

Peron Ambassador Returns To Vatican

Buenos Aires (RNS) — The Foreign Ministry announced here today that Carlos O'Vega Velez, Argentine's ambassador to the Holy See, would soon resume his post at the Vatican.

Ambassador Oliva Velez returned to Buenos Aires last May during the height of the government's campaign against the Roman Catholic Church.

The Foreign Ministry's announcement came after three talks had been held in nine days between Dr. Edelson Cayegua Martinez, new Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship, and Archbishop Mario Zanin, Papal Nuncio to Argentina.

Magazine Writer Pearl Buck Rebuked For Attack On Charitable Agencies

Washington (NC) — Pearl Buck has made a "dangerous attack on Catholic charitable institutions and has impugned the motives, integrity and genuine interest of thousands of religious workers," the secretary of the National Conference of Catholic Charities said here.

Msgr. John J. O'Grady, in a statement discussing the article, "The Children Waiting," said Mrs. Buck's charges are all the more dangerous because of their indirectness.

"Dealing with what she contends are the reasons would be parents are often unable to adopt institutionalized children — a real why so many youngsters are under the care of agencies. Mrs. Buck writes in the September issue of the Woman's Home Companion:

"Social agencies tell us again and again that there are simply not enough children to satisfy the many couples who want to adopt them. I used to think this was true. Then one Christmas Eve, a television newscaster showed an orphanage crowded with children of all ages. . . .

"Caring for the orphans were some women in religious un-

iforms. It does not matter what religious group it was, for I found out later that many groups are accepting children orphans under the illusion that it is a good work. . . .

"It was once necessary, I do not doubt, for religious orders to care for orphans, but certainly that day is past. Parents are waiting to adopt them. True, it would be difficult to place these orphans, not because of the children, but because of vested interests. . . .

"SOME ORPHANAGES are old and long established in their routines. And to close them would cut work for what would be the cooks and superintendents, and the good Sisters, nurses, seamstresses and teachers who run some of the orphanages. It would indeed be a troublesome business to set the children free and let them go into families. . . .

"In his statement, M. S. G. I. O'Grady said that only an estimated three percent of the children in institutions are full orphans.

"The Charities Conference official said that from the tenor of the article the group of children Mrs. Buck apparently is referring to is the limited number of age given to the institutions by their parent or parents. . . .

"There are 10 applications for every one of these children available for adoption," he said.

"BUT THESE children are only a small part of all youngsters being taken care of by agencies, he said. "In recent years, institutions cannot place these children out for adoption without violating the rights of their own parents," he said.

A great number of Negro, Mexican or Puerto Rican children and physically or mentally handicapped children are in these institutions, Msgr. O'Grady explained. But there are few takers for these youngsters, he added.

"Therefore, we might ask why it is that an intelligent person like Mrs. Buck makes such a violent attack on our religious who are trying to make plans for these handicapped children, to build up their own homes and to place them in families those who cannot be returned to their own homes."

MRS. BUCK believes differences of religion should not stand in the way of placing a child in a good home, Msgr. O'Grady said. "She would thus change overnight the traditions that have been built up in our States through the years, namely, respect for the religion of its parents in placing a child for adoption," he declared.

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5 Polish Archbishop Explains

African Princess Becomes Nun

Dublin (NC) — Princess Fedna, 24, whose father rules more than a million natives in Nigeria, British West Africa, has joined the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary.

The girl studied medicine in Dublin before she joined the Irish convent at Killeschandra.

When she received her habit and was professed, her father, hundreds of miles away in Africa's bush country arranged for a solemn Mass. He laid in a cornerstone for a mission church to commemorate his daughter's profession as a Sister.

What Is Religious Freedom Under Reds?

New York (NC) — Several recent visitors to Russia have said a type of religious freedom exists under communism. They have cited overflowing churches and other evidence for their statements.

Here is what exiled Archbishop Joseph Gawlina of Poland had to say on this "freedom" in his country during a visit here:

"THERE IS FREEDOM of worship. That means the churches are open, Mass is celebrated and sermons are preached. If the Soviets closed the churches they would risk an uprising. They cannot make a frontal attack so they try fraudulent betrayal.

"The life of the Church is not only saying Mass and preaching. It is also engaging in the work of charity and religious instruction. All that work has been eliminated."

The Archbishop, who is on a two-month visit in this country, said spies are stationed in all churches to report on sermons.

"A priest disappears if his sermon is displeasing to the authorities," he said.

OF THE 9,000 priests known to be in Poland, the Archbishop said he had knowledge of 1,500 in prison. Jews, Protestants and Orthodox fared no better than Catholics under the present regime, he said.

"Communism is the enemy of every religion," he emphasized.

The Archbishop, who is unable to return to his country, resides in Rome, Italy. He has been appointed by the Holy Father as Protector and Guardian of all Poles in Exile.



New York—Girls of the Polish Youth Association present flowers to Archbishop Joseph Felix Gawlina, spiritual head of all Polish Catholics in exile, upon his arrival here from Rome. The Archbishop, rector of St. Stanislaw's Church, the only Polish Catholic parish in Rome, is here for a two-month tour of the United States. While in this country he will present to the American hierarchy the status of the Church in Poland and the needs of Polish refugees. Archbishop Gawlina was named "Protector and Spiritual Guardian of all Poles in Exile" by Pope Pius XII in 1949. (RNS Photo)

Catholic Poets Issue Volume

New York (NC) — The Catholic Poetry Society of America has announced the publication of the fourth volume in a series of selected poems from its magazine Spirit. The new volume is entitled "Sealed Unto The Day."

Approximately 80 poets are represented in the anthology including Thomas Merton, Theodore Maynard, Sister M. Madeira, Jessica Powers, A. M. Sullivan, Sister Maura, Sister M. Therese, John Duffy, C.S.S.R., Francis Sweeney, S.J., Francis Maguire, Sister Mary Francis, P.C. and Arthur MacGillivray, S.J.

The editor is John Gilland Bruni, editor of the magazine and executive director of the Catholic Poetry Society of America.

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