Dear Dr. Sabin,

It has been a long time since I worked in the lab, but not long enough that I could quite believe my family doctor when he said my little boy's illness after he took your polio vaccine was utter coincidence. When a child gets shots for whooping cough, tetanus, the dr. says give him an aspirin and put him to bed today. When a child is vaccinated the dr. says he will be sick in seven to ten days. But when given polio vaccine nothing is supposed to happen and anything that does is coincidence.

Is it coincidence? My three youngsters took the vaccine about 10 A.M. last summer. One had no symptoms, one had a stiff neck the next day for one day; the youngest attracted my attention about 1 30 P.M. We
were out and by the time I got him home he had the following symptoms: Fever 101°-102°, "tummy hurts", legs also hurt - deeper changing very uncomfortable if not painful; very fearful, very quiet - cried for me to stand nearby, but not interested in even moving in bed much less being held. Dr. sent medicine next day every 4 hrs. I had to make him sit up - support his back & hold his cup when he drank. Then he would fall back and sleep. This continued for the whole day after he had taken the vaccine plus the following day after that until 5 P.M. I was just getting ready to tell my husband about it when the child walked out with his clothes and asked to get dressed. Whatever it was it was over and I'm not convinced it was coincidence - I've heard of similar cases from other people - have you?

Sincerely,