Merry-Go-Round

Parochial Schools And LBJ Advice



Drew Pearson

PRESIDENT JOHNSON has just about decided to disregard one of the most sacred provisions in the Constitution—separation of church and state.

He is planning to propose Federal money to parochial schools. This is something John F. Kennedy, a Catholic, never did, nor has any other President. If Government arranged prayer is taboo, even more unconstitutional is Government money for religious schools.

However, some advisers have been telling LBJ that to win the big city Catholic vote, he has to depart from the precedents of other Presidents and courts, to say nothing of the Constitution.

THE FBI was irate over this column's disclosure on December 2, 1963, that the FBI, though fully aware of Lee Oswald's presence in Dallas, had failed to report him to the Secret Service.

This week, William Turner, for ten years a G-Man, reports in Saga magazine: "Lee Oswald . . . was probably aided by jealousy and lack of co-operation and communication between law enforcement agencies . . .

"I learned that a Dallas FBI agent had

especially interviewed Oswald only ten days before the assassination . . I also learned that eventually the FBI did give the Secret Service a 'risk list' of people the Bureau feared might harm the President. But Oswald's name was not on it."

IT LOOKS as if the Kennedy-Johnson legislative program, under the whiplash of LBJ, is going to proceed with almost assembly line smoothness in the House of Representatives.

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Tomorrow the House Rules Committee will report out the much debated civil rights bill and will begin debate Friday. There is a commitment that debate will even continue the following Saturday until the bill comes to a vote.

Representative Howard Smith, the distinguished Virginia Dixiecrat, who sits supreme on the House Rules Committee, doesn't like this procedure a bit. But he knows when he's beaten.

The reason he knows is that the Republicans have told him so. They have decided that the party of Abraham Lincoln had better act and talk like Lincoln, especially on the eve of his birthday.

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