

Slovak Peasantry Shields Priesthood

Groups Armed With Scythes, Clubs On Guard Against Reds

Prague, Czechoslovakia, July 2. (AP)—Slovak peasants armed with scythes, pitchforks and clubs stand guard around their Roman Catholic priests to shield them from Communist police.

This was the picture given tonight by reliable Slovak sources to responsible church circles and diplomats as this nation, torn by state-church conflict, embarked on a long week end of religious holiday marked by pilgrimages to places famed in early Christian history.

It was difficult if not impossible for Westerners to go to the intensely Catholic Eastern Province to take a personal look at the situation because of travel restrictions suddenly announced by the government for diplomatic personnel.

These restrictions for the time being appeared to have sealed off travel to Slovakia with a little iron curtain.

Villagers Aroused The best possible sources of information in Slovakia reported villagers up in arms in various parts of the province, however, to prevent a repetition of the riotous scenes of last week end.

At that time—according to reports from these informants and which since have been confirmed by reliable Czechs here—franked Slovaks clashed with police who attempted to intimidate and arrest priests who were loyal to Archbishop Josef Beran, the nation's primate.

These reports said at least two policemen were fatally beaten and an undetermined number of persons injured.

There was every indication that the uprising in defense of the priests was spontaneous, not directed from Magyar sources. The government has refused, however, to say whether it is a confirmation of the report.

Some diplomats cautioned against exaggeration of past incidents, but said they had reports of continuing unrest in Slovakia. As the holiday pilgrimages began travel restrictions.

The foreign ministry announced that in the present circumstances, diplomats would have to get prior permission to travel there. (Continued on Page 4A; 3rd Col.)

The weatherman says... Maine: Fair and warm today and tonight. Highest temperatures today in mid-80s along the coast and about 90 degrees inland, with a light southerly wind during the afternoon. Lowest temperature tonight about 60 degrees. Monday continuing fair and warm with little or no breeze.

New Hampshire: Fair and warm today and tonight. Eastport to Block Island: Today moderate to moderate southerly winds. Visibility poor in fog south of Boston. Fair with good visibility north of Boston.

Table with columns for 1949 and 1948, listing maximum and minimum temperatures for various locations like Boston, New York, and Philadelphia.

Maximum temperatures Saturday at other Maine stations: Augusta and Rumford 90, Greenville 87, Millinocket 86, Houlton 82, Caribou 81, Eastport 77.

Highest and lowest temperatures on record for today: 97 in 1898 and 48 in 1914.

Boston, July 2. (AP)—Maximum temperature today in Boston, 94 degrees.

At least 121 persons who started out on a carefree Fourth of July week end will never see another holiday. As vacationers took to the highways and beaches, death followed. Traffic fatalities amounted to 75 Saturday; 31 drownings were reported and 14 persons died in miscellaneous accidents.

The National Safety Council has estimated that the traffic toll for the week end will reach 290. It figured that some 33,000,000 automobiles will carry vacationers to beaches and resorts.

Last year's three-day Fourth of July week end took more than 500 lives, of which almost 300 were traffic fatalities.

The state-by-state toll, listing traffic, drowning and miscellaneous in that order:

Highways Heavily Patrolled As Vacationers Crowd State



By Sunday Telegram Photographers Olson and Shepard

HOT TIME—With the temperature hitting 94 degrees Saturday afternoon in downtown Portland, and no relief in sight, a hot time was expected in the old town for the Fourth of July. Keynoting the holiday, in the photo at the left, Robert Everest, left, of 139 Neal Street, and Geary Carter, of 77 Carleton Street, touch off a "big one" covering their ears from the explosion. There's a ban on the sale and use of fireworks in Portland, so they set off their firecrackers in South Portland where it's legal. To the right, youngsters escape the heat by cavorting at Long Creek, off Westbrook Street, also in South Portland.

Bangor Man Fined For Firing 'Cracker' Bangor, July 2. (AP)—A Bangor man was fined \$20 and costs of \$4.70 in Municipal Court here for unlawfully setting off a firecracker within the city limits today.

Romaine Richards, 40, appealed the case to the September term of Superior Court and furnished \$100 bail.

Although fireworks are banned in Bangor, surrounding communities do not have such ordinances. Temporary stands selling fireworks mark the town line on the principal routes out of the city.

U. S. Revokes Passport Of Miss Coplon Move Routine, Says State Dep't

New York, July 2. (AP)—Overseas Airlines and other travel outlets were advised today that Judith Coplon's passport has been lifted.

Airline officials at first interpreted this as an alert to prevent her from fleeing from the United States. But Lincoln White, State Department press officer, said in Washington that passports of persons convicted of a crime always are taken up.

International travel firms are notified of the lifting as a matter of course.

Miss Coplon was convicted Thursday of spying for Russia. The 28-year-old brunette reportedly is spending the week end with friends near her mother's Brooklyn home, resting after her ten-week turbulent trial in Washington and preparing for a second trial scheduled to begin here July 11.

Tired And Pale On Arrival The tiny one-time Justice Department analyst was tired and pale on her arrival by plane from Washington Friday night. She asked newsmen, the only persons to meet her, not to disturb her over the week end.

The Justice Department said it had issued orders for a special Coplon watch.

The former Government worker was convicted in Washington of stealing U. S. secrets with intent to turn them over to a foreign power.

In the case here, the Government will try to prove that Miss Coplon and her alleged Russian accomplice, Valentin A. Gubichev, conspired to send information to the Soviet Union.

It is reported the Government will seek a month's delay in the New York trial. Miss Coplon faces a maximum sentence of 35 years in this case.

All-Time Traffic Volume Indicated

State Police Out In Full Force In Effort To Prevent Accidents

Maine State Police were out in emergency force Saturday night in an effort to curb motoring accidents on Maine's holiday-jammed highways.

Mobilizing for the long Fourth of July week end, State Police Chief Francis J. McCabe canceled leaves of all department members so that the state's main arteries might be better patrolled.

The vacationist traffic moved towards an expected record volume as temperatures in the hot and sultry cities of the East hit the 80s and 90s.

Streaming into Maine were many of the millions of New Yorkers who left the metropolis to find relief at the seaside and in the country from the unbroken 37-day drought in their area. A record movement of 2,000,000 persons by automobile was reported out of the Nation's largest city.

Record Seen Though final tabulations were not available at press time early today, officials of the Memorial Interstate Bridge between Portsmouth, N. H., and Kittery were confident traffic there had cracked the previous all-time high established in 1941.

Volume Friday ran 3,000 more than the 14,892 figures for the same day a year ago while cars using three northbound toll-gates were believed in excess of the 17,800 which poured over the bridge in 1941, last prewar year. Traffic Friday was 26 per cent higher than 1948, it was reported. Only one southbound tollgate was in use.

New Hampshire police reported Saturday traffic on U. S. Route One from Seabrook to Portsmouth frequently was bumper to bumper.

Two band concerts have been announced by the City Recreation Department for 8.15 p. m. Monday. Romano's Band will play at Fort Allen Park, and Chandler's Band at Deering Oaks.

One motorist arriving at Hampton reported he left Hampton Falls, three miles away, 40 minutes before.

No serious accidents were reported in New Hampshire. While traffic on Route One between Kittery and Portland was reported as only "medium" throughout Saturday by State Police, officials said travel on the Maine Turnpike was as heavy as on Friday when cars were coming off the superhighway at the rate of 700 an hour.

During the two days, approximately 25,000 cars used the toll road, an increase of nearly 3,000 for the same period a year ago, officials reported.

Parades, fireworks displays and Old Home Day celebrations will mark Monday's 173rd observance of Independence Day—the last time fireworks will be legal in Maine. Stores, banks and business offices generally will be closed.

Fair and warm weather was forecast for the holiday by the Weather Bureau.

Resort operators reported Saturday that huck crowds already had gathered at lake, beach and country retreats.

At Old Orchard Beach Saturday night, veteran officials and resort men estimated holiday throngs at many thousands.

Rooms and parking spaces were heavily burned, they said. Herbert R. Bean, in charge of the Chamber of Commerce in New England.

Holiday Deaths Now Total 121

Traffic Toll May Mount To 290

By The Associated Press At least 121 persons who started out on a carefree Fourth of July week end will never see another holiday. As vacationers took to the highways and beaches, death followed. Traffic fatalities amounted to 75 Saturday; 31 drownings were reported and 14 persons died in miscellaneous accidents.

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The state-by-state toll, listing traffic, drowning and miscellaneous in that order:

Table listing traffic fatalities by state: Alabama 100, California 910, Connecticut 440, Delaware 100, Idaho 010, Illinois 811, Indiana 711, Iowa 010, Kentucky 010, Louisiana 001, Maine 010, Maryland 211, Michigan 030, Minnesota 010, Missouri 220, Montana 101, New Jersey 120, New York 324, North Carolina 101, Ohio 630, Oklahoma 101, Pennsylvania 800, South Carolina 121, South Dakota 200, Tennessee 100, Texas 101, Utah 100, Virginia 100, Washington 300, West Virginia 112, Wisconsin 110, Wyoming 010.

Boston, July 2. (AP)—Four deaths in a Connecticut automobile crash today marred the start of the Fourth of July week end in New England.

Continued on Page 2A; 5th Col.

Man Drowns In St. Croix During Fete Canadian Victim In Canoe Upset

Calais, July 2.—A 45-year-old Canadian laborer lost his life by drowning in the St. Croix River today while thousands gathered for the International Jubilee celebration watched fruitless attempts to rescue him.

Walter Omar of St. Stephen, N. B., failed to come to the surface when a canoe in which he and three other men were riding overturned near the International Jubilee late this afternoon.

His three companions made shore about 200 feet from the scene of the accident, but Omar failed to surface after the light craft capsized.

Aeronautics Panel Approves \$10,000 For Local Airport

Will Widen Possibility Of Betterments, Governor, Council Must OK Allotment

State aid of \$10,000 toward making improvements at the Portland Municipal Airport has been approved by the Maine Aeronautics Commission, John T. Clark, state director of aeronautics, announced Saturday night.

The announcement was hailed as "good news" by City Public Works Commissioner George H. May, who said the State funds would "broaden the possibilities" of a projected airport program here.

It came in the wake of a much discussed need for airport improvements pointed up by the crash of a C-47 national guard plane here last Sunday, although observers opined the accident was due chiefly to "pilot errors."

Approval by the Governor and Executive Council still is necessary before the City receives the state funds.

Actually, the grant would be equal to double the amount, because it would be matched by Federal funds.

However, it was \$15,000 less than the City had asked. The reduction was foreseen earlier in the year when the Legislature turned down a request for \$300,000 for state airport improvement. The commission only has \$35,000 for this work.

Originally, the city had planned \$129,000 in airport improvements this year. The Civil Aeronautics Administration would have contributed \$62,400; the City, \$42,400; and the State, \$25,000.

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32 New Appointments Due To Be Made Soon By Payne

Governor Must Fill Posts In 4 Agencies Which Come Into Being On Aug. 6

By Edward D. Talberth Political Editor

August 6. — Four new agencies, one of them temporary, will come into being Aug. 6 under the legislative action which also will require Gov. Payne to make 32 new appointments.

Three of these agencies include a State Board of Education, a State Board of Pensions, a State Board of Charities, and a State Board of Corrections.

In The Telegram

- Merry-Go-Round 3R, Death Notices 2A, Editorials 8B, Radio 6B, Society 1-2-3-4-5-6C, Drama 7B, Sports 1-2-3-4-5B, Financial 16A, Talberth 5A

CHARM TWISTS TWIST CHARMS

Calling all women—and even men! We'll bet you start taking extra ginger through your closets, extra chests and trunks come Tuesday. For you're going to meet the Portland Evening Express new columnist, Charm Twists.

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