

1951 EASTER WILL BE EARLIEST UNTIL 2008

If for no other reason, the year 1951 will be distinguished by at least one for sure!

Its Easter—on March 25—will be the earliest observation of the holiday in the second half of the 20th century.

The world will have to wait until the year 2008 to celebrate it earlier. That year it will be on March 23, according to computations at the Adler Planetarium and Astronomical Museum, Chicago. The last time it was on March 23 was in 1913.

Although Easter has come to be associated with bunnies, colored eggs, and spring fashions, it primarily is a religious feast day. It commemorates the resurrection of Christ on the third day after Calvary. As a religious feast it is governed by the ecclesiastical calendar and is movable, unlike Christmas which always falls on December 25.

Easter can be as early as March 22 and as late as April 25, a variation of 35 days. The last time it was on March 22 was in 1818. It next will be that early in 2285. It fell on April 25 in 1943; it will not do so again until 2038.

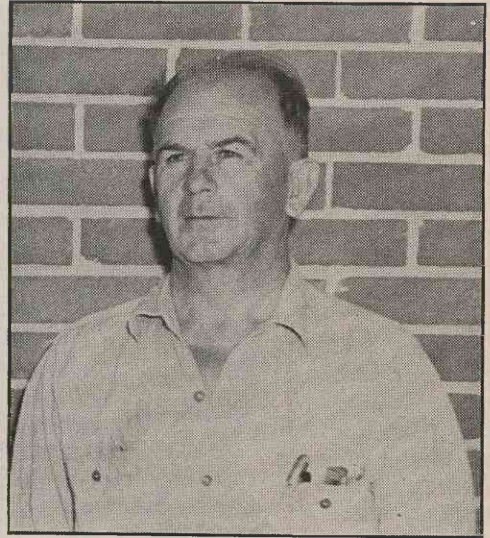
The method of fixing the time of Easter is complicated and dates back to 325 A. D. In that year the council of the Christian Churches met at Nicaea (Nice) in Asia Minor. Besides setting forth the Nicene Creed, a summary of the belief decided that Easter should be the first Sunday after the Paschal full moon, which occurs upon, or next after, March 21, the vernal equinox.

Travel underlay this decision. In early times Easter was a day of great celebration in big cities and Pilgrims journeyed on foot or in crude transports to take part. They needed moonlight to help them find their way at night, so the reckoning of the Easter date was worked out for their convenience.

If the paschal full moon falls on a Sunday, Easter is observed the following Sunday. The paschal full moon is the 14th day of a lunar month reckoned according to an ancient ecclesiastical computation and not the real, or astronomical, full moon.

The 20th century had an earlier Easter twice before. In addition to March 23 in 1913, it fell on March 24 in 1940. It will be on March 23 again in 2008 and March 24 in 2391.

Just in case you want to know when Easter Sunday is next spring here is the formula: Easter Sunday is always the first Sunday after the Full Moon which happens upon or next after the Twenty-first day of March, and if the Full Moon happens upon a Sunday, Easter Sunday is the Sunday after. Because of this Easter Sunday can never fall earlier than March Twenty-second nor later than April Twenty-fifth.



IN MEMORIAM

It is with profound regret that we report the passing of Robert Lewis "Bub" Thompson, Carpenter Foreman, on March 5th.

Few men were more highly regarded than "Bub", who had a good word for everyone. He will be missed by all Ecustans as well as his many friends in the community, who held him in their highest esteem.

Born in Oconee County, South Carolina, in 1894, he came to Transylvania County in 1938 with Fiske Carter Construction Company, coming to Ecusta in September, 1939. He was a 32nd Degree Mason and a Shriner.

AN IDEA THAT SAVED MANY STEPS

The story goes that a housewife using a vacuum cleaner on the third floor blew out a fuse. When she got to the cellar she found there were six fuses and she couldn't tell which one had blown out. It might take six trips up and down the stairs to check all the fuses.

She thought for a moment, went upstairs and plugged in the vacuum cleaner, listening at the cellar stairway as she replaced one fuse after another. When the hum of the vacuum cleaner reached her ears she knew that she had inserted the right fuse and saved herself several trips.

Often thinking will bring about easier and safer ways of accomplishing important jobs. Remember that all the better ways have not yet been found for doing the jobs in this or any company. Your suggestions are always welcome.

What counts is not the number of hours you put in, but how much you put in the hours.