




El Malcriado

THE VOICE OF THE FARM WORKER

10¢

IN ENGLISH

Saturday, June 15, 1968

Delano, California • 

Volume II, Number 8



"Once You Have Won"

N. L. de Flores

In many farming towns of our southwest
Now, in the year of 1968,
Americans who know they can do best,
Still treat their workers with preju-
diced hate.

They pay meager wages and they detest
UFWOC leaders out by their gate.
Mexicans, Filipinos, poor whites too,
Through scab labor, farmers make up
their crew.

Black workers, yellow, brown and white
alike

Call Cesar Chavez, the poor people's
man.

Tell him your longing your wages to
hike.

He'll help you, I know it, if anyone
can.

Start a "Huelga," people, "Huelga" means
"Strike,"

• Non-violent pleading, profit will yield.

Once you have won and you're feeling so
great,

You don't "just ease up," and leave it
to fate.

Teach what you've learned to some less
fortunate.

Pass on shared wisdom, and never forget:

"Teacher must move on to help other
fights,

Pupils stay put and secure your won
rights."

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Our Friend, May He Rest in Peace

by Antonio Orendain

"I walked a mile with pleasure,
e chattered all the way,
d left me none the wiser,
r all she had to say.

"I walked a mile with Sorrow,
d not a word said she.
t oh, the things I learned from her,
en Sorrow walked with me."

Robert Browning Hamilton

We ought carefully to consider these
ords, for they give us the strength and
ourage we need to continue in our
uggle.

We farm workers have labored with a
new determination in recent months, be-
cause there was a beacon which guided us
much as the lighthouse guides the sail-
or on a stormy night.

That beacon was Kennedy--a beacon of
hope for the farm worker. Who, except
him, had come to the bottom of the pit to
bring hope and encouragement to the farm
worker? It was he who gave us new spi-
rit.

It was he who said there was a place
in the social order for farm workers,
and that there would be new laws to help
us gain entry into this great society

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THE TRIUMPH AND THE TRAGEDY

Cesar Chavez cam-
paigns for Senator
Robert Kennedy in
the California Demo-
cratic Primary.

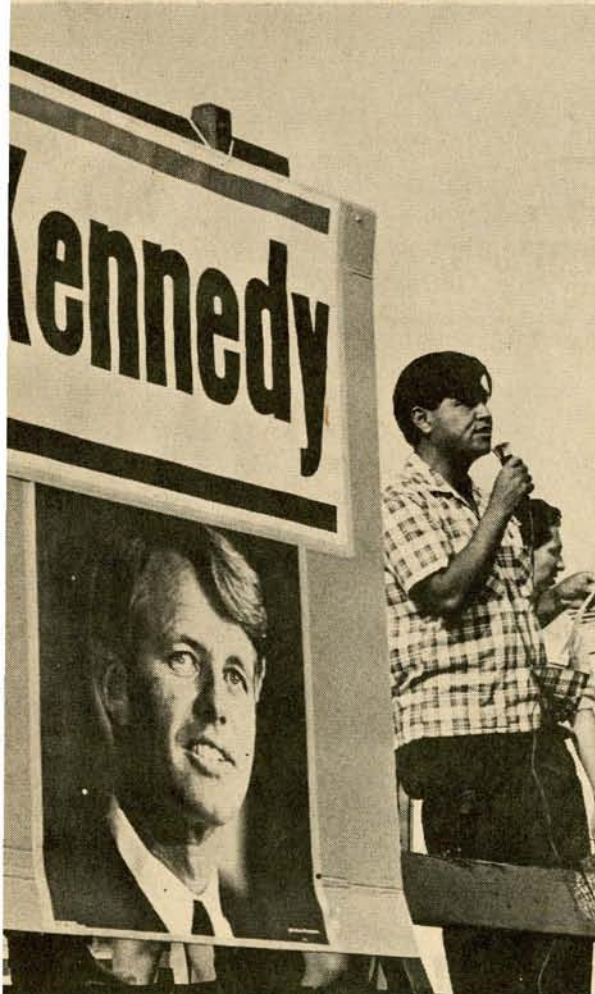
The political campaign in California
reached an exhausting and exhilarating
climax during that first week in June.
And after all the campaigning, came the
victory of Senator Robert Kennedy. On
that election night two weeks ago, the
victory speech had just been made, the
celebrations were just beginning, when
that horrible shot rang out and Kennedy
was dying.

For the farm workers of America, It
was a tragedy with special impact. Sen-
ator Kennedy had visited Delano twice,
helped in fund raising affairs for the
Union, and had made support for Ameri-
ca's farm workers and Mexican-Americans
one of the key issues in his campaign.

Senator Eugene McCarthy, Kennedy's
principal opponent in the primary, had
also expressed strong support for the
farm worker and Mexican-Americans, and
Kennedy and McCarthy often pointed out
how similar their campaigns were. Yet
farm workers felt that Kennedy could
more forcefully and effectively deal
with these problems.

During the week before the election,
more than 200 farm workers from the San
Joaquin Valley moved down to East Los
Angeles to help in the get-out-the-vote

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The The Triumph ---

Continued from page 3



Above: Al Rojas of Delano explains techniques of political campaigning to some helpers in East Los Angeles. Next comes the walking, pushing doorbells, explaining why we are for Kennedy.

Below: Victory celebration at the Ambassador Hotel. Hours later...tragedy.



drive. Everyone agreed that Los Angeles County would decide the winner in the election, because over a million Democratic voters live there.

For five exhausting days the Valley workers walked the streets of Los Angeles, from 9 in the morning until 9 at night, talking to voters, ringing doorbells, handing out leaflets. The farm workers were given 400 key precincts to cover.

The results showed the farm workers helped get out the biggest Eastside vote in the history of Los Angeles.

Kennedy captured 49 percent of the vote in Los Angeles, with 578,783 votes, with 458,460 for McCarthy and 126,681 for the pro-Humphrey delegation.

Local organizations of the United Farm Workers were the backbone of the Kennedy Campaign in many rural areas of the State. Kennedy easily carried most of the San Joaquin Valley Counties: Kings, Madera, Merced, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, and Stanislaus. He also carried San Benito, Santa Clara, and Monterey Counties, which have big farm worker populations, and Ventura, center of the citrus industry. He failed to carry Tulare County by only 500 votes out of 23,000 cast, and though he lost Kern County he carried the city of Delano, and most of the rural portions of the county. It appeared that farm workers are at last developing a political muscle which must be reckoned with.

On election night, the farm workers went to Senator Kennedy's victory celebration at the Ambassador Hotel. When

Continued from page 3

OUR FRIEND...

and so-called democracy.

It was he who told us he would work for these laws, and that promise was more than anyone else had ever given us.

Above, I used the phrase, "The bottom of the pit" because he came to us when we needed him most, long before he began his tragic adventure.

May our friend Rest in Peace. His walk with us was like a fleeting star or a flash of lightning in a black and gloomy night.

But that short-lived light gave us direction. We identified with him as workers in the same Cause.

Today there is again darkness, but we know we are further along on the road to justice. We are stronger because we have united to regain the heritage the growers have robbed from us.

We have decided to regain our rights,

and so we shall, for, "It is better to die on your feet than to live on your knees."

Perhaps some of us will follow the path that Kennedy was made to follow, but we are ready for that journey if it is necessary.

The destiny of the farm worker must now change. We will have justice.

Senator Robert F. Kennedy did not die in vain, for either they will give us our rights or begin to select their victims from among us.

The life of the farm workers today is like "imagining a group of chained men, all condemned to death, some of whom are beheaded daily in the presence of the others, who wait, hope lost, their own turn." Such is the life of the campesino.

and the Tragedy - - -

he candidate finally appeared for his victory statement, he singled out Cesar Chavez and Bert Corona and the Mexican-American community for special praise and thanks. He also had a special word of thanks for UFWOC Vice-President Dolores Huerta, calling her "my old friend." After his brief speech, Senator Kennedy answered a few questions and then began to leave. "I was only a few steps behind Senator Kennedy," Mrs. Huerta said later. "We were walking down a narrow passageway near the kitchen. It was crowded. Suddenly I heard the shots and everything became confusion. Someone pushed me against the wall to protect me. People were pushing and shoving and screaming. Paul Schrade (a United Auto Workers official who is a close friend of Chavez and Huerta and the Union) was also hit. I just could not believe anyone could do such a hor-

rible thing. I began to pray for the Senator's life, but fear was already in my heart that he would die."

Union members held a brief prayer service in Los Angeles and then turned to radios and TV in stunned disbelief. Many did not sleep at all that night. The next day, Wednesday, most returned to their homes in Kern and Tulare County.

A mass was held that night at the Union's Forty Acres, and hope still flickered that Kennedy would live. But when the death was announced, the whole Union went into spontaneous mourning. A memorial procession was held on Sunday, June 9, attended by more than 1500 farm workers, paying final tribute to Senator Kennedy. But he will continue to live in our hearts and our memories. He has set an example of service, a spark of hope that will be an inspiration to us.



Over 1500 workers paid tribute to Senator Robert F. Kennedy in a memorial march on Sunday, June 9.



OPEN LETTER TO BRAZIL

Dear Brothers and the Labor Movement and
Farm Workers of Brazil:

I have been sending to this distant land our newspaper so that you could see and judge for yourselves the problems of the farm worker in the United States of America.

When Larry Itliong and I were in your country, I was surprised by the questions you asked and, because of that, I mailed you the past issues of MALCRIADO. It is not your fault that you do not know what is happening or how we live in this country, as there are certain factions that would like for you never to become aware of the embarrassing realities of life in this country of Democracy.

It's something like spending millions of dollars fixing our neighbor's house but not noticing that our own is crumbling. Friends, if you are poor, it is because you are all equal and, as they say, "All children, or all boarders," but here in the country where we are ready to send our people to the moon, some of us don't have our daily bread. Perhaps our white leaders think that, if they throw us the crumbs from on high, we will think they are gods.

About two years ago we succeeded in getting some ranchers to give us the sacred right to put a price on the sweat of our brow, but that was possible only after more than eight months of strike, after walking more than 300 miles to talk with the governor, after they arrested more than 40 persons and intimidated thousands, accusing us of a thousand lies like the old story of violence.

We know that is what they'd like to prove so they could use armed force against us. Because they don't know what

The following is a letter written by Antonio Orendain, UFWOC Secretary-Treasurer and Editor in Chief of "El Malcriado." It is to labor leaders of Brazil whom he met while touring that country in the summer of 1967, as part of a State Department good-will tour.

to do against our peaceful demonstrations, the ranchers just scratch their heads and fall one by one.

But there is still much to do as we only have ten ranches that give us the right to put a price on our labor, and here in the San Joaquin Valley there are more than 26 who don't believe that the farm worker is also a human being who has the right to earn a living with the sweat of his brow, and that he be paid a just wage and not have his lack of education abused to deceive him and take away his job.

That is our struggle and that struggle is the one that frightens our friends the ranchers who think they can tell us how much we should earn to be able to live and educate our children. We are just asking for the right to decide our future and to gain a better education for our children. As you can see, these are just fundamental things.

Isn't it strange that in such a forward country we still fight for these basic rights? Perhaps in the near future I will no longer send you the MALCRIADO unless you write us, as we need to correct the addresses, and if you want to subscribe, we will send it to you.

Thank you for continuing the struggle in that country because the farm worker is at the bottom of the social scale and this has to be an international struggle for justice.

Long live our Struggle and our Cause!

--Antonio Orendain

The LAW vs. GIUMARRA

UFWOC's legal department will be beefed up this summer with the addition to the staff of David Averbuck, who will serve as associate to General Counsel Jerome Cohen.

Also new to the legal staff is Peter Williamson from Houston, Texas, a law student who will be assisting the Union attorneys with research.

Giumarra spent over \$125,000 on legal fees and court costs last year as a result of the strike. Mr. Giumarra might be able to save some money if he signed a contract!



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COURT BLOCKS GIUMARRA SUIT

FRESNO, June 10—UFWOC's trial on charges of contempt has been removed from the calendar of Kern County Superior Court in Bakersfield, pending the outcome of hearings on the Union's constitutional rights.

Union General Counsel Jerome Cohen told EL MALCRIADO he secured the continuance until the District Court of Appeal in Fresno rules on whether or not the Union and Epifano Camacho, both named as defendants, have the right to a jury trial.

The Union is charged with 12 counts of contempt of an anti-strike injunction issued last August by Kern County Superior Court J. Kelly Steele. Cesar Chavez, who was also named in the suit when filed in February, has been dropped from the list by Giumarra

corporation attorneys.

Cohen had originally requested a jury from Judge Steele on Friday, May 31, arguing that since the contempt charges involved possible heavy fines and imprison-

ment for Union officers and leaders, they had a constitutional right to a jury trial.

When Steele refused the jury, Cohen took the case to the Court of Appeal. Hearings on the question are scheduled to begin Wednesday, July 10, in Fresno.

Law Delays Wage Payment

William Ketchum, who represents Kern County in the State Legislature has proposed a new law which might deny thousands of farm workers part of their wages. Ketchum, an anti-Union Republican, has proposed that growers be allowed to wait three days after firing a worker or laying him off, before paying him his final wages.

Many poor farm workers, once they are fired or are laid off, must immediately find a new job to support their families, and this often involves

migrations. When you are without money, having to wait around for 3 days for your final check can be a real hardship. At present growers are required to pay their workers within 24 hours after the job is ended.

EL MALCRIADO SAYS: We urge defeat of this new law, AB1163, which has already been approved by the Industrial Relations Committee and is now being considered by the legislature. Write to your representative in Sacramento today and urge a NO vote on this discriminatory law.

Local Election Returns

The United Farm Workers endorsed two local candidates in Los Angeles, and saw one victory and one narrow defeat. Nominated in the 50th Assembly district is Phil Soto, a long time friend of Cesar Chavez and the farm workers movement, who rolled up 54% of the vote against two opponents. He will face an anti-union Republican in the finals. Suffering narrow defeat was Richard Calderon, another long-time friend of the farm worker, who was beaten by incumbent State Senator George Danielson, 26,360 to 30,887.

In the San Joaquin Valley, the Union did not actively participate in any local election contests. Pro-grower Democrats such as Congressman Harlan Hagen of Hanford and Congressman Bernie Sisk, of Fresno County, were nominated without opposition. Neither will have Union support in the November elections unless they change their anti-union attitudes.

The San Joaquin Valley was supposed to be "anti-Kennedy" and "pro-war" country. The Johnson-Humphrey supporters had launched a well-financed radio and press campaign in the final days of the campaign to win support for the "Lynch" delegation, favorable to Humphrey.

Lynch, however, made a dismal showing and Kennedy did surprisingly well, largely due to his support among the farm workers.

Kennedy carried Kings County 4,940 to 3,654 for McCarthy (and 902 for Lynch).

In Tulare County, Kennedy polled 10,227 to 10,783 for McCarthy and 2,692 for Lynch. In Kern County, Kennedy lost, 18,900 to 24,231 for McCarthy and 6,684 for Lynch.

Kennedy carried Delano, 1302 to 991 for McCarthy and 206 for Lynch. This was in spite of the fact that he carried only six of Delano's 21 precincts. Thanks to UFWOC's regis-

tration and get-out-the-vote drives, Kennedy carried the west side (farm worker) precincts by big margins.

Typical precincts on the west side were Delano Precinct #12: Kennedy, 152, McCarthy, 11, Lynch, 1; Precinct #11: Kennedy, 149, McCarthy, 10, Lynch, 3.



Flash**COACHELLA VOTE:**

1138 YES

27 NO

Official results from the first day of balloting in the Coachella Valley show 1138 farm workers in FAVOR of the Union, 27 opposed, and 5 spoiled ballots.

Strike Imminent in Coachella

Grape growers in the Coachella Valley are the latest to be notified that the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee represents their agricultural employees.

Union officials notified the growers in a series of telegrams sent between May 24 and June 3 that the Union was ready to set a date for negotiating contracts with growers for the protection of the farm workers on their ranches.

UFWOC General Counsel Jerome Cohen reports that all of the growers notified responded by stating that they were represented by A. H. Caplan, employer representative.

The Union telegrams gave the growers a deadline for contacting the UFWOC officials in order to set a date for "the effectuation of recognition and beginning of negotiations."

The Union offered to participate in secret ballot elections, in which the workers would vote either in favor or against the Union. If the workers voted against the Union, there would be no strike or boycott, and the Union would no longer claim to represent the workers. But if the Union won, the growers would have to bargain with the Union and sign a contract.

But the Coachella growers have turned a deaf ear on the workers. They refuse to negotiate with the Union, or hold elections for their workers. In their customary patronizing way, they claim, "Our workers don't want a Union. They are perfectly happy with their present condition."

So the workers decided to prove to the growers, by their physical presence and the ballot, that they want a Union. They called upon several leading Southern Californians to conduct a secret-

ballot election where by they could express themselves. Representatives from the offices of Congressman John Tunney, representing the Coachella and Imperial Valleys in Congress, and Bishop Fury of San Diego, and Domingo Ulloa of the Mexican Labor Movement (CTM) officiated at the election held June 15th and 16th at the Fair Grounds in Indio. Fifteen hundred farm workers from the Coachella Valley, Mexican Americans, alien resident "Green-Card" holders, Filipinos, Texans, all joined in the elections. They voted overwhelmingly that they wanted the Union, and that they wanted the UFWOC to represent them for collective bargaining. A second day of balloting was held on Sunday for those who could not vote on Saturday.

When UFWOC leaders Cesar Chavez and Larry Itliong announced the vote in favor of the Union, several workers moved that a strike vote be taken immediately. They pointed out that three weeks of attempts to get a meeting with the growers had failed. They moved that the workers authorize a strike and authorize the Executive Board of the Union to set the strike date. A standing vote resulted in enthusiastic unanimous approval.

Mr. Domingo Ulloa of the CTM, Gustavo Llorens, Secretary of the Mexicali City Council, and Congressman Arredondo of Baja California spoke at the rally, and promised full support for the strike on the Mexican side of the border.

A nationwide boycott of all California grapes has been launched in New York, Boston, Chicago, and Cleveland and will soon be spread to 5 additional cities in addition to all major cities in California.

CESAR CHAVEZ HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL DEFINITELY CLOSE THE U.S. - MEXICAN BORDER TO SCABS WHEN THE STRIKE BEGINS IN COACHELLA. MOST OF THE LOCAL "GREEN CARD" WORKERS HAVE VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE UNION AND THE STRIKE. IF THE WORKERS GO ON STRIKE, THE GOVERNMENT WILL NOT ALLOW THE STRUCK GROWERS TO HIRE MEXICAN CITIZENS TO TAKE THE JOBS OF THE STRIKERS.

National Boycott Brings Results

Don't Buy California Grapes!

As the grape strike spreads to the Coachella Valley and to all California table grapes, so too the boycott of all California grapes expands. Almost 50 young student volunteers arrived in Delano this week for orientation and schooling on the farm worker movement and strike, and on techniques of boycotting fresh produce. Next week they will head for major population centers throughout the U.S. They will be contacting labor unions, church groups, any group that will listen, explaining about the strike and boycott. They will set up informational picketlines to impress store owners and the public that no California grapes should be purchased this year.

Meanwhile, New York has almost totally closed its 12,000,000 member consumer market to California grapes. Boston and Chicago are tightening up.

A series of meetings with sixty-eight chain stores in New York recently produced a firm commitment on the part of the stores to bar scab California grapes from their shelves until the growers agree to negotiate with the Union.

Representing the Union at the meetings were Harry Van Arsdale, head of the New York City Central Labor Council; Paul Hall and "Bull" Shepard of the Seafarers' Union, and Irving Stern of the Meatcutters.



Soon after the statement was issued in New York, Sam Pollack notified the Coachella growers that Cleveland's labor unions were prepared to actively boycott the scab grapes.

While boycott preparations firmed up, UFWOC organizers and members continued work in the Coachella Valley this week, signing up the few remaining workers.

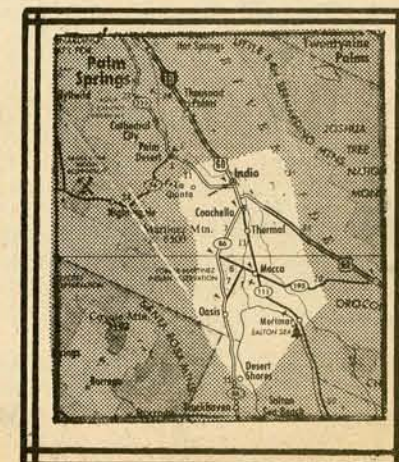
As authorization cards pile up, Coachella workers voice their demand to have the United Farm Workers represent them to end the wage slavery of farm workers in the United States.



The Coachella Valley is thirty miles from Palm Springs, playground for the millionaires. But in Coachella, workers toil in the 110° heat to har-

vest a quarter of the nation's table grapes. The harvest is from May to July. Over 2000 workers are employed at the peak around the first week of June.

Larry Itliong, Assistant Director of UFWOC, phones news of the Coachella election to Delano. Itliong noted, "The Filipino workers went on strike here in May 1965." That was the prelude to the Delano Grape Strike which began in September of 1965. Now workers here are demanding benefits which the Union has won at Schenley, DiGiorgio, Gallo, and Almaden Ranches.





The Union Fights on in Texas

*Gil Padilla,
UFWOC Vice President*

RIO GRANDE CITY, TEXAS - It is melon time in Starr County, Texas, and the melons will be picked and shipped this year without much interference from the Union. But the United Farm Workers are here to stay in Texas. The Union can point to great moral victories and some very real and concrete economic victories in the melon strike which began in May of 1966. And UFWOC is slowly changing the political and social structure of Starr County (See story in last issue) to the point where a major organizing drive can be launched again within two years, which will sweep not only Starr County but all of South Texas.

La Casita Farms, the huge California-based corporation which is the largest grower in Starr County, has suffered considerably at the hands of God this year. The ranch was submerged under 10 feet of water in the floods following Hurricane Beulah, and then hit again by hail this spring. But melons are so profitable in this area, with growers collecting \$600 to \$900 an acre during last year's harvest, that La Casita and the other big ranches are looking forward to good profits this year.

Wages are up again this year to \$1.30 an hour at La Casita. Before the strike (in May, 1966), hourly wages ranged from 70¢ to 85¢. The original demand of the strikers was for a \$1.25 an hour wage. La Casita has also begun an insurance program for its workers and gives them a barbecue every Sunday.

"Those La Casita employees are the best paid field workers in Texas," reports Gilbert Padilla, vice president of UFWOC and leader of the strike in Texas. Padilla also points to wages at Starr Produce packing shed, which serves Starr Farms, another of the Big Five growers in the county. "They now pay \$1.60 an hour, with overtime wages, insurance and unemployment, etc., etc.," reports Padilla.

Credit for these victories goes to Pa-

dilla and his predecessors, Tony Orendain and Eugene Nelson, and to the strikers in Starr County who sacrificed so much in the service of the Union.

But while these are great benefits for the workers of Starr County, the strikers have not been able to share in the benefits. Many are blacklisted by the growers. La Casita and the big farms rely heavily on "green card" workers who live in Mexico and commute daily across the Rio Grande River to work. And the big growers have tied the hands of the Union with arrests and false charges, "legal" harassment and, finally, an injunction outlawing picketing, flags, leaflets, boycotts and any form of striking. The injunction issued by Judge Woodrow Laughlin in June, 1967 in effect outlaws the Union.

Alfredo de Avila, a young organizer on the UFWOC staff in Texas, had this to say about recent events:

"The people know the issues now. The workers recognize the benefits we have already won and support the Union's goals. But we must solve this 'green card' scab problem before we can organize the labor force here. And we must destroy the feudal legal structure of this county and state which allows the growers to be above the law and suppresses the rights of the workers.

"We have made great progress over the last two years, and our elections here prove that the tyranny that held Starr County in its grip can be destroyed. When we do win in South Texas, we will not be satisfied with a \$1.25 wage and nothing more. With 300,000 farm workers here in South Texas, we will have the power to create and build a society with true justice for the workers, in government, schools, social services and on the job. It may take two more years, four more years, ten more years, but we are going to win in Starr County and in Texas. We're here to stay."

Liberal 'Loses In Texas

Liberal candidate Don Yarborough suffered defeat at the hands of conservative Preston Smith in the run-off election for the Democratic nomination for Governor in Texas.

Smith polled 756,909 to the 620,726 Yarborough votes. Yarborough had support from the Unions and working people of

Texas, including the United Farm Workers.

Yarborough carried both Starr County and Hidalgo County, where the UFW is the strongest. He also carried the Corpus Christi area, the Houston area, and El Paso, but it was not enough to beat Smith, who carried a huge majority of Texas' rural counties.

EL MALCRIADO SAYS: We are sad to see Don Yarborough lose. The people of Texas will have to organize, from the grass roots level up, if they are ever to defeat the rich aristocracy of oil men, bankers, ranchers, and corrupt politicians who rule Texas like a feudal kingdom.

OREGON FARM WORKERS ORGANIZE

A visit to Oregon last month by UFWOC Vice-President Andy Imutan has set off a new drive by farm workers in the Pacific Northwest to begin building a Union in Oregon and Washington.

The 6,000 permanent farm workers and 20,000 migrants who harvest the crops in Oregon's rich Willammet Valley (running south from Portland) are in special need of a Union. While wages in California, under pressure from the Union, have risen to an average \$1.40 an hour, wages on the farms in Oregon remain a dismal \$1.10 or \$1.25 in many areas. Since many of Oregon's farms are small (most are well under 1000 acres, which rates as a "small" farm in California), and deal in speciality crops like strawberries or beans, they are not covered by even the modest Federal minimum wage. And the 500 camps in the Willammet Valley are notorious for bad conditions. Migrants from Texas, brought to Oregon by unscrupulous labor contractors, are stranded in the pitiful shacks. The only hope for escape is to work the entire season at whatever wage the grower condescends to pay. And since the farms hire small crews of 10 to 50 workers, the work force is very divided and fragmented and difficult to organize.

Ventura Rios and David Aguilar, Chairman and Co-Chairman of the United Farm Workers in Oregon, have pledged to try to change the pattern. In forming a local chapter of UFWOC, they have already made considerable personal sacrifice. Aguilar has been blacklisted since visiting Delano, California, and former employers now refuse to shake his hand or talk with him. Oregon growers have consistently refused to meet with the group to discuss even such modest goals as cleaning up the camps.

But farm workers are beginning to sign up as members and the group is already making its voice heard. A representative from Governor Tom McCall's office recently toured a number of migrant camps with Rios and Aguilar and got a pretty graphic view of the problems facing farm workers in Oregon.

The situation in Oregon is complicated by a lavishly financed "antipoverty program" called the "Valley Migrant League." While doing some good in education and vocational training, the VML has emphasized that farm workers who want to get ahead should leave farm work.

Its generous salaries tend to buy off the natural leaders of the farm workers, many of whom end up teaching kindergarten or supervising recreation instead of organizing and building a Union.

Until recently the VML was completely controlled by middle class Anglo bureaucrats. One group of farm workers became so incensed and disgusted at the self-serving bureaucracy, and the destructive dis-organizing done by the VML that they publicly denounced it and formed the association which they call VIVA.

Their criticisms, and the increasing demands of the other farm workers for a voice in the Anti-Poverty program, have produced some reforms and improvements. But like so many poverty programs, the VML does as much disorganizing as organizing.

As they begin to organize, local chapters of UFWOC and similar groups like VIVA in Oregon and the United Farm Workers Co-op in the Yakima Valley in Washington should concentrate on short-term and obtainable objectives, like improving conditions in the camps, getting better working conditions, building a credit union and coop store, and most of all, educating the people about their rights, and about the benefits possible from organizing a union.

It is usually unwise for a young group to try to launch a strike, but in the long run, these and all other farm worker groups must build a strong union and win written contracts from growers, guaranteeing good wages and working conditions. Only in that way can they share in the prosperity of America. As one worker put it to Rios during a tour of the camps, "We should most of all like better wages. Then we could fix up the camps ourselves, or better still, move out into decent homes like other workers."



Ventura Rios, UFWOC leader in Oregon, discuss conditions in a labor camp in Turner. Mrs. Arthur Rojas, migrant from

Texas, complains of lack of running water. Her family of ten must wash in the tub.

Gestapo Tactics in East L.A.

The Los Angeles Police Department raided the barrios of East Los Angeles two weeks ago, using trumped up charges of "conspiracy" to arrest 12 leaders of the Mexican-American community.

If the arrests were designed to scare LA's Chicanos into quiet submission, the arrests were a colossal backfire.

Within 36 hours after the arrests, over 2,000 Mexican Americans had completely surrounded the LA city jail with a singing, chanting picketline demanding release of the prisoners and an end to police brutality against the Chicano community.

Over 2,000 gathered that Sunday. They included Dolores Huerta, Vice-President of the United Farm Workers; Bert Corona, State Chairman of MAPA; Luis Valdez and the Teatro Campesino; a large delegation of Brown Berets and young Mexican-Americans, and almost every political leader from the East Side.

Those arrested were charged with "conspiracy to disturb the peace." (Though disturbing the peace is a misdemeanor, conspiracy is a felony.) Supposedly, these 12 were responsible for the spontaneous student strikes that swept many Eastside schools this spring. The cops just can't believe that young people, whether white or black or brown, are sick and tired of the discrimination and racism and corruption in this society, and want to change and improve things. So the cops blame any "trouble" on "outside agitators" and "communist conspirators."

Included among the "conspirators" is Sal Castro, Lincoln High teacher, who recently received a telegram from Senator Robert Kennedy praising him for his "proposals and efforts to obtain better education for Mexican Americans." Also arrested was Eliezer Risco, who served La Causa for many months in Delano and is now editor of the Eastside community newspaper, "La Raza." Also accused were David Ramirez, Carlos Montez, David Sanchez, and Cruz Olmeda of the Brown Berets; Moctezuma Esparza and Carlos Munoz, Jr. of the United Mexican American Students; and Pat Sanchez and Richard Vigil of MAPA. Bail was set at \$12,000 each, but after protests, it was reduced to \$250.

In making the arrests, cops seized membership lists for UMAS and rifled the office of "La Raza," seizing photographs, subscription lists, files, and a bank deposit containing checks totaling \$900.

EL MALCRIADO SAYS: Los Angeles Cops, like those in Kern County and Texas, think that they can destroy the growing unity of the people, and stop demands of

the people for justice, by arresting the "leaders." But La Raza does not scare. We will not be frightened by clubs and guns and arrests. The solidarity of the people behind the "Eastside 12" is proof that we are more united than ever before.



LA RAZA marches around Los Angeles County Jail protesting frame-up charges against 12 Mexican-Americans from East Los Angeles.



Letters

Editor:

In close check 2.00. I am interested in your El Malcriado paper. I hope & pray for your wonderful Leaders & may your success come in the near future. My first strike experience in Cleveland-Ohio in 1898 so you can see I am no longer a youngster.

Ever your Friend,
C. C. Sprague
Atascadero, Calif.

Editor:

Thanks for the good pictures and coverage of the new union building at the Forty Acres. But we should also give credit to the fine Union members from Carpenters Local #743: Charles Brown, Bob Absher, and John Ebert; and the electricians: Joe Mason, Delbert Olson, Orval Phillips, Jerry Templeton, Willie Huestis, Ivan Beavan, Freddy Gifford, and Jack Swaboda, all from the Kern County IBEW. These brothers have helped a lot and have promised more help in the final stages of construction.

Viva la Causa!

Richard Chavez
Delano, Calif.

Dear United Farm Workers:

It was good to see EL MALCRIADO again. Just wish I could take it around to the farm workers here in Minnesota.

The children in Mississippi who happen to be born with the wrong color of skin get \$12.00 per month on welfare, a family \$38.00. It costs \$500,000 to kill one Viet Namee. Our paper here said 1943 of the "enemy" were killed last week.

This means \$971,500,000 was spent on murder.

And many of the black families cannot get on welfare, and just live on scraps and handouts. There is no work.

The planters are paid \$2 million not to plant cotton in this one county that was on Public Broadcast Laboratory TV. That's an equal sum of all the poverty programs in that county.

Viva la Huelga!

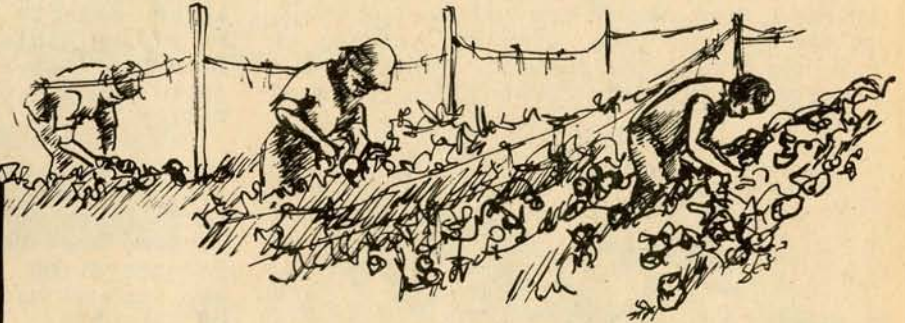
Viva la Causa!

Rose La Belle
Minneapolis, Minn.

Clinic in Lamont

A medical clinic for migrant farm workers and their families is now open three evenings a week in Lamont. This clinic is located in the county park in Lamont and is open from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. A doctor, two registered nurses, a public health nurse and four Spanish-speaking aides will be on duty each evening. General practice medical care will be provided, including prenatal and post partum care, family planning, pediatric care and preventive medicine.

Dr. Goss, Director of the Clinic, stated that although the clinic is located in Lamont, services are available to all migrant workers and their families in the county who are not eligible for medical care because of residency requirements or are not covered under "Medi-Cal" or other medical care programs.



Poor People Demand Action

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Ramsey Clark, Attorney General of the United States, had to do some listening to poor people last week, when 300 members of the Poor People's march demanded that Clark listen.

Over 100 people were finally admitted into the Justice Department, and Clark began a speech on how much he and President Johnson were doing to help the poor. Suddenly Rodolfo "Corky" Gonzalez, barrio leader from Denver, interrupted the speech of Clark.

"We came to talk, not to listen," Gonzalez said. "We've been listening to politicians' speeches for 100 years."

Gonzalez said Clark must be "naive or blind" if he thought racial discrimination had been ended. He attacked Clark and Johnson for their failure, after six years in power, to make a major effort to achieve "equal justice" for minorities in this nation.

Clark is the Washington official in charge of breaking the farm work-

ers' strikes in Texas and California, by allowing green-card workers to work in struck fields. Farm workers and their friends have picketed Clark in San Francisco and other cities, but Clark shows little improvement.

The Poor People's March was planned by Dr. Martin Luther King before he was assassinated. Poor people from all over the country went to Washington to force the government to listen to their complaints.

\$278,721 for Giumarra

GROWERS COLLECT MILLION-DOLLAR "WELFARE" PAYOFF

The Federal Government paid Giumarra Vineyards Corporation \$278,721 last year *FOR NOT GROWING COTTON!* In 1966 they only collected \$248,000. The American taxpayers had to chip in an extra \$30,000 in 1967, presumably because more cotton was not grown by Giumarra in 1967 than in 1966.

Senator John Williams, a Republican from Delaware, revealed the payments in Washington, D.C. last week, "I can see no justification for these outlandish subsidy payments," he told the Senate. "It should be emphasized that these payments are not for food produced or for services rendered, but rather are payments *NOT TO CULTIVATE LAND.*" These subsidies "are in addition to and not a part of any subsidy which the Government may be making under the price-support program to these same individuals."

Williams pointed out that there were five farming corporations which received direct cash subsidies of \$1 million or more last year. Eleven received direct cash subsidies of \$500,000 or more; 258 individuals or corporations received between \$100,000 and \$500,000; and 936 received between \$50,000 and \$100,000.

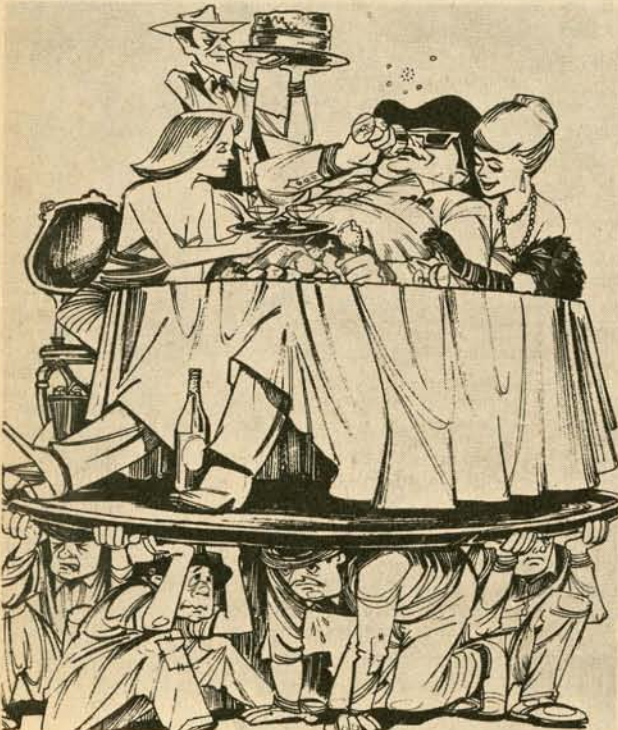
The two biggest subsidy giveaway programs are for cotton and sugar growers. Kings County, the poorest County in California, had two of the richest growers in the nation. The biggest subsidy of all went to J. G. Boswell Company, and was for \$4,091,818. South Lake Farms of

Kings County received \$1,304,093 in taxpayers' money for not growing cotton. Rancho San Antonio of Fresno County got \$2,863,668 in Federal Subsidies. The two other growers receiving over \$1,000,000 were sugar growers: U.S. Sugar Corporation of Florida (\$1,275,687), and Hawaiian Commercial and Sugar Company of Hawaii (\$1,353,770).

The United Farm Workers have been on strike in Giumarra's Vineyards for two and a half years now, trying to get Giumarra to sit down at a table with his farm workers and discuss wages and a contract. Giumarra has refused to open the letters from the Union or even to discuss the possibility of allowing his workers to vote, either in favor or against the Union. The strike and boycott have hurt Giumarra a great deal financially. But Giumarra can depend on the Federal Government handouts, of a quarter of a million dollars a year, to make up for any losses he suffers because of the strike. In effect, Giumarra can use the American taxpayers' money, paid by working people and even his own farm workers, to break the strike and fight the Union. (In addition to these huge government subsidies, Giumarra also benefits from the oil depletion allowance on his extensive oil lands, which exempts him from taxes he should be paying himself; and he also profits from the tax-supported irrigation projects which water the arid San Joaquin Valley.

Two other struck growers are also receiving huge subsidy payments. They are W.B. Camp & Sons (\$238,721) and S.A. Camp Farms (\$517,285). Early in the strike, S.A. Camp farms was the scene of the arrest of 44 striking farm workers who were accused of the heinous crime of shouting "Huelga" ("Strike!"). The charges were not dismissed until Senator Robert Kennedy came to Delano and exposed the rotten, biased, and discriminatory police and judicial departments in Kern County in 1966.

EL MALCRIADO SAYS: Like the irrigation and reclamation programs, these subsidy programs were supposed to help the small farmers. They have become a gigantic slush fund for the big corporate farms, the payoff from the federal government to keep the big growers happy. This is robbery of the American taxpayer. No grower should be entitled to collect more than \$10,000 a year in subsidies, and any grower convicted of breaking the laws and labor codes, as Giumarra has been repeatedly, should be completely disqualified from this program.



Unemployed Demand Training

For the first time, a county welfare department has been challenged in court for failing to provide meaningful training for a welfare recipient, it was announced here today by James D. Lorenz, Jr., director of California Rural Legal Assistance, which represents the plaintiffs.

Noting that at present much of the state's job training is not actually training for anything, but is simply a waste of the taxpayer's money, Mr. Lorenz said that a hearing was held Monday, May 13, in San Luis Obispo County in which the County Welfare Department and the State Department of Social Welfare were ordered to show why the "work - training program" should not be ended.

Plaintiffs in the suit are Jose Saenz, a Mexican American farm worker who speaks almost no English and who has never had any formal schooling, his three minor children, and Pedro Baserra, a taxpayer.

"Like most people on welfare, Mr. Saenz does not enjoy being on welfare, and would rather have a job, if that job paid a living wage," said Lorenz. "However, Mr. Saenz has never had the opportunity to qualify himself through education and vocational training to be self-supporting, and the San Luis Obispo program is not providing the training necessary for him either."

Saenz alleges that the present training program in San Luis Obispo County consists primarily of sweeping, raking leaves, removing trash, and other make-work projects, which serve no useful purpose at all, and which make the recipients commit useless acts, and "train" them only in the skills of feather-bedding. If the work performed in San Luis Obispo is needed, the County should hire regular workers. These workers, as County employees, would receive at least the minimum wage, as well as having steady employment and the dignity of being employed.

Government Demands More Taxes

WASHINGTON, D.C.—President Johnson has demanded that Congress raise income taxes ten percent this year. The president claims the additional funds raised by the tax hike will be used to pay for the war in Vietnam.

Despite campaign promises to work for peace, the administration sends more and more men, including a high proportion of Mexican-Americans, Negroes, and other minorities, to Vietnam, and the war continues.

The late Senator Kennedy opposed Johnson's request for a tax increase, as did Senator Eugene McCarthy.

Shortly before his death, Kennedy stated his opposition to the 10 percent increase, noting that many Americans with incomes over \$200,000 pay not a cent in taxes, while many millionaires pay only a few hundred dollars a year.

Kennedy called for closing the tax loopholes which benefit the rich before increasing the taxes of the poor. He called the war "senseless" and called for tax reductions rather than increases.

Meanwhile, Johnson also intends to cut back spending for the poverty program, and is reducing funds for education, schools, hospitals, housing, and other projects of benefit to the poor. About \$6 billion will be for the assistance of low income Americans.

EL MALCRIADO SAYS: Once again, the government does the opposite of what it should. With more than half of the federal budget going for arms and military costs, there is little left over for needed improvements. A stop to the war makes more sense than an increase in the income tax.

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Mr. Leap will be in the UFWOC Service Center (105 Asti, Delano) every Wednesday to serve Union members.



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Union Vice President Speaks out The Union and the Green Carder

EL MALCRIADO has received many questions from farm workers who want to know exactly what is the Union's policy toward "Green Card" workers, Mexican citizens working in this country with form 1-151 permits. EL MALCRIADO presented some of these questions to UFWOC Vice President Julio Hernandez, who is a citizen of Mexico and works in the United States under a green card permit. Here are some of his observations.

QUESTION: Is the United Farm Workers Union opposed to Mexican citizens working in the United States under a "Green Card" permit?

HERNANDEZ: No, definitely not. What the Union opposes is scabbing. There is a federal regulation which prohibits the importation of foreign workers for strike-breaking purposes.

I have a green card myself, and so do nearly half of our members. We welcome green card workers who come to work in California as honorable men, but when they come to break our strike, we have no choice but to do everything we can to get them out of Giumarra's fields and the fields of the other struck growers.



Julio Hernandez, UFWOC Vice-President

QUESTION: Why is the Union cooperating with the Immigration authorities to get Mexican citizens into trouble?

HERNANDEZ: The immigration authorities have a responsibility to see that the regulations are enforced. Since there are reported to be many illegal green card and wetback scabs working for Giumarra, we are cooperating with the authorities to have these illegal workers removed from the fields.

QUESTION: What happens to green card workers who continue to work for Giumarra?

HERNANDEZ: After we have explained our cause and the laws to the workers, a few will continue to be scabs because of their own personal greed or other reasons. We consider all farm workers, Anglo, Negro, Filipino, Mexican, to be our brothers. But a scab is a scab, regardless of his race or citizenship. The names of scabs will be turned over to the Department of Labor. We do not like to take this action against someone who should be our brother, but a man who breaks the strike has betrayed his brothers and all farm workers. He has declared war on us, and we must defend ourselves, our families, and our jobs.

QUESTION: How does the Union help green carders?

HERNANDEZ: Well, the most obvious way is through better wages, such as we have won at Schenley, Di-Giorgio, and the other ranches where we have contracts. There are many green carders working there.

The Union helps Mexican citizens with immigration problems and helps them arrange to bring their families to this country. We help them on legal problems; we have notary publics to serve them; and we help them get driver licenses. We provide assistance with tax returns and other paperwork. These and all the other benefits of Union membership are available to green carders on the same basis as any other members. We do not oppose immigration. We oppose scabbing.

Actually, the Union is the best friend the green carder has in this country. I think all green carders should join the Union. And all green carders working in Kern and Tulare Counties should come into the Union offices at 102 Albany (or 10913 Main St.) and find out how the Union can help you, and where it is legal to work.

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