

Bishop Walsh Refutes Drew Pearson Statement

Youngstown, Ohio—(NC)—Bishop Emmet M. Walsh, Coadjutor of Youngstown, declared here that Drew Pearson was mistaken in an assertion in his syndicated newspaper column that Bishop Walsh "had a great deal to do" with a part of the Bishop's Annual Statement this November which Mr. Pearson said was "altered" at Senator McCarthy's.

Furthermore, the prelate said in a statement to the Youngstown Vindicator here, "I am certain that the Bishops were not aiming at anyone in particular."

"They were affirming the moral law, and calling for its observance in private and public life," he stated.

Bishop Walsh said that during the meetings of the Bishops, at Washington, D. C., "at no time did I hear the name of Senator McCarthy or any other man in public life mentioned in the discussions."

Senator Joseph R. McCarthy of Wisconsin and Mr. Pearson are involved currently in litigation.

BISHOP WALSH'S statement was as follows:

"Mr. Pearson is in error. I was not a member of the committee that prepared the Bishops' statement and had no discussion with any member of the committee before its report."

"I was present at the Administrative Board meeting and at the general meeting of Bishops when each approved the statement. At no time did I hear



Bishop Walsh

Cardinal Stritch Outfits Hundred Needy Boys

Chicago—(NC)—A hundred needy boys received a surprise Christmas gift of a complete wardrobe from His Eminence Cardinal Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago.

Selected from 88 parishes throughout the Archdiocese, the boys were outfitted in a miniature boys' wear department set up for them at the Fair Store on State Street here.

The littlest boy, five-year-old Edward Lalanczyk of Chicago, solemnly said nothing as the clerks picked out a blue suit, leather jacket, shoes, gloves, belt, stockings, underwear, shirts, pajamas and gloves for him. Finally he spoke up and said he wanted "a brown tie and a ski cap."

Protestant Church Barred As Election Polling Place

Binghamton, N. Y.—(RNS)—Because of protests from Roman Catholics, the Ross Memorial Presbyterian church here no longer will be used as the election polling place for the Seventh District of Binghamton's Fifth Ward.

MRS. FLORENCE G. Hennessey, Democratic member of the Broome County Board of Elections, said the protests stemmed from the disclosure recently that the Rev. Dr. George L. Tappan, pastor of the church, had complained to the State Education Department about the use of Binghamton public school buildings for religious instruction by Catholic priests.

As a result of Dr. Tappan's complaint, Catholic priests have ceased using the school buildings for religious classes.

ALTHOUGH ROSS Memorial church lies outside the Seventh Election District, it has been used for convenience as the district's polling place since 1944. Actually said Mrs. Hennessey, this is not legal. However, she said, no one had objected until now.

After a story in a local newspaper that Dr. Tappan had complained of the use by priests of public schools for after-school and noon hour religious instruction, Mrs. Hennessey said, many Catholics in the Seventh District objected to further use of Ross Memorial church as their election polling place.

N. Y. Protestants OK School Prayer

New York—(RNS)—Full approval of the recent recommendation of the New York State Board of Regents that daily sessions of the public schools open with a prayer was voted here at the annual meeting of the Manhattan Division of the Protestant Council of the City of New York.

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Married Ex-Minister To Be Ordained Priest By Pope's Special Dispensation

By DR. MAX JORDAN
Frankfurt, Germany—(NC)—Under a special dispensation personally granted by His Holiness Pope Pius XII, a married former Protestant minister will be ordained a Catholic priest.

He is the Rev. Rudolf Goethe, 70, who, together with his wife, several years ago became a convert to Catholicism. He will be ordained on December 22 by Bishop Albert Spohr of Mainz, according to an announcement by the Mainz diocesan chancery.

UNDER THE terms of the dispensation, the marriage of the Reverend (Goethe) continues, without any conditions imposed. It has been learned that the future Father Goethe's services will for the present be used in church administration rather than in parish work. He has been employed for some time in the chancery of the Mainz diocese.

The Holy Father is understood to have reached his decision to grant the dispensation on the strength of recommendations by the German hierarchy. These recommendations are said to affect various other Protestant ministers who have become converts to the Catholic Faith and desire to become priests, but who so far had found their marriages to be insurmountable obstacles.

IN ALL SUCH instances, the Supreme Pontiff has reserved the final decision to himself personally. Consideration will be given to such applications only where marriages existed prior to the conversion, it has been stated.

The Holy Father has granted the unusual dispensation in the interests of Christian reunion work, according to an article in the Mainz diocesan weekly, Faith and Life.

An article signed by the Rev. J. M. Reuss, rector of the Mainz seminary, stated:

"THE EXCEPTION made by the Holy Father applies to those who became Catholics as married Protestant ministers. But this exception from the general rule is not of a general nature. The Holy Father has reserved to himself personally to grant it in every individual case. He grants this exception where a refusal would harm the work for the unity of faith for which we pray with Christ."

"Former Protestant ministers who made a sacrifice to become Catholics with their families certainly are enabled in a special way to serve in prayer and work the great task of the reunion of all Christians. Once ordained as priests they will be particularly valuable collaborators for the realization of this great hope of the whole church. However, severance of the ties entered into with their wives in the Holy Sacrament of Matrimony could hardly be expected."

"FOR THIS reason, in individual cases which the Holy Father reserves to himself personally to consider, the Holy Father has decided at the suggestion of the German Hierarchy to permit after careful examination the ordination to the Catholic priesthood of a former Protestant minister who has become a convert and at the same time also to

permit the continuation (beibehaltung) of the marriage validly entered into prior to the conversion to the Catholic Church."

Meanwhile it has been learned that another former Protestant minister who is married but whose name is not given has been granted the same permission. He will be ordained after completion of his studies at the Mainz seminary.

A third case is now pending in another German diocese.



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Hospital Stand On Negroes' Rights Lauded

New York—(NC)—Civic leaders and representatives of Jewish and Protestant bodies have joined with the Catholic Interracial Council in commending a Catholic hospital in West Virginia for giving colored and white nurses equal status on its staff. The group also formally pledged its efforts to the extension of the policy of racial equality in hospitals throughout the country.

THIS ACTION, in the form of a resolution, was inspired by the stand of St. Francis Hospital in Charleston, W. Va., when it retained its 100 Negro nurses after 20 white nurses of its staff struck last May to have them removed. It was the subject of discussion of the problem of Negro nurses before an interracial audience at the Catholic Interracial Council here.

The panel, consisting of Richard S. Zeiser of the American Jewish Committee, the Rev. Dr. Marshall Scott of the Presbyterian Institute of Industrial Relations and Dr. John E. Moseley, New York Negro physician, with the Rev. John LaForge, S.J., associate editor of America, and others, stressed the need for utilizing the skills of Negro nurses in the present national emergency.

BISHOP JOHN J. SWINT of Wheeling backed the Sisters of St. Joseph in the controversy over Negro nurses. The Sisters announced at the time that their hospital, as a Catholic institution, would continue to uphold Christian principles of charity and justice as well as the spirit of the United States Constitution.

Another supporter of the nuns was the Wheeling Gazette, which noted that "nowhere in the language of the Nightingale oath is there mention of religion, color or political belief."

Soviet Zone Expels Catholic Priests

Koenigsstein, Germany—(RNS)—Nearly 3,000 Roman Catholic priests have been expelled from the former eastern areas of Germany since the end of the war and are now living in the (West) German Federal Republic according to a report prepared by Catholic authorities here.

The report was drafted mainly by Dr. Adolf Kindermann, rector of the Albertus Magnus College here, who wrote that "if nothing else, these tragic figures should open the eyes of the world to what has happened in the East."

Wishing Everyone a Very MERRY Christmas



and a Happy New Year!

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