

What Do You Think . . .

. . . About Capital Punishment?

By CHARLES RANDISI

The Code of Hammurabi, the ancient Babylonian king, is the first known set of written laws. It says that a man who has killed another man shall be put to death.

So did codes of many states until the U.S. Supreme Court ruled them unconstitutional.

I recently visited the St. John Fisher College campus and asked several people, "What do you think of capital punishment?"

Jackie Peterson, a student, said, "I don't believe in it. It gives the criminal the easy way out. What gives society the right to kill anyone?"

Donna Barton said, "The electric chair is not a real punishment. No one has the right to take a life for a life."

Peggy Wawro said, "I think it's defeating its own purpose. The philosophy of taking an eye for an eye is wrong. It's one of the worst things you can do to a man. But what's even worse is to be on death row, knowing that you are going to be killed, but not knowing when. I can't imagine someone sitting in a cell and wondering every time a door opens it's his turn."

Ted Hannan, a reference librarian, said, "It's against the fifth commandment. It's certainly cruel punishment but it's not so unusual. It's been the ordinary way for centuries."

He feels, however, that the hardened killer "should not be allowed to roam free." He said, "Life imprisonment is as great or an even greater deterrent to crime, if it is enforced."

"I'm definitely and completely against it," said Rick McAuliff. "I don't believe in the eye for an eye theory. It's very seldom that the courts can prove first degree murder beyond the shadow of a doubt. If a person is sick, then we should give him some attention, not kill him. But it's like all things in society. When we have a problem, we make laws against it rather than trying to solve it."

Dr. Joseph Polizzi is a sociology professor. "Capital punishment is an interesting symbolic measurement of the humaneness of society," he said. "It basically follows a philosophy of combined retribution and societal vengeance, without reference to the individual who has committed the act."

"With our super-technological society," he continued, "we've

now taken a second look. Most sociological studies do not sup-

port the belief that capital punishment is a deterrent to crime.

I'm willing to suggest that we wait and see."

Chairmen Named For McQuaid Ball

Determined to make the sixth annual McQuaid Benefit Ball "the best yet", more than a dozen Brighton and Pittsford families are represented among committee chairmen already at work planning the Oct. 20 dinner dance at Locust Hill Country Club.

Seasoned chairmen for the festivities are Mr. and Mrs. William G. McDonnell of Bromley Road, Pittsford, who played a major role in previous successful affairs. Their co-chairmen for the fund-raising fete are Mr. and Mrs. John P. Donovan, Danbury Circle, Brighton.

Parents and friends of students attending the Jesuit high school in Brighton have characterized the ball as "a little Seton" and anticipate an evening of good dining and fun while making a major financial contribution to the school's programs and facilities.

Heading other committees are Mr. and Mrs. Elliott Horton and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Clement, programs; Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Betterton and Dr. and Mrs. Dominic F. Bronte, invitations; Mr. and Mrs. William S. Hodgetts and Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Laiosa, tickets; Dr. and Mrs. James Segerson and Mr. and Mrs. A. Donald Dugan, reservations.

Mr. and Mrs. John L. Greisberger and Dr. and Mrs. Donald D. Hassett, publicity; Mr. and Mrs. Peter J. Crerand and Mr. and Mrs. John A. Schaeffer, reception; Mr. and Mrs. Mauro E. Schifino, and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Licata, decoration; Mr. and Mrs. James M. Hartman,

special arrangements; Mr. and Mrs. Gus Brown, faculty.

Business In the Diocese

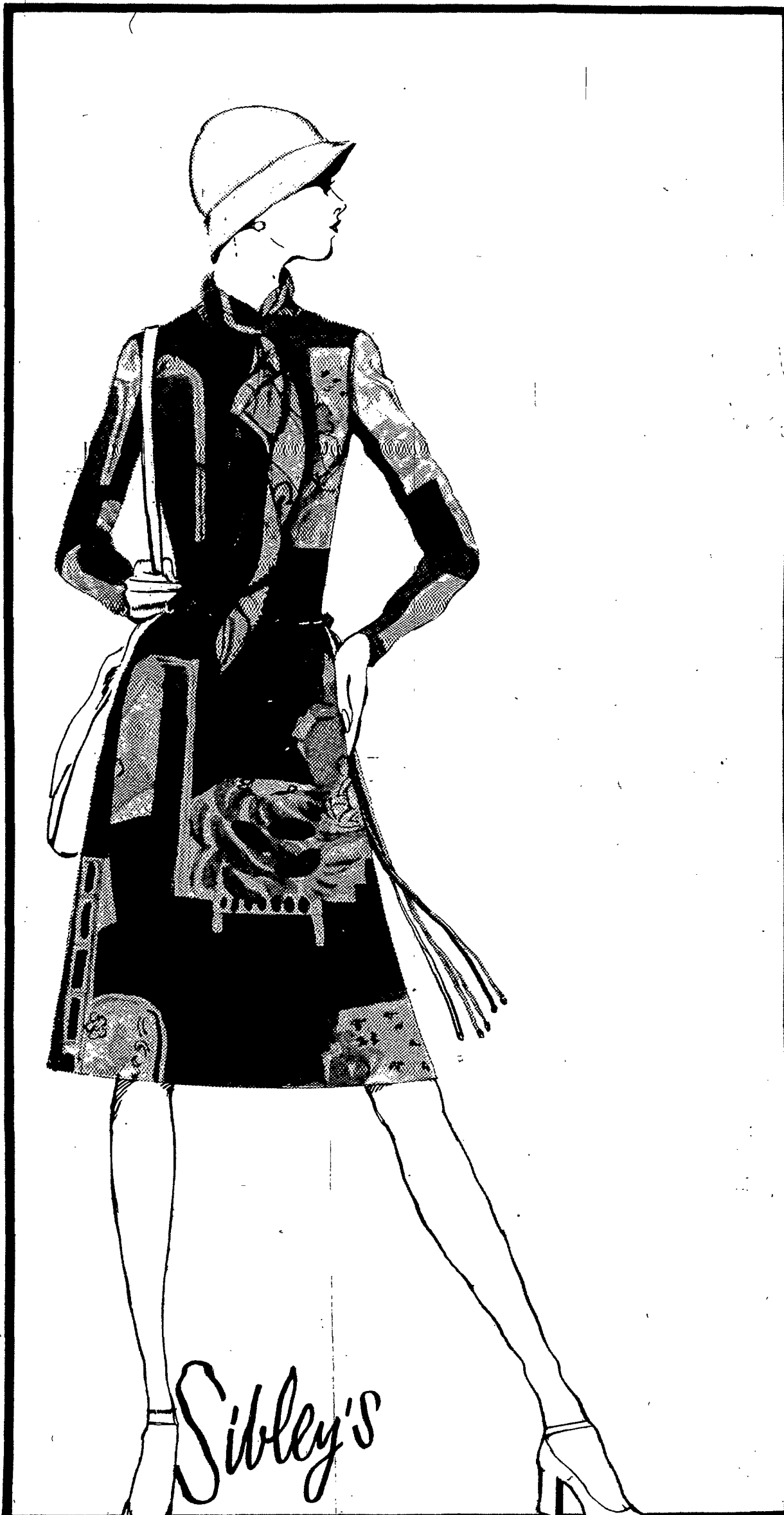
Dennis J. Geraghty of Northumberland Road, Brighton, has been named district engineer for Rochester Telephone Corporation's central office equipment and buildings.

Paul R. Zielinski of Laurelton Road, Irondequoit, has been promoted to district manager-systems planning in the corporate services department.

Geraghty, a native of Minneapolis, joined Rochester Telephone in 1966 after several years with Northwestern Bell. He attended Brown Institute of Electronics in Minneapolis and received his B.S. degree from the University of Rochester, attending evening sessions. He is a member of Our Lady of Lourdes Church. He and his wife Janet have two children.

Zielinski was born in Binghamton and is a graduate of East High School in Rochester. He started with Rochester Telephone as a sales trainee in 1960. Like Geraghty, he earned a B.S. degree at the U of R while working at Rochester Telephone.

Zielinski is a member of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, St. James Church and the Citizens Advisory Committee to the East Irondequoit Board of Education. He and his wife Patricia have three children.



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