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and sentencing them to *reclusion perpetua*, is affirmed with the sole modification that they are jointly and severally ordered to indemnify the heirs of the deceased Wilfredo Flores in the amount of ₱12,000.00.

Barredo, Antonio, Aquino, and *Concepcion, Jr., JJ.*, concur.

SECOND DIVISION

[G.R. No. L-41599. October 19, 1976]

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF WILLIAM CHAN TO BE ADMITTED AS CITIZEN OF THE PHILIPPINES, WILLIAM CHAN, *petitioner-appellee, vs.* **REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES,** *oppositor-appellant.*

SYLLABUS

REMEDIAL LAW; ACTIONS; APPEAL; WHEN MOOT AND ACADEMIC; CASE AT BAR.— On September 9, 1971, the petitioner William Chan, filed a petition for naturalization with the Court of First Instance of Negros Occidental, Branch II, Bacolod City, docketed therein as Nat. Case No. 10005. On September 30, 1974, the court *a quo* rendered a decision admitting him to Philippine citizenship. On April 22, 1975, the oppositor Republic of the Philippines thru the Solicitor General appealed to this Court. Subsequently on September 29, 1976, the Acting Solicitor General filed with this Court a 'MANIFESTATION WITHDRAWING APPEAL AND MOTION TO DISMISS THE CASE' alleging among others that "petitioner-appellee was duly naturalized as a citizen of the Philippines under Presidential Decree No. 923, pursuant to which he was issued Naturalization Certificate No. 004750 dated May 19, 1976," and according prays that the case be dismissed for having become moot and academic.

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RESOLUTION

CONCEPCION, JR., *J.*:

On September 9, 1971, the petitioner William Chan, filed a petition for naturalization with the Court of First Instance of Negros Occidental, Branch II, Bacolod City, docketed therein as Nat. Case No. 10005.[1]

On September 30, 1974, the court *a quo* rendered a decision admitting him to Philippine citizenship.[2]

On April 22, 1975, the oppositor Republic of the Philippines thru the Solicitor General appealed to this Court.[3] Subsequently on September 29, 1976, the Acting Solicitor General filed with this Court a 'MANIFESTATION WITHDRAWING APPEAL AND MOTION TO DISMISS THE CASE'[4] alleging among others that "petitioner-appellee was duly naturalized as a citizen of the Philippines under Presidential Decree No. 923, pursuant to which he was issued Naturalization Certificate No. 004750 dated May 19, 1976," and according prays that the case be dismissed for having become moot and academic.

WHEREFORE, this case is dismissed for being moot and academic.[5] No costs.

SO ORDERED.

Fernando (Chairman), Barredo, Antonio, and *Aquino, JJ.,* concur.

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[1] p. 1, Record on Appeal.

[2] pp. 9, 24, Record on Appeal.

[3] p. 44, Record on Appeal.

[4] pp. 55, 57, *Rollo.*

[5] *Yu Hio Soo vs. Republic,* L-26323, May 31, 1976; *Go vs. Republic,* L-39326, June 3, 1976; *Chan Yen vs. Republic,* L-34100, June 30, 1976.