

### Experts Study Signatures On Bus Petition

ROCHESTER — (NC) — A corps of handwriting experts has begun examining signatures on an initiative petition here which would force parochial and private school pupils from state-financed bus transportation.

Republican and Democratic leaders—who are against the petition—have retained the handwriting experts in an effort to support charges of "discrepancy."

THE PETITION is sponsored by the League Opposed to Non-Financial Appropriation and has the support of the Massachusetts Council on Education and the Massachusetts Baptist Convention as well as of individual Protestant clergymen.

Following a preliminary inspection of 1,500 petition signatures, Joseph H. McLean, deputy chairman of the Massachusetts Republican State Committee, said "plenty of discrepancies" were found. He added that there was "a good chance of ruling out the petition."

According to McLean, the discrepancies included some instances of missing initials, cases where addresses appeared to be in a different handwriting from that of the signature, and a number of "discrepancy" signatures.

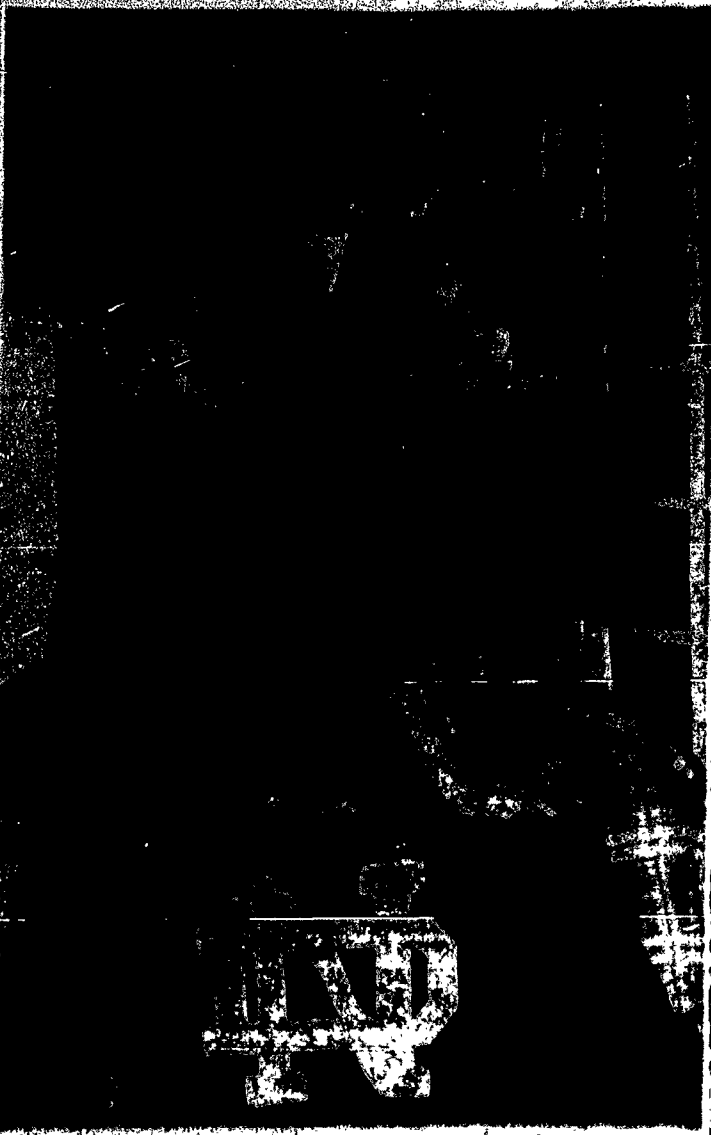
Signatures of the petition appeared that every signature appearing on it was genuine. An initiative petition must carry the genuine signatures of 10,000 registered voters to be put before the state legislature. One of the legislature rejects the petition, an additional 5,000 signatures are required to place it on the ballot.

Massachusetts Department of Education, meanwhile, announced that parochial and private school students using state-financed bus transportation will pay 75 per cent of their share of the cost.

The department reported 75,000 pupils used children as drivers, while only 10,000 parochial and private school pupils use the service.

A state law passed in 1946 allows the latter students to make use of the public service.

### NOTRE DAME DANCE AIDES



Leading their assistance in planning the Silver Anniversary Formal of the Rochester Club of Notre Dame University, scheduled tonight, Friday, Dec. 23 are (from left) Margaret Wolker, Mary Ellen Brinkler and Anne Mohman.

### Judge Denies Criticism Of Pontiff's Talk

Santa Fe, N. Mex. — (NC) — U. S. District Judge Luis E. Armijo of Las Vegas, N. Mex., has disclaimed any intention of criticizing the remarks of His Holiness Pope Pius XII in a recent address to Italian Jurists in which the Holy Father set down religious principles as guidance for their juridical duties.

The Judge was quoted nationally by a secular press association as having said that he would not submit to the principles set forth by His Holiness and that he was an American first and then a Catholic.

IN A LETTER to the Rev. Carlos Blanchard, Chancellor of the Santa Fe archdiocese, Judge Armijo declared that the interview with the press had taken place over the telephone and, as a consequence, the true meaning of his statements had been misconstrued. He said in a statement to the Chancellor:

"Inasmuch as my recent interview with the press regarding the pronouncement of Pope Pius XII concerning the norms of the Divine Law affecting marriage and divorce has been misunderstood, I wish to make the following statement to rectify the erroneous impression which has been created:

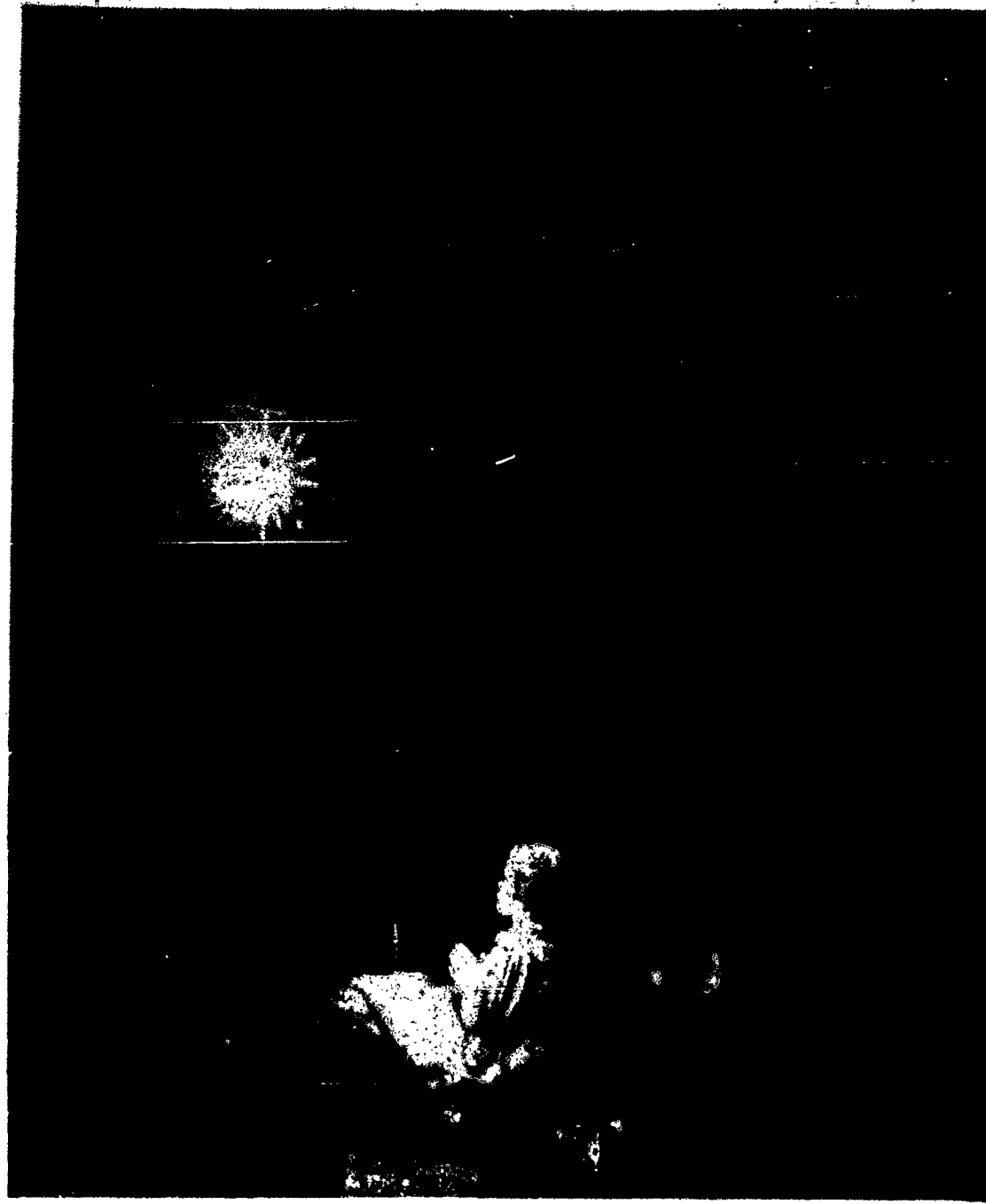
"I AM A CATHOLIC and adhere faithfully and unshakingly to the tenets of my religion. I definitely did not intend, as was inferred by recent newspaper items, to express any antagonistic or disparaging spirit toward His Holiness' announcement.

"Careful study of His Holiness' statement shows that he is using his supreme authority on spiritual matters to point out to Catholic jurists that it is unlawful for them to pass a sentence or issue a decree that is contrary to Divine Law. Let anyone who misunderstands my stand on this matter, I wish to make it clear that I will uphold the Divine Law and, in my official duties as Judge will adhere to the principles which have been set down by His Holiness as an expression of the Law of God.

### Reds Jail Bakery Clerk Using Catholic Newspaper

Berlin — (NC) — Because, inadvertently, she had wrapped up a loaf of bread in a copy of the Petrusblatt, Berlin Catholic weekly, a bakery saleswoman in the town of Coesfeld, was sentenced to three years in jail by a Polish military court, this correspondent has learned.

The report has been checked and re-checked and fully corroborated by witnesses on the scene. A priest rooming with the owner of the bakery had received the paper from a friend in the Soviet zone in Germany and accidentally been found in her home.



What lights up a Christmas tree?  
A lot of things you cannot see.  
The heartbeat of a child's delight  
Waiting for Santa through the night.  
The warmth of love that brings that glow  
In standing 'neath the mistletoe.  
The radiant light in parents' eyes  
When wrapping up a child's surprise.  
The spark of memory holding fast  
To fond recall of Christmas past.  
The shining spirit of folks like you  
Who make all Christmas dreams come true.  
So young and old, and large and small ...

A Merry Christmas  
to you all



### Season's Greetings

As we lay aside the everyday tasks that concern us during the year, we at the Christopher Press welcome this opportunity to send our warmest greetings to our many friends in the diocese of Rochester.

Working with you during the past year has been a genuine pleasure. The energies and the expert talents of our personnel have been spent completely towards the kind of service your patronage deserves. We pledge continued efforts for even greater service and satisfaction during 1950.

May the Blessings and Joys of this Holy Season remain with you and yours throughout the New Year.

Christopher Press, Inc.

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