



El Malcriado

THE VOICE OF THE FARM WORKER

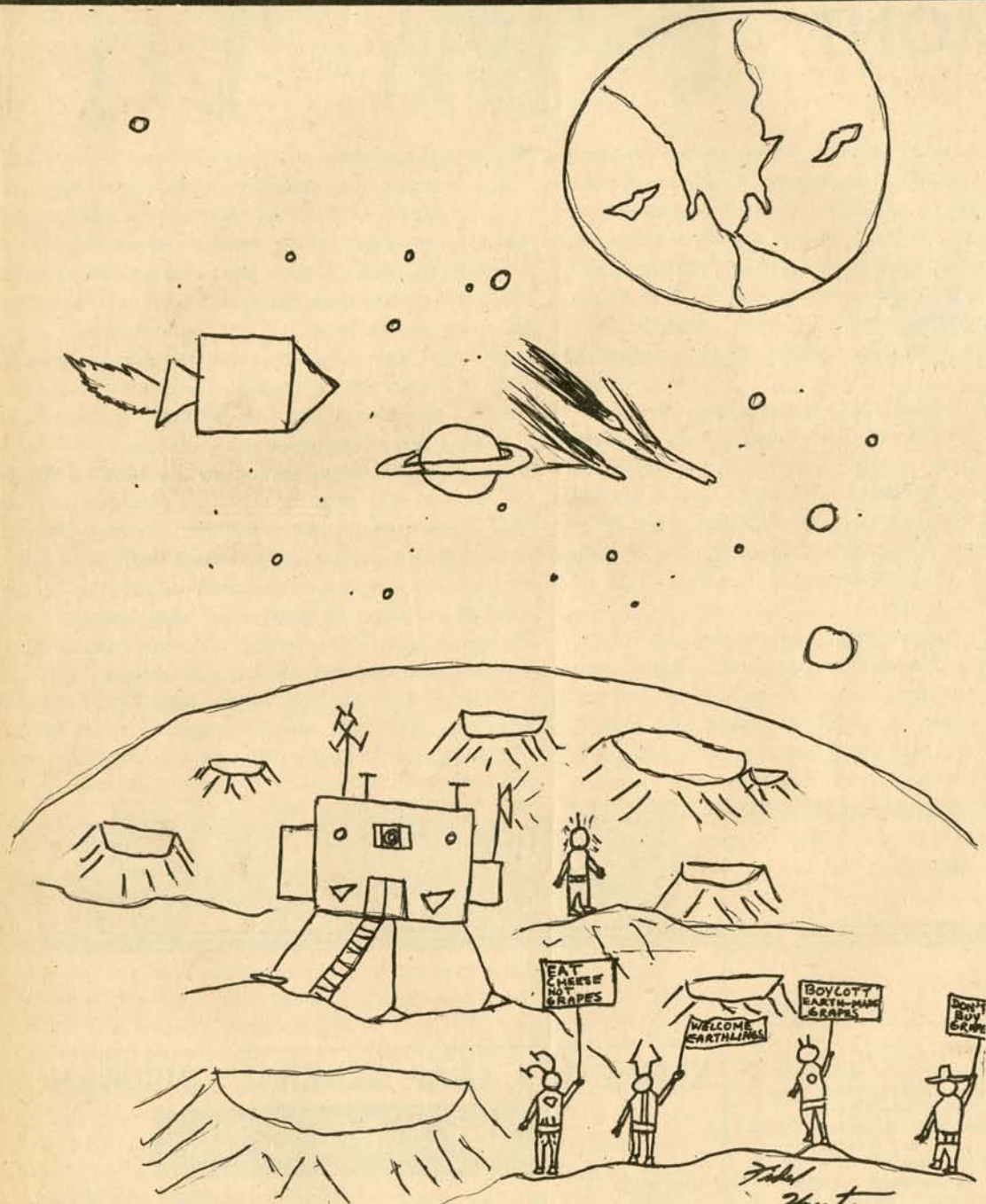


in English

Vol. III, No. 9

DELANO, CALIFORNIA

August 1-15, 1969



The Lunar Grape Boycott

Cover drawing by Fidel Huerta, age 13.

STRIKE RETURNS TO LAMONT



LAMONT, August 2--The strike in the Lamont-Arvin area promises to become as big or bigger than the recent Coachella Valley strike, according to Paul Espinoza, UFWOC picket captain. Every day sixty to a hundred and twenty five huelguistas are at the fields, urging the workers to join them in the Union. The strike, which has been going on for a little over a week, is expected to last another 10 to 12 days.

The strike started with a group of irrigators working at the gargantuan S.A. Camp Ranch, and has spread to a dozen or so growers in the area, including El Rancho, Mossessian, Caratan, Giumarra, and S.A. Camp. The growers are suffering from large scale walkouts, the number reaching 275 to 300, according to Union spokesmen. Hardest hit is El Rancho and S.A. Camp.

Because of inexperience, and the presence of the strikers, large amounts of repacking is being done by the field workers. Some have to stay for 13 hours or more, simply to pack and repack the grapes, while only being paid for 6 hours of work. According to one Union official here, ninety per cent or more of the scabs are green-carders imported from Mexico by the labor contractors and growers. Afraid of deportation, and lured by the comparatively high

wages in California, many will not leave the fields.

The foremen and growers of the struck ranches have resorted to violence and harassment to try and rid themselves of the strikers, who always seem to show up when they're least wanted. There have been two documented attempts of persons trying to run over picketers on the line, and recently a teenager in a jeep drove by, spraying the huelguistas with a sulphur-like pesticide. There were many reports of severe coughing, and skin and throat burns.

Boss William Mossessian, of William Mossessian & Co. Farms chewing his cigar so hard he almost bit the end off, tried to drive the picketers off with loud curses and abusive gestures. Failing at this, he appealed to the police, pleading, "Isn't there some way we can get those mother****ers?" The police refused to listen to poor little Billy, though. As a result of this wild tirade, seven of his workers walked out on him, and joined the picket line.

At the end of the first week of the strike, Espinoza was very optimistic about prospects for the strike. "There are many people from Mexico and Texas who we hope will respond to our appeal and move on to find work elsewhere. We are concerned about the attitude of the police, but so far have not had any real violence from either the police or the growers."

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

DEADLY POISONS ON GRAPES

WASHINGTON, D.C., August 2-- The United Farm Workers Organizing Committee charged today that in 1969 over 1,000 acres of Kern County table grapes were sprayed with the deadly chemical weed killer Amino Triazole, the chemical which contaminated the cranberry crop in the late 1950's, and caused the confiscation of these crops by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. This is a proven cause of cancer and malignant tumors.

In Congressional hearings before the Senate Subcommittee on Migratory Labor, UFWOC General Counsel Jerome Cohen charged that in addition to Amino Triazole, grape growers were using such other chemicals as Thiodan, Trithion, and Diazinon, and had sprayed extensively with DDT. "Currently the table grape industry is order to maximize its profits, is using the wrong kinds of chemicals at the wrong times in the wrong amounts, in reckless disregard not only of the

workers but of the health of the consumers as well," stated Cohen.

Union investigators have found residues of DDT on grapes grown by Karahadian, Bagdasarian, Hegglblade-Marguleas, Richard Glass, Mel Pack, and dozens of other ranches, grapes which are presently being sold to the public in markets which are breaking the boycott of table grapes.

Tests in Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Francisco, Seattle, Chicago, Buffalo, and many other cities have turned up poisonous residues on the grapes. UFWOC has commissioned the testing of grapes by independent laboratories to determine exact amounts of residues on grapes grown by a representative cross section of growers. Since grapes cannot be peeled like bananas or avocados, it is the Union's contention that grapes should not contain any residue of DDT or other long-lasting chemicals that may be dangerous to health.

MOTHERS ALARMED AT DDT DANGER

SAN FRANCISCO, July 26--The threat of DDT contamination of human milk stirred fifteen nursing and expectant mothers to demonstrate their concern in San Francisco last week. Clutching their babies to their bosoms, the women voiced alarm over the use of DDT on grapes and its ultimate appearance in their own milk.

Unlike La Leche League - a national group of women devoted to promoting the practice of breastfeeding - these independent mothers refuse to ignore the dangers of DDT to humans and particularly to breast-fed infants who receive large doses of DDT with each feeding.

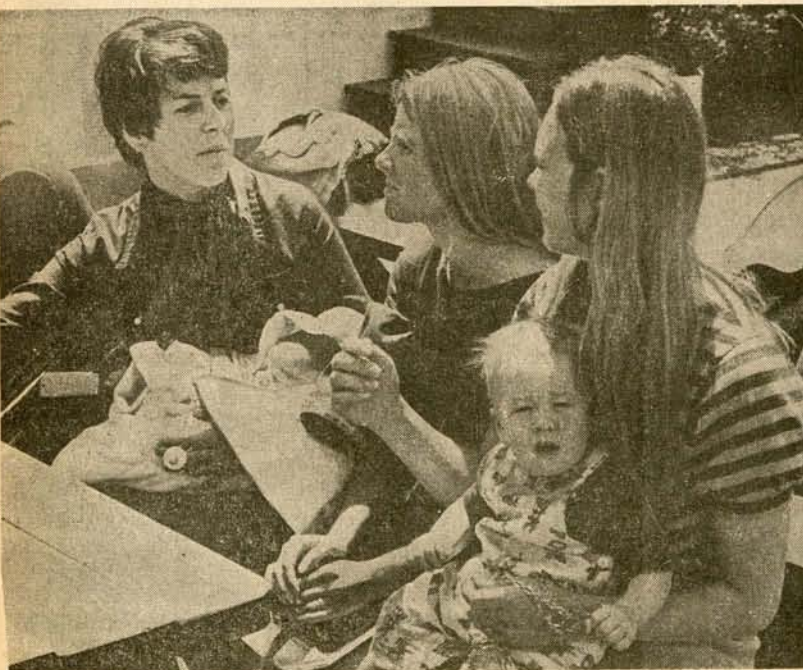
Cognizant of DDT's effect on the reproduction of large carnivorous birds and in curtailing the abundance of shellfish, these women worry about the high intake of DDT in the adult diet which in turn poses a serious danger to the nursing of their babies. A study by one UC biologist in Berkeley on seven samples of mothers' milk showed that the amount of DDT averages 4 1/2 times higher than in cow's milk.

Used extensively by agriculture since World War II to increase crop yield, DDT kills off such pests as all bollworm and fruit flies. Human beings consume the chemical through meat, fruits, vegetables, milk, and butter.

The adult human tends to accumulate DDT in its fatty tissue - about 12 parts per million. Thereafter, an equilibrium occurs and the excess is excreted through the urine through nursing mothers' milk, and through other metabolic processes.

What are the consequences, then, of the presence of DDT both in the adult mother who retains some of the excreted poison and for her baby who drinks her milk? Robert Risebrough, a biologist with UC Marine Resources Institute stressed the dangers of DDT residue on the

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NURSING MOTHERS Kathy Radke, Jo Ann Fuller and Carol Zola protest the use of DDT on grapes and other produce.

EDITORIAL

THE DELANO BUNCH

Growers throughout the state refer to the big table grape growers of Delano as "The Delano Bunch." Almost all of Italian or Croatian (present day Yugoslavian) descent, the "Delano Bunch" is close-knit, inbred, a clan that can be ruthless to competitors or anyone or anything that challenges their empire.

These grape growers grew up in Mafia-dominated Sicily, in Mussolini's Fascist Italy, in the feudal Austro-Hungarian Empire and the near fascist Kingdom of Yugoslavia in the 1920's and 30's, in an atmosphere where labor unions were outlawed or brutally suppressed. Everything not Fascist was "Communist."

Most of these growers moved to California in the 1930's when land was cheap and labor was totally unorganized and at the mercy of the employer. The Zaninoviches, the Pandols, the Pagliarulos, the Caratans, the Lucases, the Carics, the Dulciches and Luciches and Diviciches, and most of all the Giumarras, who set the economic and philosophical tone of the industry, seem totally opposed to the whole concept of "negotiations" and "collective bargaining."

The "Delano Bunch" has tried to impose their feudal and Fascist labor relations on the entire grape industry, and they are directly responsible for the strike and boycott which are now hitting at the entire industry. It was the Delano Bunch which decided in 1965 that they would not pay \$1.40 an hour, the wage rate that Coachella grape growers had already agreed to pay, the wage rate set as a minimum by the Federal Government for any grower continuing to hire braceros. This refusal to pay \$1.40 an hour was the immediate cause of the strike.

The Delano Bunch refused to talk with the workers or the Union. They returned unopened to the Union the Union's letters requesting negotiations. They refused to allow elections and steadfastly maintained that "there is no strike."

The Delano Bunch called for an all out war of destruction against the Union. They expelled workers from their camps, threw their belongings into the gutter. They demanded that cops arrest strikers for the "crime" of shouting Huelga. They black-listed strikers. They sought court injunctions which would virtually outlaw the Union. They created a series of front groups, from the Mothers Against Chavez to the Agricultural Freedom to work Association, to fight the Union.

Unfortunately, the Delano Bunch has been screaming its propaganda for so long that some of these growers appear to have become dupes of their own highly

paid public relations firms. The Delano Bunch were continuing to maintain that "there is no strike" and that "the boycott is ineffective" right up to the moment when the poor Coachella growers were publicly admitting losses from the strike and boycott running into the millions of dollars.

Some smaller growers have speculated that the huge growers actually look forward to the financial disaster that the boycott promises to make of the 1969 harvest. The Delano Bunch are hoping that many Coachella growers and smaller growers in the Valley will go broke because of the strike and boycott. This will mean fewer competitors, fewer and bigger ranches. The big corporate vineyards will survive and will have a golden opportunity to buy out the bankrupt smaller firms. Caratan and Sabovich, to name only two, have each purchased huge new vineyard acreage over the past twelve months, each paying an estimated \$2,000,000 for the additional property.

It was clear from the first that the Delano Bunch was exerting tremendous pressure against the ten growers who agreed to negotiations. They described the negotiations as "Unmoral (sic), Unchristian, and UnAmerican." They also reportedly put pressure on other growers to shun the negotiations. With the revelation that grape growers had lost 25 million because of the boycott, the Delano Bunch could no longer claim that the boycott was ineffective. But they felt that they had found a new market, the U.S. Defense Department, to save their corner of the industry.

The Union is not going to buckle under. "If they want to fight to the end, we'll give them a fight to the end," commented Cesar Chavez, Director of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee. "The workers now know what they want. They've seen the other Union contracts. They are no longer afraid. They are getting mad, madder and madder at these Delano growers who are blocking a settlement to the strike."

The grape industry better realize that the Union is here to stay. The grape industry better realize that the Delano Bunch is threatening to drag the entire grape industry to destruction. The grape industry better start ignoring their own propaganda and press releases, and look at the facts. There is still time to save the industry. The grape growers must come up with new leaders, growers who are willing to face reality, to stand up to the Delano Bunch and reject their destructive siren call. Only then can we have peace with justice in the vineyards.

GROWER'S CLAIMS COLLAPSE IN CHICAGO UFWOC MOVES TO DISMISS GROWERS' \$75 MILLION SUIT



FRESNO, August 4 -- The United Farm Workers Organizing Committee moved today to dismiss a \$75 million law suit by 81 California Grape Growers against the Union. The suit, which claims triple damages because the growers have lost \$25 million as a result of the strike and grape boycott launched by the Union, is so vague and has so little legal basis that UFWOC attorneys are hopeful that it will be dismissed.

The Union does not deny that the growers have lost millions of dollars because of the boycott. But the boycott is perfectly legal, UFWOC attorneys point out. "This law suit is just an attempt at legal harassment," commented UFWOC Assistant Director Larry Itliong. "They tried the same law suit a year ago in San Francisco, and finally dismissed it."

The growers and their attorneys claim that the success of the grape boycott is due to "conspiracy" and "collusion" between the Union and the supermarkets. The growers also claim that supermarkets have been threatened and coerced into discontinuing handling grapes.

To prove their case, the growers summoned eight supermarket executives in the Chicago area to "prove" conspiracy. But the depositions proved just the opposite, that supermarkets were responding to consumer pressure and voluntarily removing the grapes. Judge M.D. Crocker of the Federal District Court has ordered all further depositions, scheduled for Chicago, Boston, and New York, postponed until the court decides whether or not to dismiss the entire law

suit.

Eugene Stagnaro, Director of Hillman's Stop and Shop Stores in Chicago, was one of the food store executives called in to give a deposition. Stagnaro stated that Stop and Shop had removed the grapes from its stores and would probably not be buying many more grapes for the duration of the strike. There was no coercion, no threats from the Union, Stagnaro said. However, when "Operation Breadbasket", a civil rights movement led by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in Chicago, endorsed the grape boycott, Stagnaro said Stop and Shop decided to remove the grapes. "Over half of our customers are black," he noted, and said he felt that "Operation Breadbasket's" attitude on the issue was probably a good indication of the Black Community's feelings. Buying grapes might alienate these customers, he said.

The other chain stores also noted that their actions in removing grapes were also based on consumer pressures and desires.

In case the courts do not dismiss this law suit, the Union is preparing to seek a court order demanding that the suing growers answer 36 pages of questions dealing with their finances and profit margins. The 81 growers have so far failed to answer the questions within the legally allotted time.

"The Chicago depositions made it clear that there was no evidence of conspiracy, no threats or violence in the grape boycott," stated Itliong, after studying the Chicago testimony. "The growers' case collapsed and obviously should be dismissed," he concluded.

GRAPE PRICES SAG TO ALL-TIME LOW

The latest market reports on California table grape prices and shipments shows an encouraging and inevitable trend. Growers are receiving far less for their lugs (22 or 26 lb. boxes) than ever before. At the end of the Coachella Valley harvest, a 22 lb. lug was selling for \$2.88. The same lug last year would have cost \$4.75. This price drop is in spite of the fact that 750,000 lugs, half the crop of Thomson seedless grapes, the main variety, were left to rot on Coachella vines. At the beginning of the Arvin-Lamont harvest, a 26 lb. lug was sold for only \$3.63,

as opposed to \$5.00 last year at this time.

To get all these aging grapes off their hands, and wallets, growers have upped their overseas shipments. Few of these grapes will ever make it to the European market, though. The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (representing all major North American and European trade union organizations) has vigorously endorsed the boycott. They recently voted to continue their virtual blockade of California table grapes, a blockade that is already over a year old.

FLASH!

EMERGENCY COOKIE SALE---
UFWOC Grape Boycott leaders in Chicago are launching an emergency cookie sale to raise funds to pay off the \$75 million law suit filed by anti-Union grape growers. The Union is also collecting Blue Chip Stamps, Ralieggh Coupons, Hula Dollars, and coke bottles. Send to "Boycott Loss Payment Fund" c/o Martin Zaninovich, President, South Central Farmers Committee, 1812 Terrace Drive, Delano, California 93215.

JEWELL FOOD ORDERS CHICAGO COPS TO BUST BOYCOTT

CHICAGO, July 19--Jewell food stores arrested 27 grape boycotters today in a desperate move to break the grape boycott. Community leaders from all over Chicago condemned the arrests and Jewell's pro-grower policy.

The Jewell Food Stores supermarket chain had been refraining from buying table grapes for its many stores in the Chicago area. Consumer protests against grapes have been widespread, led by Eleseo Medina of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee and the Chicago Grape Boycott Committee.

But in the suburbs around Chicago it has been another story. In a move which had begun to undermine the strength of the Chicago grape boycott, Jewell Stores began buying grapes from Coachella during June. They were pushing grapes in a number of their stores located in wealthy residential areas, where they hoped that they would be safe from UFWOC and consumer picket lines.

UFWOC leaders called the grape purchases by Jewell an act of bad faith, clearly going against the wishes of thousands of consumers, and totally disregarding the rights of the farm workers. Supporters of the grape boycott called for a prayer-vigil to be held in a local Jewell Store. Over 50 friends of the farm workers took part in the praying and singing, which took place on Saturday, July 19.

After five hours of prayers and songs, a large crowd of people had assembled outside of the store. Hundreds of customers refused to shop at the store, and protested to the manager about Jewell's pro-grower purchases. But the store



Chicago cops arrest grape boycotters at Jewell Foods.

Photo by George of the Jungle

managers took a hard line, and finally ordered the arrests of all the boycotters still in the store.

The police arrived and seized 27 of the vigilers. To avoid the large crowd assembled at the front of the store, the cops hustled the boycotters out the back entrance to a waiting paddy wagon. Much to the Police Department's dismay there was another contingent of boycott supporters waiting in the back to cheer the huelguistas.

The strikers were jailed until Monday. Upon their release from jail, the 27 held a press conference in which government, civic, and civil rights leaders were present. In a joint statement the group charged that "the arrests were indefensible." By acting in bad faith, after pledging support for the farm workers and agreeing to consumer demands, "Jewell's has clearly demonstrated disregard for the plight of the farm workers and their families," they charged.

Trials for the huelguistas are scheduled for early August. Jewell Stores have made no other response to the demands of the farmworkers, other than to order the arrests and to continue buying grapes. But criticism of Jewell has mounted to such a point that Jewell may soon have to change their policy.

CLEVELAND A&P COLD- SHOULDERS GRAPE BOYCOTT

CLEVELAND, July 22--At two AM this morning six people walked out of A&P's headquarters in downtown Cleveland. They had just completed a three week vigil during which they had hoped to meet the company officials to ask them to remove grapes from their counters. During the entire vigil these requests were ignored, and it is only now with the help of public pressure that A&P is beginning to think about such a preliminary meeting.

For the first three weeks the vigil met with much harassment. Every night the air conditioning was turned on full force and often brought the office temperature down to the mid 40's. And for the first eight days the building's custodial staff was ordered not to clear or remove trash from the vigil room. A&P officials even tried to use the food supply line as a means of discouraging the vigilers. Every box of food was slowly searched, and all cigarettes, aspirin, and eating utensils were turned back. No messages were allowed to be sent in, so note-carrying cupcakes became the necessary "media" of communications.

As the A&P stores of Cleveland continue to sell grapes, UFWOC boycotters and local friends of the farmworkers are continuing to put pressure on the chain to open up discussion. Representatives of over 27 labor and civic organizations who were on the picket line during the vigil, along with numerous private individuals, are still carrying on the struggle through out the city store by store. As yet, however, A&P officials have not given a positive response to the call for talks.

The Adventures of Lt. Tommy Gooch

ST. LOUIS--Matt Jochim, leader of the grape boycott in St. Louis, has been arrested. Jochim had organized a picket line outside a Kroger store in Creve Coeur, Mo., because they were selling pesticide covered scab grapes. The picket line was orderly, but nevertheless the store manager was quite upset. He decided that they should be arrested and carted away.

When the police came and told him all about the legal hassels and bad publicity that such an action might involve--not to mention the fact that no crimes had been committed--the poor little old Kroger man was resolved to living with the pickets for the rest of the afternoon.

But then up comes this blue car with Tommy Gooch (Lt. Thomas Gooch of the Creve Coeur Police Dept.) and his sidekick, Gordon Webb (Creve Coeur city attorney). They pulled up to the picket line and failing to identify themselves, hussled off Sister Nancy Finneran and a teenager to the police station across the street.

Well, Matt Jochim went over to investigate what had happened, and when he got there he found out Sister Finneran and her companion had been charged with blocking traffic by Lt. Gooch who now decided it was the appropriate time to identify himself---he had been pretty hot and bothered and had more or less seemed to overlook normal procedural regulations---but what the heck, they're arrested one way or the other, anyhow.

It was about this time that Matt thought to inquire as to the health of the two arrested picketers. And as he turned, old Tommy Gooch jumped from behind the counter, charged out at Matt and drove him hammerlocked down the hall, through two doors and out onto the lawn behind the station house, where



he beat him to the ground---Tommy just hadn't been feeling right all morning--and then he arrested Matt for... "destroying city property."

After they walked back in, Lt. Gooch of the Creve Coeur Police Dept., (sweating and shaking all over) announced that he was going to arrest EVERYBODY. So he and Webb charged out to their car and raced across the street to see what they could get the picketers for.

While Gooch and Webb were back at the picket line making a nuisance of themselves, Matt remained in his jail cell bleeding from his smashed nose---his request to see a doctor had been denied. And it wasn't until two hours later, when Matt was released on bail and was taken by his friends to a hospital that he was able to receive proper treatment---while Gooch and Webb went home to rest after a hard day of police work. Tune in again at the next Creve Coeur picket line for another exciting episode with Lt. Tommy Gooch and his Boycott Busters

The grape boycott in Sacramento really got off the ground this week when grape boycotters staged a "balloon-in" at the Safeway Store at El Camino and Del Paso in Sacramento. Safeway officials frantically chased the balloons, but the balloons did get their message across. The grape boycotters also staged a lively picket line outside the store reminding customers that Safeway is the largest buyer of scab grapes in the nation.

Bay Area Caravan

SAN FRANCISCO, August 1--Bay Area supporters of the Grape Strike have organized a food caravan to Delano scheduled for Saturday, August 23. It will be leaving San Francisco at 7 AM from the Ladies Garment Workers Union Hall, at 660 Howard St., and from Oakland UFWOC headquarters at 568 47th St. For those who can not join the Caravaners, food may be left at the Oakland headquarters.

The Caravan will get to Delano in time for lunch at Filipino Hall, followed by a short meeting at which Union leaders will discuss progress in the strike and boycott.

UFWOC's food distribution director, Nick Yap, notes that the Union is especially short of canned meat and tuna, fruit juices, canned vegetables, dry cereal, masa harina, flour, and peanut butter. For further information on the Caravan, call Pete Velasco at 655-3256.

THE GRAPE STRIKE IN ARIZONA



Above, left:
The picket line at the J.G. Boswell Grape Ranch, El Mirage Arizona. The picketing began at 4:30 A.M. and continued into the noonday heat, often above 110 degrees.

Below:
A group of Anglo high school students from Phoenix who left the fields to join the strike. However, many high school kids recruited by their athletic coaches, were used as strike breakers.



Above:
Strike rally in El Mirage, Arizona.

Right:
Arizona grape strikers confront officials from the Arizona Industrial Commission in charge of enforcing Arizona's weak labor laws, refused to provide even minimum enforcement. UFWOC leaders also charged that Maricopa County cops were blatantly prejudiced against the strike and guilty of discriminatory law enforcement.



Strikers break for lunch at strike headquarters in El Mirage.

Photos from EL PAISANO by Mel Huey.

¡VIVA LA HUELGA!

Agribusiness

Lobby Kills

DDT Regulation

SACRAMENTO, July 29--The Assembly Agriculture Committee killed legislation today which would have banned the use of DDT in California by 1972.

The legislation, which had been introduced by Sen. John Nejedly of Contra Costa County and unanimously passed by the State Senate, was a mild bill which would have outlawed the sale, use, or possession of DDT after December 31, 1971. However, the Director of Agriculture could have extended this date for one year if, by the end of 1971, he felt that there was no reasonable substitute pesticide available by that time.

This bill was a watered-down version of Nejedly's original bill, which would have provided for the immediate (1970) banning of DDT, parathion, and various other pesticides. The State Department of Agriculture strongly opposed any bill, and finally succeeded in eliminating reference to all pesticides except DDT in the Senate version of the law. By the time the bill got to the Assembly, Agribusiness was strong enough to totally kill the bill.

The Montrose Chemical Co., largest producer of DDT in the nation and the only producer in California, led the fight in behalf of chemical companies and growers to defeat the bill.

Testifying in favor of banning DDT, Dr. Charles F. Wurster, professor of biological sciences at the University of New York, stated, "This is the most serious single pollution problem we have in the world today." Dr. Robert W. Risebrough of the University of California warned that there have been cases where mothers milk has been found to be contaminated by four to eight times the amount of DDT



Is this the dormant season? Aerial spraying of grape vineyards, July, 1969.

permitted by regulation in cows milk. "We may reach the point when we will have to recommend that women no longer breast feed their infants," he warned.

Officials of the State Department of Fish and Game also testified that DDT was exterminating several varieties of birds and has poisoned many varieties of fish so that they are no longer safe to eat.

Nejedly concluded testimony by saying "We have clearly demonstrated the problem is getting worse every day. We must respond to it today." But California agribusiness and their servants on the Assembly Agriculture Committee don't seem to agree.

Republican State Senator Howard Way of Tulare County, a former grower and now president of the Senate, strongly criticized the Agriculture Department and the state's agribusiness lobby for trying to block control of pesticide laws. "it is discouraging," said Way, "to see your department and the agricultural community in general not willing to recognize the hazards of DDT."

EL MALCRIADO SAYS: We feel the State Assembly's action is more than "discouraging", it is almost criminal disregard for the health and safety of the people of this state. It ignores the huge mass of scientific evidence that DDT is poisoning the environment and is a danger to man. Once more, California agriculture has imposed its motto, "Profits before People" on the entire state population

U.C. "ADVICE" ON DDT

The University of California Agriculture Department recently "advised" farmers to stop using DDT on a variety of crops including most fruits and vegetables. But the U.C. professors specifically left off the list grapes and cotton, the two largest crops in money value in the valley. "Even the 'impartial' professors are afraid to give 'advice' that might infuriate the huge grape and cotton barons who dominate agriculture in this state," noted a union spokesman. "The Agricultural Extension Service seems more interested in keeping the growers happy with its advice, than they are with protecting the people of this state from the dangers of economic poisons."

UNEMPLOYMENT PAY BILL KILLED

SACRAMENTO, July 1--The California State Legislature is about to close, after once again killing all bills aimed at providing unemployment insurance to farm workers. At least four bills were proposed, and while the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee was unenthusiastic about some of them, the expectation was that at least some kind of coverage would be passed. After all, no group in the nation needs unemployment insurance more than farm workers. Hawaii is the only state which protects its farm workers with such a law.

But none of the bills were allowed out of the Assembly Finance Committee. Another star performance by the California legislature.

POISONS...

Continued from page 3
human liver.

Another finding at the Michigan state hearings which led to the banning of DDT in Michigan, was outlined by Dr. Richard Welch, a biochemical pharmacologist. From experimentation with rats, Dr. Welch found that DDT induced the production of enzymes, increased the weight of female uterus and the deposition of dextrose in the uterus, and stimulated production of the female sex hormone, estrogen.

In line with these findings, a report of Soviet workers occupationally exposed to DDT and other organo-chlorine pesticides showed disturbances of stomach and liver functions after 10 years of contact. In the liver, there was a pronounced disturbance of protein and sugar metabolism.

Although the harmful effects of DDT on humans has only begun to be studied and remains a controversial subject, its presence in human milk has produced worldwide concern. Most human milk samples show a concentration of between .1 and .2 parts per million, according to Swedish scientist Goran Lofroth. This constitutes twice the maximum acceptable daily intake recommended by the World Health Organization of the United Nations. Dr. Riseborough estimated even higher figures. His seven women average worked out to .25 parts per million, and one woman showed .4 ppm, eight times more DDT than cow's milk. The result of such startling quantities of DDT in human milk has caused Sweden to ban the use of DDT, aldrin, and dieldrin for 2 years starting in January 1970. And the potential fears of Arizona dairy farmers that their cows would not be marketable because of the high content of DDT residue led to Arizona's one year ban on the use of DDT in commercial agriculture. This means, in effect, that if human milk were packaged, it wouldn't be allowed across state lines.

The fifteen protesting mothers, together with the California Rural

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FRESNO

CALIFORNIA

AMINO TRIAZOLE ON 1000 ACRES

GROUND RIG CROP DUSTING - KERN COUNTY - 1968

CROP	PEST	MATERIAL	SPRAY OR DUST	ACRES
Grapes	Fungicide	Botran, Delnav	S	15
	Weeds	Amino Triazole, Simazine	S	1,046
	Fungicide	BOTRAN DUST	D	21
	Rot, Nutritional	Captan, Leaf Life	S	18
	Hopper, Mite	Captan, Ethion, Thiodan, Zinc	S	578
		Sulphur	S	52
	Loopers, Mite	Captan, Sulphur, Tedion, Thiodan	S	111
	Mite, Hoppers	Captan, Gibril, Kelthane, Thiodan	S	274
	"	Sulphur	S	21
	"	Captan, Gibril, Kelthane, Thiodan	S	75
	"	Captan, Gibril, Nutraphos, Sulphur	S	100
	"	Zinc	S	75
	"	Captan, Gibril, Tedion, Thiodan	S	229
	Mite, Hopper, Rot	Kelthane, Captan, Thiodan,	S	703
		Sulphur	S	399
	Weeds	Cytrol	S	139
	"	Cytrol, Karmex	S	598
	"	Cytrol, Simazine	S	140
	Mildew	Coson	S	253
	Hoppers, Mite, Nutrl	Delmo Z, Sulphur	S	25
	"	Delnav, Gibril, Sulphur	S	20
	"	Delnav, Gibril, Sulphur, Tedion	S	252
	"	Thiodan	S	379
	"	Delnav, Gibril, Sulphur, Thiodan	S	20
	Thrip, Mite	Delnav, Thiodan	S	27
	Hoppers, Mite, Nutrl	Delnav, Nutraphos, Sulphur	S	29
	"	Delnav, Sulphur	S	899
	"	Delmo Z, Sulphur, Thiodan	S	
	Growth	Delmo Z, Gibril, Urea	S	
	Mite, Hoppers	Delmo Z, Gibril, Sulphur	S	
	Mite Nutrl	Delmo Z, Sulphur, Urea	S	
	Mite	Diazinon, Trithion	S	

-27-

This page from official report of the Agricultural Commissioner reveals spraying of dangerous Amino Triazole and Diazinon. See story, page 3.

DDT on the Vineyards: 725,000 Acres Sprayed

FRESNO, July 28--California farmers sprayed over 1,336,000 pounds of DDT on over 725,000 acres in the San Joaquin Valley alone over the past year, according

to a copyrighted report by Ron Taylor in the Fresno Bee today.

Legal Assistance attorneys have written letters to major supermarket chains such as Safeway, Lucky, and Purity asking that they label their produce that contains DDT. So far, no replies have been received.

The two largest grape producing counties were also the largest users of DDT. Fresno County spread over 900,000 pounds over 460,000 acres, and Kern County spread 259,000 pounds of DDT on 173,000 acres. While some growers are claiming that less DDT is being used now than ten years ago, the amounts being used are still dangerously high.

Debt Slavery in Chicago, Michigan

CHICAGO, July 20--Acentury ago, drunks were dragged out of bars and off the street, in effect kidnapped, and pressed into service in the army, navy, or merchant marine.

Today, in Chicago and other big cities, poor alcoholics, 'bums' and "winos" in the vocabulary of their more fortunate brothers, are being captured and pressed into a farm labor debt slavery and serfdom to soften the misery.

The Rev. Virgil Oyer of Adrian, Michigan, became aware of this modern day horror story and has tried valiantly to get state officials to intervene. But Rev. Oyer's own investigations have revealed widespread complicity and collusion by state and local officials in the system.

Rev. Oyer first became aware of the situation when an American Indian, Edgar Broussard, came to his church asking for food and lodgings. Broussard said that he had walked out of a farm labor camp run by Wardell Williams on a farm outside near-by Blissfield, Michigan. Broussard had been working picking tomatoes for Williams for a week. But at the end of the week, Williams told Broussard that Broussard's earnings for the week which came to \$43.84, were owed back to Williams for food and rent. Williams also claimed that Broussard owed him an additional \$5. That's when Broussard decided to split.

When Rev. Oyer inquired as to how Broussard had gotten into this situation, he got an even more shockint story. Broussard had been standing on West Madison Street in Chicago's "Skid Row" when a cop came up to him and told him, "I got just the thing for you." The cop told Broussard, "Come with me."

The cop took Broussard to a bus, where he was told that he was going to have food and a place to stay and a good job and a chance to earn some money. Broussard later

learned that the cop collected \$1.50 a head for each worker that he delivered to the bus.

When the bus was filled, it left Chicago. Williams, the labor contractor who ran the bus, proceeded to make the "recruits" feel at home by passing out bottles of cheap wine. Williams then took the workers to the farm near Blissfield, where, he told them, they would be picking tomatoes for 16¢ a box.

Broussard picked 274 boxes during that week. But at the end of the week Williams informed the workers that he was deducting from their paycheck \$2 a day for a bunk (without sheets, pillow, or blanket), \$1 per meal, \$3 for each pint of wine hae had "given" them, and 40¢ for each pouch of tobacco. Broussard ended up owing Williams \$5 after the week's work.

Broussard escaped. Another Chicago "bum", Steve Lahetta, was not so lucky. After working a time for Williams, he was thrown out of the camp because he was sick. State Police found him in a ditch near Blissfield. They took him back to the Williams Camp. Ten days later, Williams brought Lahetta into the Adrian Hospital. Lahetta died shortly thereafter of amoebic dysentery and peritonitis.

Rev. Oyer charged that not only police, but also the Michigan State Employment Office cooperate with



Williams and other labor contractors and growers in supplying men and protecting the growers from any "harrassment by "meddlers" and "do-gooders".

Wardell Williams, by the way, should be familiar to readers of EL MALCRIADO. He was recently found guilty by a Florida judge of brutally murdering his wife. But the Judge put Williams on probation, stating, "He's an employer of people. When farmers need fruit pickers, or other workers, they deal through him. To put him away would be putting many people out of work."

William's Florida payroll alone reportedly exceeds \$500,00 a year.

Viva la Causa
Y
El Progreso
Courtesy of
a
Mexican-
American
Attorney
Fresno California

GROWERS PUPPET SHOW NEEDS NEW 'SET OF ACTORS

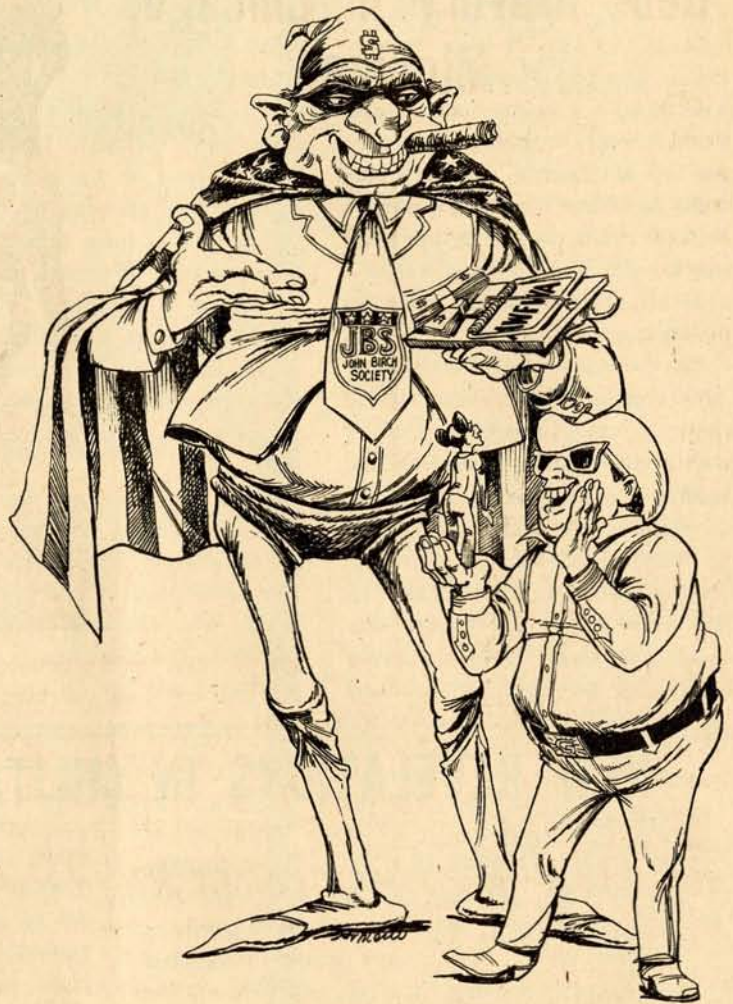
Union members are excitedly speculating on the name of the next scab union that the growers are expected to create, now that the highly publicized AFWFA seems to have been flushed down the toilet.

The AFWFA (Agricultural Workers Freedom to Work Association) at one point claimed "thousands of farm worker members" and such illustrious friends of labor as Senator Dirksen and Murphy were claiming that in truth, here were the "real" farm workers. But alas, AFWFA turned out to have less than a dozen members, all paid by the growers for their ac-Giumarras, now face a \$10,000,000 suit for illegally sponsoring the phoney association.

But the growers never seem to tire of creating these amusing "front" groups. The membership is usually made up of wives of labor contractors and growers, a few local Birchers, a few dupes, and a few socially ambitious women that hope to get in good with the "establishment" in Delano by participating in anti-Union activities.

AWFWA had been preceded by many other groups. First there was the "Citizens for Facts" group. Then came the "Kern-Tulare Independent Farm Workers Association" led by labor contractors Al Espinosa and Pancho Herrera. It was another "union" claiming thousands of members and blessed by such experts as Delano Mayor Clifford Loader, who said during Senate Investigation in 1966 that the K-TIFWA represented the "real" farm workers at that time. (Does that mean that UFWOC members are "unreal" workers?)

A legitimate labor union was con-ned into playing as the growers' front group for a while in 1966 and 1967. When they left the scene, the growers created the Mothers



The John Birch Society was one of the many strange groups of bed-fellows who got together for fun and games with AFWFA. Now they will have to find a new game on which to spend their money.

Against Chavez, and then the Men Against Chavez (though most of the membership in both groups was the same little old ladies.) Then there was the Mexican-American Democrats for Republican Action. Figure that one out.

Finally the growers decided to elevate little Jose Mendoza, an ex-poverty warrior and radio announcer, as their new Napoleon to lead the "real" farm workers to victory over those UFWOC barbarians. Oops, another Waterloo.....

Now that it is harvest time again, the growers and contractors are expected to come up with something new. One farm worker suggested that the scab ladies farm a hand-and-baton group called the

"Scabettes for Grower Power". The growers seem to go in for long names, so how about "United Front of Scabs, Contractors, and Bosses for the Elimination of the Red Menace and the Preservation of God's Holy Agribusiness Society, Inc." They could abbreviate it as "UFSC". They could abbreviate it as "UFSC-BERMPGHAS", for short. Or how about "Scabs' United Coalition to Knockout Evil Revolutionaries", "SUCKER" for short.

EL MALCRIADO is offering a prize to the reader who thinks up the best name for the new group. Send your entry to "Name that Scab Society", c/o EL MALCRIADO, P.O. Box 130, Delano, CA 93215.

COURT UPHOLDS FARM WORKERS' RIGHT TO JOIN UNION

SALINAS, July 29--Nine Salinas Valley carrot harvesters who had been fired for joining the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee won an historic decision today when the First District Court of Appeals ruled that the firings were illegal and that all farm workers were protected from such firings by the California Labor Code.

The workers, Fred Wetherton, John Watson, Jose Perez, Manuel Ortiz, Domingo Longoria, Anthony Cervantes, Antonio Castennada and Ignacio Burgos, charged that the Growers Farm Labor Association of Salinas had conspired to prevent farm workers in the Salinas Valley from joining the Union, and discovering that the nine workers had joined the Union, ordered them

fired. The firings took place in August of 1967.

The key sections in the Labor Code, which the courts upheld, read: "Any person or agent or officer thereof who coerces or compels any person to enter into an agreement, written or verbal, not to join or become a member of any labor organization, as a condition of securing employment or continuing in the employment of any such persons is guilty of a misdemeanor." (Sec. 922)

"...It is necessary that the individual workman have full freedom of association, self-organization, and designation of representatives of his own choosing, to negotiate the terms and conditions of his employment, and that he shall be free

from the interference, restraint, or coercion of employers of labor, or their agents, in the designation of such representatives or in self-organization or in other concerted activities for the purpose of collective bargaining or other mutual aid or protection." (Sec. 923)

UFWOC attorneys noted that the growers usually create new phoney unions as the harvest season approaches, in an attempt to defeat the UFWOC. "If a grower or foreman or labor contractor tries to force any worker to join a scab organization, or threatens to fire workers because they are members of UFWOC, those workers should immediately report the incident to the UFWOC legal department," said UFWOC attorney David Averbuck. "It's about time that these employers began paying the price for their illegal anti-union activities."

NEW REVELATIONS IN MILITARY GRAPE PLOT

WASHINGTON, D.C., July 25 -- A Department of Defense official admitted to a U.S. Senate investigating committee last week that the Department had "advised" commanders and Army and Navy purchasing departments to order table grapes. Mr. Dale Babione, Deputy Executive Director, Procurement and Production, Defense Supply Agency, testifying before Senator Walter Mondale's Senate Migratory Labor Subcommittee, said that on orders "from superiors" he had advised field commanders and purchasers that oranges and other fruits were expected to be in short supply and that grapes were available.

"They (defense installations) couldn't ask for grapes unless we told them they were available," said Babione.

Senator Cranston asked, "Have you considered nectaries as an alternative to grapes?"

Mr. Babione replied, "It is a possibility. We asked the customers (military commanders) at that time if they chose to accept grapes as a substitute. They chose to accept grapes." Babione continued, "I would say that the consumption of grapes by the Armed Forces in 1969 was not influenced one way or the other by the current labor dispute going on. I have looked at it and talked to the people in a position to know."

"Who? Farmworkers?" asked Senator Mondale.

"No, the people who requisition the product (military personnel)," said Babione. Senator Mondale asked "Would you regard a 350% increase in grapes shipped to Vietnam as a neutral response to the labor dispute in Southern California?"

"Yes I would" answered Babione.

The Department of Defense submitted a list of grape growers from whom they were purchasing grapes. Just by coincidence, guess who was at the top of the list? Giumarra Vineyards, of course, the superscab grower who started the boycott in the first place by refusing to hold elections or negotiate in 1967.

DoD officials have been and are fully aware of the grape strike and boycott, but they continue to insist that they are entirely within the bounds of "neutral" policy in increasing grape purchases. Mr. Babione argues that a freeze on grape purchases coincidental with the boycott would most certainly be an overt act of siding with the farm workers. And yet he still says that an increase of over 350% over the previous year's purchases of grapes has in no way been a partisan action. On the contrary, Mr. Babione even went so far as to ask the other DoD officials if they thought grapes were a good idea, and with such large consensus behind him what else could he do but suggest (very neutrally) that all the commanders begin ordering grapes for their troops.

It is perfectly clear that DoD has taken an active role in this dispute. Their claim to innocence on the breaking of the farm workers strike and boycott must be questioned when it is seen how many other fruits they might have ordered, and yet they ended up by advising grape purchases, and nothing but grape purchases. The DoD's position remains indefensible.

FILIPINO RETIREMENT VILLAGE BEING PLANNED

DELANO--At a series of meetings over the last two weeks, the first concrete steps were taken towards establishing a Filipino Retirement Village. Such a community has long been a dream of Philip Vera Cruz, Larry Itliong, and other leaders of the Filipino Community, and UFWOC Director Cesar Chavez added his enthusiastic support to the project when he first heard of it. But because of the demands of the strike in time and energy, the Village had remained only a dream. Now, perhaps, it is a little closer to reality.

Vera Cruz noted that a Committee is being formed to represent a broad section of Filipino and farm worker community, to make recommendations and decisions on the Village. Specific parcels of land are already being investigated for price and availability and suitability, and a rough idea of the building plans has emerged. The Committee so far tends to favor a communal kitchen, recreation room, reading room and other public facilities, in a complex surrounded by individual living quarters. There would be ample space for individual gardens. The complex would have the use of the Roger Terronez Memorial Clinic unless the Village opted to build its own clinic and convalescent home.

Vera Cruz noted that Filipinos, more than any other ethnic group in farm labor, were trapped by an inhuman system which in effect denied them the right to have families. While California growers welcomed an influx of Filipino workers in the 1920's and 30's, Filipino women were rarely, if ever, allowed into the country. Since California had laws forbidding Orientals to marry Caucasians, or even to own land, until fairly recently, the Filipino men were denied the basic right to settle down and raise a family and provide some kind of security for their old age. Today, thousands of Filipino men are reaching 65 or 70, with no families, no security, nowhere to settle down. After working in this country for 40



"We must provide a retirement with security and dignity for our members."
.....Philip Vera Cruz

(Above, UFWOC member Marino Esquira) years or more, providing the labor that made hundreds of growers into millionaires, the Filipinos are now being thrown out of the camps, denied jobs, tossed aside like a piece of rusty old machinery. They have no pensions from these growers who they have made so rich, no unemployment insurance, nothing to show for a half-century of toil at enriching their bosses. Many scrape by on social security or perhaps a veterans pension or welfare. But it is a national shame and disgrace that these men have been so exploited and so abused for so long.

The Union hopes to contribute as much as it can towards seeing the Filipino Retirement Village become a reality. Then perhaps in a small way we can help provide a little security and dignity for these men in their old age which America denied them in their youth.

REGISTER FOR WORK!

Grape picking should begin at Schenley and Perelli-Minetti around August 12, according to Sebastian Sahagin of the UFWOC Hiring Hall in Delano. Last year the minimum wage at Schenleys was \$1.90 per hour and the piece rates for gondola picking averaged \$3.25 per hour. This year wages are expected to go up 10¢ an hour. Register for work at the UFWOC hiring hall, 102 Albany St., Delano. Phone 725-8661.

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For further information contact;

**Marion Moses, R.N., United Farm Workers c/o P.O. Box 695,
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