disease that the skin eruption occurs in successive crops, and

all of the several stages of the rash may be observed in one area of the skin at the same time. As a rule, when the rash is severe the temperature tends to be higher.  
**THE DISEASE** is communicable from about one day before the rash appears to approximately six days after the occurrence of the first vesicle or blister. The scabs are probably not the source of infection, however. The chickenpox virus passes from person to person by way of the nose and

throat discharges of the chickenpox patient or by contact with articles freshly contaminated with his secretions.  
 All persons who have never had chickenpox are probably susceptible to the infection. There is no vaccine that will prevent the disease, nor any treatment for it that is particularly helpful. One attack of chickenpox usually confers a long immunity, and second attacks are rare.  
 It is estimated that about 70 per cent of the residents of metropolitan areas have had chickenpox before the age of 15, and its occurrence is apparently greater in the winter months.  
 The disease is no longer re-

portable to health authorities, probably because of the fact that the illness is not usually severe in children, in whom the majority of cases occur, and complications are rare.  
**PARENTS** should never overlook the precaution of getting their child vaccinated against chickenpox, even when past experience with the disease leads them to believe that it is a minor illness not worth bothering about. More severe infections, such as smallpox and rickettsialpox may be confused with chickenpox by nonmedical individuals, particularly in the early stages of the infec-

tion and, as a result, necessary treatment in these conditions could be delayed.  
 Though nearly always a mild disorder, it is well to keep in mind that chickenpox, like poliomyelitis, hepatitis, and other viral infections, is usually more severe in adolescents and adults than in young children. Consequently, no matter what the age, there should be no delay in calling a physician when the disease is suspected.  
 A pamphlet on chickenpox will be mailed to anyone who sends a card of request to the Division of Health Education, Los Angeles County Health Department, 241 N. Figueroa St., Los Angeles 12.



PAUL G. JACKSON As Pontius Pilate

## Portrayal Of Bible Lore Set

The Rev. Paul Gerrard Jackson, Bible lecturer and impersonator, will present his dramatic series of Bible Characterizations Sunday through Friday at the Calvary Baptist Church.

The presentations are scheduled for 7 p.m. at the church, 2818 Manhattan Beach Blvd. Rev. Jackson will also be guest preacher at the 11 a.m. Sunday worship service.

REV. JACKSON gives his dramatic portrayals in costume with interpretive lighting effects and music against a background of drapery settings. Special lighting and audio-electronic equipment are operated by his wife.

At each service Jackson selects a Bible character and by his powers of personation, makes this character "come to life." A number of the famous as well as the not-so-famous men of the New Testament are included in Jackson's gallery of portrayals.

EACH ONE pictures a different relationship to Christ. The series includes the Bethlehem innkeeper, the Blind Beggar healed by Christ, the Pharisee who sought Christ (Nicodemus), the Scribe who scorned Christ, the King who mocked Christ (Herod Antipas), the Governor who judged Christ (Pontius Pilate), the Apostle who doubted Christ (Thomas), the Soldier who Crucified Christ, and the Disciple Beloved of Christ (John).

An ordained minister, Paul Gerrard Jackson was formerly a professional actor. He specialized in the classical drama, and played a variety of Shakespearean roles in transcontinental tours of the United States and Canada.

HE RECEIVED his education at Dartmouth College and the Dallas Seminary of Texas. While pursuing his theological studies in the latter institution he was also a member of the faculty for four years as a Lecturer in Phonetics and Oral Expression in the Department of Homiletics. Jackson held three pastorates in New England before commencing his present countrywide ministry of Bible dramatization in 1948.

Since then he has traveled over 180,000 miles in the United States and Canada presenting "Men Who Met The Master." He has also enjoyed an extensive ministry as a Bible Conference speaker and has made guest appearances on coast-to-coast television programs.

**St. Patrick's Dance**  
 The Square Links Square Dance Club will hold a St. Patrick's dance Sunday at the carpenter's union hall, 1620 Pier Ave., Redondo Beach. The organization meets every Sunday at the location from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Personal nomination for the prettiest gal in the USA in '62: Debbie Sue Brown of Clarksonton, Wash. She's the 5-year-old March of Dimes child.

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