

Portland Schools To Discontinue Easter Programs

Portland — (UP) — The Portland Public School System Thursday announced that it has discontinued Easter programs for religious reasons.

Supt. J. W. Edwards said the decision was made because of objections by Jewish and Catholic clergymen.

Edwards also announced that the system was moving baccalaureate high school graduation services from churches to school auditoriums. He said this was also due to religious reasons.

Edwards pointed out that attendance at baccalaureate services was not compulsory.

Some Said Offensive

Edwards said some of the Easter programs had "got out of line and were offensive to some groups." Christmas programs will continue, however, because they are mainly musical, Edwards said.

Edwards said Rabbi Emanuel Rose of Congregation Beth Israel told him baccalaureate services in churches should be discontinued and "we talked in general terms."

Edwards said two of the city's 10 public high schools have held baccalaureate services in their auditoriums with Protestant, Jewish and Catholic clergymen as speakers.

Beginning Spanish Class Is Offered

Ashland—Mrs. Mabel W. Winston, Southern Oregon college registrar, has announced that a beginning Spanish class will be offered in the winter quarter, with Jan. 5 scheduled for the first class meeting.

Dr. Anthony DeSoto, in charge of foreign language studies at SOC, will admit students without previous work in Spanish for the two-hour credit class to be offered winter and spring terms. Credit will not be given for the course until the completion of at least two terms. Therefore, students will earn four hours credit at the end of spring term.

Classes will meet at 8 and 11 a.m. weekly on Thursdays in Library room 1. Further information may be obtained from the registrar's office at SOC.

PLAN RAMJET TESTS

Mercury, Nev.—Tests in the Pluto nuclear ramjet system, aimed at developing a nuclear-powered ramjet capable of speeds up to 2,400 miles an hour, will begin next month at the Nevada test site. The Air Force and the Atomic Energy commission announced Thursday that the nuclear reactor Tory II-A will be ready for its first testing operation by late January.

Setback Variance Gets Favorable Planner Support

The Medford planning commission last night gave its favorable recommendation to a request for a variance to a setback line at 542 Mae st.

The variance was requested for construction of a carport, and it was noted by the commission that the carport will be no closer to the street than the house it.

The commission also recommended a change of zone from single-family to multiple-family for an area located at the corner of Crater Lake ave. and Stevens st. It was noted that this property is proposed for construction of multiple-family dwellings and this use is compatible with a land-use plan being developed by the city.

The commission recommended denial of a request that the city vacate a portion of Front and Cherry sts., located adjacent to the railroad tracks near the intersection of Court st. and Central ave.

It was noted that the streets are not improved in this area, but if they were vacated it would eliminate a city access point to a storm sewer located along the railroad tracks. The fire department also had objections to the vacation.

Another request to vacate a street, this one from the Medford school district, did receive favorable recommendation of the commission. The school district is requesting the city to vacate 14th st. between Peach and Hamilton sts. adjacent to Washington school.

A letter from School Superintendent Leonard B. Mayfield was read at the meeting. In the letter, he said the school district wanted to expand the Washington school playground and vacation of the street would be necessary for this. It was noted that the unimproved street has been blocked off for many years.

The commission also gave its favorable recommendation to a request from the state that the city vacate a portion of Crews rd., located near the old sewage disposal plant. Vacation of the road is necessary, according to the state, for construction of the private Medco truck road in this area. In exchange, the state will agree to build the city another access road in the area.



CHURCH PRESIDENT—Incoming president for the National Council of Churches, J. Irwin Miller, right, of Columbus, Ind., sits beside the outgoing president, the Rev. Edwin T. Dahlberg, St. Louis Baptist minister, after Miller was elected at San Francisco. Miller, multi-millionaire industrialist who gives 30 per cent of his income to charity, will serve as the council's chief spokesman for three years. (UPI Telephoto)

OF SMITH & MEN

By Jack Smith
(c) 1960 — Times-Mirror Syndicate

When we moved into our house a decade ago, we were delighted to find an emergency hospital a few blocks down the hill.

The boys were at an age when they scorned life's hazards. They regularly suffered minor traumas and had to be sewed up or at least sterilized and bound in gauze.

The nurses were motherly and full of maudlin banter. "Well, well," they used to say, "which one of our little men is it this time?" Or some such pleasantry.

If stitches were required, they would summon a grumpy surgeon from his sleep. Otherwise, they repaired the lad by themselves. Then they would touse his graggy head with brusque affection and shoo him away.

In time the boys acquired coordination and enough wisdom to quit hitting each other with shovels. Our trips to the hospital became less frequent.

The other night, I believe,

was our first one in years. I shut my right index finger in the car door.

That can happen to anyone. It was dark, for one thing, and my reflexes have been off their feed lately. I shut the door, and then I knew instantly and certainly that I had neglected to take my finger out.

I began to dance. I am told, first on one foot, then the other, in the manner of a trained bear, only faster.

My wife had got out the other door.

"What are you jumping about for?" she asked.

"My finger!" I cried. "It's in the door!"

She began to wail. "Oh, oh, oh! Can't you get it out?"

"No!" I cried. "It's my finger I type the y's with! Oh, oh, oh!"

"Can't you get it out?" she wailed, repetitiously, it seemed to me.

"Open the God forsaken door!" I shouted. "I can't find the handle."

She found the handle and tried to open the door. "It won't open," she cried. "It's locked from the inside."

The porch light blazed on. The boys ran out. Young people love excitement.

"What's going on?" they shouted. "What is it?"

"Daddy's locked his finger in the car," their mother explained.

"The key!" I cried. "Open the door with the key!"

"Oh, oh, oh!" my wife moaned. "The key! Where's the key!"

Gribble's light went on across the street. Gribble ran out.

"What's wrong?" he shouted.

"Pa's got his finger locked in the car!" yelled one of the boys.

"It's the one I type my y's with!" I shouted.

"Open the door!" shouted Gribble.

"Oh, oh, oh!" my wife moaned. She began to weep.

I realized the keys were clenched in my left hand. I got the door unlocked and withdrew my aggrieved finger.

"Emergency," I ordered. "Get me to emergency."

In moments we were back in the bright little waiting room, a grim, breathless group. A grizzled nurse padded out.

"Well, well," she said, "which little man..."

"It's me," I said. She took me into surgery. The others held back. They didn't want to see.

"Well, well," the nurse said, examining my finger. "We'll have to wash this with soap and water."

"Is that all?" I asked.

"I can put a bandage on it," she said, "if you like."

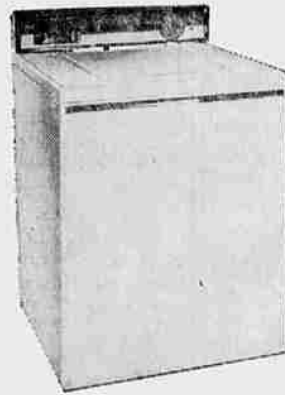
She put an excellent bandage on it. But she didn't touse my hair.



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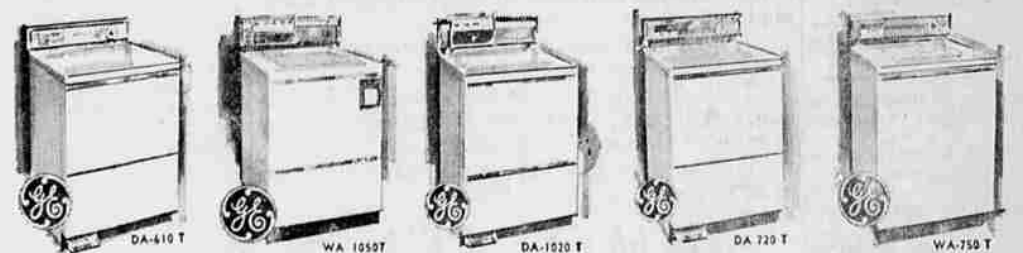
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