

# School Janitor Retires After 30 Years Service

Peter John Richter, 65, who has rung the school bell at Riverside school for 30 years, a total of 5400 times, he figures, will retire as janitor of the city school system's oldest elementary building at the close of this term of school. With Mrs. Richter, he has been responsible for the work of keeping the building spotless and the grounds trim.

Richter's bell-ringing days began a month and a half after he arrived in Klamath Falls from Wisconsin, where he spent his early life making barrels.

With his family he has lived in a basement apartment in the building where he could "keep an eye on things." One daughter was born there.

The first bell he rang was an old brass bell with hardwood handle. Later a clapper bell from the Old Central school was installed which was used until 1949, when the electric signal system was put in.

Because of the consistent daily care he has given the original pine floors and the stairs, no replacement has been necessary, according to D. L. Golding, principal. Heavy coats of wax, polished to a brilliant surface, have kept wear to a minimum. The shining finish has had its effect on the students, who pause to clean muddy feet and never purposely have damaged an inch of it.

Including cloakrooms, there are 40 rooms to care for. Wood was burned until 1948, when the heating plant was converted to coal. Since the gymnasium was built in 1930, Richter has handled

100 cords of wood annually, and since 1948, has shoveled an estimated 480 tons of coal.

There was no "greenery" at Riverside, when Richter took over. He has planted every tree and shrub, the flowers and the lawn. A sawdust trail up the hill, kept small feet out of mud in the early years of his service. Now pavement leads to the door.

Originally there were 250 students in the building. Now there are 175, from the first grade through the seventh. He has seen children of early day students, taught in the building. All of the boys and girls call him "Mr. Richter." Because they share his enthusiasm for fine, clean playgrounds, they help keep them free of trash.

In the years he has served, he has been on hand for all the school programs and other extra-curricular activities, taking care of lights, heat, seeing that the doors are closed when the fun is over. He has raised the flag each morning and taken it down at night.

With Mrs. Richter's help he has washed more windows than he wants to remember. Riverside, while the oldest school in the system, has the largest windows and boasts the best lighting, according to Principal Golding. He has worked under nine principals.

He and Mrs. Richter have just bought a new home, where he will continue to work among his flowers. It's within a stone's throw of the school building and he'll still keep an eye on the boys and girls who go through the big front doors to classes.



PETER JOHN RICHTER

# Russia Severs Diplomatic Relations With Australia

MOSCOW (AP)—The Soviet Union has severed its diplomatic relations with Australia because of that country's refusal to hand back its fugitive envoy in Canberra, Vladimir Petrov, as an embassier and swindler.

In a note handed yesterday to Australian Charge d'Affaires Brian Hill in Moscow, the Russians accused Australia's government of a "large-scale campaign of slander" in its allegations that Petrov fled his post as third secretary in the Soviet Embassy at Canberra and handed over a mass of documents said to have exposed a Communist spy ring.

It demanded that Hill, top-ranking Australian envoy to the Kremlin, leave with the five-member embassy staff immediately. Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko told Hill the Russians wanted the staff moved out in two or three days.

At the same time the Russians recalled Ambassador Nikolai E. Generalov from Australia and announced the embassy there would be closed.

(In Canberra, the big Soviet Embassy staff was busy today burning documents and books in a huge bonfire in its fenced-in yard. There was no indication exactly when

the Russians would leave Australia).  
In addition to repeating the Soviet demand for the arrest of Petrov on charges of swindling and embezzling Russian embassy funds the note accused the Australian government of kidnapping Mrs. Petrov, who the Australians say was granted political asylum with her husband.

Australia already had rejected the demand for the return of Petrov when it was made earlier by Generalov, and kept him in a secret hiding place. Mrs. Petrov was reunited with him after a tumultuous incident in which she was taken from a plane at Darwin just as she was about to depart with Soviet agents for Moscow.

In that incident, the Soviet note charged, "Australian police used violence against the second secretary of the embassy Kisitsyn, subjected the Soviet diplomatic couriers to forcible search with the use of physical violence."

The two couriers had been disarmed by the Australian police at Darwin after the Russians tried to bar authorities from talking to Mrs. Petrov.

Moscow Radio's announcement of the note was the first the Soviet public had been told of the Petrov case.

It came just before the opening Monday of the Geneva Conference

on the Far East, at which Russia and Australia will be represented. Gromyko had read the contents of the note to Hill in Russian and then they were translated. After Hill's call to the Soviet foreign office, he said: "It is not easy to vacate an embassy at such short notice. It is going to be very difficult for me."

The Australian diplomat immediately informed British Ambassador Sir William Hayter, who is expected to take over responsibility for Australian affairs in the Soviet Union.

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## Father Dies Soon After Son's Birth

WASHINGTON COURT HOUSE, Ohio (AP)—Nineteen-year-old Bill Shadley knew he was going to die of cancer.

For the past several weeks, doctors said they didn't understand how he managed to stay alive. Yesterday, when his newly-born first child, a boy, was brought to his bedside, he whispered: "I've waited so long."

Then he went into a coma. A few hours later, he died.

## POLIO?

If so, write to Spence Chiropractic Seminars and Hospital, Denver, Colo., for 72 pages of Testimonial Proof of results in arthritis, cancer, polio, epilepsy, rheumatic fever, multiple sclerosis, convulsions, muscular dystrophy, stroke—heart, liver, skin, stomach, kidney and sources of other ailments.

### AID ASKED

SEOUL (AP)—South Korea has asked the United States for an additional military aid grant of 160 million dollars, a Republic of Korea official said Friday. He said U.S. authorities have shown general approval.

### MISSING BIRDS

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP)—The lost and found column of the Harrisburg Patriot today carries four separate advertisements dealing with missing parakeets. One was listed as "lost on a routine flight."

**Correction**  
In last night's **TEXACO** advertisement...two of the dealer names should have read

**PINKY'S TEXACO**

E. R. Barron, Owner  
4608 S. 6th Ph. 9080

**SMITH'S TEXACO**

Bob Smith, Owner  
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See and hear America's Most Outstanding Internationally Known Evangelist **Michael F. George "D.D."** (Devil Destroyer) as he preaches the Word from cover to cover.

HEALING LINE EVERY NIGHT—Ambulance Cases First  
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**Pentecostal Church of God**  
2041 Radcliffe Rev. J. E. Reddick, Pastor  
Radio Broadcast KFJL—9:45 Sunday

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says George King, tire plant worker of Detroit, Mich.

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Putting aside just \$3.75 a week can get you \$5,153.72!

If you sign up to save only \$3.75 a week, in 5 years you'll have \$1,025.95—in 9 years 8 months you'll have \$2,137.30. And in 19 years 8 months, \$5,153.72! All in Bonds that go on earning more! This is just an example of how your savings pile up—on the systematic Payroll Savings Plan!

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