

The Voice of the Farm Worker

El Malcriado

In English

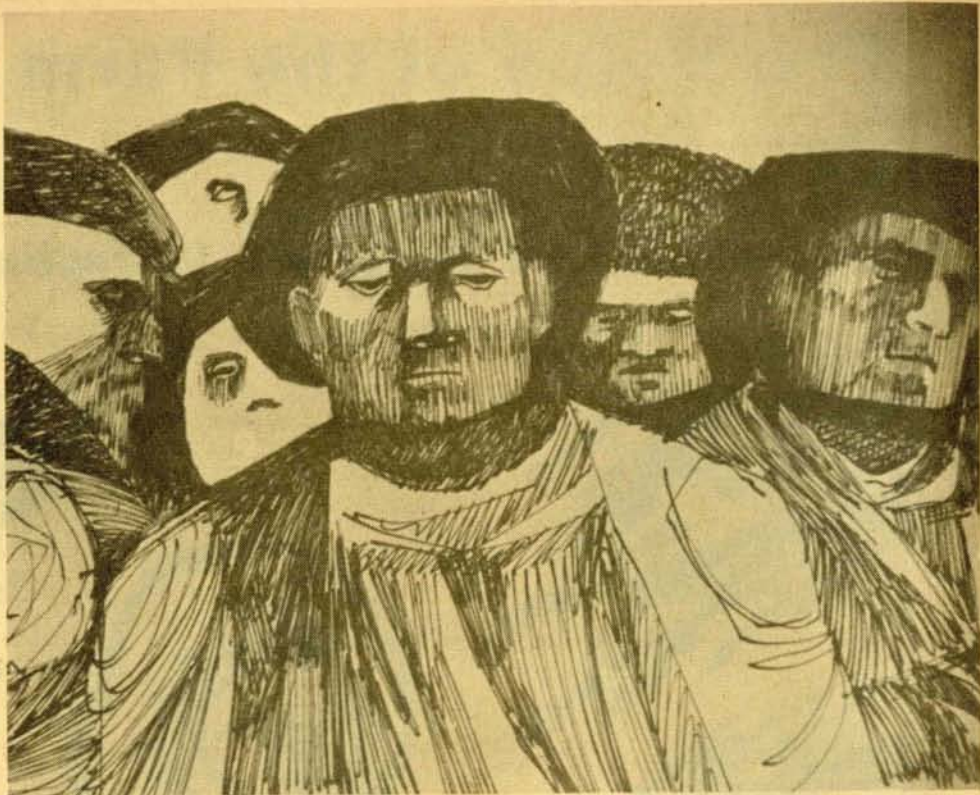
DELANO, CALIF.

MAY 24, 1967

15¢



LITTLE BY LITTLE, IN CALIFORNIA, THE STRIKE IS WINNING. IT IS WINNING IN EACH PLACE BECAUSE OF COURAGEOUS MEN LIKE MANUEL CAMACHO, WHO HAVE LEARNED THE DISCIPLINE OF, FIRST, STRIKING BECAUSE THE UNION NEEDS YOU TO STRIKE; AND, SECOND, THE SACRIFICE OF RETURNING TO WORK BECAUSE THE UNION NEEDS YOU TO SUPPORT YOUR FAMILY. THIS DEDICATION TO THE CAUSE IS WHY THE STRIKE IS WINNING. MANUEL CAMACHO IS ONE OF HUNDREDS ALL OVER CALIFORNIA WHO FORM THE REAL CENTER OF THE HUELGA. WHEN PEOPLE ARE WORKING UNDER UNION CONTRACTS IN THE FIELDS EVERYWHERE, IT WILL BE BECAUSE OF MEN LIKE HIM. THAT IS WHY WE ASKED HIM TO TALK ABOUT HIMSELF AND ABOUT THE UNION.



MANUEL CAMACHO:

"The Union is like a ladder."

"I'm from Zacatecas State in Mexico where I worked planting corn behind two field horses. I've been here for 22 years and done every kind of work there is in the fields. I prefer doing piece work because on holidays and weekends my 5 young boys can help me. I have 11 children and 10 of them are still in school. My daughter works in the Union office after school and my family supports the strike.

"I have faith in the Union. The strike is like an ant that keeps building slowly but surely and eventually builds up enough to win.

We will get all of the growers this way. Even in Texas where it is more difficult because the scabs don't need cars--they just walk across the border to get work--the ant moves slowly there but we will win too.

The Union is the best thing for the farm workers.

"The Union is like a ladder where the farm worker raises himself for his children and for future generations.

Because only with the Union can we have a just future when farm workers can be free from all the misery that all farm workers have suffered in their lives and in past generations. As the ant keeps building slowly, we must have faith and we will endure.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

"I was in the NFWA in 1963 before the strike. A friend of mine told me about the benefits of the insurance. The dues were \$3.50 a month and covered the insurance but we also knew that the dues would build the Association and help make it strong enough for the eventual strike we knew would happen. I believed in having a strike then, because it was the only way to change the system of slavery in the fields. Before the strike I thought of the future of my kids and I wanted the Union so my children wouldn't have to work in the fields--so that they could finish high school. And when they did work it would be for decent wages.

"In January of 1966 I went on strike after being in a car accident with a supervisor from Schenleys. I was on the picket line for 9 months and picketed during the Schenley and DiGiorgio campaigns. But after nine months I had to go back to work--I am very sad about that. I rarely read El Malcriado because it makes me sad to see my friends and their usefulness to the strike. I want to strike but I have to work because of my commitment to my family.

I have trouble getting jobs because I was active in the strike and I support the Union. But I'm not scabbing and I could never do that. Because the growers fear the strength of the Union, they have raised all the wages in the area. Where we used to get \$1.10 or \$1.25 an hour, now we get \$1.40. But with a Union contract we get good wages--\$1.75 per hour.

THE COVER: THE MEN OF THE REVOLUTION

The men who felt the flame of the revolution fought not only for bread, but they fought for the dignity that every man has a right to. They fought in order that in the future every man should be able to feel that they had had a part in the destination of their lives.

Half a century later, in 1967, in California, the enormous gap, the space between the rich and the poor, is even deeper and wider than before the Mexican Revolution. The gap between what is and what can be, is even bigger. The oppression and the lies are more cruel.

Here we print a story of hope; of the first breakthrough in the long strike in Rio Grande City, of more successes in California, of the triumph of the Union.

It is time for each farmworker to decide which side he is on. On the side of the men of the revolution, our fathers, or on the side of these who are responsible for a half century of oppression in the fields.

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FROM UNITY COMES STRENGTH

A letter from three workers whose interview we published in issue #58 of El Malcriado (see pp. 6 and 17).

Dear Editor:

We are three workers who have always fought to unite ourselves and form a strong Union which would protect us. We know at last that only through the Union, by helping each other to remain strong, can we defend ourselves; if we continue as in times past we would never get anywhere. We say this from experience. And we want you to print this letter in El Malcriado for the benefit of those who understand little of what the Union means or of what they can do for themselves by joining it. Before we said that we speak from experience because we know how DiGiorgio treated his workers in times past. But today everything has changed; we believe that bosses and growers treating a worker

as if he weren't human is not news to anybody, but we think also that even if we could put what we feel into words, it would still be very far from the reality of our lives.

There is only one way of stopping such great abuses by the ranchers and contractors; and that is by becoming one in the one and only true Union of the farm workers—UFWOC, which is now part of the AFL-CIO. And this way we will continue fighting until we make our Union the most powerful in the entire nation. Whether a union is strong and its power respected depends on the strength of its members; each one must make it strong and see that the contract is completed, because WE ARE THE UNION.

Long live our Union!
And our cause!
FELIPE B. GARCIA
TEOFILO V. GARCIA
EDUVJES LUGO
Arvin, California

THE PEOPLE'S PAGE

AND WHERE THERE IS NO UNION:

Dear Sir:

I want to tell you about a typical grower-controlled farm town in western Fresno County, 45 miles west of Fresno: Mendota, like Firebaugh nearby, it is one of the two major farm towns in west Fresno County. It's poverty problems aren't much different from those of South America; a few own most of the land, farms stretch out as far as the eye can see.

Dan Street is the office manager for the V. C. Britton Co. and a first lieutenant in the company's organized effort to defeat their employees who are trying to get a union contract.

The fight has gone on for 4 years, 10 months, 15 days, during which time almost 100 people were fired or pressured into quitting; 5 men

have died; 3 men were put into jail for mischief; a 9-month strike; harassment by local police; home evictions; there are only four of the original men left.

Perhaps someday the Britton Co. will want to continue the endless court battle of the past and try for a third time. And until last year it seemed that even the Catholic Church in Firebaugh was controlled by the farmers.

By the way, Dan Street is president of the Firebaugh Baseball Association and Bobby Johnston, its secretary-treasurer, is also a farmer. During the strike, Davis worked at Britton as a scab. Anyone for baseball with the farmers?

J. TRUJILLO
Mendota, California

INHUMAN CONDITIONS

FOR HUMANS

Dear Sir:

I am writing these lines because I have been reading your newspaper El Malcriado and I find everything that comes in it very interesting. I am a farm worker and I work for Calflax Co. Ranch. Here we irrigators make only \$1.10 an hour, and all the workers that have families and children have to suffer through this and the terrible conditions of the irrigators' labor camp.

The toilets have long ago stopped functioning, there is no light in the bathrooms, and anyhow they're about 300 feet away from the houses where we live. And the houses are so old that when it rains we have to put saucepans under the leaking places in the roof. And when we ask the owners to fix them, they say yes, but then they don't carry out their promises.

I am a resident of Rio Grande, Texas, but right now I'm working for this company. I would like to become a member of the Union and would like some information on this. And I also have a lot to tell you about this company.

Thank you very much,
A FRIEND
Five Points, California

EL MALCRIADO SAYS: Dozens of people write every day asking how they can join the Union. The dues of \$3.50 a month for everyone under 50 years of age cover many things, including a life insurance policy of \$1500, the right to use the Farm Worker Service Center and the Credit Union, a vote in the Union's decisions, and the force of a united front by as well as for farm workers. For further information write Cesar Chavez, Delano, California, and someday you will work under a Union contract like the workers of Schenley and DiGiorgio. Join us now!

The Power of - We -

My dear and respected friends,

I'm writing you these few lines to tell you that I don't want to work for you because I don't know any English. I was born in Texas but I never learned to speak English because I was very much afraid of Americans when I was growing up. In those times it was slavery for one of the poor if he ever tried to do any little thing he wanted because the people with power and money would always want to beat him up, and they made us live in Mexican barrios (ghettoes). Because of these things I never learned any English.

I worked for a dollar a day until I got old—and that's nearly fifty years. Right now I am 74 years old. I have worked hard but I never made any money, and now all I wait for is death. I have a pension from the state—64 dollars a month—and my beloved wife gets 63 a month. I have a little house with one room, 26 feet by 12 feet. It was already old when I bought it and I think that it's about 80 years old now.

We are very poor. The contractors are the ones who have taken the money because they don't pay us for our work. Sometimes 40 and sometimes 50 cents an hour until now; the strike has raised the prices. God bless the whole Union of farm workers for the great work that they are doing; for the Union is the great hope for everyone in this state of Texas, which for more than a century has held the people in slavery. I believe this will be all—I don't have time to explain all the unyielding, toilsome years which we have passed in this state. I hope that the Union and the Voice of the Farm Worker will overcome these miseries.

JOSE GOMEZ G.
Robstown, Texas

EL MALCRIADO SAYS: Mr. Gomez Gonzalez, you are very poor. We are very poor. You have a small house and no money and can go nowhere beyond the barrio. When we started, our

offices were very tiny, money always went out much faster than it ever came in, and the people who own the houses and the land still try to tell us where we can't go. But we are rich because now we are many and we can decide for ourselves, among ourselves, where we can go.

Many of us do not speak English, and none of us earn enough money to provide our children with the happy, comfortable

childhood and adolescence we would like them to have, nor to keep worries about the miseries of old age away from our minds. But these things have not prevented us from doing each of us what we can to change and to overcome these worries and miseries. We do not work apart, but together - with all the force of "we", all the power of our Union—the United Farm Workers' Organizing Committee.

THE PEOPLE'S PAGE

Organizing in Arizona

Dear Editor:

With pleasure I write to you and enclosed send you this money order so that you will do me the favor of sending the El Malcriado to me. I like it very much because it deals with the noble cause which is ours. I salute you with my whole heart and place myself at your orders because we have here

in Arizona our comrade, a very hard worker, Marcos Munoz, who is helping the Cause and us with his whole life—a very good organizer—and the one who gave me your address.

Without more, your friend,
FACUNDO CISNEROS
Litchfield Park, Arizona

A Heritage More Valuable Than Riches

Dear Sir:

I am a grandmother 61 years old, but remember well how sorry I felt at the plight of migrant workers on my father's ranch near Husum, Wash., 50 years ago. My father often caused indignation among other growers because he paid higher wages. I remember that he always sent women married workers in from the orchard at 11 a.m. and again 1 hour before quitting time, to prepare a hot

meal for their families, paying them the wages they lost thereby.

He lost the ranch in the end, in 1936, but he died at 80 a happy man with a clear conscience, and left a far more valuable heritage to his children and grandchildren than riches.

Best wishes. God be with you, or as the Spanish say, "Vaya con Dios."

JANET S. SENIOR
Hood River, Ore.



PERELLI MINETTI VS. EL MALCRIADO

Mr. Perelli-Minetti seems to have exhausted his wit, understanding, and capacity for speech in the process of filing a six million dollar libel suit against us. As is generally known, Mr. P-M filed the suit against El Malcriado, The United Farmworkers, George Meany, and just about everyone connected with our fight for simple justice and a decent wage except our pet parakeet, which continues to slander Mr. P-M from moment to moment. Yet Mr. P-M must now be exhausted, for when he was confronted by the publisher of El Malcriado, with strong evidence that the suit may be no more than a "fraud and publicity stunt," Mr. P-M replied, "I have nothing to say."

But Mr. P-M had "nothing to say" so El Malcriado will publish those simple questions intended for Perelli-Minetti. Then, perhaps, he will write us such another letter as he has written in the past, confirming much of what we have printed even as he tries to deny it. Anyway, our readers will be able to judge the significance and worth of his windy libel suit after reading the questions he would not answer. And that will be the important thing.

Our questions:

*If you seriously intend to prosecute a shoe-string operation for this fantastic sum of money, how is it that not one of the defendants has been served notice of your accusation? Time is money, Mr. P-M, just as the cost of serving papers to defendants scattered the country over would cost mucho dinero, should you ever be able to find them all. And the Law does require every defendant. That's a fact.

*Well, Mr. P-M, if this isn't just a fraud and publicity stunt, if you really intend to pursue this case in the courts, and if you win, really, how do you expect to collect? Any ideas? Perhaps we can give you some. Cesar Chavez, one of the defendants, has suggested that perhaps a cookie sale might be a good way to raise the amount. Of course, people would be awful sick of Perelli-Minetti-Cookies by

the time the six million had been collected. Another suggestion is that we could work it off in your fields at the going rate. By our reckoning that would take exactly two thousand years, sixteen days, and four minutes at your wage rates. Can you afford to wait that long? Anything to say, Mr. P-M?

We cannot print the suggestion our pet parrot made. It might be libelous. However, we are sure he would be happy to repeat it, should you ever drop in at the office.

But if you should be interested in making the whole truth known, we will be happy to help you. No threats needed. For that is our major concern, too. Again, if it's publicity you're after, we recognize that as a very human failing. Therefore, we will be happy to help you puff yourself up and get maximum public exposure anytime. If you should be foolish enough to desire it.

In fact, our editor, when informed of your fantastic legal venture against us, as soon as he had regained his breath from laughing, said that he would be happy to engage you in public debate anytime, anywhere. That way, the people could decide who is telling the truth - you or El Malcriado and the other defendants.

Anything to say, Mr. Perelli-Minetti? Or is this suit indeed the "last gasp attempt of a desperate man to further obscure the facts," as our editor insists it is?

We await some evidence of your sincerity, Mr. P-M. Our pages are open to you now, as they have always been in the past. Meanwhile, our pet parrot --- ignorant of the Law and not as busy as we are --- continues to utter unprintable, perhaps even libelous, remarks about you. He has a lot to say. What about you?

FOOTNOTES TO OUR FRIENDS:

UFWOC's Lawyer says that should old P-M pursue this folly in the courtroom, it will be thrown out for lack of evidence, leaving him several thousands in court costs the loser --and we do hope at least a touch wiser.

Pa

Almaden Vineyards

Violence

The Teamsters are still "organizing" in their usual manner -- violently. On Friday, May 11th, Robert Rohas of the Teamsters "union," while driving, ran into the car of one of the U. F. W. O. C. organizers, Eliseo Medina. A few days before that, a Teamster tried to run down another U. F. W. O. C. organizer, Joe Luna, with his car. Stated Manuel Chavez of the U. F. W. O. C., "Oscar Gonzalez of the Teamsters says that he is working for the good of the farm workers. But does violence help farm workers? Is it good for farm workers to be run down by cars? Is this how the Teamsters plan to help us? If it is, then I hope that they don't try to 'help' me!"

...or Elections?

DELANO, Calif, May 10, 1967. Cesar Chavez, director of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO, issued a challenge today to Teamster Farm Workers Union director, Oscar Gonzalez. Stated Chavez, "The Teamsters have been obstructing organization of farm workers throughout California. In their latest move, their organizer, Oscar Gonzalez, claims to represent workers at Almaden ranches in San Benito County. The company has agreed in writing to a card-check election. But Gonzalez won't put his union on the ballot. Now he's either in or he's out. We challenge him either to fish or cut bait."

The U. F. W. O. C. organizing drive at Almaden has been going on for two and one half years. On May 5th, U. F. W. O. C. organizing director, Manuel Chavez, made written demands to Alma-

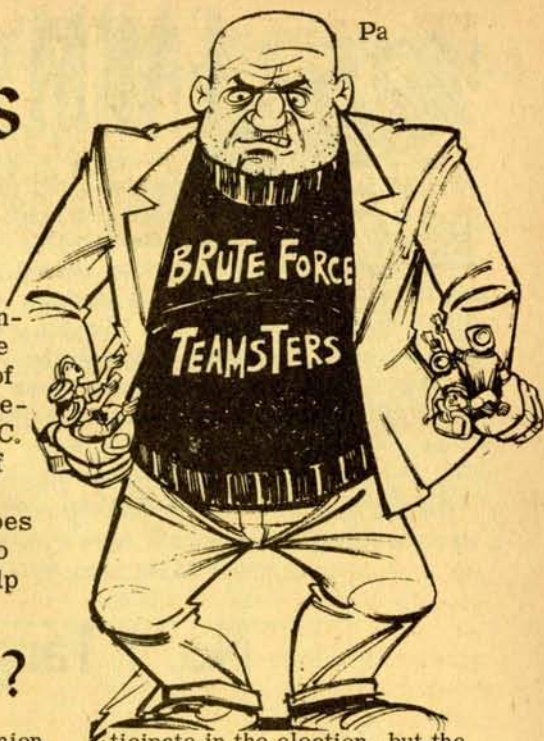
den for recognition of the Union. The company agreed immediately to call in the California State Conciliation Service to arrange procedures for an election.

At a meeting on Monday, May 8th, Ralph Duncan, representing the State Conciliation Service, met with Chavez and Almaden officials, George Morrison and Louis Benoit. An agreement was signed scheduling a card-check election under state supervision for May 12th at 10:00 a.m. (El Malcriado confirmed with National Distillers & Chemical Corporation which is purchasing the Almaden vineyards that they also are in agreement about having representational elections.)

Shortly after the agreement of May 8th was signed, the Teamsters union stated that they too represented Almaden workers. The State invited Gonzalez to par-

ticipate in the election, but the Teamsters refused. Gonzalez had sent Teamsters into the camps to try to sign up Almaden workers, but these workers are loyal to the U. F. W. O. C. In desperation, the Teamsters were instructed to even pay the workers to sign up with the Teamsters union. The workers felt insulted by such low tactics and kicked the Teamsters out of the camp.

Chavez stated: "There is only one reason why Gonzalez wouldn't get on that ballot. He knows his union would lose, just as it did in Delano and Arvin, last year. But by intervening he has forced the state to halt the elections because all parties must be agreed to elections in order to have them. How a man who claims to have the interests of the workers at heart could take such a step is beyond me."



Negotiations at Christian Brothers

The United Farm Workers Organizing Committee is holding meetings with Christian Brothers to negotiate a contract for their ranch in Napa County.

Soon after the card-check there certified the U. F. W. O. C. as the legal bargaining agent for the workers at that ranch, those workers started

meeting with the Christian Brothers to work out a contract. They asked for \$2.00 an hour as the minimum wage.

The Christian Brothers responded by asking why the workers were asking for \$2 an hour there when the union contract at the Schenley Ranch is for \$1.75 an hour mini-

mum. The workers said that they were asking for \$2.00 because this is the ranch of the Christian Brothers and the workers think that they of all people should set a good example for the rest of the industry.

However, the negotiations are still going on and the results will not be known for several weeks.

FARM WORKERS GO EAST



The boycott against Perelli-Minetti will escalate giant steps this week as 20 Delano farmworkers go East. The strikers will be stationed in New York, Illinois, and Wisconsin, the states which receive the largest shipments of scab liquor from the Perelli-Minetti winery. Church groups, civil rights organizations, students and other concerned citizens will work with the strikers in an effort to

bring the Perelli-Minetti -Teamster machine to a grinding halt. The goal of this new thrust is to make the boycott network so efficient that Perelli-Minetti will have great difficulty in selling his products anywhere! This command squad of militant farmworkers will set up consumer boycott picket lines where necessary to inform customers that strike breaking products are handled by the liquor store or market in which they intend to shop.

No. 1 Target: TRIBUNO



The sieve-like Perelli-Minetti has numerous products with hundreds of outlets for all of them. For example, the winery bottles nine different wines and four different brandies for the California Wine Association, in which Perelli-Minetti has controlling interest. Wines: ICELLARS, GREYSTONE, GUASTI, F.I., AMBASSADOR, L&J, MOULIN ROUGE, CWA, VINO. Brandies: ARISTOCRAT, A. R. MORROW, VICTOR HUGO, OLD CONSTITUTION. This "hot cargo" is shipped to at least 20 different states.

In addition, 14 distilleries in 10 different states buy bulk brandy and wine from him. ("Bulk" is wine which is not bottled, but shipped in railroad tank cars and then bottled under the purchaser's label- for example, HIRAM WALKER and JAMES BEAM both use Perelli-Minetti scab liquor.)

But the ax of the farm worker boycott will be slashing away at a single label in New York and Chicago. That is TRIBUNO VERMOUTH, which comprises 20% of

Perelli-Minetti's liquor business. P-M & Sons sells bulk TRIBUNO to John Tribuno, President of Vermouth Industries of America in New York. He also bottles huge quantities of it for this company. TRIBUNO is sold most heavily in Los Angeles, New York, and Chicago. Farm Workers will be mobilizing forces in New York and Chicago to boycott TRIBUNO in the same efficient and exciting way they did in Los Angeles, where they cut down Perelli-Minetti sales by 25%.

WISCONSIN--FULL OF SCAB BRANDY

Wisconsin is the brandiest consuming state in the nation - two and one half times more brandy is drunk there than in any other state. And much of that brandy is Perelli-Minetti's own scab brands - A.R. MORROW, ARISTOCRAT, VICTOR HUGO, & ASSUMPTION ABBEY (also distributed by "21 Brands"). This grower has 8 outlets for his brandy in Wisconsin. The most important is Ed Phillips and Sons Co.

Cuidado...

Perelli_Minetti!



.....when farm workers from Delano, militant and armed with the determination to gain democratic representation at your ranch, hit your markets with the full force of the HUELGA!

FRANZIA AGREES TO ELECTION

The Franzia Brothers Winery of California has agreed to hold union representation elections for their field workers. The situation here was the same as at the Gallo Vineyards. Although the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee has many members here (AWOC called a strike against this grower three years ago), the Teamsters set up a picket line and threatened to boycott Franzia unless they recognized the Teamsters as the bargaining agent for their workers.

Dolores Huerta, head of negotiations for the U. F. W. O. C., wrote to Franzia, telling them that the AFL-CIO union represents the majority of their workers, not the Teamsters. Mrs. Huerta asked for some sort of repre-

sentation procedure, either an election or a card-check, to prove that they actually do represent the workers. Franzia, wanting to be fair, and to give their workers democratic means of making their own choice, has agreed to hold such an election. Said Mrs. Huerta, "Franzia has resisted an underhanded effort to be forced into a contract without the workers having a chance to choose their representatives."

Unfortunately, this is not true of all growers, and that is why the farm workers must continue striking and boycotting growers such as Perelli-Minetti, who refuse to give their workers even this basic right of choosing their own representatives.

United Farm Workers
Organizing Committee
102 Albany
Delano, California

Gentlemen:

After a lengthy discussion of the request of the United Farm Workers for an election to determine the bargaining agent for the farm workers employed by Franzia Brothers Winery, it is their decision to consent to such an election.

We will agree to meet with representatives of your union at any reasonable time and place in order to negotiate the "ground rules" for the election. Pending the conclusion of the election, we are assuming that your union will use none of its sanctions by picketing, boycotting, or otherwise. If this assumption is incorrect, for any reason, I would appreciate your early advice.

Very truly yours,

JEFFRY, GIBSON, BREWER & BARBOUR

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JOBS AVAILABLE

IN THE LAST ISSUE EL MALCRIADO PUBLISHED A STORY ON THE UNION HIRING HALL IN LAMONT. BUT THIS IS NOT THE ONLY HIRING HALL. THERE IS ONE IN DELANO FOR THE SCHENLEY WORKERS AND THE DIGIORGIO SIERRA VISTA WORKERS, AND ONE IN COACHELLA FOR THE DIGIORGIO WORKERS AT BORREGO SPRINGS. AND THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING. THERE WILL BE MANY MORE HIRING HALLS, ONE IN EACH AREA THAT THE FARM WORKERS, THROUGH THEIR UNION, THE UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE, WIN UNION CONTRACTS.



Joe Serda

IN COACHELLA

The hiring hall in Coachella is run by Joe Serda, one of the members of the committee that negotiated the DiGiorgio Contract. Joe was also one of the chief organizers at the DiGiorgio Sierra Vista Ranch during the union representation election there in August, 1966.

The contract that covers the workers at the Arvin Ranch also covers the workers at the Borrego Springs Ranch. It says that the company must notify the union if it wants workers, when it wants them and how many it wants. The union then has 72 hours in which to find the workers that are needed. If at the end of the 72 hours the union has not been able to find all the workers that the company asked for, then the company can employ the rest of the workers it needs through any other means.

Joe is now in Coachella to find the workers that

DiGiorgio needs for the grape harvest in Borrego Springs. The company has notified the union that they will need 150 workers for the harvest, and Joe must find that many. This will probably not be too difficult. The jobs will go fast, for the minimum wage at the DiGiorgio Ranch will be \$1.65 an hour, while all of the other grape growers in the area have been paying only \$1.40. The workers at DiGiorgio will also have health insurance and life insurance and be covered by unemployment insurance. No other grower in the area can come anywhere near this. ANYONE WISHING TO REGISTER FOR WORK AT THE BORREGO SPRINGS RANCH SHOULD GO TO 1619 SIXTH STREET IN COACHELLA AND FILL OUT AN APPLICATION. The people who have worked at that ranch before will be hired first because they have seniority, and after them the first people who come will be hired.



Manuel (Fats) Sanchez

IN DELANO

The hiring hall in Delano is run by Manuel (Fats) Sanchez. It has been operating for a year, ever since the Schenley contract was signed, and has been very successful. Here, too, the union has 72 hours to find workers once they have been notified by the company, and the hiring hall has always been able to find workers when they are needed.

This year not only the Schenley workers will get their jobs here, but also the workers at the DiGiorgio Sierra Vista Ranch. The Sierra Vista workers are also covered by the same contract that the workers at Arvin have, and they will receive the same benefits, including the \$1.65 minimum wage. Since the grape harvest does not start for a few months in Delano, the hall is not sending workers

out now, but people may fill out applications. Those who have worked at DiGiorgio before have seniority and will be hired first, but there will be many workers needed, and the ones who apply the earliest will be hired first after the ones who have seniority. This is also true for the Schenley Ranch.

THE HIRING HALL IN DELANO IS LOCATED AT 102 ALBANY STREET AND IS OPEN MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY. IF YOU WANT TO WORK AT THE SCHENLEY RANCH OR THE DIGIORGIO RANCH, YOU MUST COME INTO THE HALL AND FILL OUT AN APPLICATION, and the sooner you do it, the better will be your chance of getting a job this summer.

GALLO OBTAINS BAN ON TEAMSTERS

In the small town of Livingston halfway between Fresno and Sacramento in the San Joaquin Valley the Gallo Winery has obtained a court injunction against the Teamster organized "strike" activities for Gallo's 6000-acre ranch there.

When, three weeks ago, the Teamsters decided that their union would best suit the farm workers at the Gallo ranch, they used a most direct and forceful method to make the organization swift and easy: they paid men to wave picket signs at the ranch, to declare that they were on strike against Gallo (although their only employer was a part of the Teamster Union) and to harass the workers. Without consulting or even considering the workers, the Teamsters then demanded immediate recognition of their "union local."

However, Julio R. Gallo wired Cesar Chavez, the director of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, saying that he agreed to an election in which his field workers could decide whether and which union they want. He added that he had asked the State Conciliation Service to supervise the voting procedure and to insure its fairness.

The Teamsters refused the election between themselves and UFWOC, and demanded immediate and total recognition of their "union local." They continued their pickets-for-hire harassment and organized a boycott of Gallo wines.

Because of these illegal activities Gallo has now been able to obtain from the Modesto courts an injunction against the Teamsters and has stopped the paid-picket "strike" and the boycott.

THE COURTS VS. POVERTY

WATSONVILLE--Michael Trujillo, 19, of San Jose was arrested last week for "stealing a tortilla." The judge, Harry F. Brauer, sentenced him to one day in jail "just to see what it's like," he said.

The same judge fined a 58-year-old woman \$56 for stealing a 72-cent package of milk of magnesia tablets from a Purity Store. Both these cases were reported in the Watsonville newspaper.

EL MALCRIADO SAYS: This is justice, Watsonville style. How many of these ignorant judges exist in California is anybody's guess. When poor people are driven by hunger and pain to steal, it is the judges who should be jailed, along with the leaders of the agricultural system that keeps people poor.



Local Congressman Attacks Poor People

Rep. Robert Mathias, the congressman from Kern County, attacked the War on Poverty because the government gave a grant to the California Center for Community Development (CCCD) to use for training organizers. He said that the money had been used to teach people to demonstrate and form unions and went on to say, "But this is not what poverty funds are for. These funds are not being used to help poor people whatsoever."

This last sentence demonstrates one of the basic problems with the War on Poverty. The funds from it are usually used to "help poor people" by hiring a lot of college-educated social workers and government bureaucrats. The money never reaches the

people who really need it.

The program of the CCCD was different. Here the money was not given to bureaucrats, it was given to the poor people to help themselves. Farm workers were trained to organize, the basic tool which anyone needs in order to help himself out of the mire of poverty.

Not only farm workers, but all workers know that the only way to solve the problem of not having enough money is to get better wages, and the only way to get better wages is to organize unions. One man alone can do very little about raising his wages, but thousands of men organized into unions can do a lot. The CCCD helped people toward this end, and yet Rep. Mathias

can still say, "These funds are not being used to help poor people whatsoever... the damage has been done and the people have been trained." This "damage," as Mathias calls the training of organizers, is what is going to help erase the poverty of the farm workers, not his or anyone else's words.

As the Plan of Delano says, "We are tired of words, of betrayals, of indifference. To the politicians we say that the years are gone when the farm worker said nothing and did nothing to help himself. From this movement shall spring leaders who shall understand us, lead us, be faithful to us, and we shall elect them to represent us. WE SHALL BE HEARD!"



Kennedy Helps Huelga Again

UFWOC Director Cesar Chavez, Jim Drake, nurse Peggy McGivern, and other Union officials were present at a fundraising party Wednesday night, May 10, at which Senator Robert F. Kennedy was the guest of honor. Sen. Kennedy flew out from Washington to be present at the event which was held in a private home in

Tiburon, California. Admission to the cocktail party was the generous sum of \$50 a couple to be donated to the Rodrigo Terronez Memorial Clinic. The party is an effort to raise \$10,000 to qualify for a grant of a matching \$10,000 offered by a Protestant Church group for the clinic.

DI GIORGIO WORKERS!

IF YOU WORKED FOR DIGIORGIO LAST YEAR, AND IF YOU WANT TO WORK THERE AGAIN THIS YEAR, YOU MUST REGISTER IMMEDIATELY AT THE UNION HIRING HALL AT 102 ALBANY STREET IN DELANO.

Students!

Students are needed to work for the Farm Workers Union in Delano this summer. Anyone who volunteers to work and is accepted will get free room and board and \$5 a week. If you are interested, please fill out this form and send it to U. F. W. O. C., Box 130, Delano, Calif. 93215. You should hear from the union soon. No one should come to Delano this summer expecting to work unless the union notifies them to do so.

I want to do volunteer work for the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee this summer from June 1 to September 15.

NAME _____ AGE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE _____ PHONE _____

REFERENCES _____

SCHOOL _____

For the First Time in the History of the United States and Mexico

BULLETIN!

ROMA, TEXAS The International Bridge was blocked on both sides on Thursday, May 11, by pickets of the CTM, the powerful Mexican labor union, and by the United Farm Workers (AFL CIO) on the northern side. 200 local workers who normally cross the bridge to work at La Casita's melon fields in Texas, turned back and did not come to work. In the afternoon, La Casita's packing shed in Rio Grande City shut down for lack of melons to pack.

HOW IT HAPPENED:

.... Last year Cesar Chavez met with Fidel Velasquez, head of the CTM for all of Mexico. They discussed ways of helping to win the Delano and Rio Grande City strikes.

.... Last month, in a historic meeting in the Palacio Municipal in Miguel Aleman, Tamaulipas, Mexico, workers and labor leaders from both countries met to map out a strategy for winning the Rio Grande City strike. Under the leadership of Sr. Pina, CTM leader for Tamaulipas, they planned to picket the International Bridges in the Rio Grande City area.

.... Last week, Gilbert Padilla, Texas strike leader, met with local workers in Camargo and Miguel Aleman. They expressed their support for the Texas strike, saying they would go to jail if necessary, to defend the rights of the farm workers.

THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE AT ROMA



Chavez, American farm worker leader and Velasquez of CTM.

CTM LEADER PINA

Padilla of the Texas Strike talks with workers in Mexico.



VERSES

To El Malcriado

BY MARTIN LERMA
(of Mesquite, New Mexico)

My friends, please pay attention
To what I'm going to sing you
If you're in search of truth
Go buy El Malcriado.

In the small town of Delano
Malcriado's read by all
It's sold on every border
And in far away New York.

Malcriado's not a daily,
Boring and repetitious,
On the day that it's released
It sells like hotcakes.

I like El Malcriado
Because it tells the truth
And talks about the cause
That Cesar Chavez fights.

Viva Don Cesar Chavez
And all the union workers
To you we send the greetings
From Fortuna Federal.

To finish this "corrido"
I will not say much more
But advise to all my friends:
Go read El Malcriado.

and About Our Struggle

by ELISEO MEDINA and JORGE O. ROBLES
(translated from Spanish)

On the first of May
With not a soul to stop us
We peacefully went out
To fight against Minetti.

We met together in Delano
Happy and excited,
All set to travel on
With our cases and our bedrolls.

From Delano we set out,
Three carloads to the east,
On arriving in Chicago
We part and go our ways.

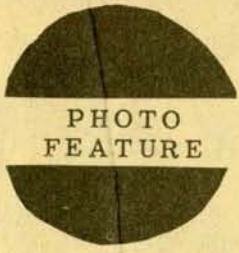
This man Perelli-Minetti
Has a lot of power
But we're going to Chicago
To put him in his place.

Some are going to Wisconsin
With much determination
To wipe right off the shelves
The products that we boycott.

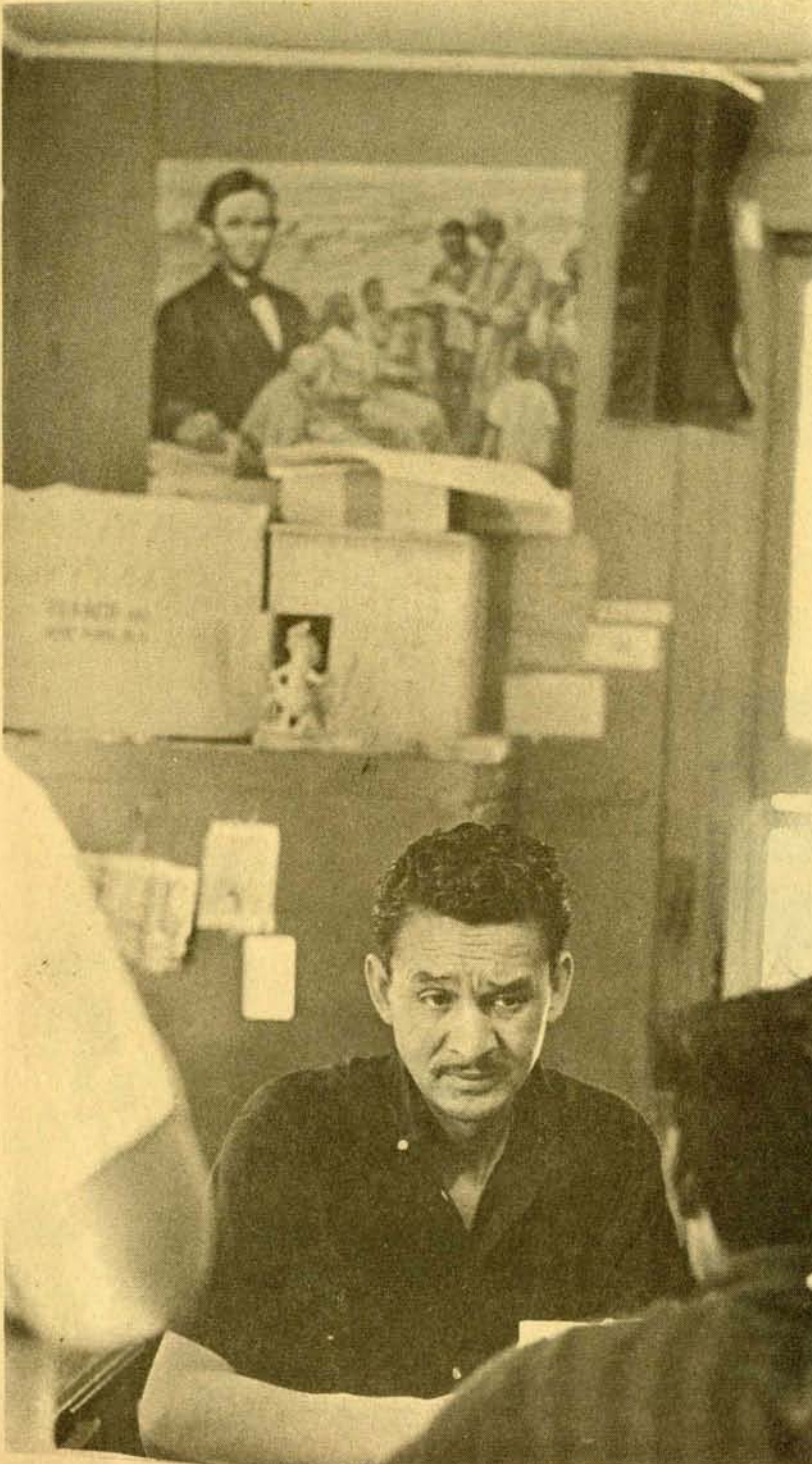
Others head for New York
Let no one doubt the reason:
To empty all the stores
Of all the vermouth by Tribuno.

All the ranchers know
That farm workers are brave
That no longer can they cheat us
That no longer are we scared.

Amigos, now I leave you.
I'm going to my home,
For joyfully I can tell you
That now we're going to win.



The Struggle to Save Texas



In Rio Grande City the thunderbird symbol of the farm workers' Union is making its first assault on the rotten powers that hold Texas in slavery.

PHOTOS BY
GEORGE
BALLIS

Gilbert Padilla, leader of the Texas strike, talks to a new member at the office of the Huelga in Rio Grande City, trying to explain how the success of Delano will help Texas.



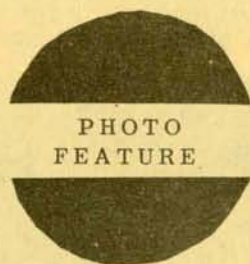
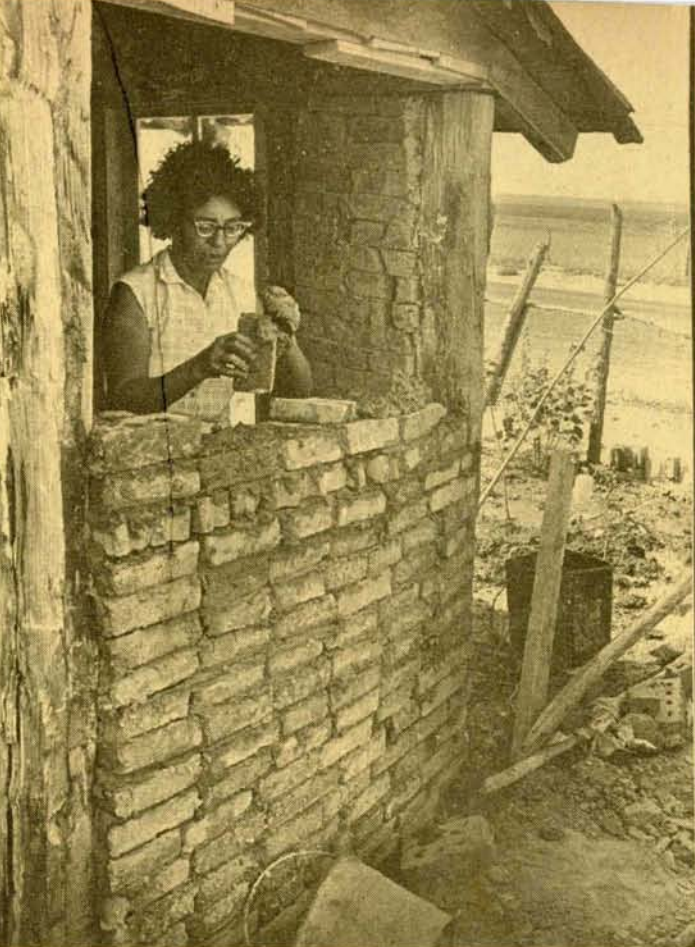
A woman in Rio Grande City--a striker-- builds her own house of adobe.

PHOTO
FEATURE

"In fact, to preserve one's
life is a duty common to all
individuals, and to neglect
this duty is a crime."
(Pope Leo XIII)



Child watches the Teatro Campesino



A striker



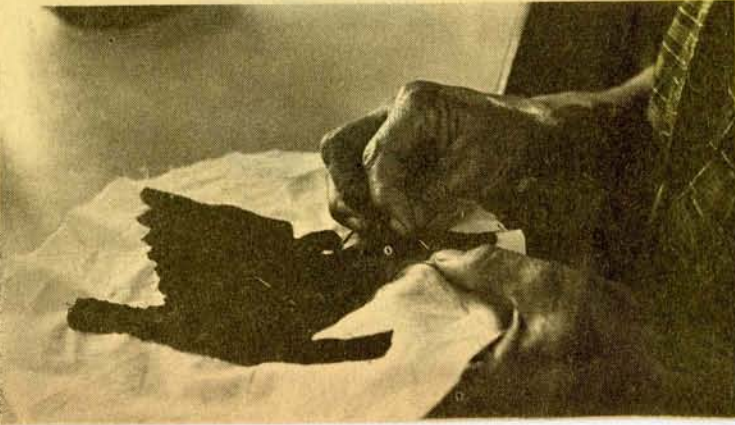
A WOMAN SERVES FOOD TO HUNGRY PICKETS IN THE STRIKE KITCHEN AT RIO GRANDE CITY

PHOTO
FEATURE

"The oppressed workers, above all, ought to be liberated from the savagery of greedy men, who inordinately use human beings as things for gain."

(Pope
Leo XIII)

Left: Two signs explain the conflict; Right: Hands which once picked lettuce now sew banners



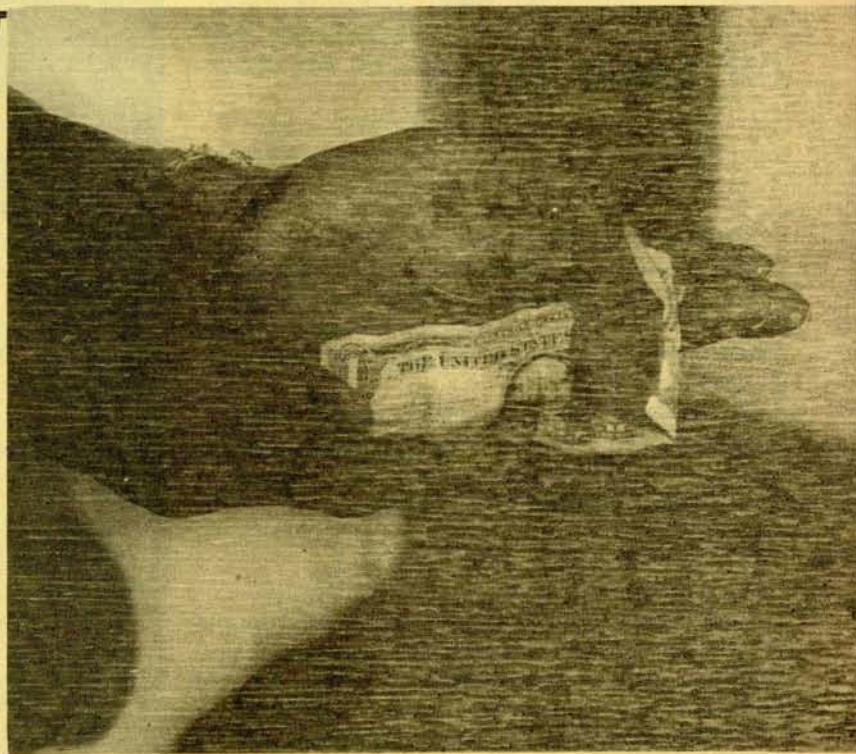
THE NATIONAL

FARM WORKER SERVICE CENTER

WANTS YOU TO KNOW YOUR RIGHTS AND THE LAW

DO YOU KNOW THAT

- 1) THE LAW SAYS THAT
You have the right to
immediate payment when
ever you are fired or laid
off.
- 2) THE LAW SAYS THAT
You have a right to the
wages which were prom-
ised you.
- 3) You must be shown, in
writing, either on your
check stub or another
piece of paper, what de-
ductions your employer
has withheld from your
paycheck.



IF YOU HAVE BEEN CHEATED IN THESE OR OTHER WAYS AND THINK THAT YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR CORRECT WAGES COME TO THE FARM WORKERS SERVICE CENTER SO THAT WE CAN NOTIFY THE LABOR COMMISSIONER ON YOUR BEHALF.

ADDRESSES:

Farm Worker Service Center
105 Asti Street
Delano, California 93215
725-0161

Farm Worker Service Center
10913 Main Street
Lamont, California
845-1488

Farm Workers

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HOLDS HEARINGS ON FARM LABOR

"I never knew hunger until I came to the United States." These were the words of Larry Itliong of Delano, the assistant director of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee. He was speaking before a sub-committee of the Congress of the U.S. in Washington, D.C.

The occasion was the union's campaign to get government protection for farm workers through the NLRA -- the law that protects all other workers, but which now excludes farm workers.

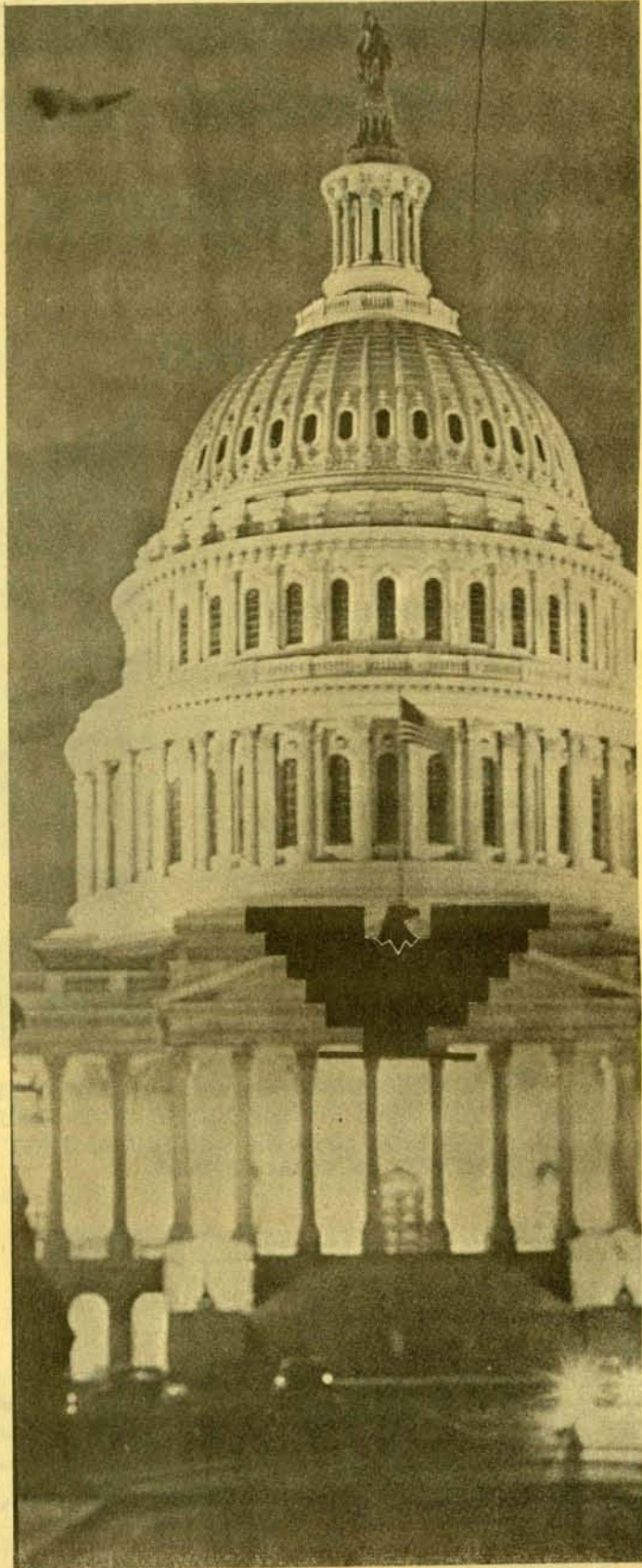
DEMOCRACY DOESN'T EXIST

Larry explained to lawmakers about his years in the Philippines, followed by years in the fields of California, Oregon and Washington. "We were told back in the Islands that the U.S. was a great democratic country. Well, for people who work in the fields, that democracy doesn't exist. Field workers -- who need protection the most -- are systematically excluded from nearly all the federal labor laws.

Cesar Chavez, who led the group's assault on Washington, spoke to the nation's leaders about exactly why the NLRA should be extended to farm workers. "We are subject to the restrictions of the law," he said, "but not to any of its protections. Therefore we are now in a very bad position, one that is clearly discriminatory." Cesar also talked about how, under the NLRA, employers are forced to live up to agreements. Without it, there is no way to force them into keeping their word.

WE HAVE NO CHOICE

The only way to beat them now, Cesar said, is through the most disastrous economic threats such as strikes and boycotts. These create so much



at Congress

trouble in the community that it is in the public interest that they be avoided. Without the NLRA however, we have no choice.

Mack Lyons of Bakersfield told the Congressmen how DiGiorgio had workers arrested for sitting in at his office in San Francisco. Mack explained how, under NLRA procedures, this never would have happened.

Domingo Arredondo of Rio Grande City, Texas, told the committee about police harassment of strikers there. He told them about the 56 arrests of strikers -- none of which has been brought to trial.

HORRIBLE CONDITIONS

The head of the committee, Congressman Thompson, actually cried when he heard about the horrible conditions under which people must live and work in South Texas. "These things happening in this country are incredible," he said.

Another member of the committee was Congressman Albert of Oklahoma. He was greatly interested in the problems of the union, because he has relatives living in Delano, members of the union, and workers at Sierra Vista Ranch here.

Mr. Albert was especially interested in Joe Serda's speech for the government. Joe is the leader of the union's Coachella Hiring Hall. He talked about the election campaign at Sierra Vista Ranch. He contrasted the first election -- the phony Teamster election which was banned by the investigators -- with the final election which was similar to an NLRB election.

MOST IMPORTANT LAW OF THE YEAR

Dolores Huerta and Gilbert Padilla summed up the union's presentation before the government. Congressman Phil Burton from San Francisco said that the new law would be one of the most important laws of the year. Dolores Huerta added that for the farm workers, it would be one of the most important things to happen in the 20th century.

Dolores said, "NLRB elections are so peaceable, and are carried on so easily and with such fairness, that many people do not even know they are taking place. The farm workers union in California has had the benefit of only one NLRB election, in the peanut packing shed at DiGiorgio, she said. "We will be working out a contract with them this month, and the whole thing was done without a costly strike for DiGiorgio. These stubborn growers are going to learn that the NLRA law protects them as well as the workers. If it doesn't get through Congress, there is going to be another long year of trouble in the fields."

IS WASHINGTON FRIENDLY?

Friends of the strike led by Wendy Goepel, formerly of Delano, raised \$300 for the Farm Workers Medical Clinic on the weekend of the hearings, at a cocktail party. But the farm workers will find out for sure how friendly Washington, D.C. is when the law passes through Congress and becomes a reality.

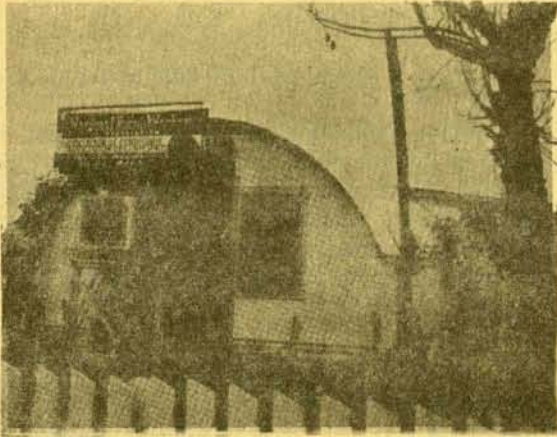
WHICH WORKERS ARE COVERED BY THE FEDERAL LAW CALLED THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS ACT (NLRA)?

The law covers all packinghouse workers who work in packinghouses which do work for more than one rancher, and which sell more than \$50,000 worth of products each year. Field workers are not covered by the law. The United Farm Workers Organizing Committee has representatives in Washington trying to change the law so that it will cover all workers.

HOW DOES THE LAW WORK?

1. The workers in a certain place sign a petition and ask for an election.
2. The government calls a meeting to set a date for the election.
3. A secret ballot election is held to determine if the workers want a union.
4. The election is supervised by the government. Neither the company nor the union is allowed to see how the workers vote.
5. The government determines who is eligible to vote. Both the company and the union have the right to challenge voters who they don't think should be voting.
6. If the union wins, the company is forced to negotiate a contract with the union.
7. If the company lays off some workers or tries to threaten them, the union can get the workers' jobs back for them by declaring an unfair labor practice to the government.
8. The local police are not permitted to interfere. The election is supervised by honest federal officials.
9. All voters have the same rights, whether or not they are citizens of the United States.

What's the Name of This Town?



First Answer Wins \$5.00

SEND YOUR ANSWER AND YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS TO:

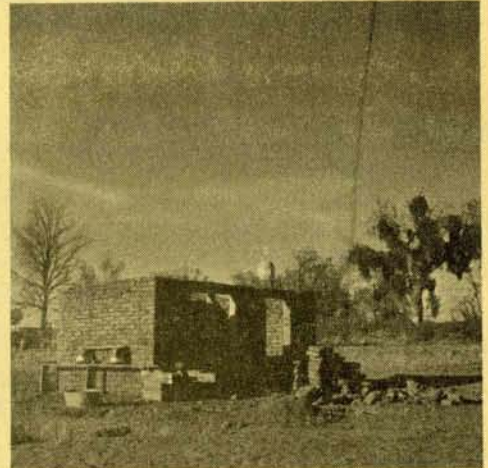
GAME OF THE TOWNS
P. O. BOX 1060
DELANO, CALIF. 93215

LAST TIME'S WINNER

The winner last time was Manuel Sanchez, who was the first one to send in the right answer, which was Delano. Mr. Sanchez will receive \$5.00.

Andrew Avila of Huron, California: We need your complete address.

New Office



THE
NEW
BUILD-
ING

MESQUITE, New Mexico -- La Fortuna Federal, the credit union here is growing slowly, but it definitely is growing. They now have 90 members and over \$1,000 in assets. In the past six months they have doubled their assets, something that even the Delano Farm Workers Credit Union has not been able to do.

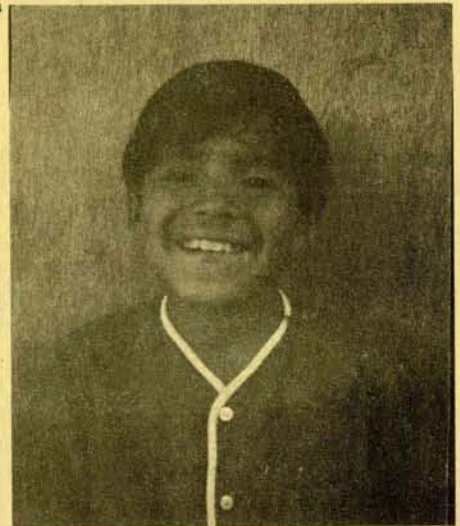
The members are now building a new office for the credit union and are doing very well. Even though the members are doing most of the work on the building themselves, they are having some problems with all of the expensive items that go into the construction of an office. Putting in the electricity cost \$125, and roofing materials, plaster and paint put the cost well over \$300. This is quite a lot of money for a group like this one which is very young.

In order to get enough money for these expenses, they are having a raffle. The prize is a sewing machine which was donated by one of the members. The raffle will be held in June in connection with their dedication ceremonies for the new building. At the same time they hope to have a big fiesta to celebrate the completion of the credit union office.

Another Graduate of the Recorder Class

Emilio Huerta, 9, was one of the graduates from the first 10-week beginners' class for the recorder. When the Malcriado printed the story about Tim Kelly's recorder classes in the last issue, we made a mistake and left out Emilio's name. We add it here because Emilio not only graduated, but was one of the best ones in the class, and is continuing to take lessons from Tim.

The new recorder classes have already started. There are some for beginners and some for those who are more advanced. Although Tim has left Delano for a few days because of illness, the classes will begin again soon, and anyone in the Huelga who is interested in taking them should contact Tim at 725-8661 or 725-1919



EMILIO HUERTA

The last 6 months were a great experience for the organizers in the state of Texas, as they found themselves with a 100% Mexican-American movement, and for many of them it seemed to be a great problem for the union to win a contract.

Organizing along the Mexican border is like seasonal planting. The smallest details should be watched, and the result will be the same as the attention paid those details.

It is true that the level of life for the Texas farm workers is very low, but those same problems can play a very important role in our favor, as the conditions are the same as being at the bottom of a well or the same as not being able to go down any farther, and at the same time the effort will be upward.

An example of the above is what is happening in Texas, in Rio Grande City. The strikers over there now know that they have certain rights which they should not lose even if they are arrested or accused. When I spoke to them once, they said, "Before the laws

were enforced the way they wanted to enforce them. We never said anything and today, in change, we know that we can't be forced to speak against ourselves and that was very common before, the police for us were like little gods and no one said anything, perhaps these experiences will make a lot of difference even if we don't win any contracts they won't treat us like they did before". By the above, you can see that they themselves can see how powerful the ranchers are in that state, but at the same time they don't become weak because they believe that they have won enough and because of that they continue this unfair battle.

The possibilities of a contract in Rio Grande City, Texas, depends more on the help that the nation can give these brave huelgistas and especially on the labor movement in Texas - that it stop playing political games with us and that it rise to the height of its responsibilities that they themselves accepted when they offered help to those poor farm workers.

Now is the time that he can and should win a contract as the me-



TEXANS TODAY -- BUILDING TOMORROW

THE ADVANTAGES OF ORGANIZING TEXAS

by Antonio Orendain

lons are about to begin and as I said before if those strikers received the necessary help they would have the contract that would form the foundation of a better future for the farm worker not only in Texas but throughout the country.

Another striker adds, "These days the farmers are saying that they are cultivating the land in order to give us work and that there is no profit in it for themselves, and that because of this they have to pay cheap wages, and that besides when we go to California the ones from there say that we ruin the prices but they don't notice that this is just another tactic of the ranchers to make us fight among ourselves while they make the money, because while the people in California say that we're strike-breakers, we say that the green-carders or wetbacks are the ones. They tell us that they

work for those wages because they can make a living with them and they're right. Another thing that the ranchers and their propaganda machine have people believing is that we "pochos" are no longer capable of working in the fields because we can't last the day picking cotton or thinning beets and that the ones that come from Mexico can and that we like to live off of welfare---and that is the way that the ranchers make their money as we argue among ourselves as to who is right."

It is because of all this that the day will come when we will have a strong union in Texas and in that way protect ourselves and put up information centers so that we can end all those lies from that department of employment that tells us to go to California or Illinois where there is so much work with the result that all we do is go break the prices.

The above will give you a very clear idea of why it is very important to organize the border towns, especially in Texas, because in that way the base will be constructed at the very bottom of the well, and it will be a mighty and powerful foundation. That way we will come out of this difficulty that we are in.

LIST OF
HONOR

These volunteers will have their names inscribed on the bronze plaque at the new building site. If their days of service to the union are matched by your own, the buildings will soon be a reality. Will your name be on the next list of honor?

ALEX RODRIGUEZ

ISABEL ZAVALA

MACARIO R. GARCIA

CARMEN URANDAY

JORGE O. ROBLES

JOSE PEÑA

HUGO CARRILLO

EMIL FACKLER

JUAN C. RODRIGUEZ

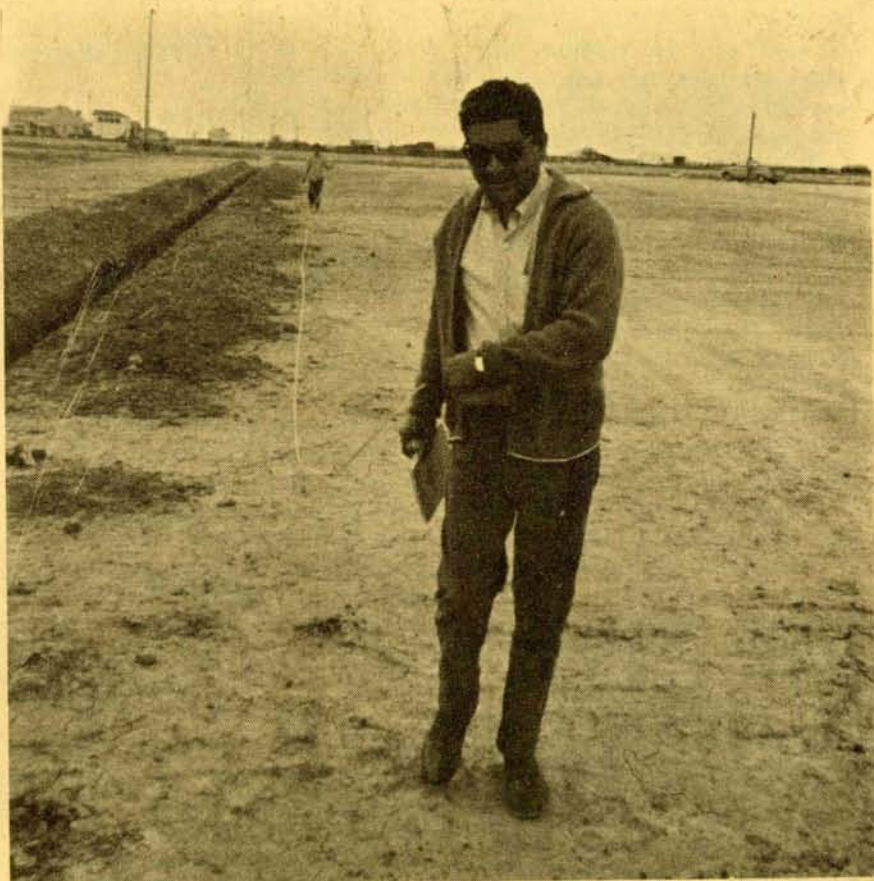
ALBERT ESCALANTE

ROGELIO ESTUPIÑAN

VICENTE RODRIGUEZ

THE NEW

Where the Digging of a Trench Is the Symbol of a Great Future



Richard Chavez carries a survey tape on the new land. Richard, an officer of the Farm Workers Credit Union, and brother of Cesar Chavez, is the Construction Supervisor. He is responsible for the successful completion of the new buildings. The first building will be finished within a few months.

LAND

AT THE CORNER OF GARCES HIGHWAY AND METTLER ROAD, A FEW MILES WEST OF DELANO, THERE ARE FORTY ACRES OF LAND NOW UNDER DEVELOPMENT. HERE IS LIVING PROOF OF THE STRENGTH AND PERMANENCE OF THE FARM WORKERS. THE LAND IS OWNED COLLECTIVELY BY ALL THE WORKERS THROUGH THEIR UNION(UFWOC; AFL-CIO). IT WILL BE USED TO CONSTRUCT THE MANY BUILDINGS NEEDED BY THE UNION TO SERVE ITS MEMBERS.

WITH DELANO AS THE HUB OF A FARM WORKER MOVEMENT THAT STRETCHES FOR MORE THAN 1000 MILES, THESE BUILDINGS WILL BE GREATLY NEEDED. THE FIRST PROJECT WILL BE A CO-OP SERVICE STATION AND PARTS STORE AND GARAGE. THE SECOND BUILDING WILL BE A CLINIC. THESE WILL BE FOLLOWED BY AN OFFICE BUILDING AND AN AUDITORIUM.

ALREADY COMPLETED IS THE ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION AND THE 300-FOOT-DEEP WELL. THE WATER, WHICH WAS TASTED THIS WEEK FOR THE FIRST TIME, WAS DECLARED TO BE THE BEST TASTING WATER IN KERN COUNTY.

THE MIGRANT SONG

Up from El Centro and San Bernardino.
Bakersfield, Fresno, Madera, Merced,
Salinas and Stockton, up to Sacramento,
Santa Rosa and Red Bluff and on back again.
One hundred thousand men, women and children.
They flow on the highway, the young and the old,
An unending cycle of sowing and reaping,
The long valley's labor can never be done.

And see how the land
Yields up her treasure
To man's patient hand.

Up in the morning an hour before dawning,
Stretching and yawning, rubbing sleep from their eyes,
With the last stars still quivering, in the morning breeze
shivering,
While the sun is just lighting the easternmost skies.
Soon in the big open trucks they will travel
Crowded together and crammed in like cattle,
Over pavement, over gravel, over dirt roll the wheels
Up to the orchards, the vineyards, the fields.

And see how the land
Yields up her treasure
To man's patient hand.

Continued on the following page.....

PHOTOS

Top - The first man on the left is Albert Escalante. Work like this, performed by hand, is saving the Union thousands of dollars on construction of the much-needed buildings.

Middle - Carmen Uranday, who has been with the Huelga since the first day in 1965, will have his name added to the plaque which will show the names of all those who have helped.

Bottom - Johnny Rodriguez, leads a line of worker-volunteers digging trenches for underground water pipes for the half-dozen buildings which will be constructed.





drawing by ANDY ZERMEÑO

... Continued from preceding page

Soon in the long rows the swift hands are
toiling,
In the day's growing heat and the dusty rows
boiling,
The sun presses down like a hot heavy hand
On the backs of the laborers working the land,
In the shade of the oak trees by the side of
the field rows,
Dirty and shoeless the young children play,
While fathers and mothers, older sisters and
brothers,
Toil on their knees in the heat of the day.

And see how the land
Yields up her treasure
To man's patient hand.

Down from the highway come men in brown uni-
forms
Questioning, checking and searching, and soon
One or two whose papers are not in order
Will be gone from the crew in the hot after-
noon.
But when the sun has descended and the long day
is ended
Its back to the trucks wining sweat from their
eyes,
Tired and weary and covered all over
With fruit juice and brown dust and sweat and
black flies.

And see how the land
Yields up her treasure
To man's patient hand.
When there's crows in the fields and grapes in
the vineyards,
And the limbs in the orchards bow low to the
ground,
There's food on the table and clothes for the
children
And singing and dancing and joy all around.
But with the skies grey as iron and the icy
winds whistling,
Frost in the fields and no work to be found.
In the cold night they huddle and with hunger
they struggle
Till spring brings back sweetness and life to
the ground.

And see how the land
Yields up her treasure
To man's patient hand.

Peter Krug

AN INCREDIBLE STORY:

Man Works

33 Years

without Pay

Abernicio Gonzales went to work on the large Montoya Ranch in New Mexico in 1933. He did it to pay back \$50 that his mother had borrowed to pay for an older brother's wedding.

The deal he made was that he pay it back at 75¢ a day by working. He was 13 years old at the time.

Gonzales worked off the debt in 80 days and agreed to continue working for 50¢ a day plus his upkeep. The arrangement was that the money be put in a bank for his old age. He was repeatedly assured that the money was being saved for him.

In 1966, 33 years later, Abernicio Gonzales was 46 years old. He was still working for the remote Montoya ranch, north of Albuquerque. He had never been permitted to see an accounting of the money saved for him.

Also he had never been permitted to leave the ranch. He was held there by force, beaten several times for attempting to leave and seek work elsewhere.

Now that Gonzales' story has come to light, he is suing the ranch for the 50¢ a day that they never put away for him. With six percent interest it comes to \$40,000.

This story was first reported through the UPI and the Valley Evening Monitor of McAllen, Texas. El Malcriado would appreciate information from its readers on similar cases -- as it is well known that there are hundreds of people kept in slavery on remote ranches throughout the southwest of the United States.

~~Pray~~ Pray for me.

Dear Brothers,

Espero que Viva
la causa y
sigan siempre
adelante. que
Viva Cesar Chavez
y Larry Itliong
y todas nuestras
hermanas campesinas
y el viva la
causa tu Sista
Lupe Peña

Lupe Peña

1920-1967



This is a note from Lupe Peña to the strikers, written while she was critically ill in the hospital. In it she says: "Long live the Cause and may it go on forever forward. Long live Cesar Chavez and Larry Itliong and all our farm worker brothers."

These are the courageous words of a courageous woman, a huelguista and the wife of a striker, Sebastian Peña, and the mother of three children, Magdalena Ventura and Domingo. Mrs. Lupe Peña died Saturday, May 6, after lying in Kern General Hospital in critical condition since March. She was 46 years old. Her illness took her from her responsibilities in the Huelga where she had worked half day in the busy kitchen of Filipino Hall which daily feeds several hundred strikers and their families, and half day for this newspaper, El Malcriado. We salute you, Lupe, for your life and death struggle. We know that we were in your thoughts in those last hard days, just as you were and are in ours.



LABOR HISTORY

Clothing Workers Won

BY SHARRON MARTIN

This is the inspiring story of how the heroic men, women, and children who help clothe our nation organized themselves into a strong union, the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union--how they stood together against their unfair employers and won. Theirs is a story which is an inspiration to all farmworkers, who have suffered the same horrible living and working conditions, and are now engaged in the same work of freeing themselves for a brighter future.

If you were poor and lived in the city in the late 19th or early 20th century, you probably worked in a factory. Workers were caught by the

terrible factory system, before the reforms forced by labor unions were adopted.

CHILDREN WORKED TO DEATH IN SWEATSHOPS

The clothing workers labored the majority of their lives away in sweatshops -- dim, damp, disease breeding rooms with often hundreds of people crowded into it, sewing and cutting, by hand and by machine. The sweatshops were firetraps, often with only one exit.

Children worked side by side with their mothers, from the time they were 4 or 5 years old. "Children are worked to

death beside their parents," reported a Congressional Committee at that time.

"IF YOU DON'T COME IN SUNDAY, DON'T COME IN MONDAY"

The boss hung up this sign for all the workers to see. Hours were incredibly long -- 12 to 14 hours a day, 7 days a week. Wages were inhumanly low -- 5 cents an hour!

Even when they finished their long, gruelling days work, they could be seen, women with their children by their sides, carrying home huge piles of garments on their heads -- "homework" to be sewn at home.

Sweat Shop Death Traps!

Even on their one day of freedom, Christmas Day, they had to do sewing in their own homes to keep their jobs. One poor worker wrote, "At the end of the day I feel so weak I want to fall down and sleep. If one of us gets a new hat, that means we have gone for two weeks on 2 cent lunches -- dry cake and nothing else."

Even the most permanent job was temporary, because workers were not united and had no strength against their employers for job security.

WORKERS ORGANIZE

In 1900 the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union was formed. Seven locals, representing 2,000 workers, were issued a charter by the then president of the AFL-CIO Samuel Gompers. Earlier efforts of the union to organize had failed, but this time the bosses' goon squad and hunger couldn't break the union.

THE GREAT REVOLT

In 1909 the shirtwaist makers' had a walkout (Uprising of the 20,000), and in 1910, the Great Revolt came when hundreds of cloak makers struck for better working conditions. This two months strike was settled by providing preferential union hiring, a board of grievances and a board of arbitration. This laid the foundation for the "impartial chairman" method of settling labor disputes.

FIRE KILLS 146 YOUNG GIRLS

But the event that really called the attention of the nation to the plight of the sweatshop seamstresses and their children was the tragic fire in New York, in 1911. On March 25, a fire broke out in the overcrowded upstairs "sweatshop" of the Triangle Shirtwaist Company in New York. When the fire started, the workers, mostly girls, didn't have a chance. The

only entrance had been bolted, and the broken fire escape ended in midair. One hundred and forty-six young women died in that fire. Many charred bodies were found, still bent over their sewing machines, totally unidentifiable. Many poor young girls leaped to their death, rather than be burned alive when they discovered that there was no escape.

REFORMS WON

This horrible tragedy resulted in the establishment of the New York Factory Investi-

gating Committee and eventual improvement in factory conditions.

Today the International Ladies Garment Workers is a strong union, offering many benefits to its union members. Like the United Farm Workers Union, it offers medical services -- 13 ILGWU health centers, 6 mobile health centers, and a staff of 500 physicians. It sponsors cooperative housing for 4,492 families (the workers own the buildings and share the cost of living). It has won for its workers a 35 hour work week and high wages.



Child takes "homework" after 12-hour day in factory.

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Sr. Luis Gonzales of ADRIAN, MICHIGAN, shown at the center of the picture above with Delano strikers Manuel Vasquez and Maria Saludado. Sr. Gonzales won the beautiful radio for the first ten subscriptions he sold for EL MALCRIADO.



THIS IS JUST THE FIRST OF MANY PRIZES. IT'S EASY! YOU CAN WIN! Just ask your friends and neighbors if they want to get EL MALCRIADO in the mail every two weeks for a year. Every \$2.50 subscription that you send in will give you credit toward the prizes: WALLET--2; RECORD ALBUM--5; RADIO--10; TAPE RECORDER --30.

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