

Smoking No Longer Sinful Among 'Tobacco' Baptists

Dunn, N.C. — (RNS) — Two merging conferences of Free Will Baptists eliminated from their proposed church discipline a tenet which declared smoking to be a sin. Many members of the denomination raise tobacco for a living.

said. "And there is the question of livelihood for the farmers."

A spokesman for the Cape Fear and Wilmington Conferences here said the tobacco question was only a "side issue" in their merger plans. The two groups represent 110 churches with about 6,000 members.

THE SPOKESMAN declared the conferences have more rural than town churches and that tobacco is grown by "practically every farm family."

He said there were "very few" church members in the conferences who don't grow tobacco "because of the way they feel about smoking."

Loures Pilgrimage

He added that any minister wishing to preach against smoking "would be at liberty to do so."

Sydney, Australia — (RNS) — Close to 700 Catholics will take part in the Australian National Pilgrimage to Lourdes for the centenary celebrations of the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin to St. Bernadette in 1858.



New Heir To Monaco Throne

Held by his mother, Princess Grace of Monaco, little four-day old Prince Albert makes his camera debut, in this radio photo. Albert is heir to the tiny Mediterranean principality his Father Prince Rainier now rules. Mother is the former actress Grace Kelly.

Truman Says Questions On Religion Should Be 'Barred' In U. S. Elections

Denver, Colo. (AP) — Former President Harry S. Truman said here that questions about the religion of a candidate for the U. S. presidency should be "barred."

ASKED BY A reporter "Do you think a Catholic could be elected president?" Mr. Truman replied: "I don't like to make any statement in regard to religion in politics in this great country of ours."

Later he added: "If you'll read the first ten amendments, you'll find out that they (questions about a candidate's religion) ought to be barred."

(An organization known as Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State (POAUS) recently declared that Catholic candidates for the U. S. presi-



HARRY TRUMAN

denry should be "scrutinized" with particular care. It proposed a number of questions a Catholic candidate should be required to answer.

MR. TRUMAN IMPLIED that religious principles are essential to any American president. He said:

"I think any man elected to the presidency will have enough religion to believe in the 20th chapter of Exodus and the fifth, sixth and seventh chapters of Matthew." He later included the fifth chapter of Deuteronomy.

"Now you read 'em and you'll find out what they are," Mr. Truman said with a grin. (They contain the Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount.)

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