

# Farah Strike Film Stars Texas Bishop

By PAT PETRASKE

Because the setting is El Paso, Texas, the movie might be passed up as just another Western. But the 21-minute documentary that will be shown tonight, Oct. 24, has a bishop for a star and a unique supporting cast of thousands. It tells the story of what it's like to work in a Farah pants factory that has been the scene of a bitter strike since May 7, 1972.

"The People vs. Willie Farah" will be presented by the Amalgamated Clothing Workers (ACW) at 8 p.m. at their building at 750 East Ave. A striker from El Paso will answer questions. Farah, one of the nation's leading manufacturers of men's and boys' slacks. The company has been charged with unfair labor practices after refusing to yield to strikers' demands to be represented by the ACW union.

In the midst of the action is Bishop Sidney Metzger of El Paso who is supporting the striking workers, 95 per cent of whom are of Mexican origin.

"The cast members are mothers

and fathers like the people of Rochester who tell what it's like to support a family on an average income of \$69 a week," explained Father Donald Bauer, religious consultant for the ACW at a meeting of area religious representatives in September. Father Bauer is from the Syracuse diocese.

Father Henry Atwell, executive secretary of the Genesee Ecumenical Ministries, stated at that time while "there has been an official endorsement of the boycott, there has been no follow-up."

Many people, he added, believe that "Church leaders are too active in the social realm and should stay out, particularly in such matters as prison reforms and economic matters where they are not competent."

Bishop Joseph Hogan conducted a four-month investigation of the Farah vs. ACW strike issue before throwing his support to the boycott. He then urged retailers and consumers to "re-examine their roles . . . as a moral issue."



## Pilgrims

Elmira residents who recently made a pilgrimage to Catholic shrines in Canada pose inside the museum at the church at Cap-De-La-Madeleine in Ontario.



## THE OPEN WINDOW Fr. Louis Hohman

Dear Father Hohman,

I work for a small business as personnel manager. I would like to hire blacks for this business but I am really afraid that if they don't perform I will get into all kinds of trouble for firing them just because they are blacks. If I hire whites I know there will not be this kind of trouble if I let them go. Sometimes it seems that these blacks have more clout behind them than other people and they can raise a stink. Believe me I've seen it happen. What would you do?

Sincerely,  
C.F.

Dear C.F.,

Your problem is a sticky one, and as I see it, there are two sides to the coin. First, as far as you are concerned, two things should be considered. Are you doing your best to see prospective employees as persons rather than as black or white, so that you accept them in terms of their ability and qualifications? Or are you so intent on a quota of blacks that you hire a man for job for which he is not qualified in the first place? It is obviously part of your

job to hire qualified persons so there won't have to be firing later. Is the color factor blinding you to the real demands of your job?

Another thing to be considered — you may be taking an added risk in hiring a qualified black, but doesn't our Christian faith and charity call for added risk sometimes in the interest of others? I don't think we can just "play it safe" in all these cases.

The other side of the coin has reference to the blacks. Most of them do not want to be patronized by whites. They feel that they have a right to equal jobs when they possess equal qualifications and cease to have that right when they are not qualified. (Special training programs, I think, are a separate question.) The minority of blacks who seek to have special favors, or as you say, more clout, are doing a disservice to all their fellow blacks who want to be equal by reason of personal merit.

There is no easy solution to this kind of problem. You just have to follow your conscience and avoid the expedient, the easy way out, in preference to fairness.

## Father Hupp Named Director At Boys Town

Boys Town, Neb. (RNS) — Father Robert P. Hupp, pastor of Christ the King Parish in Omaha, has been named director of Boys Town, the famed refuge for boys.

He will succeed Msgr. Nicholas H. Wegner, who retired recently after 25 years as head of the complex. Father Hupp is the third director in the 56-year history of Boys Town, founded by Msgr. J. Flanagan in 1917. Msgr. Flanagan served as director until his death in 1948.

"I have faced many challenges in my 33 years as a priest but this will be one of the biggest," said Father Hupp in accepting his new post. "I will do my best to fill the position which was so capably handled by my predecessors at Boys Town."

Father Hupp, 58, is the oldest of a family of nine children. His parents were farmers and ranchers. He attended public elementary schools and St. Boniface High School in Elgin.

Father Hupp was chaplain of the Home of the Good Shepherd, later known as Girls Town, where he helped problem girls. He has also worked with youth through the Catholic Youth Organization as athletic director and director, and was chaplain of the Newman Club at Wayne State College.

One of the pioneers in Omaha in the field of drug education, Father Hupp worked with other community religious leaders to form Operation Bridge, a West Omaha youth counseling service which grew into a program called Omaha Awareness and Action.

## Anniversaries

Dansville — Joseph and Rose Amico celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary with an open house at St. Mary's School Oct. 7. The couple's 11 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren were among the 100 friends and relatives attending the event. Mr. Amico is known for his devotion to his duty as a bell-ringer at St. Mary's. His daughter said, "He never missed a day. There was never a single lapse of a call to worship." The bells rang for Mr. and Mrs. Amico as they attended a special 11:30 a.m. Mass on their anniversary. Special guests at the open house were Father Richard O'Connell, Sister Wilma, Sister Linus of St. Mary's and the Rev. Walter Connors, former minister at the Methodist Church.

A golden wedding anniversary was celebrated on Oct. 20 by Alfonso and Josephine LaDelia of Lechase Drive in Rochester. The couple renewed their marriage vows on Saturday, at Annunciation Church. A reception followed, attended by friends and relatives, who included seven children, 20 grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. Hubert J. Burns of Durman Street celebrated their 50th anniversary Oct. 6 at 5 p.m. Mass at St. Andrew's was followed by a reception and buffet at the Newport House.

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## SALT Evaluated

Father Elmer McDonald, pastor of St. Christopher's Church, makes a point to the pastors and supervisors who attended the second session of the Supervisors and Leaders Training [SALT] program on Tuesday, Oct. 16, at the Notre Dame Retreat House, Canandaigua. The program began in the Rochester diocese in June, and is part of the Diocesan Intern Program. It uses business management techniques such as contracts, confrontation, third-party consultants, and ventilation of feelings to better relationships of intern priests and deacons with their supervisors. Father Edward Steinkirchner, who heads the intern program, said that the second phase concentrated on evaluation of SALT's progress.



## Fall Reminder —

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