

FROM REGIONAL OFFICE
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June 2, 1961

Court Orders Catholics To Stop Church Gambling

BEAUMONT, Tex. (BP)--A district court here has ordered the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in nearby Groves, Tex., to stop its annual fund-raising bazaar, ruling that the event constitutes an illegal lottery.

District Judge Gordon Gary issued the restraining order against B. J. Marino, Catholic priest at the Immaculate Conception Church.

The judgement charged Marino and the church with "making habitual use (actual, threatened or contemplated)" of church gatherings for gambling purposes.

Although the court order will stop any future gambling at church meetings, Assistant District Attorney John R. Dewitt said that the Catholic priest would not be prosecuted on criminal charges.

Charges were first filed after a run-in between the priest and the pastor of the Wheatley Memorial Baptist Church in Groves, Charles R. Johnson, who requested that the complaint be issued.

Johnson was roaming around the church bazaar, held annually to raise funds to pay church debts, when Marino spotted him and predicted that trouble was brewing.

Johnson, who had witnesses to back up his statement, said that Marino told him to "get the hell off my property."

The Baptist preacher requested that the District Attorney, W. G. Walley, file a complaint, charging that Marino and his church members were selling lottery tickets, spinning a wheel for silver dollars, and pitching pennies for a payoff.

District Attorney Walley predicted when the case was filed that "somebody's going to be mighty unhappy regardless of the outcome." He added that there are more Catholics in Groves than there are in many sections of Texas.

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Folks and facts.....

.....Miss Tessica Martin, director of public information and head of the journalism department at Howard Payne College, Brownwood, Tex., was named "faculty member of the year" at the college's annual faculty awards banquet. Miss Martin was cited for her work in promoting the college's science building fund drive, the Democracy-In-Action program, for editing the school's alumni publication and for her work with the journalism department. (BP)

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Howard Payne Renamed;
To Become "University"

BROWNWOOD, Tex. (BP)--Howard Payne College, 72-year-old Baptist school here, has been renamed "Howard Payne University" by the institution's board of trustees.

The new name will go into effect Sept. 1, 1961, trustees voted during their semi-annual meeting here.

Under the new University title, Howard Payne will add to its academic divisions an "Academy of Freedom" within three years. The new branch will offer special studies in the school's award-winning "Democracy-In-Action" program.

In addition, the university will include Daniel Baker College, which merged with Howard Payne in 1953, and the four academic divisions of humanities, natural sciences and mathematics, professional studies, and religion and philosophy.

Howard Payne, with an enrollment of 1,845 students, is the third largest Baptist school west of the Mississippi River, ranking behind two other universities, Baylor in Waco, Tex., with 6,270 and Hardin-Simmons in Abilene, Tex., with 2,160 students.

The new "Academy of Freedom" will be an inter-department major offered by the university, said McDonald W. Held, acting dean of faculties and chairman of the Democracy-In-Action program.

In other action, the board of trustees adopted a \$1,408,369 budget for 1961-62, and let a \$638,461 contract to Guyler Construction Co. of Lampasas, Tex., for the construction of a proposed new science building.

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Northern Areas Slate
Laymen-Led Revivals

(6-2-61)

By The Baptist Press

Texas Baptist laymen will conduct two revival crusades this summer in the Wisconsin-Minnesota Baptist Association, and in four associations in Colorado.

First to get underway will be crusades in 13 churches in Wisconsin and Minnesota. The revivals are being promoted through the Texas Baptist Brotherhood department, headed by L. H. Tapscott.

There are more than 1,500 Baptists in 13 churches and five missions in the Wisconsin-Minnesota Association where Texas Baptists help undergird the work financially.

Nearly 60 leading Texas laymen are planning to participate in a crusade in Colorado in July, said Tapscott, who shares promotion responsibilities with A. J. Kincaid of Mesquite, Tex., state Brotherhood first-vice president.

In preparation for the crusade, more than 100 representatives from 47 churches in the four Colorado Associations will attend a planning-training session with Texas Brotherhood men in Pueblo, Colo. Emphasis at the meeting will be upon use of the marked New Testament in conducting soul-winning campaigns.

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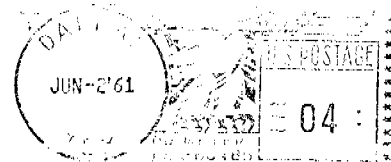
Folks and facts.....

.....Joseph O. DeLage Jr., assistant professor of music at Atlantic Christian College in Wilson, N.C., has been named head of the department of fine arts at Wayland Baptist College, Plainview, Tex. DeLage succeeds Kenneth Hartley, who has accepted a position at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. (BP)

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