

Fast Day

A "Fast Day for World Hunger" took place last Thursday at the Rochester Institute of Technology. Sponsored by the college's Catholic Campus Parish Human Life Committee, the program was an attempt to make people aware of the world's hunger problems, and asked students to participate by fasting for the day. Above, senior Edward Seymour puts his donation in a collection jar at a display in the College-Alumni Union lobby headed by, seated, from left, Professor Joe Benenate, and students Donna Lisowski and Rita Siegl. Plus, for each meal given up by resident students, the food service department agreed to donate \$.75 to the World Hunger Campaign. Proceeds of Fast Day will go to Melita House, a Rochester home for unwed pregnant women, and to Oxfam-America. Oxfam, an international organization, is currently helping Nicaragua rebuild its country destroyed by recent internal conflict.

Union, Stevens Reach Agreement, Boycott Ended

New York (RNS) — The J.P. Stevens Co. and the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union have called a truce to their rancorous, 17-year struggle over the union's attempts to organize company-plants.

(In Rochester, Father William Spilly of the Office of Human Development said the settlement signals the end of the boycott of J.P. Stevens products.

(Father Spilly, speaking for the diocese, said, "After 17 years of long suffering and great sacrifice, the workers of J.P. Stevens at Roanoke Rapids, N. Car., have finally achieved their right of social and economic justice. Their struggle to join the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union as their rightful bargaining agent for higher wages, greater benefits and better working conditions is, intrinsically consistent with the long-standing of the Roman Catholic Church.

("The diocese of Rochester through Bishop Clark congratulates the workers and the ACTWU in the victory, and joins them in discontinuing the effective boycott of J.P. Stevens products."

(Bishop Matthew H. Clark announced his support of the boycott in a letter to the people of the diocese which appeared in the Courier-Journal.

(The ACTWU sent a telegram to Bishop Clark announcing the settlement and adding, "We wish to thank you for your past support of the consumer boycott, which has been instrumental in achieving social and economic justice for thousands of southern textile workers.")

Stevens signed 2½-year contracts with workers at seven plants in Roanoke Rapids. The agreement is expected to serve as a model for contracts at other plants in

North and South Carolina and Alabama where the union had won previous organizing elections. In exchange, the union promised to call off its four-year-old boycott and cease its drive to oust company directors and officers who serve on other corporate boards.

The agreement will affect some 3,000 of Stevens' 44,000 workers at plants mostly in the South. Wages at Roanoke Rapids and other organized plants will be raised to a par with those that have not sought a union. The company withheld an annual 8.5 percent pay raise at Roanoke Rapids in 1979 to pressure the union. The contract also covers seniority rules, safety policies, grievance procedures and other issues of rights and security.

Prayer Service

An ecumenical prayer service commemorating the first anniversary of the taking of the hostages in Iran will take place at 12:10 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 4, at St. Mary's Church, 15 South St.

Rabbi Judea Miller of Temple B'rith Kodesh will be the principal speaker along with John Schaefer, brother of one of the hostages.

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*** Endorsed by Right-to-Life Party and by New York State Right-to-Life Committee (Democrat Fedele is endorsed by pro-abortion groups).

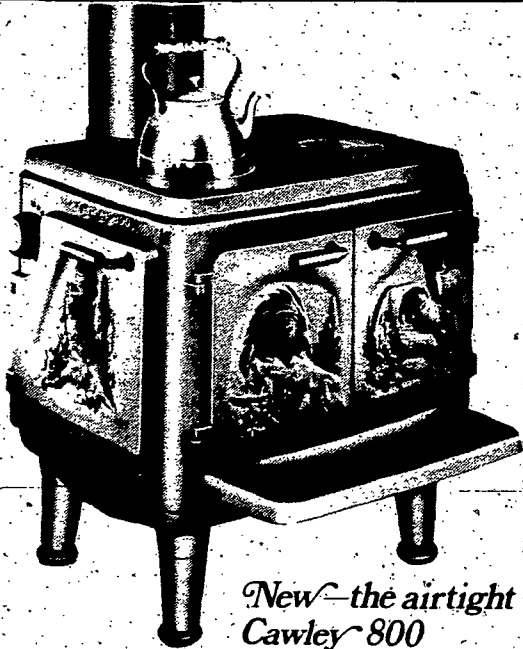
*** Recipient of the Rochester Federation of Catholic School Parents Special Award for Support of Freedom of Choice in Education

*** Author of the new law that enables non-public schools to purchase supplies at the less-costly state contract rate, a measure that could save the Rochester Catholic Diocese as much as \$330,000 a year.

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