

The Voice of the Farm Worker

El Malcriado

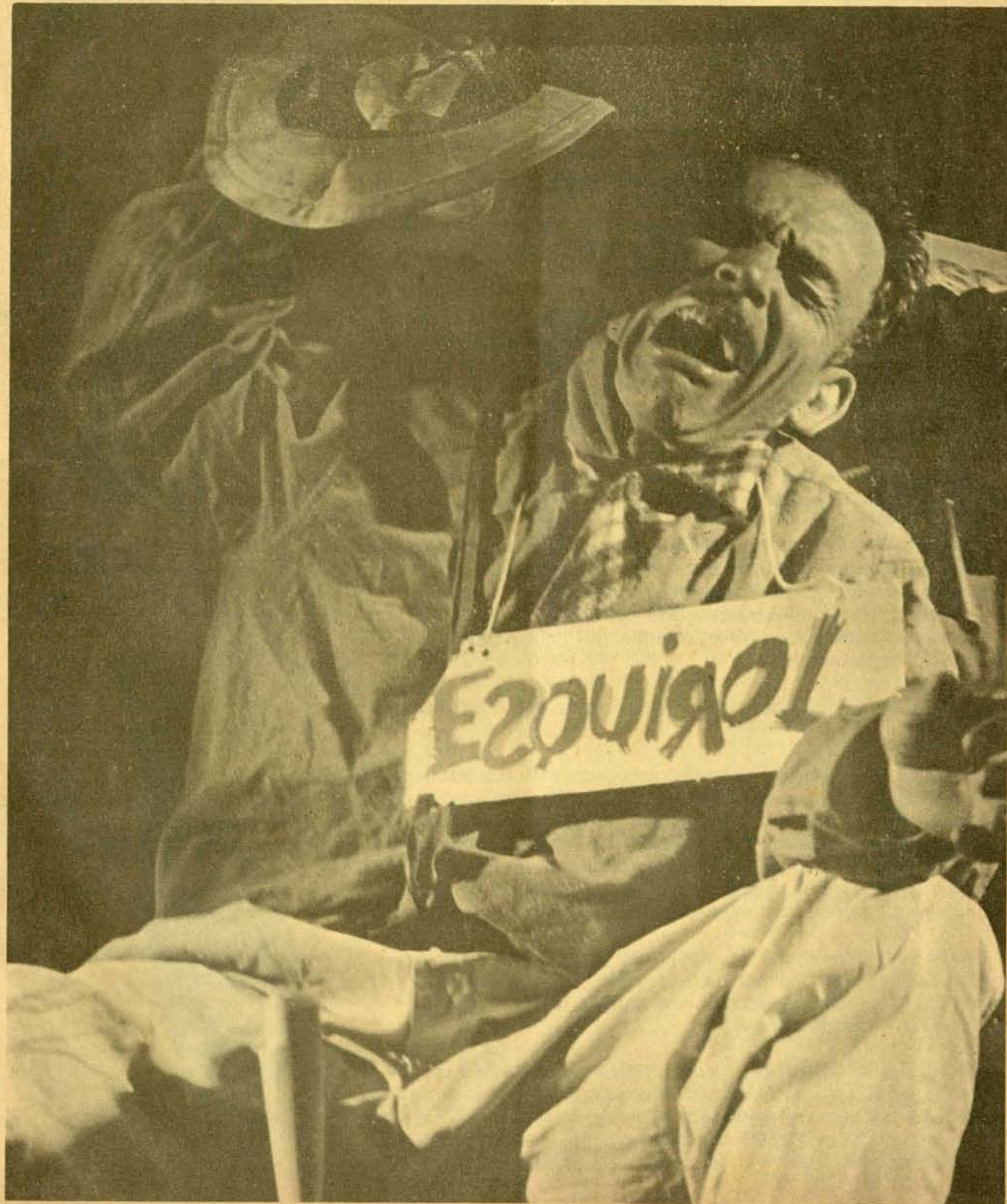
In English



15¢

DELANO, CALIF.

MAY 10, 1967



ARM WORKER EDITORIAL

THIS WEEK has been one of importance in the history of the Schenley contract, which is finishing its first year in operation. And to celebrate it we have decided to make a change in El Malcriado policy. The editorial column will, from now on, be written by the very farm workers who make up our Union. Writing this week's editorial is Mrs. Jessie Holguin, who has worked for Schenley for the last three years. These are her words:



That's the Way it Should Be

I was born in Texas and grew up in Arizona. When we were kids, we would follow the crops and work wherever we found work to do. I was very small at this time, but my brothers and my one older sister always worked along with my father in the fields. We stayed eight years in Salinas; there we worked in the strawberries and the tomatoes, and also for a while in the apricots. And what's more, we culled and packed the fruit. This was before coming here to Delano, where the grapes are the only crop. And I have picked grapes and packed them, and done all other kinds of work in the vineyards. Before, farm workers' kids never had any education. Now, my children go to school. I don't know what they will do when they grow up, but I hope to give them as much education as I can. And because of the Union my hope is much closer to reality now than it ever was before.

Since the Union began the most important thing that has changed for the worker is the pay, which is much better now; and next to that the benefits we get. It also seems to me that the worker is treated more decently than before. And the worker no longer has any fear of the company, because now they can't fire us just because they don't like us or because they don't like the way we work. And in many other ways the Union has made the work better. With the Union, anyone who is able work, works. They're not going to give you work just because they like you. No, you'll get the work because you know how to do it—whether you're a Mexican or belong to any other race. There aren't any favorites under the Union. And before at Schenley they didn't give people the chance to learn. Now we get this opportunity.

Here's what I don't like about the contract:

The workers don't like it when the foremen come in and do their work. If they're doing something wrong, it would be better if the foremen would come

and tell them about it, and then leave the fields. The same applies when they come to teach you something. But the foremen have always gone in and done the workers' jobs themselves. And the other thing that I hope is changed is the question of the gondolas. Even if they decide to let our present contract run another year, we still want to negotiate the matter of the gondolas. The Union always wanted to have four workers per gondola, each one taking his turn at driving the tractor. But the company has its way as the contract stands now: one specialized worker hired by the company does the driving all the time and four others do the picking. The problem with this is that the four workers, who do the most difficult work—the picking—have to give up part of their wages to pay the guy who drives—and that way are left with no money for themselves. On the first day many quit because of this.

Last Friday we had a meeting and they told us that almost certainly the Schenley contract would run another year. This is good—this is very good—I have never worked so pleasantly as I did this last year. Besides, the company is happy with the work we're doing for them. And they're happy too because they have not lost so much money paying Union wages as they thought they would.

I was the Steward at Schenley for the past year but now that we're not working I don't know. I think that when the work begins again there will be elections. And I want new elections—this way the workers can have the opportunity to elect somebody else, and the more women who will be able to help the Union in this way the better. Because now I know what it's worth. There's a great difference between the way they treated me before and the way I'm treated now. And that's the way it should be.

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BOYCOTT GAINS STEAM

The Next Target: Look Out, Tribuno!

CHICAGO, Ill. --The United Farm Workers will "throw everything we have at Tribuno Vermouth in Chicago and New York City."

That was the word late last week from Cesar Chavez, UFWOC director, as he stopped here for talks with other labor leaders. Chavez was sounding out boycott prospects in the South, East and Middle West. And the prospects look good.

Tribuno apparently is the No. 1 seller here and is in third place in New York City. This makes these areas prime targets for the boycott, which is seeking a fair and impartial election at A. Perelli-Minetti & Sons, a Delano-area grower which signed a backdoor deal with the Teamsters while UFWOC members were on strike.

Perelli-Minetti makes Tribuno under a contract from Vermouth Industries of America.

Chavez and Jim Drake, his administrative assistant, also discovered another top prospect--Wisconsin. Consumers there buy two-and-a-half times more brandy than customers in any other state. This means Perelli-Minetti's A.R. Murrow and Assumption Abbey brands sell better in Wisconsin than anywhere else.

"This is the place to start the all-out brandy war," Drake said.

Chavez and Drake held successful meetings with the Michigan AFL-CIO, the national AFL-CIO office in Michigan, the Milwaukee Central Labor Council and the United Auto Workers Michigan council, in addition to representatives from various youth groups, including Students for a Democratic Society, peace organizations, the Wisconsin Migrant Ministry and priests and nuns active in helping farm workers.

Because of the energetic campaign by Jesus Salas, every major central labor council in Wisconsin has endorsed the boycott. This adds significant new muscle to the farm workers' efforts in this key state.

Meanwhile, in California, the boycott office at Delano is considering a "sip-in" form of direct action against the Brookside tasting rooms chain. These wine-tasting rooms also are part of the Perelli-Minetti octopus, which at last count was made up of 26 interlocking family corporations.



Crooked Contractors

Dear Sir:

Here in this Salinas Valley of California we work all year, from the month of February until the month of December, for a contractor in beets, lettuce, garlic, tomatoes and chile. They pay us \$1.40 an hour. Now what I call an injustice are those contractors that have camps for the workers and their families and charge rent of \$15, \$20, up to \$30 a week—and I believe that this is not just. The people help them in their work during all the year. This happens in all the little towns in the Salinas Valley starting with San Lucas, King City and Soledad. I would like a representative of the union to come to see us and tell us what rights a farm worker has when he works for a contractor in a case like this. I wait for your answer on the PEOPLE'S PAGE. I hope you will excuse me, but this is done with the idea of helping and speaking for the farm worker who like me was born into the fields of agriculture in this California where God gives us from the land the bread for each day for us and our children. I salute you.

JOSE ANDERE
Soledad, California

THE PEOPLE'S PAGE

'Fifty Cents an Hour'

Dear Sir:

Keep up the good work in California.

I was a C.C.C.D. trainee, so I know the long hard fight you have been having. Here in Oklahoma I have told the people about N. F. W. A. and the good it has done.

The pay is low here and some people work for fifty cents an hour and up. A group of people from

EL MALCRIADO SAYS: Our great movement works, and it works beautifully, but it doesn't work at all until you know that YOU ARE THE UNION. You work for the cause, not because you have special abilities and have been appointed by Cesar Chavez, but because you believe in it. So you ask, what are our rights? We have no rights other than those that we are strong enough to take. There are labor laws in this green state of California, and there is no question about it, these contractors are cheating you and they are breaking the law.

And you can do nothing about it unless the workers are organized into strong, unbreakable groups of people who trust each other and are willing to fight unselfishly for a common goal.

This is the process that is taking place all over the country right now, in hundreds of towns, thousands of miles from San Lucas or King City. Protest marches, rent strikes, slow-down strikes, credit unions and co-ops, collective work projects, small meetings to plan for the future and to learn the art of fighting together: against a cruel field boss, a crooked judge, a brutal police force, a cheating

contractor—with the whole force of the group struggling against one aspect of the system of oppression. This is the only way it can be done. Then, when the huelga comes to the Salinas Valley, and it will come as surely as the next rain, you will be ready.

Cesar Chavez can't send someone to help you do it, because the huelga of Delano is taking all his strength and energy. But you can write to MANUEL CHAVEZ, Box 130, Delano, California. He will write you and put you in touch with other people in your area who are working for the cause. On your own, you can organize the people of a particular camp against their contractor. You will not be strong enough to strike, perhaps, but you may be surprised how much you can make him give you just by being courageous and united in your efforts against him.

An Arizonan Offers Help

Dear Sir:

Recently I was handed a copy of the El Malcriado magazine; after reading it I became interested and was able to obtain more information in Phoenix. Well today I am proud to say that I am helping Boycott in something I strongly believe in.

I sent the publication to my father in Wyoming and he is very aware of what the patron is doing to the people. We were migrants at one time. Now I would like to know if it would be possible if I could have the publication sent to my father and me both. If there is a charge please inform me, if not I would be most happy to send a contribution.

Thank You,
VICTORIA VALDEZ
Coolidge, Arizona

P.S. If I can help you in anything I would be obliged.

Henryetta went to Oklahoma City to protest the low unemployment (compensation) -- \$32 a week, where California pays \$65 per week. True, the poor people in Oklahoma don't make much money now, but I hope to have a small part in changing that some day.

Viva La Causa
DON WILLIAMS
Henryetta, Okla.

Law and Order?

(Copy to El Malcriado)
Mr. and Mrs. William Noel
Berkeley, Calif.

This is in reply to your letter to president Johnson in which you allege that atrocities and unconstitutional police actions are occurring in Rio Grande City and Starr County, Tex., and you request further federal investigation of this matter.

The maintenance of law and order is mainly the responsibility of local police and law enforcement agencies. The Department of Justice is looking into complaints against various law enforcement officials in Rio Grande City and Starr County. If a violation of federal law is discovered, appropriate action will be taken.

The information that you have furnished, however, does not indicate a violation of federal law. If you would care to furnish additional details, the matter will receive our careful attention.

JOHN DOAR
Asst. Atty. General
Civil Rights Division
Washington, D. C.

'THE DAY WILL COME FOR OUR BROTHERS'

Dear Sir:

I want to congratulate and thank you for the work that you are doing in this Union that is guided by our leader Cesar Chavez. I also want to congratulate all our brothers and friends in all the Valley of Texas. The day finally came for all our brothers to show the growers that we are united, and that we love each other as brothers without distinction of race or religion.

For all our fellow workers in the valley of Texas, the time has come to stop giving the growers and contractors their money and tequila for the purpose of getting our jobs.

Thank you very much, and
Viva la Causa!

JOSE CORTEZ
Kingsburg, California

TIMES HAVEN'T CHANGED AT ALL

Dear Editor:

I am the mayor who had the store and post office in Atwood.

Before the war many of our customers with their families went north to work in the crops. We haven't forgotten the stories they told us about the working conditions up there. This is probably why we are interested in your project.

I enjoy El Malcriado I read every page of it then pass it over the back fence to some of the park attendants.

If you or any of your crew ever get to Placentia please stop in for a chat.

Wishing you the success you deserve I am very truly yours,

ARTHUR J. MEYER
Placentia, California

THE PEOPLE'S PAGE

Write Down the Boss' Name!

Dear Sir:

In your April issue, there was an article concerning the importation of foreign workers which stated that before the rancher was allowed to have braceros, he must hire local workers first and pay \$1.60 an hour. You know and I know as long as he (the rancher) thinks he can get foreign labor, he is not going to recruit and hire local workers.

There is only one way to make sure our workers are hired. Anytime a worker goes looking for farm work, he should find out the name of the rancher to whom he is applying for a job. If he is re-

fused work, he should write down the name of the rancher and the date. He should then forward this information to Secretary of Labor Willard Wirtz, informing Mr. Wirtz that this rancher is not interested in hiring local workers. If he (the rancher) doesn't need local help, he most certainly does not need foreign workers. If everyone would do this, I am quite sure you would find out soon enough that braceros would not be coming to take away our jobs.

A Farm Worker,
MRS. MARY RAYA
Ducor, California.

To Help the Huelga..

Gentlemen:

I have been reading your newspaper for some time now and I am on my second subscription. I am a bookkeeper, not a farm worker, but I deeply believe we have a common enemy and a common struggle. I am most anxious to help--to do more than just subscribe. Unfortunately, I am not in a position to contribute money. I wish I could! But I can contribute time and effort. Is there something I could do here in Los Angeles in an active way to assist

you in your struggle? Perhaps there is someone who will contact me. Please let me know. I will be looking forward to your reply. Thank you.

Miss Bea Sandler,
Los Angeles, Calif.

EL MALCRIADO SAYS: Thank you for your generous offer. You can contact Eddie Frankel at the Emmanuel Church, 1785 E. 85th Street. Those people in the San Francisco area should see John Shroyer at St. Benedict the Moor Church, 2891 Bush Street.

TEAMSTERS CHALLENGED TO A VOTE



Gallo OK's Election

LIVINGSTON, Calif. --Breaking with other non-union growers, the E & J Gallo Winery has agreed to "fair and democratic" elections so workers can choose between the AFL-CIO United Farm Workers Organizing Committee and a Teamster captive union.

Gallo's action was sparked by a telegram from Cesar Chavez, UFWOC director, asking for an election as soon as possible because the AFL-CIO union represents most Gallo workers on the ranch near here.

The Teamsters demanded Gallo sign contract without an election. Teamsters hired rent-a-pickets to surround the Gallo plant, but nobody is on strike there--only outside, rented pickets.

Complicating the issue is the fact that the Teamsters call one of their farm locals the United Farm Workers. But this is not the same union as the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee of Cesar Chavez.

In a telegram to Chavez from Gallo's Modesto headquarters, Julio R. Gallo said:

"This is in reply to your telegram, in which you claim to represent a majority of our farm employees. We were notified by the United Farm Workers Local of the Teamsters union that they

claimed to represent a large number of our farm employees and requested recognition.

"E & J Gallo Winery has collective bargaining agreements with several labor unions, and does not oppose unionization of its agricultural employees if those employees so desire. We feel

the question of representation should be decided by our farm employees in a fair and democratic manner, in an election supervised by the state, so that our farm employees may have a free choice. Therefore we are asking the State Conciliation Service to proceed to arrange for such an election, so that our farm employees may determine for themselves if they want representation, and if so which union, the United Farm Workers-AFL-CIO or the United Farm Workers-Teamsters, they would like to have represent them."

Gallo is one of the largest wine companies in the world. It produces 65,000 cases every day. Twenty-five million gallons of wine are fermenting at the Gallo winery while another 25 million are in storage.

The peak work force is about 600 in August on the 6000-acre ranch near here.

Gallo also gets its grapes from 1000 other ranches which produce for the company's giant press here.

U.F.W.O.C. ASKED FOR AN ELECTION



WHY ARE THE TEAMSTERS AFRAID OF DEMOCRACY?

What kind of a union is it that is afraid of an election? A union like the Teamsters, of course. Rather than cooperating to organize the Valley's farm workers in a democratic way, the Teamsters refuse to hold free elections. Why? Could it be because the Teamsters know they can't win? Maybe it was the DiGiorgio election that taught the Teamsters that lesson--that they can't hope to win a free election against a strong union run by its own members, like the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO. That's why the Teamsters want to sign so-called contracts without giving the workers a choice. But UFWOC holds no grudges: we challenge the Teamsters to PROVE they are the majority's choice at Gallo. Teamsters: Let's hold that election and see who wins!

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DELANO, CALIFORNIA
PAYROLL CHECK

DR N° 70778

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DELANO, CALIFORNIA

DATE	CLOCK NUMBER	CHECK NUMBER	AMOUNT	PERIOD ENDING	HOURS	UNIT	GROSS EARNINGS	F.O.B.	S.U.B.I.	MOSP.	INS.	DAYS WORKED	MISCELLANEOUS
896521 Guadalupe Acollar	JAN 26 66	70778	\$ 44.40	12 66	63.00	23	110.90	4.66	1.11			7	1 40.64

SCHENLEY INDUSTRIES, INC.
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CALIFORNIA BANK

NOT NEGOTIABLE

WAGES AT THE SCHENLEY RANCH BEFORE THE CONTRACT

SCHENLEY WORKERS VOTE

The Schenley workers voted to let their contract run for one more year without re-negotiating it. When the contract was signed last year, it was to run for one year and then to be renewed for one more year unless the company or the workers wanted to make some changes in it. The contract will not expire until June 21st, but if either side wants to change it at all, they must tell the other side about it at least 60 days before that. The Schenley workers, at their meeting to discuss the contract, voted almost unanimously to let the contract run for one more year.

Both the workers and the company are generally satisfied with the way work has gone under the contract. There were a few

complaints: some of the workers said that supervisors were doing work that should belong to union members. Also, the company is assigning five people to each gondola crew, where the workers want only four. Picking in a gondola crew is done on a piece-rate basis. Wages are figured by the amount of work that the whole crew has done and then they are split between the members of the crew. The smaller the number of workers, the more each one makes. If there is a fifth person hired, he only drives the tractor pulling the gondola, and his wages are taken from what the other four make by picking.

In spite of these and a few other complaints, the workers

did not think that it was worth it to re-open the contract, and try to get them changed. If they did this, the workers said, there is the possibility that, once the contract is opened for re-negotiation the company might try to change some other things, and the workers could end up with a worse contract than they started with. This possibility is very real, because the Schenley contract is such a good one. When the contract went into effect everyone received a 35¢ an hour increase in wages. The workers feel that this is very good, and that after only one year, it is too early to ask for another wage increase.

Also, according to some of the people at the meeting, if the contract was re-opened and the union



Dolores Huerta
with some of the
Schenley workers.

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AFTER THE CONTRACT

TO CONTINUE CONTRACT

decided to fight for certain changes, there is the possibility that the company might try to bring in another union that doesn't represent the workers, and we would have to fight them as well as fighting for the contract.

There are other important benefits, besides wages, at the Schenley Ranch now. According to Paul Vargas, the chairman of the Ranch Committee, "Everything will go all right next year. Everything worked out all right this season. The work was good, we didn't have any trouble. Everybody worked good.

"The boss doesn't bother the people now like before (the contract) and so the people work better. Before the boss looked at you and if he didn't like you, he'd send you home with no pay. Now the boss has to come to the crew

leader (who is in the union) if he has a complaint.

"Now everybody who is sent to work (by the union) knows how to work and works well. Before, the year before, we had mostly drunks and winos and it made it harder on everybody else.

"If someone has a complaint he talks to the shop steward and then they come to me and we fix it right there with the company man. The year before, if you had a complaint, you couldn't do nothing about it, you'd just get fired and you'd be out.

"Now you can just take your time working. Before you had to run all the time to get points. When they used to come to lay off the ones who didn't run would be laid off first. Now we do it by seniority. Now the men who do the picking, when the pruning season comes, they're going to

stay and work because of their seniority. Before someone just said, 'You and you and you stay.'

Now there's no special things for mothers and sisters and brothers. It's all by seniority. The ones who worked the longest have the seniority and they get to stay.

"Now we got rest rooms and paper to wash our hands at noon. They put in some ice water in the summertime. Before, we had no rest rooms. We had to walk out in the fields, far because the men and women worked together."

So there are other things involved in a union contract beside wages, small things and large things, all of which give people pride in themselves and their work, things which show that the growers are finally being forced to respect, rather than destroy, the workers' dignity as human beings.

Congress Hearings for Farm Workers

The House of Representatives of the United States Congress is holding hearings.

The United States Congress is holding hearings on the question of whether or not to extend the National Labor Relations Act to farm workers. This act now covers all workers except farm workers. It guarantees to other workers the right to bargain collectively with their employers, that is, if the workers in a certain place say that they want to be represented by a union, then that union will be recognized by the law as representing them, and the employer has to sit down and bargain with the union. Because farm workers are not covered by this law, they have never had this right, and the only way the United Farm Workers Union has been able to win anything has been through strike and boycott. If our friends in Congress succeed in extending this law, then farm workers will be able to organize much more easily and much faster.

The first hearings will be held on May 3rd, 5th, 6th and 7th in Washington, D. C. by the Sub-committee on Labor of the House of Representatives. The chairman of this committee is Rep. Frank Thompson of New Jersey. Many people will be called to testify. Among these will be Dolores Huerta and Larry Itliong, officers of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, and farm workers from Texas and California, including Joe Serda, head of the hiring hall at the DiGiorgio Ranch in Borrego Springs, and Mack Lyons, head of the hiring hall at the DiGiorgio Ranch in Arvin. There will be a statement made by leaders of the Catholic, Protestant and Jewish faiths, and other people testifying, such as George Meany, the President of the AFL-CIO, Walter Reuther, the President of the Industrial Union Department of the AFL-CIO, and Ronald Haughton, who helped to arbitrate the DiGiorgio contract.



HE CAN SHOOT POOL BUT HE CAN'T WORK IN STOCKTON

GREEN-CARDERS FLOOD STOCKTON

STOCKTON, Calif. --The damp cold hung over the bleak corner of Market and Commerce, sawing away at your guts like a dull, wet razor blade as nearly 50 men milled about waiting for spot jobs that never came.

You could blame the lack of work on heavy rains which left many asparagus and pea fields under more water than the Pacific Ocean. But that would be only part of the story, for other, luckier men had been seen cutting the asparagus just a day before.

These men are green card holders from Mexico. The do-

mestic workers--Mexican and Anglo--stomping their feet for warmth at Market and Commerce--were angry.

"It's not just the Filipinos who have the work," one said. "The camps are full of green-carders. They've got 'em packed in. They even keep them when it's too wet to go into the fields. They don't pay them then--they just feed them. And you know what kind of stuff they feed them, don't you?"

Meanwhile, even the contractors are looking a little thin, if that's possible. When a reporter from El Malcriado arrived,

you couldn't get work from the growers and you couldn't even get anything from the normally busy contractors.

And guys are falling further behind in their hotel rent. As reported in the last issue of El Malcriado, there is an acute shortage of housing in Stockton. Some men were staying at the Gospel Mission. Others slept at the county honor farm, but that was closed to farm workers almost two weeks ago.

But the fields haven't been closed to prisoners. "You see last night's paper?" one man asked. "It says they've brought convicts in from San Quentin to work some of the places along with the green-carders."

Work used to look pretty good if you hit Stockton right about this time of the year--the peak of the asparagus season. Wages are paid piece rate and a guy can usually make more that way than on a straight hourly rate.

"Course," said a farm worker, "it depends on what kind of a crew you get into. Now you take some crews, a lot of guys they'll just stay for a couple days and then get drunk and quit or get fired.

"Or," he continued, "you take a crew what's got maybe two or three guys who ain't never cut before and you gotta help them along. That slows down everybody. Maybe you're takin' two rows yourself and then you gotta hop across to his row and help him keep up. That ain't no good."

In the peas, you can make \$19.95 for a 12-hour shift. That's about \$1.66 an hour. But you won't get it all.

"You know that old boy Al?" one guy asked another. "Do I know Al? Yeah, I know him," the other man said. "Him and Grace--you know, his wife. Hell, Al pays you and then you pays Grace and she gives it back to Al again. It goes from Al to you to Grace to Al."

He was speaking of the various deductions growers take out of a man's pay.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

RENT STRIKE PEACE REJECTED

VISALIA, Calif. --A proposal to end the Woodville-Linnell rent strike last week was turned down by the Tulare County Board of Supervisors.

Ernesto Laredo, leader of the labor camps' rent strikers, said at a public meeting with the supervisors that the two-year strike would be ended if:

1--The residents are not evicted. Eviction is planned by July 1.

2--The camps are not closed until the County Housing Authority builds new units.

3--The camps are opened to migrants who are beginning to arrive for the summer work.

But the supervisors said they have no authority over what the Housing Authority does except to appoint its members. Supervisor Chairman Charles J. Cummings said the whole issue should be dropped until after a court case involving the legal-

ity of the rent strike is settled. That could be a year or more.

Both camps have been condemned as unsafe and unsanitary. But the strikers say they still are better than sleeping in ditches and fields.

Two supervisors--Donald M. Hillman and Fred Batkin--were absent. Of the three supervisors who attended, only Raymond J. Muller showed any understanding of the poor people's problems.

The Housing Authority will build new units--100 in each camp--but that will take more than a year. Meanwhile, existing units are to be razed after July 1.

It was suggested the new housing be built 20 units at a time so that the workers will have a place to live while the construction continues. This possibility is being studied, especially since it is a suggestion of

the Farmers Home Administration, the federal government agency which would put up the money and the low-interest loans.

Ferris Sherman, the Housing Authority's director, said rents in the new units would be \$60 a month for a three-bedroom place. (Actually, the units will have only two bedrooms, but one bedroom will have a partition.) Laredo protested that these rents are too high, and there was some inconclusive talk about lowering the rent to \$45 a month.

The strikers are paying the old rate of \$18 a month for the first shack and \$8 a month for every additional shack into fund. They are not paying the new rate of \$22 for the first shack and \$8 for the additional shack. This is what started the strike -- the Housing Authority's raising the rents for the miserable places it has forced the workers to live in.

Stockton: The Bus Doesn't Stop Here Anymore

FROM PAGE 10

"Well," one of the men said, "at least I ain't in debt to that bastard no more."

But you'll always be in hock to somebody in this town of '90, 000 that looks as if it went through a World War II bombing raid. Buildings are being torn down all over, especially on the edge of the downtown area, where the workers wait for the buses that never come.

Last year at this time, you could see 50 buses pulling up at Market and Commerce in the morning. You don't see much of anything now. One hard-faced woman drove up in a white sedan and packed five guys into it for miscellaneous work. That was about it, except for a little work planting potatoes.

As another group of men a block east strung themselves

out around a big bonfire at a demolition site, a worker figured how long it would take him to get into the apples and cold pack in Oregon and Washington

"I'm finished with this damn California," he said to a companion.

"Well," the other man said, "I'm going up into the apples and then I'm going to hit the wheat in Oregon."

"I guess I might be able to make it back to that sheep ranch in Montana," the first man said. "But I'll tell you what: if you stay around here, don't get on one of them peat harvesters. Those damn things only got one speed--top speed. And they ain't got no brakes. Last time, I was the second guy and the leader ran himself right into the ditch. So did the guy behind

me. They tried to use the brakes, but that just swerved the thing off to the side. Hell, there I was with a guy stuck in front of me and another guy in it back-a' me. I was the only one on high land. You stay off them things."

Wearing a bright red jacket, one guy said he, too, was getting the hell out of Stockton. "Tell you what I'm gonna do," he remarked to a couple of other men. "I'm goin' back down to Delano. DiGiorgio needs some guys. I'm gonna get \$3.50 some way and join that union and go down to their hiring hall."

"Yeah," said another man. "You'll be a lot better off if you do that."

Something for Everyone

from

FARM WORKERS TEXACO

Cecil and Madison, Delano

Special Prices for Members of All Unions

Regular, 30.9

Ethyl, 34.9

Special Prices for Our Other Neighbors

You need not be a member of any union to take advantage of these special prices to the general public, which are still lower than prices anywhere else in the valley:

Regular, 31.9

Ethyl, 35.9

And members of all unions, not only UFWOC members, also get special prices on oil, tires, batteries, filters, and other accessories.

Another Service from Your Neighbors in Farm Workers Co-op

ARE YOU STRANDED ON
THE ROAD AND TIRED?
DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN
TO YOU AGAIN. REPAIR
YOUR CAR AT THE CO-OP
GAS STATION.



"A STRONG UNION
MEANS A PROSPEROUS
COMMUNITY"



Our Own Music Man

DELANO--Tim Kelley is the music man of La Huelga.

The retired San Francisco longshoreman is making the strike sound with three-part classical harmony as he teaches the children how to play the recorder, a type of flute.

Along with a sound background in music notation, Tim is introducing class members to classical music.

Graduating from the first 10-week beginners' class were Mary Zapata, Elizabeth Rodriguez, Joel Rivera, Reggie Reyes, Robert Reyes and Paul Chavez. Adults graduating were Kerry Ohta, who also conducts children's art classes, and

Augustin Lira, an accomplished musician, singer, song-writer and short-story author who is with El Teatro Campesino.

New classes will begin soon for intermediate students and others. A class also is planned for adults (see schedule, this page).

Tim, who also has taught recorder to the children of striking sharecroppers in Mississippi, studied music at San Francisco State College and is one of the founders of the Marin County (Calif.) Recorder Society, which is affiliated with the American Recorder Society.

The Delano children played to a convention of the American Recorder Society in Fresno, Calif., recently.

FREE FOR U. F. W. CHILDREN

INTENSIVE MUSIC COURSE FOR BEGINNERS

April 22nd - May 29th, twice a week; Wednesdays from 3 to 3:30, Saturdays from 11 to 11:30. At the Teatro, corner of 6th and Ellington, Delano.

INTERMEDIATE CLASSES

Twice a week: Wednesdays from 4 to 5, Saturdays from 10 to 11 a.m.

CLASSES FOR VOLUNTEERS

Twice a week: Mondays and Thursdays, 6:30 to 8. Modern method of sight reading taught.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE TEACHER, TIM KELLY AT 725-8661 OR 725-1919

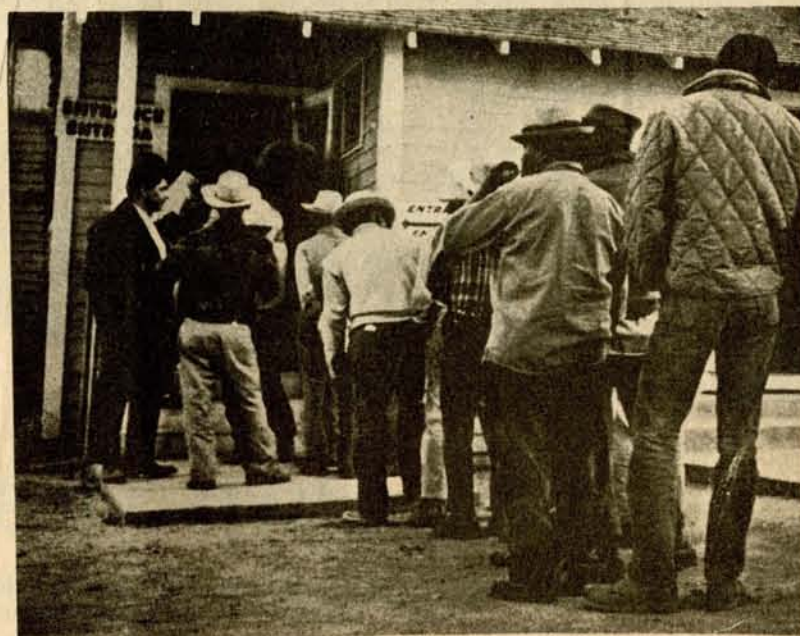
It's Your Own Hiring Hall

The company must give the union 72 hours notice when it needs workers. The union shall have 72 hours to supply the company with workers, who must be chosen according to the rules of seniority. At the end of the 72 hours, if the union has not been able to provide the company with all the workers needed, then the company may get the remainder by whatever means it chooses. The union must offer work to all, including non-members.

This, in short, is the hiring hall clause of the DiGiorgio contract. The union hiring hall, in Lamont, directed by Mack Lyons, has been functioning in the Lamont union office since the day after the DiGiorgio contract was signed. Hundreds of workers have entered its doors and registered for work for the next morning. And many more are lining up outside the doors with a new feeling and a new look on their faces. No longer do they express the thought that they owe something to the company. Now they have the new security of knowing that it is THEIR very own union that is giving them the job, THEIR very own people that are writing out the dispatch slips.

On Monday, April 10, DiGiorgio asked for 200 workers. During the three dispatch days that the union was given to find them and the days that followed, 600 farm workers came to register at the office. At the hiring hall, each worker is interviewed as to age, work that he has previously done, etc., and he fills out a work registration card. During dispatch days, the names of those who had been chosen for the jobs (following the rules of seniority) were posted on a list in the union office.

The workers who had telephones were contacted. The others came to read the list. The next day at 6 a.m. at the union office, Mack Lyons began calling out the names of those present. Each person had to have the date of dispatch stamped on the back of his card. The men then were given their dis-



WORKERS LINE UP TO VOTE AT SIERRA VISTA LAST

patch slips and with them they went to the ranch hiring hall to begin work.

But not everything went so smoothly. The first day, Jesus Eveita and Felipe Garcia, two ex-DiGiorgio workers who had been fired for union activities, came back at 6:30 a.m. to the office. The company had refused to hire them. Immediately Marshall Ganz, UFWOC organizer and director of the Lamont office, telephoned Dick Meyers, personnel manager of the Arvin ranch. The workers had a legitimate complaint because the contract clearly states that any worker who was fired prior to April 3 must be rehired once

he has applied for the job. But it took more than this to convince Meyers. Ganz called the DiGiorgio attorney, a Mr. Connors, who agreed that the workers had a legitimate complaint.

But the next day, at 7 a.m., Luis Chavez was sent back from the ranch hiring hall with the same story, together with two other workers who had previously been fired, but for other reasons. So Meyers was called again, and he finally agreed to employ Eveita, Garcia and Chavez, but not the other two workers. That night the five members held a meeting at which Eveita, Garcia and Cha-

how the union has changed the face of di giorgio



The union now is trying to establish a new trainee wage, so that every field worker can get the chance to do the more specialized jobs: irrigation, packing and machinery work. When this proposal is signed, all field workers will have a right to these better-paying jobs and they will be paid trainee wages for two weeks until they can do the work as fast as the specialized workers. As a result, whereas before there were mostly Anglos in the packing sheds, there will now be Anglos, Negroes, Filipinos, Mexicans and Puerto Ricans.

The integration of all races and all farm workers is the most important cornerstone needed to build a strong, united and well-functioning union.

WORKERS: REGISTER TODAY!

YEAR. NOW WE LINE UP AT THE UNION HIRING HALL

vez said they would not accept the job unless the other two workers were rehired with them, for the company didn't have the right to choose. The contract clearly states the rules and if the company does not follow them, everything would have to go back into arbitration. Meyers finally agreed to employ all the workers.

There were many other problems that the new hiring hall had to deal with. Two workers, for instance, who had been laid off by DiGiorgio, were called back to work by the union. But their answer was that they had "some nice small jobs and didn't want to quit them now."

So the union went down the list, employing other farm workers, but since then the other two have been phoning back every day because now they realize that they would be better off with the more secure jobs the union offers.

"People have to go by the system," Ganz said, "and they have to be ready when they are called. It is such a premium now to work at DiGiorgio under the new union contract that places get filled almost immediately. The main thing is to train people to go to work every day and report to the union if they can't."

WHERE TO GO

The union hiring hall is located at 10913 Main St., Lamont. The telephone number is

845-1488

ARIZONA: MASS LOCKOUT

GLENDALE, Ariz. --Lee K. Wong came up the hard way. He started out with a tiny grocery store around Salinas, Calif., and gradually built an empire that today includes the largest green onion farm in the country.

As he once told a Phoenix Gazette reporter, "balance" is the key to life: the balance between honest work and honest personal dealings.

The story is anything but that at Lee Wong's onion farm near this Phoenix suburb in the rich Salt River Valley of Central Arizona.

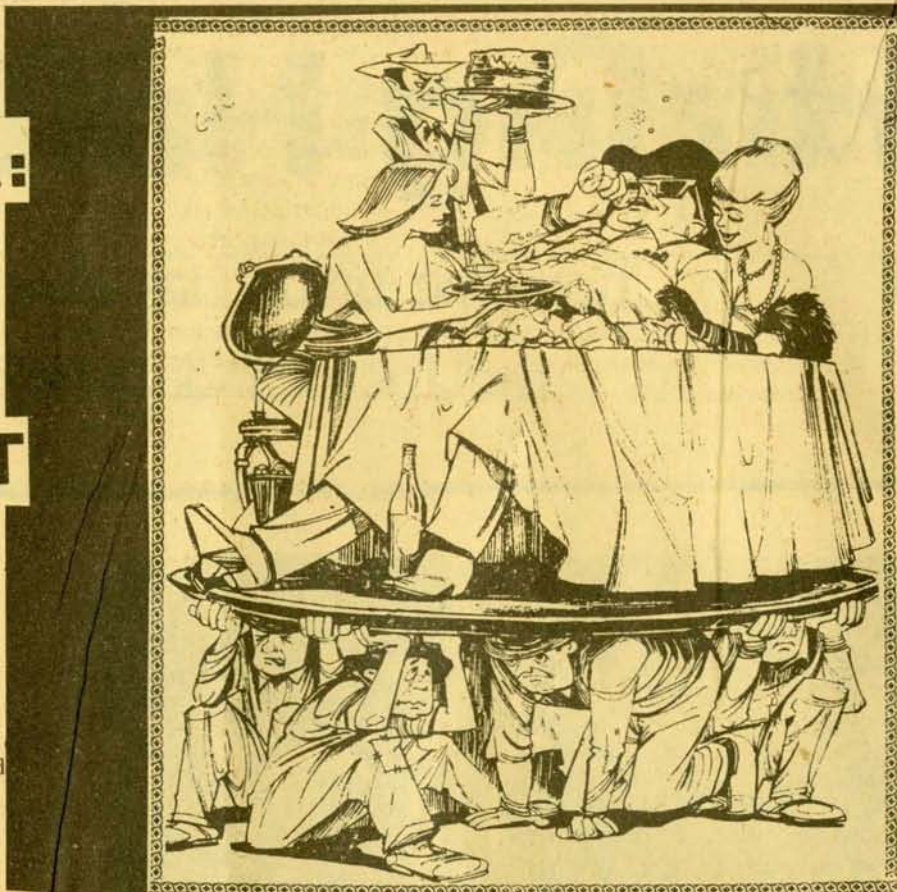
And "balance" isn't the story at a half-dozen other onion farms around here either.

When the federal \$1 an hour minimum wage went into effect this February, Wong and other growers decided they wouldn't pay it. So they suddenly fired most of their field workers--about 600 men were locked out.

Then they speeded up the workers who remained to get the onions picked, cleaned, and tied. Workers charge that time cards have been falsified to show that they're getting \$1 an hour when in fact they are not.

Onion workers are paid piece rate at about 12 cents a bunch, a dozen onions to the bunch. To put a bunch together, you must pick, clean, and tie them.

And to make \$1 an hour, you must tie 8 1/2 bunches. The average worker can do 50 to 60



Part of leaflet distributed by workers' friends

bunches a day, which works out to a wage of \$6.80 a day, or a little less than \$1 an hour.

The irony is that if the growers obeyed the law and paid \$1 an hour, it would amount to only 20 cents more a day for each average worker.

Your day in the onions starts at 8 a.m. and ends at 4 p.m. This includes an hour for lunch--in theory. Actually, you work right through lunch.

With this rigged-hour setup, the growers are free to rig also the time cards. If a man picks enough onions to make \$5 a day, the grower simply marks five hours on the time card. That's \$1 an hour if you don't know any better.

The federal government doesn't know any better. There are only three Bureau of Wages and Standards investigators in Central Arizona and they can't check all the time cards. They may not even be checking any of them.

The growers pulled other tricks, too. When they fired the 600 men

they immediately raised the price of their onions from 12 cents a dozen to 14 cents a dozen. That way they could claim poverty. But three weeks later, the price was down to 12 cents again.

Most of the 600 --including some fired from radish farms -- are back at work, forced to retreat by advancing hunger and want.

This is a common story in Arizona, a state which has plenty of sun but little warmth for the working man. Quite recently, for instance, a strike of city workers in nearby Tempe was broken and a long strike against KPHO-TV, Channel 5, was lost and the union was kicked out.

Arizona employers make sure their workers pay for the sunshine and the relatively healthy climate. Many workers are stuck in Arizona. They cannot leave because of their health. The bosses know this.

For the farm worker, the reasons for hardship are different, and the result is worse. As in the

Workers Terrified

rest of the country, farm workers are at the bottom of the heap.

Most of the farm workers here travel from state to state. Still, they are here for at least nine months out of the year (the green onions start in September, end in May.)

Many of Arizona's farm workers originally came from Texas. Because it's so far, they settled here instead of travelling back and forth from Texas. Farm workers live mostly in western Maricopa County--in the dusty towns of Cashion, El Mirage, Avondale, Stanfield and others.

Few of them live in grower camps any more. "There aren't that many camps left," one worker said, recalling that the State Health Department closed Lee Wong's camp two years ago. This is significant. Like all other Arizona government agencies, the health department is not noted for its concern for the poor. But Lee Wong's camp was too much even for the state of Arizona.

The thinking of Arizona growers is pointed up by the late John Jacobs, a community leader and boss of a large farm which grows all types of vegetables. Jacobs traveled to Mexico to study the oppressive plantation system there. When he returned, he put the same system into effect at his ranch near here.

Today, the workers at the Jacobs ranch are terrified. The chicano camp is kept separate from the Navajo camp, thus pitting race against race in a continuing pool of ignorance.

And it was Jacobs' son-in-law, who now runs the ranch, who told workers they had no right to distribute a leaflet (see top of page 16) in front of the Star Theater in Phoenix.

The young patron said the farmer is supporting the worker. But

most of Arizona knows---even if it does not admit it---that the federally financed Salt River Project, a water and power complex, is supporting the farmer.

Friends of the farm workers attempted to distribute the leaflet, which attacked the onion growers, at the theater, but were stopped by Phoenix cops with their cries of "Hey, boy." The police threatened to arrest the leafleters for "obstructing traffic", but failed to carry through their threat.

The same leaflet was distributed at the Hotel Westward Ho in downtown Phoenix when Vice President Humphrey spoke there in February.

But Maricopa County isn't the whole story. Yuma County, one of the country's leading citrus areas, has two-thirds of Arizona's farm workers. Just recently, farmers there rallied in support of the nefarious green card program.

This is Arizona--where the climate shines on the rich and rains on the poor.



A Glimmer of Hope

PHOENIX, Ariz. -- The first glimmer of hope for Arizona farm workers has been in operation for a little over a month.

It's the office of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO, at 1414 E. Mohave in Phoenix's Inner City barrio.

The office is run by Marcos Munoz, and is the focal point of UFWOC's boycott against Perelli-Minetti.

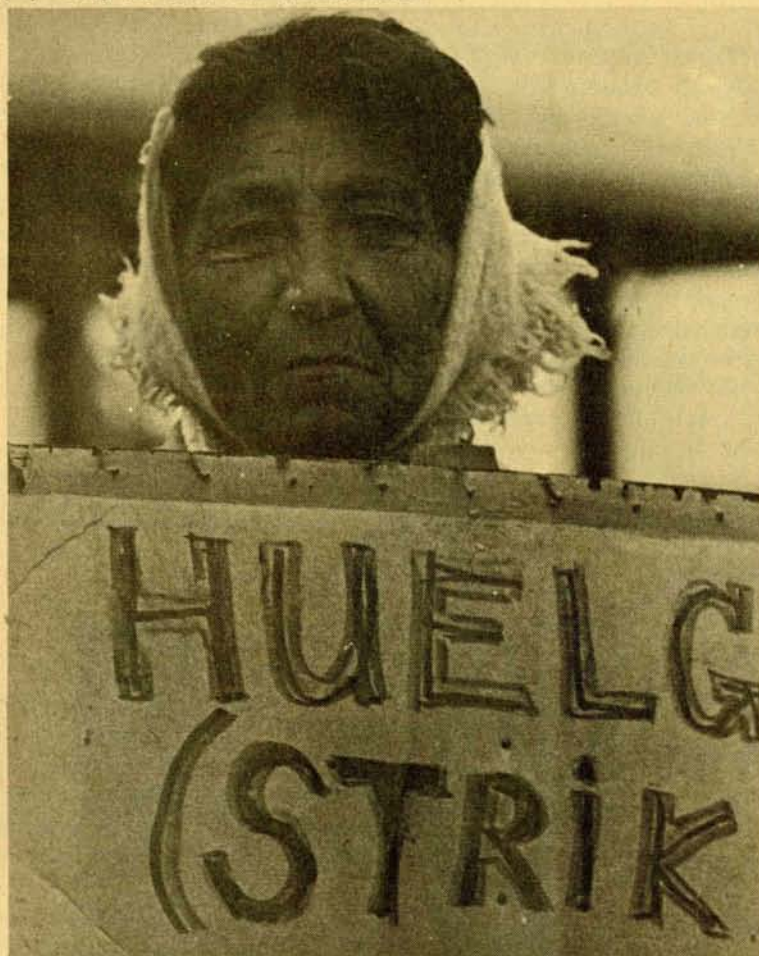
Word is getting around and more and more farm workers are stopping by the office, Munoz said. And many of them are calling the office at 252-0343.

In a leaflet titled "Arizona Farm Workers Mobilize," the UFWOC office said:

"The farm workers, students and the Young Christian Movement are starting the necessary action to extend the boycott to all of Arizona against the products of Perelli-Minetti.

"The farm worker of Arizona suffers the same circumstances that do the farm workers of California. But the situation is not one of total desperation because of the triumph in California, where the farm worker has formed his own union."

A support committee--Los Amigos de los Campesinos--also is being set up by John M. Haynes, assistant regional administrator of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers Union. Those wishing more information should write Haynes at 2526 N. 56th Street, Phoenix, or they may call him at his office, 274-3200.



Such determined people as this Texas woman -- and the threat of a profit-destroying strike -- have brought about elections at the Starr Packing Sheds. The pressure of hungry people will continue until all of Texas is organized.

Three Votes to Decide Texas Election

The three contested votes in the Starr Produce Co. election at Rio Grande City, Texas, will decide whether the union wins. Because of unfair practices by the company, the union has declared that the farm workers did not get all the votes to which they were entitled.

Fourteen packing shed workers voted for the union. Fourteen more--frightened by company threats--voted against it. Three more votes were contested, and the government has not yet announced the results of the election.

One worker, who voted for the company, said:

"Well, I'll tell you what I did. First I thought that if the union won we would all be fired. But then I found out that wasn't true, and I went there to vote for the union.

"But I got scared and voted 'no'. Pancho (a poll watcher who was

also a company supervisor) was there and then they asked me my name--it had been said they would not do that--and I got scared.

"I wasn't scared all the time, but just then, and I voted 'no'. First I wrote 'yes' and then I scratched it out and voted 'no'. I'm sorry I did that. If there is another election I'll vote for the union. I'm sorry, that's all."

There has never been a union for farm workers in South Texas. There is an atmosphere of fear and people are grateful to have these jobs. The jobs in the sheds--like Starr Produce--pay better than field work, even though the wages are still miserable when compared to union contract wages of California.

People in Rio Grande City are afraid that if they do anything to displease the employer they will lose what little they have. Men like Eugenio Pena, who courageously spoke out in favor of the

union and were fired, have learned that this fear was groundless. **THE UNION GOT HIS JOB BACK FOR HIM.**

It was last December when the union signed up the workers of Starr Produce. Eugene Nelson, the organizer, petitioned the government for an election. The election was held April 13, and the results are still not public because of the contested votes. The government will decide whether the union wins within the next week.

But the union has brought up the question of whether the election was fair at all. Sheriff's deputies followed Nelson and a Catholic priest who were visiting the workers to tell them about the election. The police bothered the voters and were ordered to leave the place of the election by the government officials. This alone is enough to invalidate the election unless the union wins.

YUBA CITY, Calif. -- Almost one hundred farm workers marched on the Sutter County Welfare Department to protest the unfair treatment they've been getting from the welfare director, Mary Quitariano. Although most county welfare departments discriminate against farm workers, it is especially bad in Sutter County, where unemployed farm workers are sometimes not even allowed to fill out applications. When they do get applications to fill out and are approved for welfare, the money they receive is not enough to live on, and many are about to lose their homes because they are not able to pay the rent.

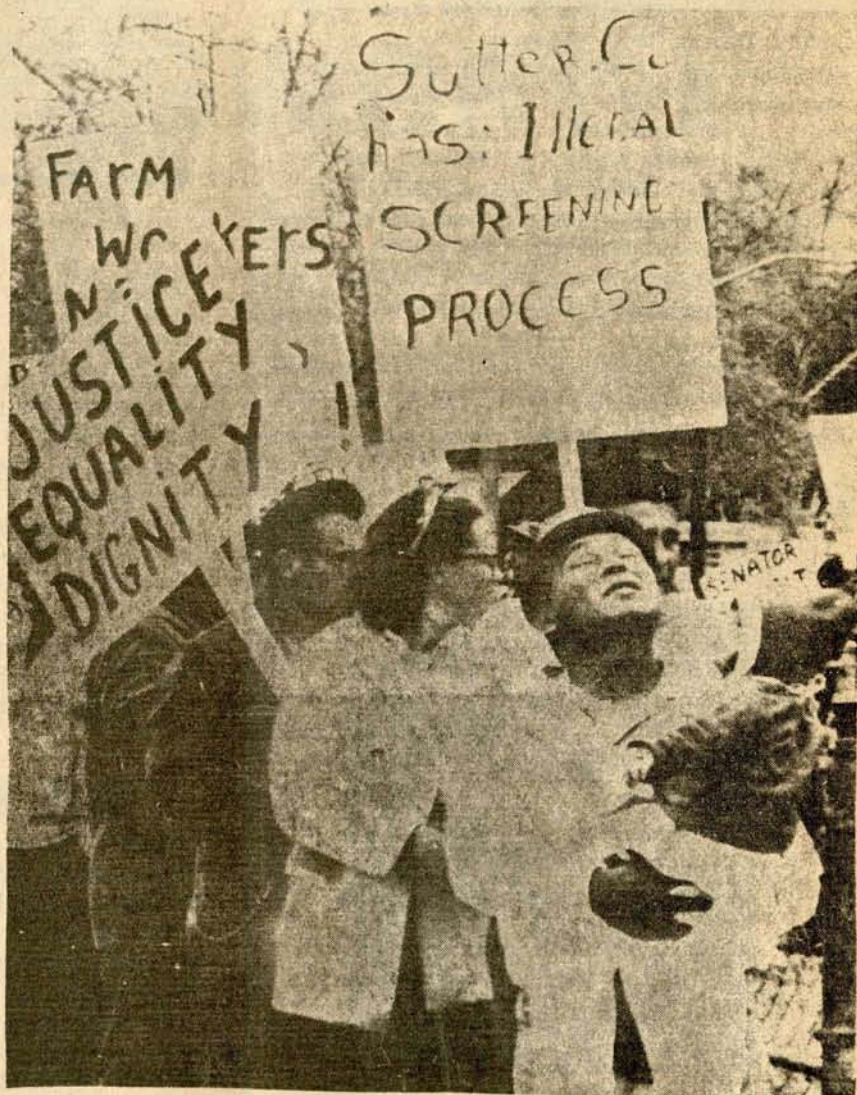
The marchers picketed in front of the Welfare Department, expecting to meet with Sutter County Administrative Officer Larry Cilley. Cilley had promised them a meeting, but when the marchers arrived, they found only another broken promise. The promise was broken by two Sutter County supervisors. One of them, George McFeeley, said: "I saw the people in the hallway, claiming to be hungry. They didn't look hungry to me." Does Mr. McFeeley know what hunger is? The biggest problem with the county welfare departments is that they are run by people like this who sit on the County Board of Supervisors and do not know the meaning of the words poverty and hunger. Not knowing anything about the farm workers' problems, welfare officials can easily make statements like, "They could get out and work if they wanted to" (said by Mary Quitariano).

Many people marched, including both Mexicans and Anglos. Some of the marchers were UFWOC members: Julian Pena, Albert Deveto, Hector Fernandez, Jose Luis Vasquez, Jesus Diaz, Mike Mendoza, and Eliseo Limones. Welfare is not charity. Under the law, unemployed workers who have children have a right to receive welfare, and not only the marchers, but many farm workers all over the state, are being denied this right.

The United Farm Workers will

100 MARCH FOR JUSTICE

Yuba Protest



use all of the resources the union has to fight this battle out until it is settled. Cesar Chavez said, "We tried the diplomatic approach first. But, if need be, we will go to court."

Benny Parrish, a good friend of the union and a man with lots of experience in welfare fights has gone to Sutter County to help the farm workers in their fight. After the marchers were denied the meeting they had been promised

in Sutter County, Mr. Parrish and a group of the marchers went to the Board of Supervisors' meeting to demand justice. The Board of Supervisors gave them no help, saying only that they would turn the problem over to John Montgomery, the state director of Social Welfare. The farm workers then went to Sacramento to talk to Montgomery, who said he would consider the problem.

FUNNY PLACE FOR A GROWER

SACRAMENTO--The California Farm Labor Service is going to be "reorganized," according to former movie star Ronald Reagan. A "separate and identifiable Farm Labor Service" will be created; however, it will still be under the State Department of Employment. The difference will be that the people in local offices who run the Farm Labor Service will be directly controlled by a person appointed to that job in Sacramento.

Reagan said, "The new operating arrangement is streamlined in such a way as to centralize authority. . . ." Unfortunately, this authority will be "centralized" under William H. Tolbert, deputy director for farm labor and ALSO a VENTURA COUNTY CITRUS GROWER. Tolbert will have full authority to direct the farm labor program throughout the (employment) department's structure, which includes 29 Farm Labor Service field offices throughout California.

This employment service of the state is supposed to be neutral, helping growers to find workers and



helping farm workers to find jobs. However, now it will be headed by a grower with "full authority" to run the service, and, as farm workers have learned through struggle and sacrifice, growers are not usually neutral. This employment service could be very helpful to us if farm workers, who know the problems of finding work, were involved in running it.

But instead there is a grower running it, and so we cannot depend on it. Farm workers have learned that the only "employment service" which is of any value to us is the kind that we run ourselves as union hiring halls, protected by union contracts, which can be won only by organization of farm workers through much struggle.

What's the Name of This Town?



First Answer Wins \$5.00

SEND YOUR ANSWER AND YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS TO:

GAME OF THE TOWNS
BOX 1060
DELANO, CALIF. 93215

LAST TIME'S WINNER

Gilbert Rubio of Delano was first to identify last week's town--McFarland. He wins \$5.

NEW DI GIORGIO VOTE

MARYSVILLE, Calif.--The union representation election at the DiGiorgio ranch in Marysville has been set for July 18. The people eligible to vote will be those who will be working at the Marysville ranch anytime between July 1 and July 14, and do not have the power to hire and fire workers.

The agreement to have an election at the Marysville ranch was signed last fall, but a specific date and rules for the election were not included. Now these, too, are definite and on July 18 all workers will be asked to decide whether or not they want to be represented by the Farm Workers Union, the UFWOC.

This is the last of the DiGiorgio ranches in California to hold representation elections. The United Farm Workers Organizing Committee has already won elections at DiGiorgio's Delano, Borrego Springs and Arvin ranches and the workers at these ranches are now enjoying the benefits of a union contract which they themselves negotiated with DiGiorgio, benefits such as higher wages, free health insurance and a grievance procedure to settle complaints. Now there is to be an election at Marysville and when that is won, the workers there will have the chance to negotiate their own contract and get the same benefits for their labor that the workers at all the other DiGiorgio ranches get. Call the Union at 743-6771.



ALLENSWORTH by kerry ohta

Not only Delano has a water poisoning problem. Allensworth, an almost non-existent Negro town that stands at the edge of the tracks about ten miles west of Delano, has been depopulating due to the lack of water: arsenic-poisoned water. Kerry Ohta and Manuel Sanchez, of the United Farmworker Organizing Committee, went to see what it was all about. And this is what they found:

Allensworth, Calif. was formerly an old Tulare Lake that has since dried up. Arsenic from an old lake bed in the area has poisoned the water there.

"The residents of Allensworth didn't discover this until the water authorities checked the water last spring and claimed that the water had a small percentage of arsenic in the drinking water, and they said they had no idea as to how long the water had been poisoned," Mrs. Juanita Bruce said.

Mrs. Bruce is the teacher and principal of the Allensworth school. She teaches grades one through eight and has 26 children. "I was recruited from Bakersfield to work here," Mrs. Bruce explained, "and I've been here two years, and really don't know how long I'll be staying." She had to interrupt the conversation to have their track team go out to the schoolyard, which is overgrown with weeds, and dry grass. The schoolhouse is an old building as are all the buildings in Allensworth. "Our track team will be competing in the Jr. Olympics in Earlimart soon.

"The residents are trying to get water in the town so that they can keep the town from becoming a ghost town. The school building is the only building in town that has fresh water. The residents who have moved out of Allensworth have not moved because of the poisoned water, but because of the complete lack of water in the town. The people don't want their town to get any smaller, it has only 34 families as it is, and they are trying to figure out ways to keep the people from moving out. They feel that once there is water in the town, the families that have moved away will come back, and the families that are living here now will remain. Most of the people that live in Allensworth do farm work, are self-employed, or go out of town to work. One of the boys that I teach just

told me that his mother and father have gone to Bakersfield to work, and he is staying with an older sister. Many of the families go out of town to work, and they would rather live here, if it weren't for the water problem that is forcing them into other towns.

"Since the authorities discovered the arsenic poisoning we have always had a fresh tank full of water, which the fire trucks bring in. The first tank was brought in during the night and we didn't find out until a few days later that the tank was there because the water was poisoned. They don't have any idea as to how long we've been drinking the poisoned water, but no one has been sick or died because of the water, yet. The Health Dept. of Tulare said that arsenic poisoning is a very slow process, so we'll just have to wait and see.

"The people have been trying to get water piped into their homes but the Farm Home Office in Visalia says that they will have to pay for the piping. And now they're trying to find out if the government would lend them the money but even if they did, it would put people into debt for 10 years or more, because the piping and water is so expensive, and the government will not pay for it."

Why then is Governor Regan's biggest scheme to spend billions of tax payers dollars on new irrigation systems for the growers? And why has the government allowed the growers around Delano to get water free from the irrigation canals EVEN THOUGH IT IS AGAINST THE LAW FOR ANY GROWER WHO OWNS OVER 160 ACRES TO USE THIS WATER WITHOUT PAYING FOR IT? Why won't the government pay to have water for the families in Allensworth?

The one tank that supplies the town of Allensworth is periodically checked by the County Health Dept. and stands in front of the school house, from where the people have to haul it every day. Mrs. Bruce says that the National Guard brought the water in after the Health Dept. of Tulare brought the first tank in, but the National Guard needed the tanks to supply water to their trainees during the summer. So the State Forestry Service took over the job and now the water is supplied by the Tulare Health Dept. There is no more than one tank, no water in the houses, and no water to waste.



Child Care Center for Strikers

A nursery school for children in the strike began last Monday, April 24th, at Dolores Huerta's house, 137 Austin St., Delano. The children are from two to five years old, and the hours are from 9 until 4, days a week.

The reason for the nursery school is so that your children can learn to share with other children, can join in art classes, listen to music, hear stories, play with blocks, toys and puzzles, and build things. Lunch is also given to the children.

Any mothers who leave their children at the nursery will be able to work on the picket line, work in

the office, work in the kitchen, or work with the children in the nursery school.

If you would like your children to learn and you would like to help the strike during your free time, leave your children at the strikers' nursery school.

We are in need of supplies for the nursery school. Please help by sending all toys, art materials and money to:

Strikers' Nursery School
c/o Kerry Ohta
Box 130
Delano, California

UNION BLOOD BANK

DELANO -- The Farm Workers Health Clinic is setting up a blood bank for UFWOC members, nurse Peggy McGivern announced this week.

To give blood, you must:

Be between 18 and 60 years old and if you are under 21, you must have your parents' written permission, never have had yellow jaundice, not have had malaria within the last two years, not have had any shots within the last two weeks, weigh more than 110 pounds, not have had high blood pressure or heart disease, not have had a child within six months, not have a cold, must not have given blood during the last three months.

Those who are going to donate blood must not eat anything for three hours before they go to the blood bank except black coffee and fruit juice. But a complete meal can be eaten five hours before giving blood.

The Houchin Community Blood Bank is at 2601 G Street, Bakersfield. It is open from 10 a. m. to noon Monday, Tuesday and Friday, from 3 p. m. to 5 p. m. Tuesday and from 5 p. m. to 8 p. m. Friday.

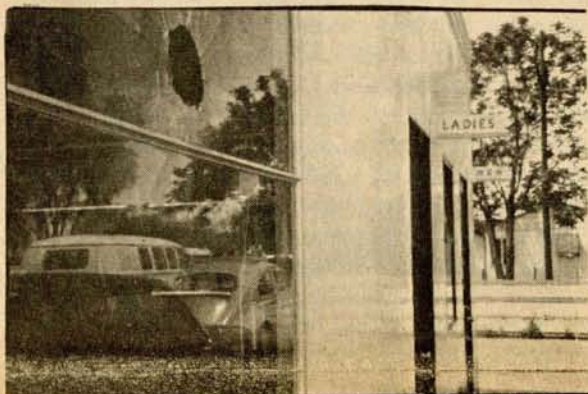
"Please donate if you can," Miss McGivern said. "When you donate blood," she added, "say it is for the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee." That way UFWOC will get credit for the blood you have donated and it will be put into the union's account.

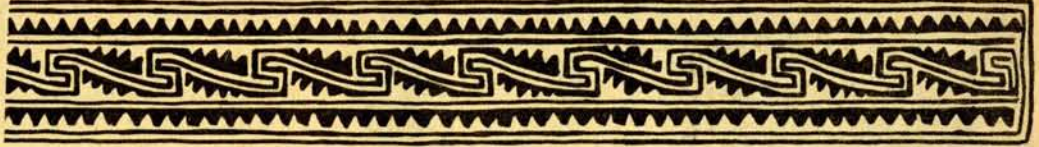
Gas Station Damaged

DELANO -- On April 24th, at 2:00 in the morning, the police knocked at the door of Juan Flores of the Farm Worker Co-op gas station. Together they rode to the service station at the corner of Cecil and Madison. The windows of the station had been shattered by two small cartridge bombs.

Damage was done to both large glass windows of the station office, and also to the glass on the door of the ladies' restroom. The empty cartridge was found in the sink, still with some of the explosive

The Farm Workers Service Center began running this gasoline station a month ago, in order to be able to offer cheaper gasoline and oil to the farm workers and Delano residents. But now, because of harrassment by some persons who insist on damaging the union, the station is temporarily closed -- and the damage extends to all of the people in Delano.





"The Farm Workers Credit Union, the savings and lending institution of the
BLACK EAGLE"

CONGRATULATIONS TO DI GIORGIO WORKERS FROM THE FARM WORKERS CREDIT UNION

WE OF THE FARM WORKERS CREDIT UNION WOULD MOST LIKE TO CONGRATULATE
THE DIGIORGIO WORKERS AND THEIR NEW UNION CONTRACT. MAY THERE BE MANY
REAL VICTORIES FOR YOU IN THE FUTURE AS YOU HAVE HAD IN THE RECENT WEEKS.

A second victory will come now when the NEW FARM WORKER, the DiGiorgio worker, will begin to
put larger amounts of money into the savings institution of his choice, the FARM WORKERS CREDIT
UNION.

SAVE for that rainy day when you cannot work.
SAVE for that sudden sickness.
SAVE for the brand new stove.
SAVE the NEW FARMWORKER way.

With wise care, the higher wage that you, the DiGiorgio worker, now earn can be made to seem like
even more money simply by saving a little and spending a little. Save your money and pay cash for
the things you want. DON'T PAY INTEREST, DON'T PAY CARRYING CHARGES. Buy that refrig-
erator or television set with the cash you can save in the FARM WORKERS CREDIT UNION. With
the money you save by paying cash, you can buy something extra that you could not have bought if you
had bought on an installment plan.

So we ask you, SAVE and borrow at THE FARM WORKERS CREDIT UNION TODAY. Any farm worker
who is a member of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee can have savings in the Credit
union.

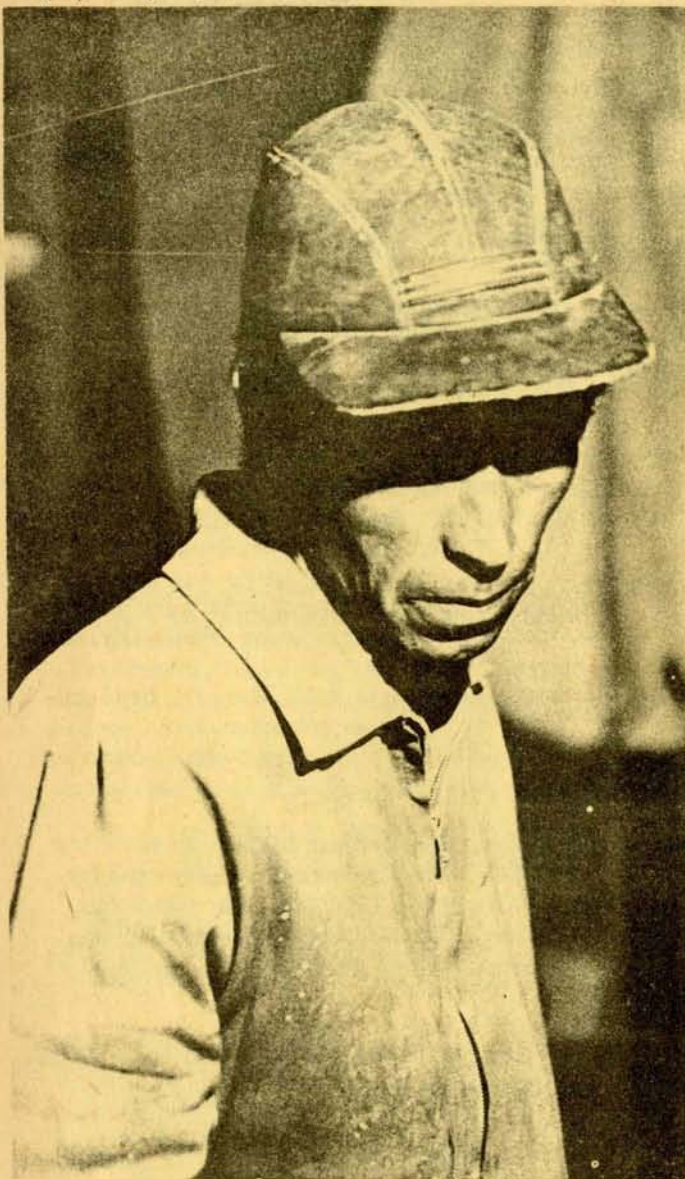
HERES A TOAST TO THE NEW FARMWORKER OF TODAY, THE DIGIORGIO WORKER.

Signed:
The Board of Directors
Farm Workers Credit Union

Write to us at:

FARM WORKERS CREDIT UNION
P.O. Box 894, Delano, Cal.

or visit us at:
105 ASTI, DELANO



THE WEST SIDE

by AGUSTIN LIRA

"Orale muchachos, aqui esta la raya!" (Come on men, this is where you'll make money!") Hernandez was making his daily speech for workers. His blue and white labor bus looked like an overworked mule. The paint had chipped off most of the body, and when anyone boarded it, it groaned. The streets were littered with passing men and women. Children of all ages were in work clothes. Shabby men in a little group passed the bottle back and forth.

An old woman with much powder on her face tapped me on the shoulder. "Hi. Where are you going?" I noticed that her lips were covered with lipstick and it was smeared over her lips. For just a second I thought she was a circus clown made up for a performance. Her dress was too tight over her boney hips. She tried like hell to look sexy. "Ma'am, I'm going to work and I don't need a companion. Thanks, huh?" She made a face like a prune, then walked a few steps and tapped another man on the shoulder.

"Hernandez, I need a job." He looked at me and said, "You too young."

"I can work better than this whole busful of winos."

"Yeah, you probably can. Go hed."

I climbed into the bus and found a seat. The floor of the bus was littered with papers, cans and just garbage in general. Wheezing and coughing overtook the bus. The women sat quietly. A strange smell was in the atmosphere. A smell of something that had gone unwashed for a long time.

Hernandez climbed into the driver's seat. The bus sputtered to a start and shook all over. We were on our way.

I looked out the window. There were men leaning on the old buildings smoking and talking in loud voices. Some men slept on the concrete and I wondered for how long. Well, not too long. Because there was always that paddy wagon picking up the men that had been either too drunk or too damned tired to get up before the law caught them enjoying a few quick winks. As early as it was in the morning, the pool halls and liquor stores seemed always to be open and doing business.

We made our way out of the city and travelled about 45 miles into the country until we came to the fields. The bus went slowly over the still-wet ground. Fog was thick and I knew we would have to wait a

before we started picking. Hernandez was checking out the cotton and cursing because it was wet. The men were getting impatient but some still slept and could probably have cared less. Hernandez came back in and opened a carton box. "Orale vatos, here you go!" He was showing wine bottles to the men. "Awright, before we start to work, who wants a little shot? Don't worry about the money, you can pay me after work."

"How much?" -- a voice from the back.

"A dollar," Hernandez answered.

"A dollar?! Hell they only worth 26 cents!" said the voice.

"A dollar, take it or leave it!"

A crowd of men went forward and signed their names.

After our cotton sacks and started in to work. The cotton was good, no machine had been through the row halfway through my row, I filled my sack, picked it up, loaded it on my back and went to weigh. Hernandez was weighing the loads of cotton. His fat stomach shook as he picked a sack to weigh. Then he yelled the amount of the weight so that anybody within distance would hear. I walked up and he weighed my sack. The needle marked 88 pounds. "Seventy-two pounds of cotton!" he yelled out to the crowd. "Theif!" I thought but couldn't tell him. It wouldn't have done any good anyway. He would have caught me on the spot or argued about the wetness of the cotton and the weight of the sack. I went back to work and finished the rest of the day.

Hernandez was calling out the numbers to pay up. Then he informed us that he was taking out \$2.60 use of the cotton sacks. "number 43!" I stepped up and collected my pay. On the way back I didn't stop staying awake, so I slept. We got to the city pretty late. The town was as usual very alive with coming and going out of the bars. The workers in the bus disappeared into the pool halls and bars. I went home. A very well-dressed man stepped up to me.

"Hey babe. I know you babe. Look here cat this stuff will put you on a trip man. Here the first time it's free. Babe the first time it's free!" I shook my head "no thanks" and kept going.

"HAIL I din give you none, I give you haf a my bottle last night, and I din make no fuss, damn it, let me a drink a that!"

"I can't be grabbing for my bottle, this is mine. Leave me be!"

"Sam, you my fren, come on give me a swaller, just one swaller, come on Sam!"

"I stole you to leave me be ... now I'm gonna teach you ...!" He tipped the bottle up and the fluid disappeared down his throat in one big gulp.

"Sam ... why you ...!" He didn't have time to get near Sam because Sam broke the bottle over his head.

The man felt the blood oozing over his eyes and he reached and touched his head, looked at his hand, picked up another bottle, broke it in one jagged piece, then he staggered toward Sam. He slashed and opened Sam's face and chest. They lunged at each other, cutting and ripping their scantily clad bodies. They roared in pain as each one felt the harm they were doing to each other.

"Damn you Sam, I'm gonna kill you so help me God!"

They look at each other and lunged again and again until they were two bloody bodies. Sam collapsed on the concrete sobbing big gasps and taking in air.

"I stole you Sam ... I stole you I was gonna kill you!"

The man kicked Sam in the face and then grabbed him by the hair, slashed him across the throat. Sam tried to scream but only gurgling sounds came out of his mouth. In his eyes was terror. The other man let go of Sam's head and it made a dull sound on the concrete. He dropped the bottle, looked at his hands and looked around at the crowd that had gathered. He looked at Sam and screamed:

"See I stole you! I stole you I was gonna kill you!"

The law found them that way, with the man huddled close to Sam and crying.

I remember as I walked down the street that the crowd that had gathered had not made a move to stop. They had cheered and laughed and pushed the two winos into each other, encouraging them on. It happened so fast that I had felt as if only my eyes had been there and the rest of my body was somewhere else. I continued on my way, with my paper sack under my arm. Up the street I looked back. The street was quiet and the crowd had disappeared.



made our way
out of the city..."

(26) May 10, 1967 EL MALCRIADO

Massachusetts, birthplace of the anti-slavery movement and home to millions of immigrants, was not quite a shining glory of history during those two bitter months of 1912.

Twenty thousand textile workers were on strike because their \$9 a week wages were cut. The workers were mostly Italians, Poles, Lithuanians and Russians and half of them worked for the American Woolen Co. The workers began walking out Jan. 12, 1912, and soon only 10,000 of the 30,000 mill hands were not in the strike. But the mills were shut tight.

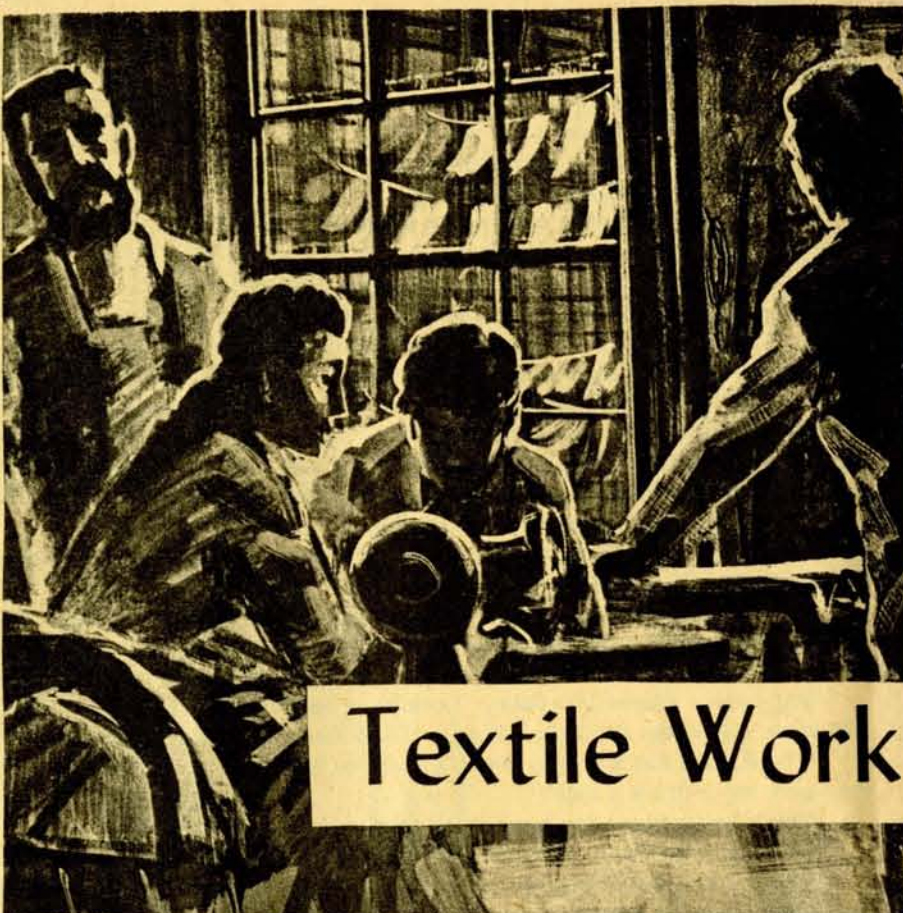
A few workers already were union members--a handful in the United Textile Workers (AFL) and about 1000 in the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW). Foreseeing the strike, IWW members had sent to headquarters for help and the international dispatched Joseph J. Ettor and Arturo Giovannitti who, in addition to being a top organizer, also was an excellent poet.

Ettor and Giovannitti took over the strike and organized it on realistic lines. Mass meetings, picket lines, relief to the needy and suffering families whose only income had been cut off when the strike started--all these aspects of the strike were set up by the two IWW organizers. The AFL union just tagged along and tried to wreck the IWW efforts.

Huge newspaper headlines announced the first act of violence--dynamite planted in various parts of the city. The IWW, because it was thought to be a violent organization, was blamed immediately.

Before the strike was over, however, it was proved that the dynamite had been planted by a local mortician--with the conspiratorial encouragement of the American Woolen Co.'s president--in an attempt to discredit the strike. This, said one conservative newspaper, was "an offense on the part of capitalism which passes the worst acts ever committed by labor unions."

American Woolen, meanwhile, still refused even to consider the strikers' demands. The company tried to reopen the mills;



Textile Workers Organize



causing a clash between strikers and police. During the rioting, a woman was killed and 22 militia companies were called out to enforce martial law. Ettor and Giovannitti were arrested as accessories to murder. Big Bill Haywood, IWW leader, rushed to Lawrence to take command. Forgetting revolution for the moment, he ordered that the strike remain non-violent.

The mills weren't operating. "In the spinning room," wrote a newspaper reporter, "every belt was in motion, the whir of machinery sounded on every side, yet not a single operative was at work and not a single machine carried a spool of yarn."

As food ran low and the winter deepened, the strike committee sent out an appeal to a number of sympathizers in other cities asking them to give temporary homes to the children of the strikers. The response was immediate and several hundred children were sent to other towns. This made the AFL United Textile Workers madder than hell and it denounced the move as one

made only "to keep up the agitation and further the propaganda of the Industrial Workers of the World."

Then city authorities declared that no more children would be allowed to leave. The strike committee attempted to get some children out of town anyway and the police intervened in a manner which was more successful in winning sympathy for the strikers than anything else could have been.

The Women's Committee of Philadelphia, which was to have taken care of the children, said in its report of what happened:

"The (train) station was surrounded by police and militia. . . When the time approached to depart, the children, arranged in a long line, two by two, in orderly procession, with their parents near at hand, were about to make their way to the train when the police, who had by that time stationed themselves along both sides of the door, closed in on us with their clubs, beating right and left with no thought of the children, who were in the

most desperate danger of being trampled to death. The mothers and children were thus hurled in a mass and bodily dragged to a military truck, and even then clubbed, irrespective of the cries of the panic-stricken women and children."

This was the turning point of the strike. Protests flooded the town. There were more attacks on strikers and 296 arrests during the two months of the strike. But the picket lines held firm and American Woolen Co. admitted defeat March 12, 1912. Terms met almost all the strikers' demands. Wages were increased from 5% to 25% with time-and-a-quarter for overtime.

Ettor and Giovannitti went on trial and were found innocent. At first, it looked as if they would be convicted despite any evidence directly linking them with the woman's death. But the IWW collected a \$60,000 defense fund and the Lawrence workers declared that unless the men were freed they once again would shut down the plants.

Giovannitti's told the jury:

"Let me tell you that the first strike that breaks again in this state, or any other place in America where the work and help and the intelligence of Joseph J. Ettor and Arturo Giovannitti will be needed and necessary, there we shall go again, regardless of any fear or of any threat. We shall return again to our humble efforts, obscure, unknown, misunderstood soldiers of this mighty army of the working class of the world, which, out of the shadows and darkness of the past, is striving towards the destined goal, which is the emancipation of human kind, which is the establishment of love and brotherhood and justice for every man and every woman on this earth."

This was the only major strike the IWW won. Later, in 1913, workers struck in the silk mills of Paterson, N.J. Haywood and Ettor again were on hand for the IWW. Strikers were arrested on any pretense and clubbed insensible if they resisted. The strike was lost.

In 1934, however, between 400,000 and 500,000 textile workers struck in 20 states, led by the United Textile Workers. Employers were widely ignoring the law and the workers demanded a 30-hour week with no reduction in the \$13 a week wage, abolition of the "stretch-out" and recognition of the UTW. At the height of the struggle, 11,000 national guardsmen were toting guns in eight states.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt intervened, promising appointment of a new Textile Labor Relations Board and the strike was called off. But the companies continued to flout the law. Only 80,000 remained in the UTW of the thousands who had joined during the strike.

This cleared the way for a more aggressive union, the CIO's Textile Workers Organizing Committee (TWOC), which during the late 30's organized many Southern mills which the UTW couldn't touch. TWOC was run by the brilliant Sidney Hillman, who was also president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.

But textiles still are tough customers and there are some holdouts even today.

J.P. Stevens & Co. Inc., which has mills in North Carolina and South Carolina, has systematically brutalized its employees in the face of an organizing campaign by the Textile Workers Union of America (AFL-CIO). TWUA President William Pollock said recently, "Nearly four years have passed since the proceedings against J.P. Stevens began. Not one of the 101 unlawfully discharged employees has yet been reinstated."

The company is a leading government contractor and is bossed by Robert T. Stevens, who was secretary of the army in one of former President Eisenhower's cabinets.

THE COVER

Felipe Cantu, of the Farm Workers Theatre, as photographed by John Kouns. The Theatre is just returning to Delano after a three week tour in Texas,

LADULCE VIDA

IN THE NORTH



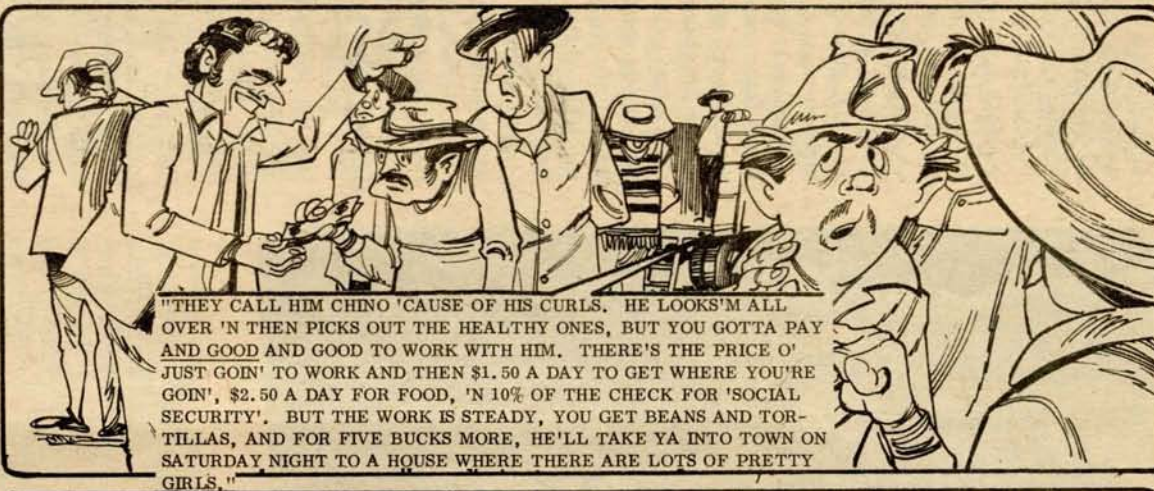
WITHOUT KNOWING THAT THE TRAIN THAT THEY HOPPED IN TEXAS WAS TRAVELLING ALONG THE BORDER, OUR FRIENDS HAVE ARRIVED IN CALEXICO INSTEAD OF LOS ANGELES. IN ORDER TO AVOID THE LAW, TELESFORO AND GORGONIO HAVE JUMPED THE TRAIN BEFORE COMING INTO THE CITY. HONORIO WAITED AND JUMPED LATER; HE WENT TO CALEXICO ALONE, TAKING TELESFORO'S GUITAR. GUIDED BY A MAN THAT THEY MET ON THE TRAIN, "LOUSE," TELESFORO AND GORGONIO HAVE ENDED UP IN A PLACE CALLED THE HOLE.

BY ANDRES ZERMENO AND LUIS VALDEZ

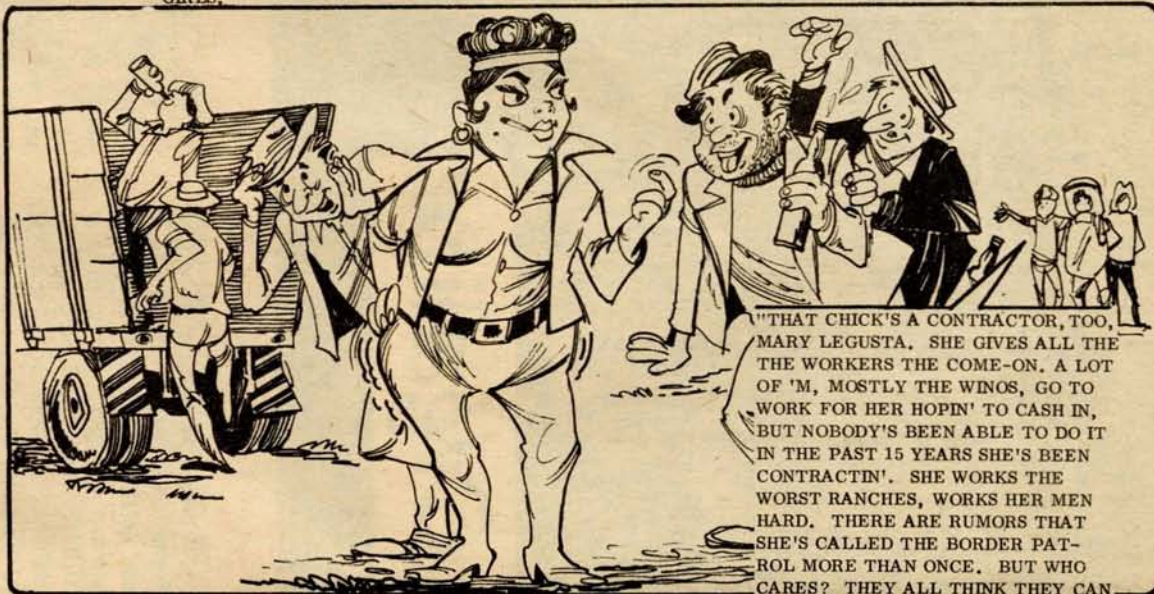
"I BET YOU HONORIO IS
SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE."

"I DIDN'T SEE HIM JUMP,
BUT I HOPE HE HAS MY
GUITAR."

"THEY COME HERE FROM
ACROSS THE BORDER TO GET
WORK. THEN THE CONTRAC-
TORS COME WITH THEIR
TRUCKS AND PICK UP AS MANY
MEN AS THEY NEED. YA CAN
FIND WORK HERE IF YA KNOW
WHERE TO GO."



"THEY CALL HIM CHINO 'CAUSE OF HIS CURLS. HE LOOKS'M ALL
OVER 'N THEN PICKS OUT THE HEALTHY ONES, BUT YOU GOTTA PAY
AND GOOD AND GOOD TO WORK WITH HIM. THERE'S THE PRICE O'
JUST GOIN' TO WORK AND THEN \$1.50 A DAY TO GET WHERE YOU'RE
GOIN', \$2.50 A DAY FOR FOOD, 'N 10% OF THE CHECK FOR 'SOCIAL
SECURITY'. BUT THE WORK IS STEADY, YOU GET BEANS AND TOR-
TILLAS, AND FOR FIVE BUCKS MORE, HE'LL TAKE YA INTO TOWN ON
SATURDAY NIGHT TO A HOUSE WHERE THERE ARE LOTS OF PRETTY
GIRLS."



"THAT CHICK'S A CONTRACTOR, TOO,
MARY LEGUSTA. SHE GIVES ALL THE
THE WORKERS THE COME-ON. A LOT
OF 'M, MOSTLY THE WINOS, GO TO
WORK FOR HER HOPIN' TO CASH IN,
BUT NOBODY'S BEEN ABLE TO DO IT
IN THE PAST 15 YEARS SHE'S BEEN
CONTRACTIN'. SHE WORKS THE
WORST RANCHES, WORKS HER MEN
HARD. THERE ARE RUMORS THAT
SHE'S CALLED THE BORDER PAT-
ROL MORE THAN ONCE. BUT WHO
CARES? THEY ALL THINK THEY CAN
MAKE IT."

"HI, BILL, I THOUGHT YOU WERE IN COACHELLA."

"GOT BACK LAST NIGHT, AND I'M
HEADING BACK UP THERE IN AN
HOUR. JUST GOT TIME FOR A CUP
OF COFFEE."



"WELL, I SOLD THE GUITAR FOR \$15, SPENT A
BUCK ON A BATH, ANOTHER TWO GETTING MY
CLOTHES CLEANED, AND TWO BUCKS FOR THIS
DINNER. THAT LEAVES \$25. BETTER FIND
SOME WORK FAST, SO LONG AS IT ISN'T IN THE
FIELDS. MAYBE I SHOULD TRY TO FIND A RIDE
TO LOS ANGELES."

"THAT'S QUITE A STORY YOU WROTE
THERE. FRONT PAGE TOO, HUH?
WHAT'S GOING ON IN THAT PLACE?"



"IN COACHELLA? PLENTY! THE STRIKERS ARE MOSTLY FILI-
PINOS, AND BLEEDMAN'S BRINGING IN SCABS BY THE TRUCKLOAD.
MEXICANS, MOSTLY. THE WORD IS THERE'S GONNA BE VIO-
LENCE BEFORE IT'S OVER. MEXICANS AND FILIPINOS NEVER
DID EXACTLY LOVE EACH OTHER. A COUPLE OF TRUCKLOADS
OF SCABS ARE BEING ROUNDED UP RIGHT NOW IN THE HOLE. MY
PLAN IS TO FOLLOW THEM ALL THE WAY TO THE STRIKE AREA,
JUST SO'S I DON'T MISS NOTHING. THIS STORY'S SO HOT, REPORT-
ERS ARE COMING IN FROM AS FAR AS LOS ANGELES."

"SOUNDS DANGEROUS, BILL.
YOU BETTER BE CAREFUL."

"WHAT'D THAT GUY SAY?
THAT HE'S GOING TO L.A.?"



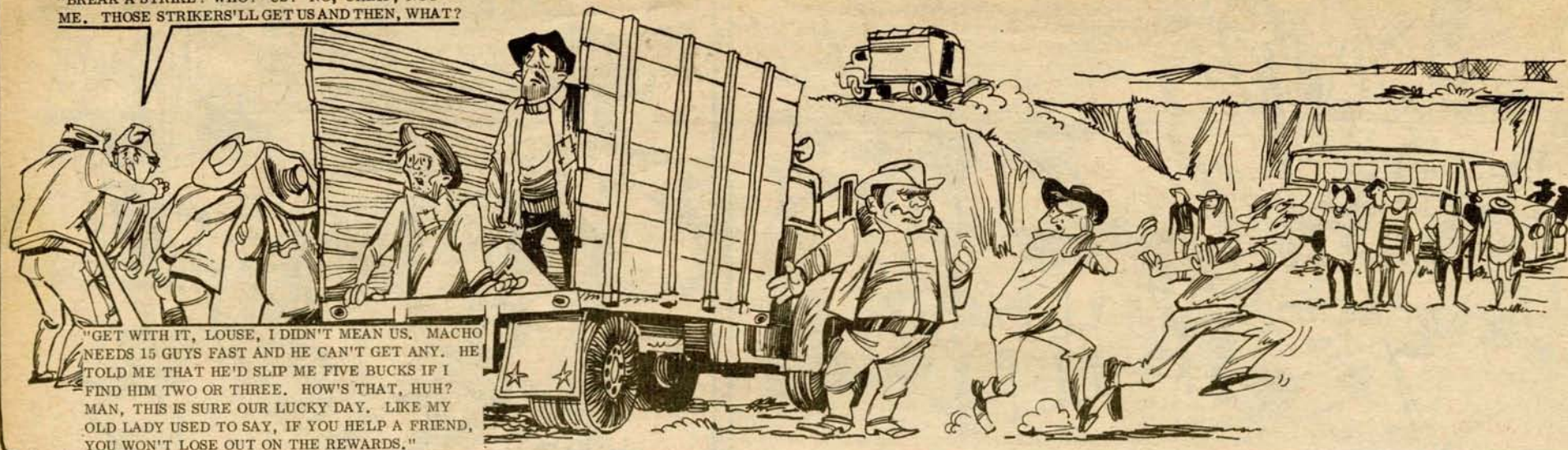
"ALL IN A DAY'S WORK, YOU KNOW
HOW IT IS. ANYTHING FOR A GOOD
SCOOP. IT'S THE SCABS THAT HAVE
SOMETHING TO WORRY ABOUT, NOT
US REPORTERS. I SURE HOPE THERE'S
SOME ACTION TODAY. MAYBE I CAN
MAKE THE FRONT PAGE AGAIN--
BILL STONE, YOU LUCKY MAN!"

"HEY, MAN, WHERE'VE YOU BEEN?
WHAT'D YOU FIND? IS THERE A CHANCE?"



"SURE, PAL, BETTER 'N EVER. WE'VE GOT
IT MADE. THOSE TWO GUYS YOU BROUGHT
ARE GOING TO DO US SOME GOOD. SEE
THAT CONTRACTOR'S TRUCK. THAT'S AN-
TONIO MACHO'S. REMEMBER LAST YEAR
WHEN WE WORKED FOR HIM IN COACHELLA?
NOW HE'S LOOKING FOR SOME GUYS TO
BREAK A STRIKE."

"BREAK A STRIKE? WHO? US? NO, CHEIF, NOT ME. THOSE STRIKERS'LL GET US AND THEN, WHAT?"



"GET WITH IT, LOUSE, I DIDN'T MEAN US. MACHO NEEDS 15 GUYS FAST AND HE CAN'T GET ANY. HE TOLD ME THAT HE'D SLIP ME FIVE BUCKS IF I FIND HIM TWO OR THREE. HOW'S THAT, HUH? MAN, THIS IS SURE OUR LUCKY DAY. LIKE MY OLD LADY USED TO SAY, IF YOU HELP A FRIEND, YOU WON'T LOSE OUT ON THE REWARDS."



"YOU DON'T SAY, YOU LIKED IT, HUH?"

"EXCUSE ME, SIR. DID I HEAR YOU RIGHT? ARE YOU BILL STONE, THE AUTHOR OF THIS FANTASTIC REPORT ON THE COACHELLA STRIKE? LET ME CONGRATULATE YOU. I'M A REPORTER TOO, AND I KNOW ABOUT THE DANGERS THAT A WRITER RUNS INTO WHEN HE GOES LOOKING FOR THE TRUTH."

"OF COURSE. HOW COULD I HELP BUT LIKE IT? AND WHAT'S MORE, I'M GOING TO COACHELLA TO SEE THE STRIKE, TOO. THEN I'M GOING TO L.A. WHERE THE U.S. OFFICE OF MY MAGAZINE IS. I WRITE FOR ONE OF THE BIGGEST MAGAZINES IN



MEXICO. THEY SENT ME HERE TO SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING. I CAME BY TRAIN-- FIRST CLASS-- BUT NOW I THINK I'LL TAKE THE BUS. I HOPE I'LL GET THERE IN TIME TO SEE SOME OF THE ACTION."

"YOU'RE GOING BY BUS? WELL, WHAT THE HELL, WHY DON'T YOU COME WITH ME? I'M GOING THERE IN AN HOUR, AS SOON AS I MAKE A STOP AT THE HOLE. I'M PLANNING TO FOLLOW THAT TRUCK-LOAD OF SCABS ALL THE WAY."

"THANK GOD WE
FINALLY GOT A
JOB. I ALMOST
STARVED TO
DEATH."

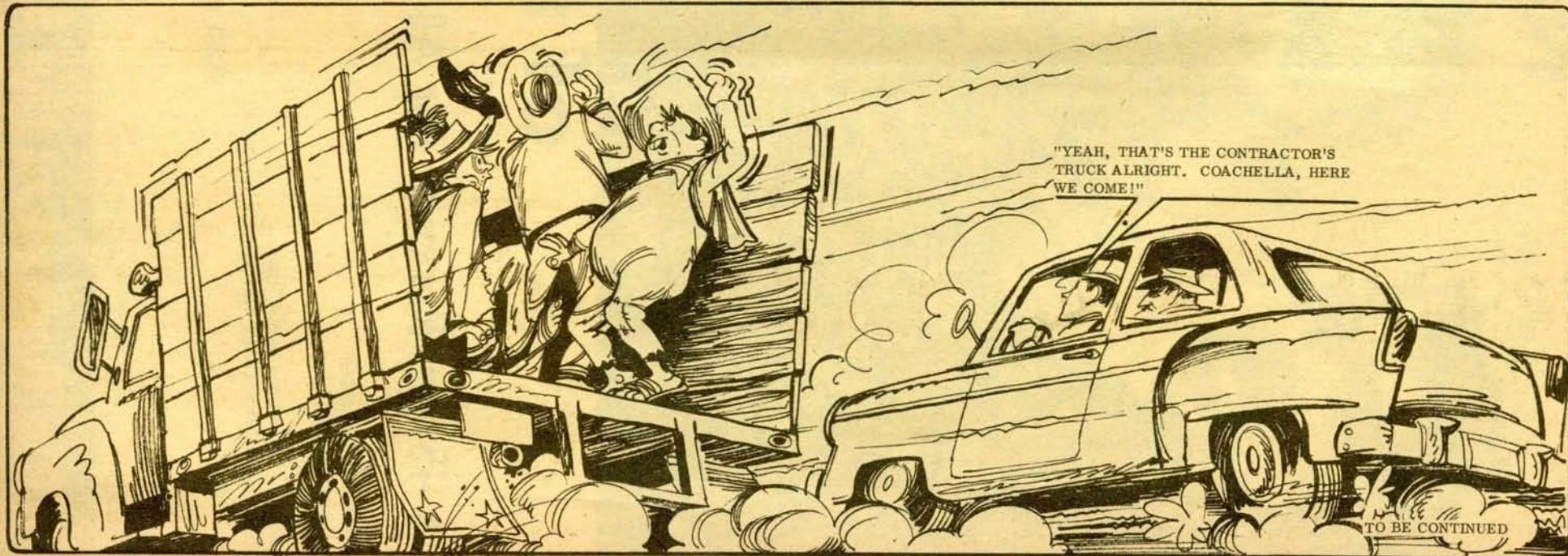
"WHY AREN'T THERE MORE
MEN JOINING UP WITH
THAT CONTRACTOR?"

"'CAUSE HE'S ALREADY GOT ALL
THE WORKERS HE NEEDS, MAN.
MULE 'N ME DIDN'T EVEN GET ON
THIS TIME, BUT WE CAN'T WIN 'M
ALL. WE'LL GET ON WITH ANO-
THER CONTRACTOR. GOOD LUCK!"

"WELL, HERE IT IS, 'THE HOLE.' THIS IS WHERE A LOCAL CONTRACTOR IS ROUNDING UP
TODAY'S SCABS. QUITE A PLACE, ISN'T IS? YEARS AGO, THE CITY FATHERS DECIDED THEY
DIDN'T WANT HUNDREDS OF HUNGRY, DIRTY WETBACKS WANDERING THE STREETS, SO THEY

DONATED THIS ABAN-
DONED SAND PIT TO
THE CONTRACTORS.
WE DON'T KNOW
WHERE ALL THESE
POOR SLOBS COME
FROM, BUT THEY
KEEP COMING."

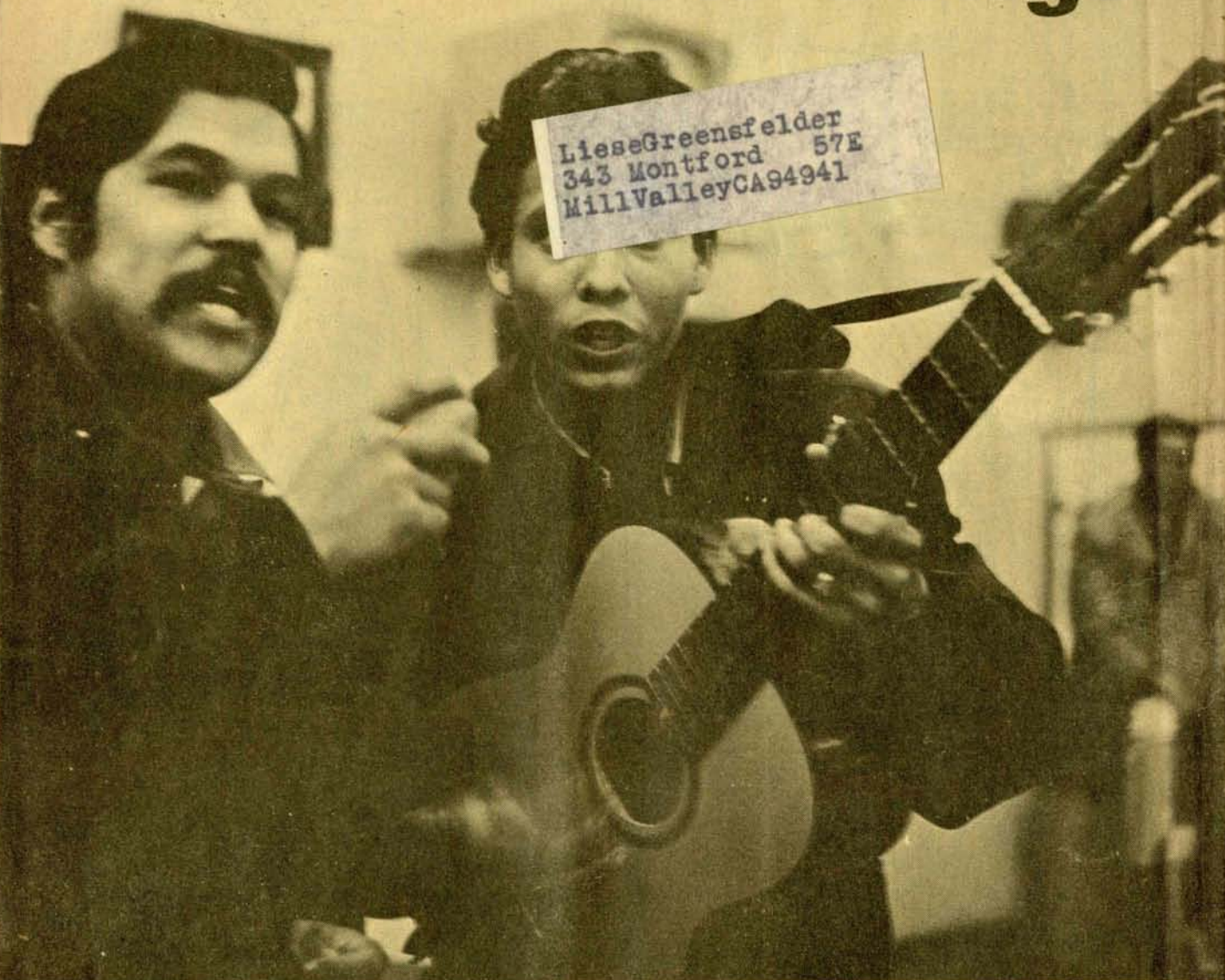
"HERE COMES A TRUCK."



"YEAH, THAT'S THE CONTRACTOR'S
TRUCK ALRIGHT. COACHELLA, HERE
WE COME!"

TO BE CONTUED

New Songs



of the Strike

A 45rpm Record for All Friends of The Huelga

Cantan: Luis Valdez
Sung by: Agustin Lira

Musica: Acordion: David Allaniz
Music by: 2 Guitars: Agustin Lira, Danny Valdez

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