

ment... A New Way To Spread the Gospel



Children around the nation make their own mite-boxes to contribute to the Human Development campaign. Each has on it its creator's comment about social conditions like poverty and racism. Children gave \$60,000 last year.



The Ibero-American Action League was able to hire Julio Vazquez to work full time as a community organizer with a grant supplied by Human Development.

The mission of the development office is to know the human environment, to spot the problem areas in our society, in the schools, service institutes, the courts or the legislature.

Father Mulligan feels that stating what the problems are and insisting on their solution is our religious duty. The detailed working out of solutions is a job for collaboration among agencies, and the final approval of the solution is a job for the political sector of our society.

Working along with Father Mulligan are four nuns and two lay women. Sister Annette Truby, who is studying Spanish, proposes to involve the Spanish-speaking more effectively in parish life. She also works with the Sister's Council to help Sisters become involved in parish programs set up to meet the needs of the neighborhood.

Sister Frances Sweeney is exploring the possibility of an advocacy group for the elderly, studying projected national health insurance programs, researching factors in the farm labor situation.

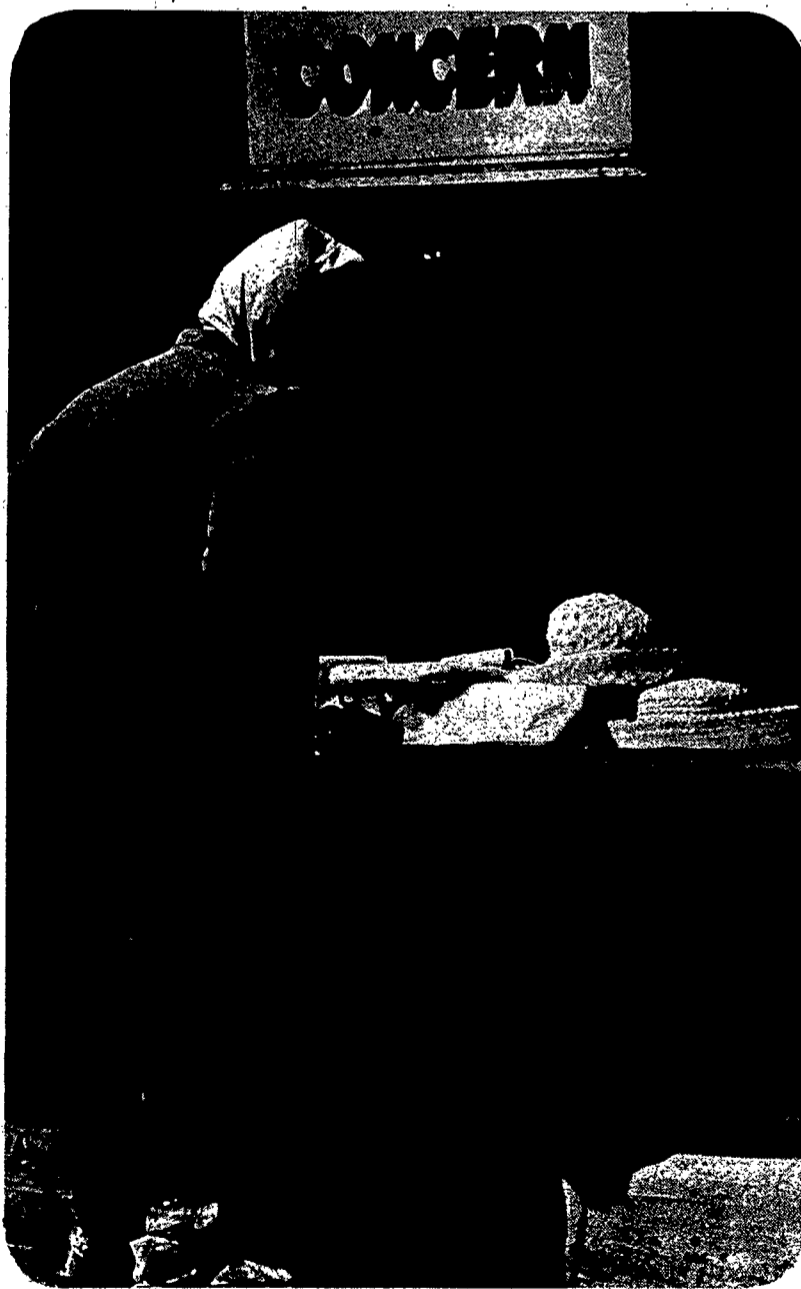
Sister Grace Miller is investigating Rochester's consumer groups and also has worked on voter registration for the 18-21 year olds.

Sister Josepha Toomey is organizing the Human Development Campaign. Miss Viola Brown is concentrating on the organization of the local Black Lay Caucus. And Phyllis Donahue, the secretary, helps everyone.

Working outside Rochester are Fathers George Gauthier in Tioga County and George Wiant in Wayne County and Sister Alice McLaughlin in Yates County, who make up the Secular Mission. Their job is to relate to already existing secular mission operations, cooperating with existing ecumenical structures, maintaining liaison and working relationships in areas of social concern with Catholic parishes.

Even with this varied list of areas receiving attention, Father Mulligan still worries that the office will get bogged down in routine work. He wants results, and if he sees none, the program is stopped and another area receives the attention of his able staff. Or if a program they initiate is successful, they find some agency to hand it to, Catholic Charities for one, and they begin organizing around a new problem.

"We are not front lines on the street," Father Mulligan said. "The community groups are that."



The House of Concern in Wayne County, funded by the Human Development drive, not only gives the poor a chance to do their own window-shopping, but helps them gain independence by gainful work.



For a child, poverty is mostly boredom and looking out empty windows.