

Billy Hargis' School for Ultra Patriots

Tulsa, Okla.

The ultra-conservative Christian Crusade, prospering under the energetic guidance of evangelist Billy James Hargis, broke ground yesterday for a super-patriotic school to be called American College.

The site is behind a gas station on a busy commercial thoroughfare on the outskirts of Tulsa and adjacent to the Crusade's three-year-old headquarters "cathedral."

This city of 350,000 already is the home of Oral Roberts University, named for another Tulsa evangelist.

Hargis, founder-director of the 22-year-old Christian Crusade, said his college would teach "God, government and Christian action." He said it would provide a counterweight to degenerate and liberal influences at other universities.

CONVENTION

Dedication of the new school came on the final day of the Crusade's four-day annual convention. It followed a warning Saturday by one of the speakers, retired Brigadier General Clyde J. Watts of Oklahoma City, that there is "one or more Communist cells in every major educational institution in the United States."

Hargis, who was 44 yesterday, raised \$70,000 for the new college Saturday night among 250 crusaders here from 38 states.

After reading a "history-making announcement" that the first building would be a dormitory for 200 students, he asked the audience to underwrite it.

\$50,000

He said the school had an initial \$50,000 pledge and started an on-the-spot plea at which the \$70,000 was raised including one pledge of \$25,000.

"Dear God," Hargis prayed at the start of his plea, "young people can go to so few schools that champion conservative principles and Americanist ideas, may we see tonight the necessity of putting to work what we have while we're still alive."

New York Times

Wallace, Hargis Under Same Tent

Tulsa, Okla.

Former Governor George C. Wallace of Alabama completed a busy weekend of politicking yesterday with strategy meetings with the Oklahoma State Central Committee of his American Party.

Friday night he publicly embraced, for the first time, the ultra-conservative Christian Crusade.

To repeated and enthusiastic applause, he told an audience of 1000 at the Tulsa Assembly Center that he will run for president again in 1972 unless the Nixon Administration changes course and satisfies him on tax reform, education, Vietnam and other issues.

Evangelist Billy James Hargis, founder-director of the right-wing Crusade, gave Wallace a glowing introduction at the evening session of the Crusade's annual convention and urged everyone in the crowd to "keep this man going" with financial contributions to his campaign.

NEWSLETTER

He asked each to examine the sample copy of the George C. Wallace Newsletter that had been placed on

his seat and then subscribe to it by sending \$12 a year to the publisher, The Wallace Campaign, Box 1972, Montgomery, Ala.

In recent years, Hargis has been cautious about political pronouncements because he is appealing to a 1966 revocation of the Crusade's Federal tax exemption. The Internal Revenue Service found that the Crusade was engaging in political as well as religious activity.

After introducing General Edwin A. Walker, who lost his command in Europe in 1961 for attempting to indoctrinate his troops with his John Birch Society views, and others on the platform, Hargis called Wallace "the man who did more to influence public opinion in 1968 than any other individual."

Wallace responded by saying it was "a pleasure" to be associated with Hargis and "to endorse the work the Christian Crusade carries on against Communism."

Hargis, who has a mailing list of 200,000 families he considers followers, preaches by tract, radio and pulpit that the country is in imminent danger of a communist takeover "from within."

New York Times