







**Vatican Appointment**

REPUBLICAN pundits have now had time to take careful soundings on the President's appointment of Gen. Mark Clark to the Vatican and have concluded that politically it will do the Democrats more harm than good.

At first they feared the surprise move would win the big-city Catholic vote back to the Democratic party—a vote which, because of McCarthy's semi-successful cry of State department Communism, was definitely slipping over to the Republican side. However, they now figure that they can easily label the Truman gesture as politics, for two reasons:

1. Although the President had talked to General Clark a couple of weeks earlier and got his consent to serve as Vatican ambassador, he did not send the appointment to the Senate until late on the last day congress was in session. Thus, GOP leaders intend to point out, Mr. Truman could not have been too serious about getting the new ambassador confirmed.

2. The further fact that General Clark, a military man, must get a special act of congress to permit him to serve, gives him a double hurdle to overcome and further postpones the date when he can take office.

**Hot Potato in Ohio**

Buried in the files of the senate elections committee, however, is some anti-Catholic campaign literature which has Republican strategists much more worried. This is the reason why the elections committee has been teetering back and forth trying to make up its mind about a real probe of the Ohio election.

Highlight of this campaign was a letter, dated Oct. 3, 1950, signed by Rev. F. R. Stoneburner of Dayton, a Lutheran, and widely circulated throughout Ohio. It read:

"Dear Brethren: Please accept this letter merely as a matter of information. It should be known that Mr. Joseph Ferguson, who is running against Senator Robert A. Taft, is Roman Catholic.

"Knowing the efforts of the Roman church to get an official representative to the Vatican and its efforts to get public aid for parochial schools, I thought it equitable to pass this information on to you for what it is worth.

"Of course you know that our congressman, Edward Breen, is Roman Catholic and that he favors public aid for parochial schools.

"It is a mistaken public idea that Governor Frank Lausche is Roman Catholic. He was raised in an orthodox church. His family goes to a Methodist church. He has never been a Roman Catholic. These are the facts as I have been able to ascertain them.

"For the authenticity of this letter, contact the Lutheran pastor in your community or Rev. F. R. Stoneburner, 201 Commercial St., Dayton, O.

"If you wish the members of your congregation to receive copies of this letter, please send such list to Post Office, Box No. 224, Greenville, O."

**Gillette Worries**

When Taft first demanded a probe of his campaign, the Senate elections sub-committee voted 4 to 1 for it, including the two Republican members, Mrs. Smith of Maine and Hendrickson of New Jersey. The only man who voted against it was timid Senator Gillette of Iowa, Democrat.

However, when the elections committee picked Robert Murphy, an experienced investigator and a Catholic, as its counsel, Rep. Clarence Brown of Ohio, a Taft leader, blocked the appointment. He would not let a special bill okaying Murphy get through the house.

For weeks now the Ohio probe has hung fire. Committee investigators in Ohio have reported that Taft forces officially chalked up \$2,068,592.14 as their total expenditure, but a sampling has revealed additional amounts spent by county and city groups. One Taft organization, "Labor's League for Taft," was organized not by labor but by J. Eugene Carr, ex-president of the Canton Chamber of Commerce and a radio executive.

With a full year passed since Taft's election, harassed and harried Chairman Gillette finally set Nov. 16 as the hearing date.

**Washington Pipelins**

A mere clerk at the Army hospital in Tokyo rides back and forth to work every day in a Navy Limousine. She is Mollie Joy, daughter of Adm. Turner Joy, chief U.N. truce negotiator. . . Senator Benton of Connecticut is one man who never listens to the radio. As an advertising executive, he invented some of radio's first techniques, including applause by a "live audience."

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