

'Round the State

Catholics Urged to Take Close Look at Candidates

PORTLAND (AP)—Roman Catholics must take a more active interest in political candidates of federal aid is to be obtained for parochial schools.

That was the theme of the Rev. Martin Thielen, director of education for the Archdiocese of Portland in an address at the Knights of Columbus Hall.

"We haven't been alert—that's why many persons hostile to us have gotten into public office," he said.

Father Thielen said Catholics should closely examine candidates for school boards, county commission and judiciary positions.

Until provisions for parochial schools are included, Father Thielen said, Catholics should oppose all federal aid to education.

He said revenue to finance the program backed by the Kennedy administration would come from all taxpayers—including Catholics—but only public schools would receive the benefits.

Fee Cut Studied

PORTLAND (AP)—The Portland School Board has instructed Supt. Melvin W. Barnes to study the possibility of reducing summer school tuition fees.

Fees now are \$25 for high school and \$12.50 for elementary school, making the program self-supporting. But officials told the board that the fees keep many from attending and that enrollment might double or triple if no tuition were charged.

"I would like to see it given at a very low cost or none," said Dr. Barnes.

Foul Play Ruled Out

SALEM (AP)—Investigating officers Tuesday ruled out any apparent foul play in the death Monday of 63-year-old Miss Mary Schapp.

Lt. John Zabinski of the Marion County sheriff's office said the woman apparently set fire to herself accidentally in the pump house of her farm home in the Pratum area east of the city.

A preliminary autopsy report Monday afternoon ruled the cause of death to be asphyxiation and shock resulting from extensive burns.

Her body was discovered by firemen who entered the pump house to douse a smoldering fire discovered by a passerby.

Post to Be Filled

SALEM (AP)—The State Board of Control will hire a director for its mental health division Thursday, the first to head the new agency.

The division, created by the 1961 legislature, goes into effect in July.

The division will coordinate the administration of all state

Echo Visible In Early Hours

By ASSOCIATED PRESS
If skies are clear, early risers will be able to see Echo I satellite over Oregon in coming days.

This is the schedule issued by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for Salem. The times and locations vary slightly north and south of there.

March 22—3:59 a.m., south, 53 degrees, northeast.

March 23—3:11 a.m., south, 39 degrees, northeast.

March 23—5:15 a.m., north, 87 degrees, northeast.

March 24—4:28 a.m., south, 82 degrees, northeast.

March 25—3:41 a.m., south, 69 degrees, northeast.

March 26—2:53 a.m., south, 55 degrees, northeast.

Proposal Criticized

PORTLAND (AP)—Directors of the Oregon State Employees Assn. have described a new retirement benefit proposal as unfair.

The plan, drafted by the legislative interim fiscal committee, would extend benefits to teachers who retire before the state retirement act was passed in 1945.

The OSEA directors said the same benefits should be extended to all other public employees who retired before 1945 as well.

Robber Sentenced To 15-Year Term

SALEM (AP)—Warren Joseph Flaks, 22, Tacoma, faces a 15-year term in the Oregon penitentiary for a jewelry store holdup at Salem last year.

He was sentenced by state Circuit Court Judge George Jones this week after pledging guilty to armed robbery of the Weisfield Jewelry Store.

Earlier, another man was sentenced to a similar term for the same holdup. He is Stephen Kay Weinstein, 21, already serving his term.

Note From JFK

BEND (AP)—Evan A. Sather, one of the oldest Republicans in the business, got a congratulatory note from President Kennedy this week.

The note honored the 102nd birthday of the former merchant, who reached here as a pioneer at the turn of the century before the community was incorporated into the city of Bend.

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Home Building Slows Down

WASHINGTON (AP)—Home building, one of the nation's biggest industries, and a key economic indicator, slowed down in February for its fourth setback in as many months.

The Commerce Department said Wednesday that starts on privately financed houses and apartment buildings dropped 11 per cent to a 13-month low.

Starts covered 74,300 dwelling units. After allowing for the usual seasonal slowdown from January to February, this was a month-to-month drop of 11 per cent and 4 per cent below February, 1961.

February housing starts worked out to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1,126,000, far below the recent high of 1,434,000 established last October.

The rate has fallen steadily since then.

The January drop of 133,000 was the largest of the four monthly declines since October. The February rate was the lowest recorded since January, 1961.

On a regional basis, the department said February starts

were down 27 per cent in the Northeast and down 29 per cent in the West. They were up 12 per cent in the North Central Region and up 3 per cent in the South.

"The very heavy rains in Southern California, particularly in the Los Angeles area, may have contributed to the sharp drop in the West," the department said.

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