



## Bishop Takes Stand On Social Issue

My dear People:

Much of the turmoil and violence of the past decade within our country and abroad has been due to long-standing injustices passed over in silence by many of us for too long a time. The present decade may be one of grace and peace — if we can attune ourselves better to the demands of God's justice.

In problems of social justice, the Church has a unique role to play. She is to enable men to experience the change of heart that comes from an honest hearing of the Word of God and an attentive concern for one another.

I invite you to examine the following issue in that light:

The Farah Manufacturing Company of El Paso, Texas, is one of our nation's leading manufacturers of slacks. For over nine months, nearly a quarter of their nine thousand employees have been on strike. Ninety-five percent of these employees are Mexican-Americans. The Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America have promoted a nation-wide boycott of Farah Products in support of the strikers. Five months ago the issue was called to my attention.

Since that time, together with my staff I have been involved in a careful investigation of the many issues in this situation. In spite of the strong stands taken in favor of the boycott by many credible people and organizations, I personally felt obliged to spend four months gathering information. We were in direct consultation with representatives of both of the conflicting parties. Third parties, in particular the Bishops of the dioceses involved in Texas, were consulted. My position is not an a priori affair, but the result of a serious and honest study.

I consider this approach to be especially important in issues of this type. A serious difficulty is posed  
(Continued on Page 2)

### Step-by-Step Process In Reaching Decision

Identified below is the process which the Catholic Diocese of Rochester followed in investigating the Farah vs. ACWA Strike Issue.

STEP 1: In late August ACWA representatives contacted Bishop Hogan's office asking that he support the economic boycott. It was pointed out to the Bishop that the two local Bishops on the scene, Bishops Metzger and Flores, had signed the national boycott request along with many national figures.

STEP 2: Bishop Hogan formed a committee to investigate the matter.

STEP 3: Representatives from ACWA and Farah Company were interviewed by the Bishop in early September. During these interviews they related their claims and counterclaims regarding the issues in El Paso.

STEP 4: Additional information was provided by both ACWA and Farah and ongoing communications were continued.

STEP 5: A letter was sent to Bishops Metzger and Flores requesting that they thoroughly investigate the matter and advise Rochester accordingly. They had a team of laymen visit two Farah plants and reported their evaluations to Rochester.  
(Continued on Page 2)

## Special Series by Bishop Hogan

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan continues his special series on the Ministry of The Word on PAGE 3 today. The

Bishop's topic this week is the lector and in ensuing weeks he will discuss acolytes and deacons.

Because of the special nature of this series we will be devoting our entire PAGE 3 to it. Other features normally on that page will be found in other spots this week.

Our editorial is on PAGE 4. Father Albert Shamon's "Word for Sunday" appears on PAGE 6 today and Carmen Viglucci's "Slot Man" is on Page 18.

### On The Inside

#### Columnists

Atwell	5
Beahon	19
Bishop Hogan	3
Child	22
Considine	18
Costa	16
Cuddy	5
Doser	19
Hohman	19
Shamon	6
Viglucci	18