

State Fights O'Hara's Closed Session Plea

Gremillion Tags Issues 'Irrelevant'

State Atty. Gen. Jack P. F. Gremillion today filed in the Louisiana Supreme Court an opposition to Criminal District Judge Malcolm V. O'Hara's plea to avoid having all testimony made public in the state's suit to remove the judge from office.

Proceedings in the suit are being conducted in the court's chambers by order of Chief Justice John B. Fournet in accordance with printed rules of the court. Michael M. Irwin has been appointed a commissioner to hear testimony and gather evidence in the trial.

THE MOVE to unseat Judge O'Hara is based on his relationship with Zachary R. Strate Jr., a Teamsters Union official. The two allegedly conspired to have Strate's and Teamsters Union President James R. Hoffa's court convictions set aside.

"The primary reason for the relief sought (by Judge O'Hara) is that the interrogatories are irrelevant and immaterial to the issues raised by the removal suit," Gremillion told the court.

"THE STATE respectfully contends that all of the ques-

O'Hara--

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tions and answers thereto are relevant to the removal petition and particularly Articles VIII through XXVI thereof, alleging actions of the said Malcolm V. O'Hara inconsistent with his duties as judge of the Criminal District Court."

Gremillion said, "It is more evident that the questions . . . are not irrelevant nor unduly oppressive or embarrassing from the 106 questions which were answered. Additionally, defendant did not object to answering the 106 questions."

"In this case putting the questions propounded under seal," Gremillion said, "would be somewhat futile since the questions have been public since the institution of the removal proceedings."

O'HARA charged that the questions relate to close personal matters and should be secret to protect him from "undue opprobrium and embarrassment."

The judge also moved to strike the attorney's petition as being devoid of any allegation pertaining to licit or illicit financial gains, but there were interrogatories about his finances and these should be killed.

The appointment of Irwin means he will conduct the trial of the suit and put together a record. He will not make any suggestions or conclusions as to disposal of the case.

It will then go to the Su-

Nuns--

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someone was trying to steal our turkeys.

"Why, one time we heard this noise in the kitchen and went to see, and this man had eaten a whole fruitcake and wrapped himself in a tablecloth and gone to sleep in the corner. It was his snores that woke us. We called the police."

But isn't it odd that two nuns should be living at a farm raising turkeys?

SISTER MARY Hilary smiles.

"Actually, we used to have a dairy, but we couldn't make a go of that. Then we raised hogs and they made the most money for us. But the city spread out to us here on Chef Menteur hwy. and we had to get rid of the hogs."

Still in the ramshackle shed at the sisters' hatchery are 100 white turkeys strutting with wary eyes. Even they have some cause to be thankful.

"These turkeys," says Sister Anna Maria, "are left over from the 200 we sold for the Thanksgiving market. They've got a couple more months to live."