

# Maine High Court To Decide School Bus Ride Issue

Augusta, Me. — (RNS) — The question of whether Augusta parochial school pupils are entitled to free bus transportation will be settled by the State Supreme Court.

At a special meeting called by Mayor H. Lloyd Carey, the City Council adopted a measure to spend \$100 "to initiate transportation for parochial students." The councilmen stipulated the small amount in order to meet legal requirements which specify a sum must be named if the legality of a municipal ordinance is to be examined by a high court.

THE ACTION resulted from a petition circulated several weeks ago by Roman Catholic parents demanding transportation for their parochial school children by March 11. The parents said they would register the children in the already overcrowded public schools if the demand was not met.

At the last election Augusta voters approved bus transportation for parochial school pupils in an advisory referendum but the city council refused to authorize it. Protestants have a slight edge in the 16-member council.

Less than an hour before the city officials met and approved the court test they were informed that close to 800 of the 950 local parochial school students affected had been registered in the public schools.

FOLLOWING the council meeting Mayor Carey, a Catholic, appealed to the parents to keep their children in the parochial schools until the case is settled by the Supreme Court. Most parents were expected to heed this request.

The Supreme Court is expected to review the case within three months.

Bishop Daniel J. Feeney of Portland and Augusta priests are maintaining a "hands-off" policy in the dispute on the grounds that it is a matter between the parents and the city.

## Town Counsel Okays Schoolbus Rides

Stamford, Conn. — (NC) — Corporation Counsel John M. Hanrahan has issued an opinion stating that "it would appear the best interests of the community" would be served by providing school bus transportation for all children.

Mr. Hanrahan said he could find nothing in state or local law to prevent a Connecticut town from paying from community funds the costs for transporting pupils of private schools.

Furthermore, he said he deemed it the town's duty to provide transportation, just as the community must provide guards at crosswalks at public and private schools for the safety of children.

Mr. Hanrahan gave his opinion at the request of the local Board of Education which had been petitioned by the Men's Club of St. Cecilia's Catholic Church to rule on the question.



## Mourning

Washington, D.C. — (NC) — Requiem Mass for Father Ignatius Smith, O.P., nationally known orator, teacher and retreat master, was offered in the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception by Archbishop Patrick A. O'Boyle of Washington. Father Smith, a Dominican priest, was dean for religious communities at the Catholic University of America at the time of his death.

## Indiana Senate Kills Parochial Bus Bill

Indianapolis — (RNS) — A bill to permit transportation of parochial school pupils in public school buses on a limited basis was killed by the Indiana Senate. The vote was 20-16.

It would have given township trustees in counties of less than 30,000 population the responsibility of providing transportation for parochial pupils.

Senator Robert L. Brokenburr (R-Indianapolis), who led the opposition, contended the measure would "tend to obliterate the line" separating Church and State.

## Commons Bars Clergy Membership

London — (NC) — The House of Commons, by a vote of 160 to 38 will continue the ban on admission of ordained clergy of any denomination as members of the House.

Two special committees set up by Parliament to study this matter, found no evidence of any public demand for alteration. In fact, various churches consulted said that if the present law would be left alone that might be the wiser course.

Several bishops of the State Church of England, including the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Archbishop of York, automatically have seats in the House of Lords, the non-elected upper chamber.

## Pickets Force 'Baby Doll' To Close Up

Elizabeth, N.J. — (RNS) — Showing at the Ritz Theater here of the controversial motion picture "Baby Doll" was cut short following protests and picketing by Roman Catholic organizations.

The Stanley Warner Theaters, which operate the Ritz, made no official explanation of the withdrawal. Legal action had been threatened by Catholic groups opposed to the picture, which has been condemned by the Legion of Decency.

## Theatre Chain Bars 'Doll' Movie

Sparta, N.J. — (NC) — Harry Katzer, vice president and treasurer of the Brandt chain, assured Holy Name Society men that "Baby Doll" would not be shown in Sparta.

"All of our New Jersey theaters are under my jurisdiction," he said, "and I agree with you that 'Baby Doll' violates the traditional standards of morality and decency."

"It is for this reason" the theater executive added, "that I made up my mind some time ago, when I first viewed the picture, not to show it in our New Jersey theaters, and although I have had considerable pressure brought upon me to rescind my instructions, I have no intention of doing so."

## Pastor Leads Flock To Picket Theater

Carlisle, Ark. — (NC) — Members of St. Rose parish in this town of about 1,500 persons, 25 miles east of Little Rock, set up picket lines in front of the Lyle theater to protest the showing of "Baby Doll."

Led by their pastor, Father George Freyaldenhoven, the Catholics arrested at the movie house with signs and placards shortly before the box office opened. Few adults entered the theater while the picket line was operating.

Pickets remained in front of the theater until the box office closed one-half hour after the film was scheduled to begin. The Lyle theater closed several months ago for want of patrons, but was recently reopened, subsidized by a group of local businessmen.

## Dollar Bible Well-Received

London — (NC) — More than 500 orders a week now are being received from the United States for the "Dollar Bible" published here by the Catholic Truth Society.

Several bishops of the State Church of England, including the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Archbishop of York, automatically have seats in the House of Lords, the non-elected upper chamber.



### National League, Look Out!

Fred Haney, boss of the Milwaukee Braves baseball club, plots strategy for the 1957 National League race with his grandsons, Bobbie, 2; Chuckie, 7; and Freddie, 10. The two older boys attend St. Cyril's School, Encino, California. (NC Photos)

## University Rebuts POAU Charges

St. Louis, Mo. — (RNS) — A St. Louis University spokesman charged here that anti-Catholicism was the motive behind the opposition by Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State to an application of the university for a federal television permit.

They said the television station, if authorized, "will not be operated for the advantage of the university or of the Church. It will be strictly an investment enterprise, they added."

THE SPOKESMAN labeled the stand taken by Protestants United as "just another attempt to make things as uncomfortable as possible for every Catholic."

He was referring to an open letter sent recently by Dr. Glenn Archer, executive director of POAU to the Federal Communications Commission challenging the right of Jesuit institutions to own and operate television stations.

DR. ARCHER maintained that the Jesuit order is "alien" in control and ownership within the meaning of Section 310 of the Communications Act and therefore ineligible to operate a TV channel. His move was directed chiefly against St. Louis University here and Loyola University at New Orleans. Jesuit institutions whose applications for television channels are pending before the FCC.

St. Louis University officials pointed out they operated a radio station for more than 20 years without any protests being made.

## Paris Cardinal Hits Eroticism in Press

Paris (RNS) — Maurice Cardinal Feltin, Archbishop of Paris, cited the "eroticism in the French press" as a major reason for the rise in France's divorce rate during the past century.

He said other reasons were "the influence of the radio and cinema, early marriages and the lessened influence of religion."

The cardinal said church statistics showed that one out of every ten marriages ended in divorce during 1955, as compared with one in every 64 during 1855.

## Manila Archbishop Paid For War Loss

Washington — (NC) — The U.S. Foreign Claims Settlement Commission has awarded \$1,245,323.30 to the Archbishop of Manila for World War II damages to health, welfare and educational institutions.

It was the first of an estimated eight million dollars in claims by Philippine religious organizations expected to be authorized for payment under an act passed by Congress last year.

Previously an award of \$215,475.32 had been made to the Archbishop of Manila by the U.S. Philippine War Damage Commission.

## Bills In Congress Ask Tax Exemption For School Tuition

Washington, D.C. — (RNS) — Sixteen bills proposing income tax exemption for tuition payments to private and parochial schools are pending in Congress.

The newest, introduced by Rep. Paul Fino (R-N.Y.), would provide tax exemption for the full tuition payment.

OTHERS WOULD give full or partial exemption for college tuition only. One would classify all tuition payments to private elementary and secondary schools as charitable contributions.

The House Ways and Means Committee, to which all the measures have been referred is expected to appoint a subcommittee to study the problem.

Four bills pending in the House would permit tax deduction of college tuition but not fees paid to elementary and secondary schools. The measures are sponsored by Reps. Abraham J. Multer (D-N.Y.), James W. Trimble (D-Ark.), William E. McVey (R-Ill.) and Peter W. Rodino, Jr. (D-N.J.).

Rep. Gerald Ford (R-Mich.) introduced a bill that would classify as charitable contributions all tuition payments to private elementary and secondary schools.

NINE BILLS, similar but not identical, propose that college tuition payments be partially credited against income taxes.

The measures are sponsored by Reps. Frank Thompson, Jr. (D-N.J.); Edna Kelly (D-N.Y.); Herbert Zelenko (D-N.Y.); Eugene McCarthy (D-Minn.); George M. Rhodes (D-Pa.); James Roosevelt (D-Calif.); Hale Boggs (D-La.); Carl D. Perkins (D-Ky.); and Donald L. Jackson (D-Calif.).

Congressional observers believe that while tax relief may be granted first on tuition payments to colleges and professional schools, it will eventually be extended to include tuition payments to private elementary and secondary schools.

## Titotes Urged To Combat Religion

Belgrade — (RNS) — Intensified efforts for the Marxist indoctrination of young people were urged here at a Communist-sponsored national congress of Yugoslav students. Speakers stressed the need for more active measures to "combat religious influences" among the country's youth.

It is important that the churches be alerted to the full implications of this measure," said Alan R. Anderson, chairman of the council's public affairs department.

There is a real threat to the public school system and amounts to indirect tax support for private and parochial schools.



## Mission Art

This 3-minute oil sketch by Father Patrick O'Donnell of the Glenmary Home Missioners of America, was done during intermission of the Home Mission Hop at St. William's Auditorium, Cincinnati. The painting was raffled off for the benefit of American missions. Sketches are given away by lot during summer missions in Dixie. The Glenmary Missioners work in areas where there are few Catholics. (NC Photo)

## Council Opposes Tax Reductions

Minneapolis, Minn. — (RNS) — The public affairs department of the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches (Protestant) created a committee to oppose a bill in the Minnesota legislature to increase income tax deductions for private school expenses.

The bill would raise from \$200 to \$300 the amount deductible on state income tax returns for tuition, books and supplies of dependent children attending private elementary or secondary schools.

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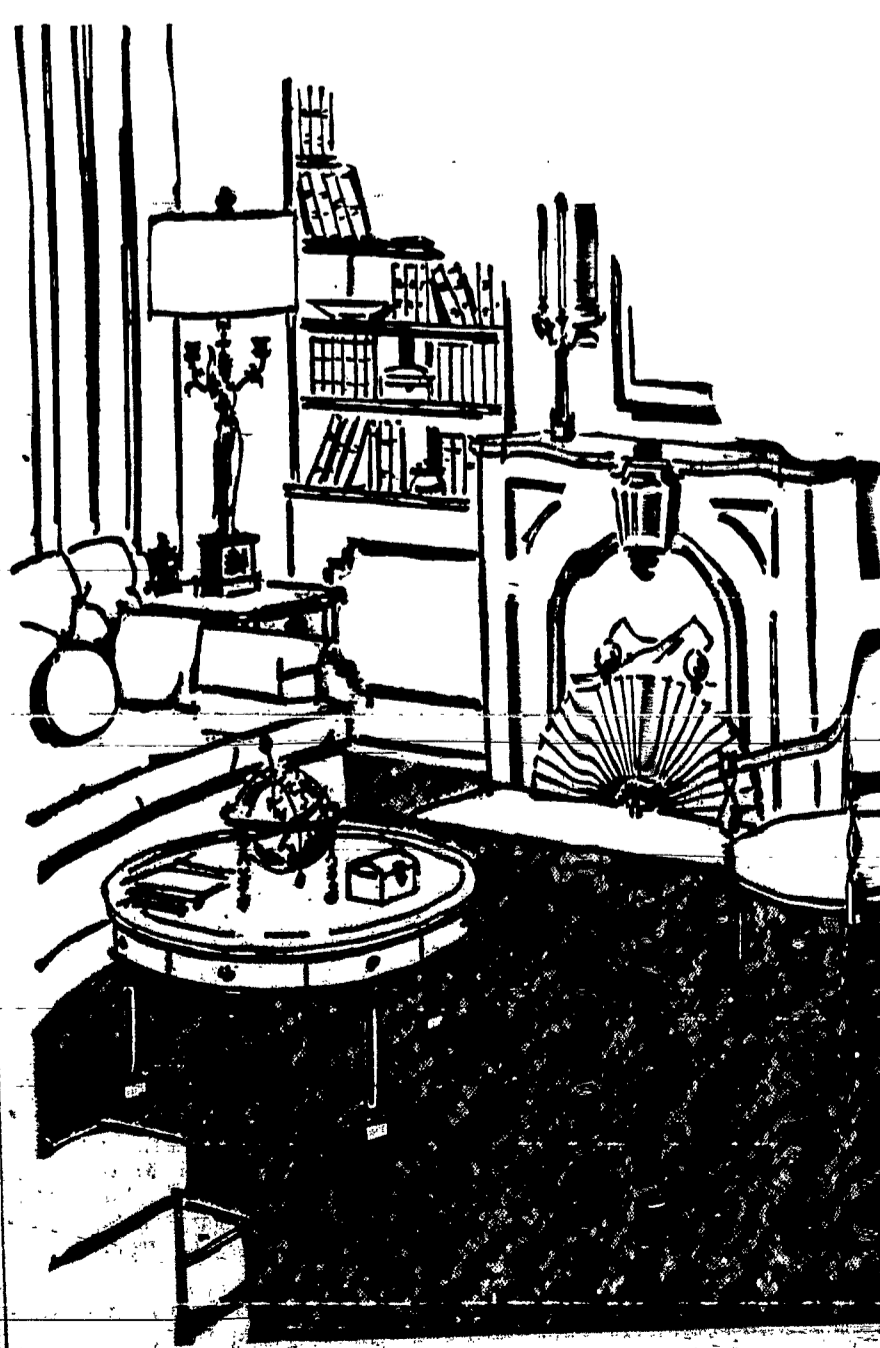


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