

State Department OK's Americans In Papal Service

Washington, D. C. (RNS)—The State Department said today that American citizens who enter the diplomatic service of the Vatican do not jeopardize their citizenship under the McCarrin-Walter Immigration and Nationality Act.

The department's statement in response to charges by the House of Representatives and other Americans that the passage of a Congressional act authorizing the State Department to accept Papal appointments may jeopardize the citizenship of American bishops and priests who serve the Vatican.

FOAU SAID that the "dilemma" is whether the Vatican is a "foreign state" in the eyes of American law or merely a church. It should be resolved by agreement to the Vatican in U. S. law the same status as other churches.

The rights and duties of its followers — no "subjects" — should be the same as those of all other United States citizens regardless of church affiliation. Dr. Glenn L. Archer, FOAU executive director, declared. He said that Congress acted hastily and unwisely in deciding that an act granting permission of Congress was necessary to allow the government to wear the decoration of the Order of St. Gregory the Great with star, conferred upon them by Pope Pius XII and presented by Archbishop Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, the Apostolic Delegate.

The State Department, however, through high-ranking officials of its legal division, said that passage of the recent Congressional act does not change the status of the Vatican in the eyes of U. S. law.

"We have recognized the Vatican as a sovereign foreign state since the Labran Treaty of 1880," a State Department spokesman said.

"This additional recognition by Congress of the status of the Pope as a temporal ruler of the Vatican City does not change the situation."

THE STATE Department also answered a question raised by FOAU as to the status of the American citizenship of Archbishop Aloisius Muench, Bishop of Fargo, N. D., who serves as Papal Nuncio to West Germany and Metz. Joseph McGeough who recently was named Papal Intergovernmental Commissioner in Ethiopia. It said that the McCarrin-Walter Act does not bar all service under a foreign state, but only that requiring an oath of allegiance to the state.

Section 349 A (b) of the Immigration and Naturalization Act declares that citizenship is automatically revoked if an American is guilty of "accepting in or serving in or performing the

duties of any office, post, or employment of a foreign state or political subdivision thereof, for which an oath, affirmation or declaration of loyalty is required."

THE DEPARTMENT spokesman said that "no such oath in the Vatican state seems to be required for those serving in such positions and, consequently, their citizenship is not in jeopardy."

A number of American prelates have served from time to time in the Vatican diplomatic service, representing the Vatican in various foreign capitals. Until passage of the McCarrin-Walter Act in 1952 with its provisions for automatic revocation of citizenship, no question was raised concerning this practice.



Mother's Former Choristers

Dubuque, Iowa — (NC) — For 50 years, Mrs. Arthur Eastatter, center, has been the guiding influence of St. Columba's parish choir here. She is pictured with her former choristers, her daughters, Sister Mary David and Sister Mary Arthur. Mrs. Eastatter will sit "in" the church for the first time in 50 years when she attends the first Solemn Mass of another former choir member, her son, Father Paul Eastatter.

Pope Gave 121 Speeches In Past Year

Vatican City — (NC) — Pope Plus XII delivered a record total of 121 speeches, on topics ranging from archeology through the many fields of science and economics to the liturgy, during the 18th year of his reign.

DISCOURSES AND radio messages delivered by the Pope from March 2, 1956, to last March 1, together with four encyclicals, prayers and various other documents, have just been published by the Vatican Printing Office. The 905-page volume corresponding to the 18th year of his pontificate contains an estimated 200,000 words.

The large number of speeches made by the Pontiff during his 81st year reflects the increase in the number of international congresses meeting in Rome, and the growing custom of delegates to such meetings to be received in group audiences by the Pope.

It also reflects that fact that the Pope's health during this period was better than it had been in several previous years.

POPE PIUS' knowledge of several languages is evident in the published speeches. Besides Latin, in which the encyclicals are written, the speeches were delivered in Italian, French, English, Spanish and German.

About one-third were given in French, the language the Pope chooses for international gatherings. Eight were in English.

U.S. Schools Had Religious Origin

La Crosse, Wis. — (NC) — Catholic schools are in the best and oldest American tradition, a lecturer from the University of Minnesota said here.

Dr. J. Richard Olson, a non-Catholic, addressed several hundred nuns and other students in summer sessions at Viterbo College. The staff member of the department of lecturers at the University of Minnesota said: "It is a matter of record that every American school until the year 1840 was a religious school. The largest universities of our land — including Yale, Princeton, Harvard, Chicago and Northwestern — had religious origins and religious motive. Catholics have simply kept up the original American policy in adding religious instruction to secular education."

Polish Reds Censor Primate

Berlin — (NC) — A warning to Polish clergy against collaboration with the Pax, a pro-Red Catholic group, has been censored by Poland's communist government.

The action stemming from the disavowal of the pro-Red Catholics by the Church, appeared to be the first open split between Cardinal Wyszynski, Primate of Poland, and the government of Wladyslaw Gomulka.

A delegate to the Sejm (Polish parliament) charged that the government's censoring activities were responsible for suspending publication of this week's edition of Tygodnik Powozkowy (Universal Weekly), Catholic paper printed in Cracow.

THE CENSORSHIP difficulties began when Cardinal Wyszynski issued the following communique:

"In reply to numerous questions put forward by priests and members of religious orders about Pax publications: I am authorized to state the following:

1. Priests and members of religious orders are not allowed to publish books through Pax.
 2. They are also forbidden to publish articles in daily news papers, pamphlets, or periodicals edited by Pax or to take part in Pax editorial work.
- "Those not complying with the above communique are liable for canonical sanctions. Signed, Stephan Cardinal Wyszynski, Primate of Poland, July 6, 1957."

Philippines Name Doctor To Vatican

Manila — (RNS) — Dr. Jose Maria Delgado, well-known physician and prominent Roman Catholic layman, was named here as Philippine Ambassador to the Vatican.

He will replace Dr. Manuel V. Moran, who resigned in December, 1953, from the dual posts of Ambassador to Spain and the Holy See. Pedro Sabido was named to succeed Dr. Moran at Madrid BUT was not accredited to the Vatican.

Dr. Delgado will be the first Filipino to hold the post of Ambassador to the Vatican on a full-time basis.

Seventy years old, Dr. Delgado has been medical director of the San Juan de Dios hospital, a Catholic institution here, for many years. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus and served as executive secretary of the International Eucharistic Congress held at Manila in 1957.

Polish Catholic press. But so far, according to authoritative sources, government censors have refused its publication.

Several days before the Cardinal's communique, the Vatican issued a decree forbidding Polish priests to cooperate in any way with the publishing activities of Pax—a "progressive Catholic" organization which collaborated with Poland's old Stalinist regime.

This decree was also banned from publication in the Polish Catholic press by Red government censors.

Rome Diocese Lacks 2,000 In Korean Town Ask To Enter Church

Rome — (NC) — Rome, the "Mother Diocese" of the Church, is badly in need of priests and priestly vocations, according to a report released here.

The report, published in the Bulletin of the Roman Clergy, states that out of 120 clerics studying for the priesthood in Rome's Major Seminary, only 40 are studying for the Diocese of Rome.

The Bulletin pointed out that, despite the many young men studying for the priesthood in Rome, few of them are destined to do parish work in the city.

While the parishes in Rome increase, the number of priests decreases. This year, ten young men were ordained for the Rome diocese and only two of them were native Romans, out of a population of about three million.

Chungpyong, Korea — (NC) — When the people of nearby Chongan make up their minds to do something, it's as good as done. At least 2,000 of the town's several thousand inhabitants have asked to be baptized and to enter the Church, according to Father Thomas E. McKee, Maryknoll Missioner from Tulsa, Okla.

They also requested the Maryknoll mission here to send a priest to them regularly.

AS FATHER McKEE pieces it together, the situation came about this way:

There had been a non-Catholic church in Chongan, but various factions quarreled and the congregation split apart. A large number wanted to become Catholics. They were joined by a larger number of pagans, who had become interested in the work of missionaries and wanted to know more about the Church.

AT A SORT OF mass meeting it was decided to draw up a petition, signed by all present, asking for a priest to instruct them. They welcomed the priest, who agreed to visit them weekly.

The town leaders presented the priest with a plan to buy a school building cooperatively, give it to the Bishop, and then have the town use it as a church.

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