

# Kentucky Calls Off 'Day of Prayer' Asked By 'Seditious Group'

By the Associated Press

FRANKFORT, Ky., April 14.—Gov. Simeon Willis' proclamation of May 21 as a "day of prayer" in Kentucky was revoked yesterday on the ground that the sponsor, purporting to be of religious backing, had been found to be "a bad organization," Ralph Homan, the Governor's executive secretary said.

Mr. Homan issued a statement naming the ~~Protestant Chaplains' Association of New York~~ as the organization requesting designation of the date as a day of prayer.

He said an investigation of the association's affiliations was started at the instigation of newspapers and "friendly sources" in New York. The Governor's formal act of revocation said it had the support of a "person or persons under the accusation of the crime of sedition."

#### No Individual Listed.

No individual was listed by name in the executive order of revocation or in Mr. Homan's statement.

Among sources condemning the organization was the executive assistant to Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York, Mr. Homan said.

Mr. Homan's statement:

"On March 19, Gov. Willis received a letter from an organization in New York with the title of 'Protestant Chaplains' Association.' It was well located and gave as its motto, 'For God, for home and country,'

"The letter set forth that it was an organization of Protestant clergymen founded several years previously, and requested that the Governor proclaim a day of prayer. It further indicated a campaign was being conducted throughout the Nation through the medium of all Protestant churches. As it purported to be a bona fide religious organization, the Governor did, in all good faith, issue a proclamation setting May 21 as a day of prayer.

#### Based Upon Ulterior Motives.

"It later developed that the letter was a devious misrepresentation and was based entirely on ulterior motives which could not be discovered from the letter itself.

"It was carefully checked and authenticated that the organization was not entitled to the consideration given to it. The Governor has accordingly revoked the proclamation entirely because of its sponsorship."

The executive secretary said he knew of no other State that had complied with the organization's request for a day of prayer.