

Plastic Bags Claim At Least 3 Children At Play This Week

By United Press International
At least three children have suffocated this week while playing with plastic bags in California, Indiana, and Pennsylvania.
National Safety Council records showed 20 youngsters were killed by the bags in the first three months of this year. The council warned the rate may increase, and said it feared 100 would die by the end of the year.
In Washington, the Public

Health Service said the suffocations of 38 children in the past two years may have been caused by plastic bags.
Marking Demanded
At Indianapolis, W. E. Dismore, manager of a cleaning establishment which uses the bags, demanded Tuesday that all of them be marked with a danger warning. He acted after a fourth Indianapolis child suffocated while playing with a bag.

Dismore said he was informed by a New York source that "apparently all the manufacturers of these bags are going to join the movement," by putting danger signs on them.
Wilbur M. Gage, a Chicago dry cleaner, said he would issue orders "to discontinue use of these bags."

"We have between \$2,000 and \$3,000 worth of them on hand," Gage said, "but the investment certainly is not worth exposing one child to the danger involved."

One of the first persons to alert the nation to the danger was Dr. Paul B. Jarrett, Phoenix.

Plastered to Faces
He said when the children put the bags over their heads or across their mouths, friction can cause an electrostatic charge which plasters the fabric to their faces.

Jarrett said the victims die agonizing deaths, turning blue, retching and struggling frantically before finally collapsing.

Central Point Youth Initiated Into Club
Corvallis - Donn R. Johnson of Central Point is one of nine outstanding juniors at Oregon State college initiated into Blue Key, top campus honorary for men.

Scholarship, leadership in campus affairs, and character are considered in the selection of the members. Johnson is a junior majoring in agriculture. His home address is 733 Hazel st., Central Point.



BARRICADED PRISONERS—Rioting prisoners at Fort Pillow Prison in West Tennessee peer through barricades put up against bars in their second-floor dormitory. Two guards held hostage by the convicts have been threatened with death. The prisoners held out through the night, and told state prison officials that they had complaints of injustices to make.

Phosphorescent Bathing Suit Available For Lovers of Midnight Swimming

Paris - (UPI) - The man who invented the bikini bathing suit gave new dimensions to the sport of girl-watching is at it again.
For anyone who likes midnight swimming, he has come up with a phosphorescent suit which floats. Advantage: it can be taken off, parked on the nearest wave, and easily found even in pitch darkness.

Or else there is one with tacks on the outside to ward off sea-going wolves.
"I'm always experimenting," said swimsuit designer Louis Reard with a dreamy, faraway look in his eyes. "That's the way you make the big, new discoveries."

Biggest Success
But for the mild-mannered Parisian, who at 63 is often called the "Bathing Suit King," the biggest success so far is certainly the bikini.
"I created and launched it in June 1946," he said.

"To present it, we picked a model name Bernardini. Her main occupation was dancing in the nude in night clubs.
"We chose her because of her perfect plastic qualities," he said. "When she displayed

the bikini the first time she did a sort of striptease in which she took it off, folded it up and put it in a match box."
At the moment the bikini was launched, Reard said, France was heading into an explosion of joy and high living after the grim years of occupation and war.

"People were in the mood for new ways to amuse themselves and enjoy themselves," he said. "The bikini came out just at the right psychological moment."

Swims By Self
The phosphorescent bathing suit, as Reard puts it, "swims by itself" because of tiny bits of cork in its seams. It is designed so that it can be peeled off quickly and easily in the water, Reard explained, and it is for girls who like to enjoy the freedom of a midnight swim with no bathing suit at all.

There are not, apparently, too many girls who seek such enjoyment, Reard confesses the suit has not been a tremendous success.
Reard said he tries out all kinds of eccentric bathing

Welfare Commission Comes To Defense of Its Workers

Portland - (UPI) - The State Public Welfare Commission, which administers Oregon's \$38,400,000 public assistance program, replied to newspaper criticism Wednesday with a statement defending its welfare workers.
The Commission said its workers "are doing a creditable job, in the aid to dependent children program as well as in other areas of their responsibility, especially in view of the serious social problems with which they are dealing and the handicaps of high case-loads and limited budgets under which they work."

A series of stories in the Oregon Journal had charged that the Commission had been victimized by fraudulent claims and that some women with several illegitimate children had been on state relief for years.

Not Morals Arbiter
"The State Commission considers it does not have the right to set itself up as an arbiter of public morals," the statement said, "but it has conviction that where immorality is demonstrated to affect the welfare of children, it has a duty to take necessary action to protect these children and it has done so."

But the Commission said it made an effort to keep dependent children in their own homes if possible, since this is the best place for them, and also because foster care of children is more expensive.

It said Oregon has a far lower proportion of its population receiving public assistance than most states and in this is most pronounced in the aid to dependent children program.
The national average is 34 children per 1,000 population receiving aid. Washington's average is 31 and California's is 37. In contrast, the Commission said, Oregon has only 24 children per 1,000 population in its welfare program.

Fathers in Jail
Of Oregon's children receiving aid last November, six per cent had lost a parent by death, 20 per cent were dependent because of the incapacity of a parent, 23 per cent were children of separated parents, seven per cent had fathers in jail or were living with stepfathers who couldn't support them and 10 per cent were children of unmarried parents.

The statement said state policy provides that cases involving non-support are referred immediately to legal authorities for appropriate action.
"The public welfare department similarly refers cases of suspected fraud to law enforcement officials," the Commission said. "The incidence of fraud is low, but the Commission's policy is to take all necessary measures to recover public funds when fraud has been committed."

Internal Economy Control Declared Major Problem

New York - (UPI) - Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton Wednesday warned that the greatest problem facing America today is controlling the country's internal economy.

Seaton spoke at a public affairs committee lunch of the Union League Club.

According to Seaton, three great world problems face the American problem today. He said the first was the international situation with repeated crises brought on by Russia and the Red Chinese through "outward thrust and aggression."

Missile Race Second
The second, he said, was the missile race. He said the last and what he considered the most important was the country's battle over controlling the internal economy.

Seaton noted that in recent months employment has been on the rise, wages are higher than ever before, industry finds itself with the biggest profits ever in sight, but that the "spenders" insist on deficit financing and running up the federal debt.

He said, "we can't expect nations abroad to have faith in the American dollar if we can't handle our national fiscal situation."



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Capital Geared For Tourists

Washington - (UPI) - Everything in Washington is not government.

The annual start of the tourist season was marked by the National Cherry Blossom Festival from April 7 to 12. From then on, the area's hotels and motels are especially geared to receive the thousands of high school students who visit the nation's capital on special tours arranged by the city's Convention and Visitors Bureau, or adults and families who arrive to see the monuments, buildings and special events.

On May 8-9, the National Assembly and Parade of the School Safety Patrols took place, followed by parades and air shows for National Defense Day on May 15-16.

The Washington Summer Jubilee begins June 15 and extends through Labor Day. Band concerts are presented nightly, a theater-under-the-stars offers varied entertainment, the National Historic Wax Museum is open and the President's Cup Regatta is held.

Most hotels in Washington offer family plans, with children free.

Tight Control Over Missile Program Voted

Washington - (UPI) - The Senate Armed Services Committee has voted to assert tight congressional control over military aircraft and missile programs.

Nervous, Tired, Awake Nights?

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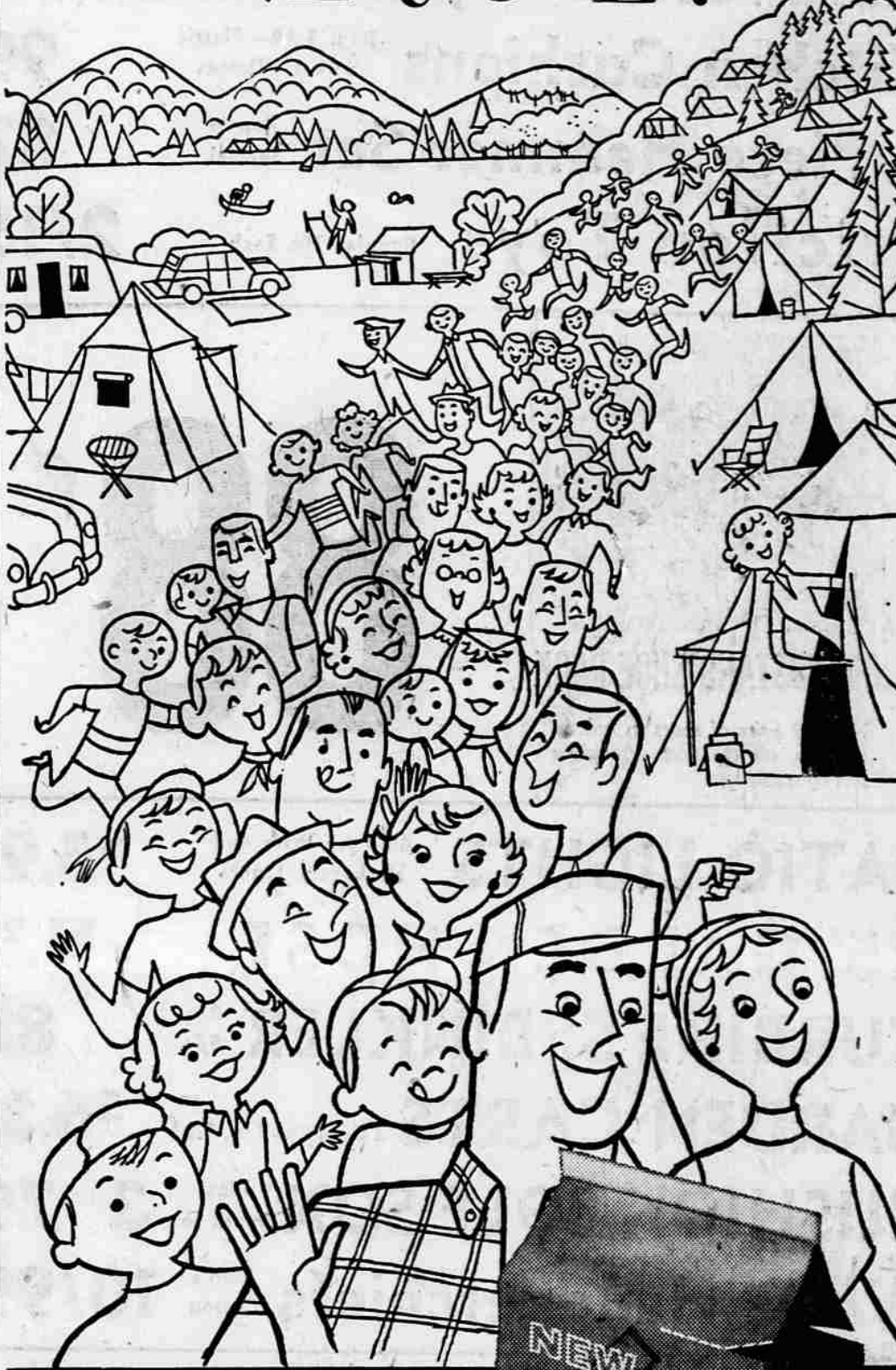
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