Coast Farm Union Chief To End Fast on 25th Day

DELANO, Calif., March 5 (UPI)—Upon urging of doctors, Cesar Chavez, farm union leader, announced tonight that he would end his spiritual fast in its 25th day at a “mass of thanksgiving” this Sunday.

He has been drinking only water since starting the fast 20 days ago to re dedicate himself and his followers to nonviolence in their attempts to organize farm workers.

Doctors said the head of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee faced permanent kidney damage if the continued to go without food. They said the lactic acid content in his blood was dangerously high.

Mr. Chavez’s physician, Dr. James McKnight, and a friend, Dr. Jerome Wackern, said starting tomorrow he had agreed to take a clear medication with his water to correct the high lactic count.

3 Negroes Gain a Runoff For City Council in Selma

SELMA, Ala., March 5 (AP)—Three of seven Negroes running for the City Council in Selma’s Democratic primary moved tonight into runoffs with white opponents, but the sole Negro candidate for Mayor was defeated.

The incumbent Mayor, Joe T. Smitherman, won re-election handily in a contest with the Rev. L. L. Anderson, a Negro, and John Day, a white chiropractor.

With 41 of the city’s 48 boxes (precincts) reporting, Smitherman had 5,449 votes to 1,969 for Anderson and 62 for Day.

The Negroes who gained runoff spots were Edwin L. Moss, the Rev. Lorenzo Harrison and Marius J. Anderson.