

Jesuit Journalist Calls Farah Boycott 'Throwback'

By JOHN DASH

The affable, if controversial, Father Daniel Lyons, a Jesuit who has carved himself a niche during the past 10 years as a journalist, visited Rochester last week to spread the gospel according to Willie Farah.

Farah heads a slacks manufacturing company in Texas that has a boycott aimed at it. Bishop Joseph L. Hogan has endorsed the boycott action.

But to Father Lyons, "This boycott is being used as a substitute for collective bargaining."

"The boycott," he says, "forces an employer to sign a union contract without union bargaining and I think this is a throwback — a step backward in labor relations."

During a visit to the Courier-Journal offices after a noon luncheon at Rochester's Chamber of Commerce, the priest remarked that supporters of the boycott against Farah "can't get around the fact that the union is unwilling to have an election."

To justify his contention, Father Lyons said that there were 9,500 employees (in 1970). The election was held among 200 in one corner of the plant called the cutters and 110 out of the 200 voted for the union. And it's the only election they've ever won. And to say that he (Farah) refuses to abide by the decision is a half-truth because the company has asked the federal court to rule whether or not this is a legitimate bargaining unit."

Farah's appeal for a federal court ruling, however, came after a National Labor Relations Board order to the company to bargain with the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, as a result of that election. Coadjutor Archbishop Leo C. Byrne of St. Paul and Minneapolis, one of those supporting the boycott, contends that "the company has ignored at least 15 other orders from the NLRB."

Yet, Father Lyons says, "It's very questionable whether 200 people from the cutting room are a legitimate unit and so he (Farah) asked the court to decide and the court's not yet decided."

Meanwhile "there's a war going on," he says.

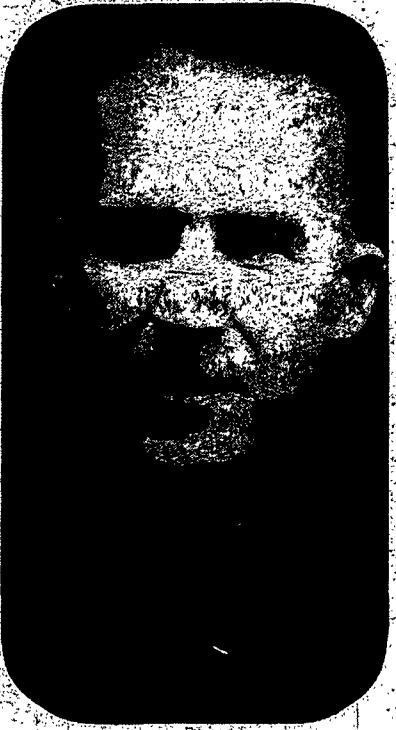
Asked if he thinks Farah is going to win, the priest confesses, "Well, I'm not close enough. I don't know."

But he is sure that "it's hurt the workers more than it's hurt him. Two thousand workers are laid off. In fact, he was expanding at the rate of 20 per cent a year. Now, granted some of it may be due to faulty management. But now 2,000 workers are out and the remaining 7,500 are working a three or four-day week. Nobody works on Friday, for example. Now they're getting quite a cut in pay."

Hospital School Sends Forth 31

Homell — Thirty-one St. James Mercy Hospital School of Nursing students, members of the 63rd and largest graduating class in the history of the school received diplomas at graduation ceremonies conducted Dec. 2 in St. Ann's Church here.

Auxiliary Bishop John E. McCafferty, presided at the ceremonies. Sister Mary Rene administrator, welcomed the priests, relatives, friends and students and congratulated the graduates personally and on behalf of the hospital staff. Father William Cosgrove, chaplain of St. James, presented the class.



FATHER LYONS

Father Lyons, who also wears the hat of a federal labor arbitrator, visited the Farah plant not long ago. Asked about the

living conditions of the workers, the priest noted that "Farah pays union scale. Then he has the fringe benefits. He has a profit-sharing program, pension programs, free medical care, free transportation, a subsidized lunch program."

In October, however, Bishop Sidney Metzger of El Paso documented worker complaints of drastic production demands, no job security, no negotiated production standards, no negotiated wage increases according to a definite schedule and inadequate maternity insurance and negotiated leaves for illness.

While Farah may pay union scale, Father Lyons revealed that it amounted to about \$1.60 an hour. The average take home pay, according to Bishop Metzger, is \$69 per week.

What Father Lyons wants is for the union to present a more attractive image to the workers before it calls a boycott. He doesn't want an "identification of unions with workers, but rather workers with unions. Let's say that the union has got to do a better job of selling."

Good News on the Air

	HOST	STATION	DAY	TIME
Rosary for Peace	Msgr. Joseph Cirrincione	WSAY (Rochester) WRIX (Auburn) WCLJ-FM (Corning)	Daily	7 p.m.
God in Headlines	Fr. Louis Hohman	WHAM (Rochester)	Sunday	11:15 a.m.
Call for Renewal	Fr. William Graf	WROC (Rochester)	Saturday	9:30 p.m.
Open Mike	Fr. Louis Hohman	WROC (Rochester)	Sunday	12:45 p.m.
Magnify the Lord	Fr. Paul Cuddy	WLEA (Hornell) WFSW (Seneca Falls) WFSR (Bath) WCLJ (Corning) WALB (Auburn) WACK (Newark)	Sunday	1:15 p.m. 10:45 a.m. 10 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 7:15 a.m. 7:30 a.m.
Sunday School	Fr. Lewis Brown	WLEA (Hornell)	Sunday	9:30 a.m. and 3 p.m.
Catholic News and Views	Fr. William Cosgrove	WFLR-AM, FM (Dundee)	Sunday	10 a.m.
Mass	James Raftis	WEBO (Owego)	Sunday	9:25 a.m.
Contemporary Concerns of the Church	Msgr. William Roche	WHCU (Ithaca)	Thursday	11:30 a.m.
Morning Meditation	Fr. John O'Malley	WGHT (Bath)	Saturday	9:05 a.m.
Catholic Church Today	Fr. Otto Vogt	WHHO-AM (Hornell)	Sunday	2 p.m.
Now Generation	Sr. Vincenza Cogliostro	WHHO-FM (Hornell)	Sunday	5 p.m.
Cospel Changes	Joseph McCaffrey	WBBF (Rochester)	Sunday	10:15 a.m.
Mass	Fr. John O'Malley	WGHT (Bath)	First Sundays	10 a.m.
Mass for Shut-ins		WHEC (Rochester) (Channel 10)	Sunday	8:30 a.m.

CALL FOR RENEWAL — Auxiliary Bishop Dennis Hickey will appear on Father Graf's show Dec. 22 to discuss "The True Meaning of Christmas in 1973."

BLACK DIMENSIONS — St. Bridget's Choir will be featured Sunday, Dec. 23, 1 p.m., on WOKR-TV, Channel 13.

EDDIE MEATH SHOW — Singer Joanne Hartman and the St. Helen's Children's Choir are guests Monday, Christmas Eve, 8 a.m., on WHEC-TV, Channel 10.

MIDNIGHT MASS — Pope Paul VI's Christmas Mass will be telecast live from Rome via satellite on Monday, Christmas Eve, 6 p.m., WXXI-TV, Channel 21.

EDDIE MEATH SHOW — Bishop Joseph L. Hogan is special featured guest on Tuesday, Christmas Day, 8 a.m., WHEC-TV, Channel 10.

LOUISE WILSON SHOW — Father Sebastian Falcone is Louise's guest Christmas Day, 9 a.m., WOKR-TV, Channel 13.

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SHUT-IN PARTY

Naples. — For the third year, St. Januarius' grade school religious education classes held a party for the shut-ins of the vicinity Dec. 8 in the church hall. Entertainment was provided by the Girl Scouts. Contributing to arrangements was Janet Schwartz.

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- \$ 25 Individual Perpetual Membership
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- \$ 5 Sanctuary Bell
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CHRISTMAS SHOPPERS' GUIDE

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