



El Malcriado

THE VOICE OF THE FARM WORKER

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February 1, 1969



Photo by Fred Iltis

WHAT ARE THEY HIDING?

See Page 4.



LOANS TOP \$182,000

CREDIT UNION GROWS AND GROWS AND GROWS

DELANO, January 26--No dividends will be paid this year by the Farm Workers Credit Union in order to provide more funds for loans, it was decided by Credit Union members at their annual meeting today.

Chaired by brother Phillip Vera Cruz, in the absence of President Julio Hernandez, the meeting also included the annual treasurer's report and election of officers.

Dolores Huerta, secretary, and directors Santos Chapa and Jose Serda, whose terms on the Board of Directors expired this year, were re-elected.

Other members of the board are Vice President Andy Imutan, Treasurer Cesar Chavez, and directors Richard Chavez and Manuel Chavez.

Mrs. Antonio Orendain and Marcos Rodriguez were elected to serve on the credit committee with Rudy Ahumada.

Alfonso Ovalle was elected to the supervisory committee. He will work with committee members Mrs. J. Guadalupe Murguia and Mrs. Manuel Uranday.

Mrs. Cesar Chavez, assistant treasurer, and Mrs. James Drake are in charge of the Credit Union office. Tony Mendez is education

chairman.

The treasurer's report showed the Farm Workers Credit Union made a total of 270 loans during 1968, for a total of \$43,950.72. Since the organization of the Credit Union, which began with \$35 in savings and seven members, a total of \$182,933.69 has been loaned to 874 members. There is more than \$40,000 in farm workers savings on deposit with the Credit Union. Assets total more than \$54,000, the report showed.



Above: More than 500 members of the Farm Workers' Credit Union and their families attended the annual meeting, held January 26 at Filipino Hall in Delano. Above Right: C. U. member Gil Flores and assistant treasurer Helen Chavez listen to the reports.

SOCIAL SECURITY CAN PAY MORE

WASHINGTON, D.C., January 22-- There is enough money in the Social Security fund to increase benefits with no increase in payroll taxes, a report by the trustees of the program revealed.

According to Bert Seidman, Social Security director of the AFL-CIO, "Congress could grant a five to six percent increase in benefits

without any increase in the Social Security tax."

The reports showed that the Social Security programs received \$2.6 billion more than they paid out in benefits during 1968. The trustees estimated that the assets of the Social Security funds would increase from \$28.1 billion to about \$45 billion during the next five years.

in this issue

- CREDIT UNION GROWS AND GROWS AND GROWS, page 3
- GROWERS ON THE SPOT IN POISON TRIAL, page 4
- FARM WORKERS EVICTED FOR REVEALING WASCO SLUM CONDITIONS, page 6
- BOYCOTT ESCALATION, page 8
- GUNS AND GRAPES, page 9
- LOWER YOUR WAGES FOR FUN AND PROFIT, page 10

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VASQUEZ PRAISES HARBOR AREA SUPPORTERS

This article, which was squeezed out of a previous issue because of a lack of space, was submitted to EL MALCRIADO by UFWOC boycott representative Alfredo Vasquez.

BY ALFREDO VASQUEZ

I am a farm worker, and I am proud to belong to the union directed by Cesar Chavez.

I am now in charge of the office located at 523 S. Pacific, San Pedro, working with the boycott against scab grapes. I have been in the San Pedro, Long Beach, and Wilmington area for four months. I am very grateful to the people living in my area. Everyday I make some new friends, not only people in the union but other civic organizations, who are willing to help in any way they can.

Saturday, December 14, was a big day for me. On that day the toy caravan was supposed to start to Delano. All the generosity and good heartedness of the general public was shown in the way that they helped in locating and gathering the toys and other items for our Christmas toy drive.

At 340 Borad Street in Wilming-

ton is found Local 9 of the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America. There we met to start our caravan, managed by Pat Daniel and Charles S. West, representatives of this local. Fifteen of their brothers also volunteered their help in bringing the toys down to Delano. Along with this group came high school students Joe Schmidt and Steve Gomez.

When we arrived in Delano, Daniel and West gave Assistant UFWOC Director Larry Itliong a check for \$448. This money was donated by the members of Local 9.

There at the Filipino Hall there were hundreds of people from different cities who had come to bring gifts for the farm worker's children.

For me it was a very emotional experience. To find that so many people are considerate and unselfish at a time of giving.

The people in my area have been very generous with their help. They have made the work in San Pedro easier for me and yet very effective.

My sincere appreciation goes out to you who have helped.

Viva la Causa.

Nosotros Venceremos.

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ING?

Continued
from page 4

Judge George A. Brown he was acting under instructions from the State Director of Agriculture to keep the content and dosage of the application of economic poisons on table and wine grapes a secret, though Assistant State Director Allen A. Lemmon testified the directives were only staff instructions and did not have the force of law.

Lemmons said he knew of "at least some" cases where farm workers had been injured by the use of pesticides and cited an incident in Delano in which 16 out of 24 grape workers had been hospitalized for Parathion poisoning. The workers had entered the field 33 days after the poisoning was applied. Fields are usually declared safe after two or three weeks, he said.

In the most heated discussion of the hearings, Averbuck attempted to introduce a summary of reports filed by doctors with the Bureau of Occupational Health of the State Public Health Department.

Though authenticated by Dr. Milby chief of the Bureau, the report was for some reason unacceptable to County attorney Jordan, who objected to its introduction. Cohen said the report listed "many, many" cases of farm workers who had been poisoned as the result of working with pesticides in the fields.

Morely told the Court "no farm workers have been injured by the application of economic poisons in Kern County to my knowledge."

Lemmon, the State Assistant Director, and a pesticides specialist, mentioned several Kern County cases later in the hearings.

Thomas C. Griffin, owner of a spraying and dusting company, testified he had abandoned the use of the pesticide TEPP (tetra-ethyl pyrophosphate) after he himself had become seriously ill as a result of working with the chemical, but he refused to say whether other companies in the area were still using the substance.

He said releasing details of poison application to the public would re-

Continued on page 11

On January 7, UFWOC General Counsel Jerome Cohen sent a letter to Stephen Wall, a Bakersfield attorney who represents a number of grape growers.

"The most pressing problem which faces us as of now is the ever-increasing danger to farm workers' health and safety which arises from the use of dangerous pesticides in the vineyards," Cohen wrote.

He sent along a proposal to all, in which an agreement between growers and pesticide applicators on the one hand, and the Union on the other, was suggested.

The purpose: to avoid litigation on the pesticide question and provide for a cooperative effort in protecting farm workers and consumers from the dangers of deadly economic poisons, some of which are based on "nerve gases" developed by the Third German Reich for the extermination of humans.

The answer of Mr. Wall, Esquire, to Mr. Cohen's proposal, began as follows:

"This is in answer to your January 7, 1969 letter to me enclosing a copy of what you propose for agreement between the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, my clients, and others. It is obvious either that we completely failed to communicate or else you are trying to be funny. . .

"I understood you to say also that your only other interest in seeing these specific reports on file now was for your use in formulating some pertinent language for future use in negotiating labor contracts, hopefully. You definitely stated that you were not interested in seeing the subject reports or using any part of the contained data in connection with your boycott effort or as the basis of filing any lawsuit or lawsuits. . .

"Your actual purpose is clearly evident and there is not even a coincidental resemblance to the ones you expressed. But the end justifies the means in your league--right?"

"Very truly yours, Stephen E. Wall"

To this, Cohen replied on January 9,

"Let me assure you that the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee is attempting to act reasonably and develop adequate safeguards concerning the use of economic poisons in the vineyards. We are available to meet to discuss this subject at your convenience. We hope that such a meeting will take place soon, for the delay in working out safeguards only hurts the workers and consumers."

There was no further word from Wall or the growers, and on January 14, César Chávez sent the letter which was described at length on page 3 of the January 15 issue of EL MALCRIADO.

"There is one critical issue of such overriding

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

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owworm—17 to 33 lbs. per acre. Tomato Fruitworm, Yel-
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The farm worker on our cover is spraying this dangerous chemical, Thiodan Diazinon 3-2 Dust, on a field of broccoli near Indio. Photo by Iltis.

DELANO, December 30--"Trade secrets" and "private information" continued to be the key words today in the second day of Superior Court hearings on whether or not officials of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee should be permitted to inspect records on the use of dangerous poisonous pesticides in Kern County.

Kern County Counsel Ralph Jordan, representing County Agricultural Commissioner Sheldon Morely, objected vigorously this afternoon to the introduction of evidence from the State Department of Public Health in this afternoon's session, as UFWOC attorney David Averbuck sought to show the necessity for making what he called "public records" available for inspection by the public.

According to testimony, growers and commercial pesticide applicators who use poisonous chemicals to control insects and plant dis-

eases in their fields must have permits, and must file reports on dosages, applications, and other details of their operation with the County Agricultural Commissioner.

UFWOC attorney Jerome Cohen tried last August to inspect the records on the poisons in connection with research on the danger to farm workers which may result from their use.

Cohen told EL MALCRIADO information on the danger of the pesticides to farm workers and consumers is "woefully inadequate," and the Union had a responsibility to try to protect workers.

He said that while the records in the commissioner's office are supposed to be public information Morely refused permission to see them.

Two hours after Cohen had gone to see the records, a temporary restraining order was issued by Superior Court Judge J. Kelly Steele

prohibiting Morely from divulging the contents of the reports.

The present hearings are a three-sided affair. Crop dusting companies, represented by attorney Stephen Wall, are technically the plaintiffs, while Morely, represented by County attorney Jordan, are the defendants.

Cohen, represented by Averbuck, is the third party in the suit. To courtroom observers, it is clear that plaintiffs and defendants are on the same side, while Cohen and Averbuck represent the opposition.

Morely testified this morning that even though he was enjoined from making the records public, he had taken the information "in confidence," and would keep it confidential regardless of Judge Steele's temporary order, which still stands after five months.

The Commissioner told hearing Continued on page 5

WISCONSIN BAN ON DDT:

Scientists Warn of Permanent Pesticide Effects

DELANO, January 27 -- Dr. Richard M. Welch, a biochemical pharmacologist at Burroughs-Welch Research Laboratories reported that the pesticide DDT may be causing changes to human sex organs and hormones.

Welch told an audience in Madison, Wisconsin, that after experimenting with rats to determine the effects DDT had on them, he found that the sexual mechanisms of male and female rats were altered. He added that DDT injections caused a type of false pregnancy on the females. "If one can extrapolate data from animals to man, then one can say this change in animals probably does occur in man," Welch said.

Welch added that DDT also interferes with the normal use of drugs causing the body to break down the drugs faster than it normally would.

Meanwhile, the Izaak Walton League and Citizens for Natural Resources Association filed a petition with the State Natural Resources Department calling for a ban on DDT.

In Davis, California, James O. Keith, a biologist for the federal Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, reported that the careless use of pesticides such as DDT is a threat to the very existence of wild life. The ability of peregrine falcons, for instance, to reproduce successfully, has been affected by thin-shelled eggs resulting from the adult falcon's exposure to DDT.

In his study, Dr. Keith found that birds in contact with DDT produce eggs with thinner eggshells. These thin-shelled eggs usually break during nesting, making the extinction of several species of birds an immediate threat unless DDT is retired from use.

Research from Keith and other biologists has shown that shell thickness for these species of birds was

consistent until 1945. From then on, as the use of DDT spread, the egg thickness averaged about 20 percent thinner.

Illinois Christians Condemn Grape Growers

CARBONDALE, ILL.--The Illinois Council of Churches voted to support the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee boycott of California table grapes at a meeting on January 17.

Of the 125 delegates present at the meeting, more than two thirds voted in favor of the boycott resolution.

Eliseo Medina is the UFWOC boycott representative for Illinois and spoke to the group before the vote was taken.

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GROWERS REJECT SANITATION LAWS

WASHINGTON, D.C.--The Food and Drug Administration of the Federal government proposed new regulations covering "sanitation and production practices, including the condition of plant buildings and grounds, equipment, sanitary facilities for employees, and controls in processing, packaging, and storing food products.

When the growers and packers of fruit and vegetables found they would have to keep food clean, they launched into action.

On December 20, the proposal was revised.

According to the Produce News, a produce industry trade paper known as the "Pink Sheet," "the Food and Drug Administration has EXEMPTED establishments involved...in the harvesting, storage, or distribution of raw agricultural commodities from (the) regulations.

"Original proposals...would have included packers and packagers of fresh fruits and vegetables, but the United Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Association successfully sought exemption for the industry," the Produce News gloated.

In other words, cleanliness is quite in order for food handlers...except for the fruit and vegetable industry.

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FARM WORKERS EVICTED FOR REVEALING WASCO SLUM CONDITIONS

WASCO, January 23--Two farm worker families were evicted from the Wasco Labor Camp on Monday, January 20, allegedly because they permitted cameramen from KERO-TV, Bakersfield, to film the inside of their cabins.

Wasco is about 10 miles southeast of Delano.

On December 24, the Bakersfield Californian had published an article which sharply criticized conditions in the camp.

Camp Manager C. B. Roberts, who appears in the film "Huelga", challenged the Californian's story and called reporter Bill Bloecher a liar and the perpetrator of a hoax.

After the publication of the story, the Kern County Health Department investigated the camp, and Vernon S. Reichard, director of Environmental Health, gave a report.

The Wasco camp charges \$45 a month rent for two-room cabins. If there is a refrigerator, the cabins cost \$51 a month.

The Health Department report included the following items:

"Toilet facilities found to be in the most insanitary condition, revealing neglect or lack of maintenance. Noted dark stains, fecal matter, broken toilet seats, strong fecal odors and clogged wash basins."

"Waste water (in the laundry area) draining over the floor; water, dirt and debris cover the floor area where people stand and wash their clothes."

"No running water is provided to any of the units. Tenants are furnished with gas hot plates and these in most situations noted, provide heat also."

"Garbage cans found to be in the most insanitary condition and many cans were dilapidated and no longer serviceable."

The garbage cans are located at



Victor Antu and Jose Vigil and their families were the victims of a heartless act which left them homeless in the middle of the winter.

the ends of the buildings, where children play and tenants draw drinking water, the Californian said.

The manager, Roberts, replied that this was "better than living on a canal bank. We didn't ask these people to come here."

On Thursday, January 16, camp resident Victor Antu, who had talked with the KERO reporters, received the following letter from Roberts:

"We must have payment of your account by Monday, January 20th, 1969, or ask you to vacate the cabin. Your account amounts to \$42... Ten dollars of the total was for a deposit."

Monday came, Antu told EL MALCRIADO, he could not come up with the money, and he had to move out.

Mrs. Antu's sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Jose Vigil, also were living in the Camp. When they, too, were evicted, both families

rented a \$48 shack in Wasco, where they are now living.

Both families told EL MALCRIADO that they are sure that they were evicted because they allowed the reporters to film the cabins in the camp.

Both Vigil and Antu said that they had previously arranged with camp authorities to pay the three weeks' rent they owed as soon as they began work in the potato packing shed.

At a meeting of many camp residents on Wednesday night, January 22, many families voiced complaints about conditions and appointed spokesmen to call for further investigation.

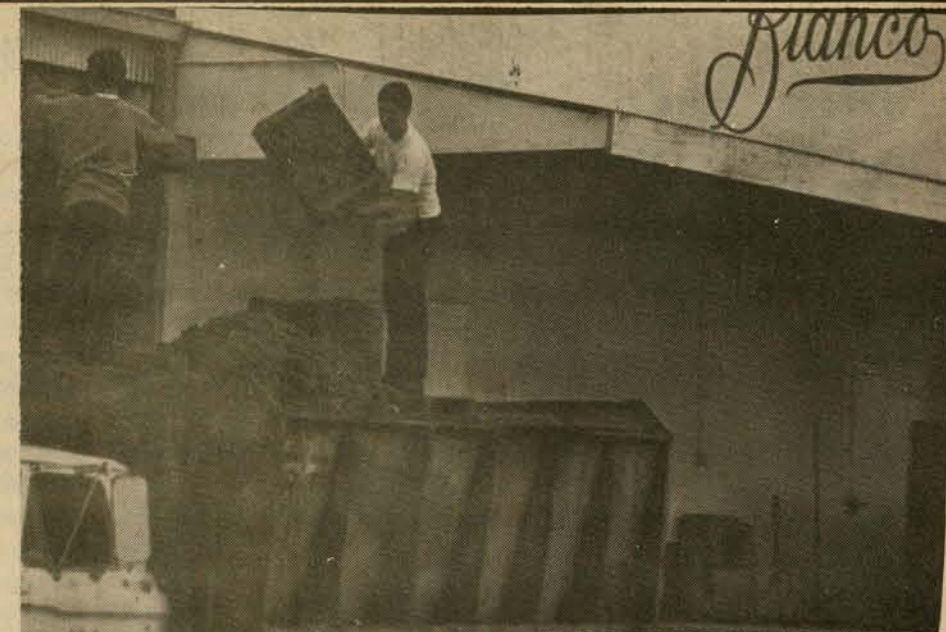
"The Wasco Camp was built 25 years ago to meet a World War II emergency need for male farm worker shelter," the Californian noted.

Boycott Escalation

DELANO, January 25 -- While growers were dumping boxes of unsold table grapes for disposal (*see far right*), more than 800 farm workers and supporters met in Delano to plan a massive escalation of the grape boycott. Thirty more families will leave next week to work full time on the boycott in Mid-western, Eastern, and Southern Cities. EL MALCRIADO will carry an extensive report on the new boycott centers in the next issue of the paper.



A family from Coachella (left) and workers from Farmersville (above) listen to plans to escalate the boycott.



STUDENTS PROTEST AGAINST "UNCLE SAM, THE STRIKE BREAKER"

NEW YORK, January 25--More than 500 young supporters of the California grape strike staged a demonstration today in front of the Department of Defense offices in Manhattan, in protest against Federal Government policies against farm workers.

The theme of the demonstration was to expose "Uncle Sam, the Strikebreaker," according to Dolores Huerta, Vice President of the United Farm Workers and leader of the grape boycott in New York.

Mrs. Huerta said the Federal Government has played a major strike breaking role in the farm workers' struggle in three crucial areas.

"The Department of Defense has tremendously increased its purchases of grapes over the last two years

and the Department of Justice has twisted the Immigration laws and has refused to enforce existing regulations, thus allowing a flood of illegal strike-breakers to enter this country from Mexico.

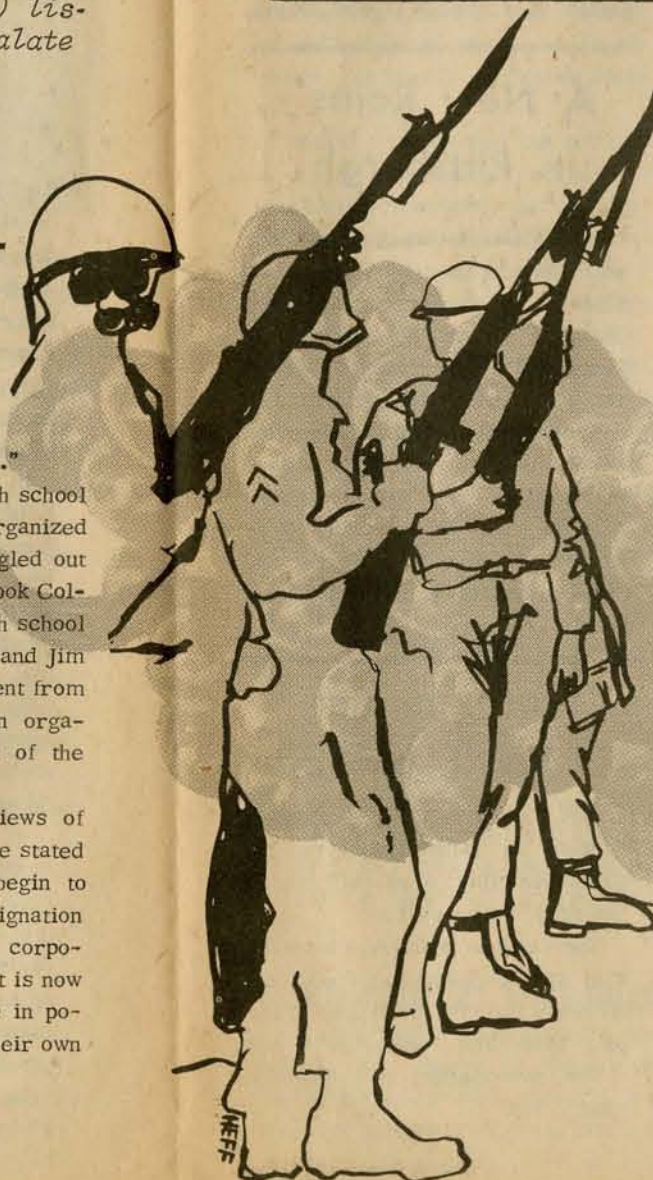
There has been no real attempt to enforce health and safety regulations, child labor laws, or other regulations dealing with working conditions in the fields."

"We chose to demonstrate before the Defense Department offices because their purchases of grapes are the most direct tactic used by the government to break our boycott and strike, but we are also protesting the government's other policies which deny farm workers their rights. And we are also protesting the cruel indifference of most Federal Agencies to the plight

of America's farm workers."

Mrs. Huerta said that high school and college students had organized the demonstration, and singled out Mitchel Cohen of Stoneybrook College; Dorothy Silvers, a high school student from Long Island; and Jim Gorden, a high school student from Queens, for their work in organizing students in support of the boycott.

Cohen expressed the views of many of the students when he stated at the rally, "We must begin to vigorously express our indignation at the government and the corporate-military structure that is now intentionally keeping people in poverty in order to enhance their own private interests."



GUNS AND GRAPES

WASHINGTON, D.C.--Purchases of grapes for shipment to Vietnam continue to rise, according to statements issued recently by the Department of Defense.

During the fiscal year from July 1, 1966 to June 30, 1967, the government bought 468,000 pounds of grapes for shipment to the war-torn country.

The following year (fiscal year 1968), purchases of scab grapes totalled 555,000 pounds.

During the first quarter of the current fiscal year, purchases for Vietnam totalled 740,850 pounds.

In other words, more grapes have been shipped to Vietnam during the first three months of fiscal 1969 than were sent during an entire year in 1967 or 1968.

But the Department of Defense has been receiving complaints from interested citizens who protest purchases by the government which serve to break the boycott of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO.

In a "fact sheet" which the Director for Food Service of the Defense Department recently sent to one such protestor, the following statement appears:

"The Department of Defense does not purchase grapes merely because they have been made more avail-

able and less expensive due to the effects of the boycott...In the interests of objective and systematic management, menu planners... should not be required to consider whether a labor dispute exists when making these decisions."

An accompanying letter said, "although we appreciate your concern in this matter, we have been unable to find any evidence which would support a change of the Department of Defense policy as stated in the fact sheet."

So that's how it is!

Defense Department purchases of grapes for the armed services, including the grapes purchased for Vietnam are also steadily rising.

In fiscal year 1966, the government bought 7.5 million pounds of grapes for \$1.04 million. The following year purchases were 8.3 million pounds, for \$1.25 million. In fiscal 1968, purchases dropped to 6.9 million pounds, but the price paid was \$1.32 million.

But that's not important either, says the fact sheet. "The total Defense Supply Agency purchases of table grapes represent less than one percent of U. S. table grape production.

"There is no records of any grape shipments to Vietnam prior to fiscal year 1967," the report notes.

Continued from page 5

lease "trade secrets" and do damage to his business because his competitors would be able to find out his secret formulas.

He said that his company continued to perform a process called "washing grapes," which had to be kept secret because produce buyers would not buy grapes which had undergone the process.

In an off-the cuff statement during a recess, Jordan said public health and trade secrets were both important.

You have to weigh them against each other," the rotund, white-haired Jordan said.

As the hearing closed for the second day, there was no sign of what the outcome would be.

If Judge Brown rules UFWOC has a right to see the records, it will make no change in the situation, as Morely has already warned.

Should he rule that the records must be kept secret until a final decision is reached, he will cancel the present temporary restraining order and replace it with a preliminary injunction, which is just about the same thing.

In that case, a new hearing will be held--this time to determine whether a final injunction, keeping the records a secret permanently,

should be issued, or if a writ of mandate should be served on the Agricultural Commissioner, forcing him to reveal the records.

Farm workers nearly filled the court room both days, while a cluster of crop dusters and growers joined them to listen to testimony.

The crop dusters appeared genuinely worried about the possibility of the records becoming public, while farm workers who could speak English whispered translations of the proceedings to their Spanish and Ilocano speaking brothers.

The farm workers clustered in groups in the hallways during each recess, and peppered each other with the unanswerable question;

"What are they trying to hide? Why don't they want us to know about the chemicals we work with day after day?"

EL MALCRIADO can provide no answer. There are too many secrets. Only the chemical companies and pesticide applicators really know what they are spraying on the grapes, and their research is centered around damage to Willamette mites and leafhoppers.

Nobody seems to know --and if they know, they won't say --what the chemicals can do to humans.

So EL MALCRIADO asks the same question: "What are they hiding?"

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

importance that it demands immediate attention, even if other labor relations problems have to wait. I mean the harmful effects of spraying grapes with pesticides, or economic poisons, as they are called," Chávez wrote.

"We will not tolerate the systematic poisoning of our people. Even if we cannot get together on other problems, we will be damned --and we should be--if we will permit human beings to sustain permanent damage to their health from economic poisons."

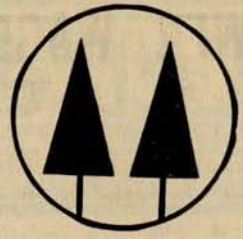
There was no reply.

HERNANDEZ UNDERGOES OPERATION

CLEVELAND--Brother Julio Hernandez, in charge of the boycott in the Cleveland area, recently underwent surgery. EL MALCRIADO wishes a speedy recovery to our

far-off Vice President.

Brother Julio was the first farm worker to join Brother Chavez in his early organizing drive.



The sign that tells
you people are
working together
to fill their needs



You do not have
to be a member
to shop-come in
and see how
economic
democracy works



GREETINGS TO
THE UNITED FARM
WORKERS FROM

The Consumer
Cooperative
of Berkeley

ARIZONA BUSINESSMEN'S PLAN: LOWER WAGES FOR FUN & PROFIT FROM THE AFL-CIO NEWS

TUCSON, ARIZONA--Mexico's "inexhaustible inexpensive labor market" is being touted as a 30-cents-an hour gold mine for U. S. businessmen willing to invest in plants on both sides of the border.

"You don't have to go to Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea or Japan for low cost easily trainable foreign labor," says the official publication of DATE-Development Authority for Tucson's Expansion, which describes itself as a "non-profit corporation representing a broad cross section of the Tucson community."

"It is available right here...along the Mexico-Arizona border for as low as 30 cents an hour in virtually inexhaustible numbers," DATE proclaims in glowing Chamber of Commerce prose.

"Mexican labor is competitive with foreign labor--easily recruited and quickly trained and equally as productive."

Tucson businessmen headed by J. Karl Meyer, DATE's executive director, point to the "advantages" of "cooperative U.S.-Mexican border operations such as low absenteeism and a proud, cheerful attitude toward work... under the Twin Plant concept."

That concept is described in these workdays:

"Components are manufactured in Tucson, assembled in Nogales, Mexico, and returned to Tucson for final inspection, packaging and shipping....Duty is imposed only on the added value of the assembly."

Tucson is only one of the Southwest's border towns promoting the "cheap foreign labor" concept. Among the first to tap the new lode was Laredo, Tex., which induced the Transatron Electronics Corp. of Wakefield, Mass., to move its non-union operations into a new plant with a small work force.

Across the border at Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, within walking distance of Laredo, is a Transatron

plant with 1,400 workers, all Mexican nationals. Under the twin plant formula, Transatron may use its small U. S. work force to manufacture products and its large Mexican force to assemble them.

Wage rates in the U. S. are \$1.60 an hour and up. In Nuevo Laredo the rate is reported \$2.16 a day.

The U.S. plant has started work on a \$1.7 million contract to make telephone cables for the Defense Dept. The contract is for a one-year period, but the Army Electronic Command awarded Transatron an additional contract on its bid of \$1.1 million, and the Economic Development Administration procured a grant of \$28,000 in U. S. funds to "train 15 or 20 persons in the electronics field" at the Transatron plant in Laredo. A subsidiary, Phalo Corp., got the contracts and the grant.

The hands-across the border concept got a jolt, however, when the Mexican workers cast off the "proud cheerful attitude toward work" extolled by the tubthumping U. S. businessmen and stopped work for three weeks at the New Laredo plant.

The walkout was not an official strike, sanctioned by the ruling powers, but it forced Transatron to ship some of the quartz crystals used in its production processes to another company subsidiary in Kansas City, Mo. The workers finally went back when the governor of Tamaulipas state stepped in and the State Labor Board agreed to hear the dispute--over wages promised but not paid for lunch "breaks."

Last year an AFL-CIO Executive Council subcommittee urged joint action by American and Mexican labor movements and governments to change the immigration and tariff laws. It cited unfair competition by low-wage border-jumping plants and "green card" tourists who cross the border freely to take jobs in agriculture, often at the expense of union farm workers.

They'll Sling It Elsewhere

SACRAMENTO, January 28--Planning well in advance the California Fertilizer Association decided to pull its 1971 convention out of San Francisco because the Board of Supervisors has endorsed the boycott of California table grapes.

"We will have no dealings with San Francisco hotels or with other San Francisco businesses until the official position of the city government there will have been changed to one of reason," Association Manager Sidney Bierly wrote the Fairmont Hotel.

Meanwhile, they were really sweating it in San Francisco. The 1968 convention in Los Angeles pulled in a crowd of 430 people.

A New Rojas In Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH, January 3--Albert and Elena Rojas are the proud parents of a baby girl, Shalom Christine Rojas, who was born on January 3 in Pittsburgh. Shalom was six pounds and seven ounces at birth. Al and Elena have led the boycott of California grapes in Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania since July of 1968. Previously Al was a farm worker and Union organizer in the Delano and Bakersfield areas.

Caravan Set For Feb. 22

SAN FRANCISCO--The next food caravan to Delano from the San Francisco Bay Area will be on Saturday, February 22.

The caravan will leave from 568 47th Street, Oakland at 7 AM, and from the San Francisco Labor Temple, 2940 16th Street, at 8 AM.

For information, call 655-3256 after 7 PM.

Praise for Elsa Students

Editor:

All of us can learn a lesson in sincere racial pride and self-respect from the students of Elsa-Edcouch High School, who have the courage to demand that the inhuman and degrading treatment we have been subjected to for 123 years be stopped.

We have been treated worse than other racial groups. In many instances there were cafes and rest rooms marked colored and white, and Chicanos were not permitted to use either one.

We should also be thankful for men like Mr. Joe Bernal and attorney Robert Sanchez, who did not run and hide as most of our leaders and professional men have done in the past when confronted with an issue like this.

Every person of Mexican extraction should be 100 percent for these brave students.

They have proven that sincere

racial pride and self-respect go beyond yelling "Viva Mexico" and "Be proud of being a Mexican" twice a year, on May 5 and September 16, and at the same time surrendering our divine dignity and self-respect by submitting to daily degradation in every way of life.

John Nidnal
Dallas, Texas

At 82, for the "People"

Editor:

Note that my subscription has run out with the January 15th issue. I am enclosing four one dollar bills for renewal of "EL MALCRIADO."

I have been an interested reader of all issues.

I am pleased that the little magazine has survived, and I can see it is gaining in more ways than one.

I have been wishing to come over to Delano and visit your headquarters, and get acquainted with you in person--and I expect to carry out this wish before too many months.

I am wondering if most of the original workers are still with you? I entertained some of them (Mr. Adair, for one) here at my little home in the early days.

For many, many years I have been in sympathy with the "people", but I am not quite as able to take part as in days gone by. I am 82 years of age now, but I am just as interested as ever.

You have a truly noble leader in Cesar Chavez. My wish for him is to take care of his health.

My very best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,
B. Johnson
Woodlake, California
January 25, 1969

A Critic of Church & State

UFWOC:

\$5.00 enclosed.

This ends our pledges.

The reason is because the UFWOC has no active organization against the draft and militarising, which is so related to the power the wealthy elite has over poor people, besides draining off the young men away from the struggle here at home.

Also, we are really turned off by the association of the Farm Workers with the Catholic Church (or any church, for that matter) which makes a big public show while continuing to oppress poor people all over the world.

Sorry, but that's the way we feel.

Ruth Glasgow
San Francisco, California

Mrs. Glasgow: Cesar Chavez recently said, "I consider the economic exploitation of man the most effective kind of violence yet devised."

We have tried, in the pages of EL MALCRIADO, to make our position clear on the question of violence.

If UFWOC tends to be a "one-issue" organization, it is because we are locked in a non-violent struggle for our existence as a union. When we have gained some measure of victory, we will be free to expand our activities into other areas, as the members' interest directs.

On the question of Church affiliations, we can only say that the vast majority of our members are Roman Catholics, though there are many members of other faiths who play an active part in the leadership of the Union.

We are sorry you feel you can no longer assist us, and thank you for your support up to now.

The Editor.

We Have Hope...

Editor:

To you, to Cesar Chavez, and to all who have worked and are working on the grape boycott, and who are working for the farm worker, you are doing great work!

We have been working on the boycott here in St. Louis, but things aren't progressing too rapidly. I know it is slow though, and that many people have been sweating and working for years to bring about effective change.

We have to have much hope and courage to continue this revolution. Know that I, and many others, are behind you 100 percent. Enclosed is my subscription fee to EL MALCRIADO. I am anxious to receive it regularly.

Gratefully,
Sister Ruth Shy, S.L.

St. Louis
January 19, 1969

Letters



EL MALCRIADO
P.O. Box 130
Delano, Ca. 93215

This County Will Be Informed...

Editor:

Enclosed you will find a photo of some of the fellows in the Martinez-Pittsburg-Concord area who are dedicated to seeing this grape boycott through to its victorious end. We got off to a slow start here in Contra Costa County this year but we pledge to you that this county is going to be well informed of the boycott of California table grapes in the year 1969.

Labor is magnificently behind the boycott not only morally and financially, but what is more important---with bodies on the picket line!

I only wish that you could have witnessed the wonderful turn-out of labor, church groups and Mexican-Americans at the recent hearing before the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors.

For once I saw the John Birch Society and growers with their Uncle Tamales, out numbered. Labor had requested the Supervisors to

endorse the boycott and of course these "representatives of the people," although each expressed his personal sympathy for the plight of the farm worker, felt they could not endorse the boycott because "it was strictly a labor-management issue."

The importance of these hearings was that these elected officials were finally backed into a corner out of which they could not weasel.

They were forced to vote on a moral issue involving the labor movement and labor's perennial enemy, the right wing in the form of the John Birchers.

We did not get the endorsement.

But we did get an issue that should certainly become a central point when some of these "elected officials" come to labor and Mexican American groups next election.

Ray Martinez
Concord, California
December 31, 1968

I Shall Do As Much As I Can...

Editor and Brothers:

I have met and have had your representative Jorge Zaragoza and his family at my home of the Christmas holidays.

I am very impressed by this man's courage to come three-quarters of the way across the United States to Cincinnati.

He and his family are most pleasant. I have been enlightened on your Cause very much by him.

I shall do as much as I can to help him in his struggle in the boycott in the Cincinnati area. I am also a member of a Union and recognize the importance of your winning your rights. I am proud to call Jorge Zaragoza my brother!

God bless you and your Cause.

Sincerely,

Edmund Kuderer

Cincinnati, Ohio
December 31, 1968

Thanks for the Flowers...

UFWOC:

It was so very kind and thoughtful of you folks to send me those beautiful flowers while I was in the hospital. I want you to know that having good friends thinking of you helps a great deal.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Hilda Kircher

Washington, D.C.
January 22, 1969



Brothers Cano, Nace, Perez, Martinez, and Villava picket grapes in Contra Costa County.

WEST SIDE GETS BURNED

DELANO, January 27--If you live on the west side of Delano, your chances of having a loss from fire are almost three times as great as they are on the east side, according to a report issued today by Delano Fire Chief Carl J. Green.

Green, who is asking the City Council to build a fire station on the west side of the tracks, said that the value of property on each side of town is about the same, but that fire losses were almost three times as great on the west side.

According to records for the period 1965-1967, fire losses on the west side were \$150,909. On the east side, where the total valuation is slightly higher, losses were only \$54,227.

Green said that part of the problem is that fire engines have to

cross the tracks to get to the west side, and when a train is parked across the crossings, as frequently happens during evening hours, firemen have to go all the way across town to get across.

Green said that the delays are "at times serious."

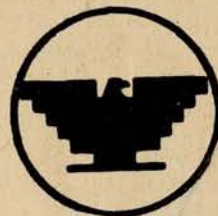
The Highway 99 freeway is also a problem in reporting to fires on the west side, Green's report noted. "Because of the limited cross overs at the freeway, our response time to certain areas is increased by 30 seconds to two minutes. Under certain conditions, this delay could result in serious loss of life and property."

Describing the west side, which is largely inhabited by farm workers, Green said that there are "many poorly constructed structures...old wood frame dwellings, sheds and commercial occupancies."

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Y
El Progreso

*Courtesy of
a
Mexican-
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UFWOC CHARGE:

Giumarra Truckers Ignore Safety Laws

DELANO, January 12--The United Farm Workers Organizing Committee is contemplating filing an appeal with the California State Supreme Court to overturn a decision made by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) which exempts Giumarra Vineyards Corporations and its foremen and truck drivers from safety standards and other regulations in transporting its workers to the fields.

According to UFWOC Attorney David Averbuck, the PUC had refused to reopen the case, and the Union would have to go to court to overturn what he described as "an erroneous and politically inspired decision."

UFWOC had charged that foremen for the Giumarra Vineyards Corp. fail to obtain permits and meet safety standards and other regulations in transporting their workers.

The first hearing on the charges, before PUC examiner Mooney in Bakersfield on September 17 and 18, was referred to the State Commission in San Francisco. The State Commission, after sitting on the case for two and a half months (or until the harvest season was over) announced in mid-December that it was dismissing the case.

"The decision was a rotten political decision," Averbuck said. "The grounds for dismissing the case were that these foremen were not covered by the law, because they did not receive compensation for transporting the workers. Yet the Commissioners' decision stated directly (on page 6) that 'all the foremen are compensated' and then on page 12 stated, 'the transportation is not for compensation.'"

Averbuck explained that the foremen are paid by Giumarra to transport the workers to the fields, and are thus definitely "compensated" for the transportation and covered under the law. Furthermore, they operate on a year-round basis, he

said, and are thus not exempt under the clause of the law which exempts those who "occasionally" transport workers.

Since the PUC refused to rectify this decision on rehearing, it will be up to the courts of this state to chastise them," Averbuck

warned.

"We will take it to the Supreme Court if necessary. This is an open-and-shut case. Those foremen are covered by the law and are failing to abide by its regulations," the attorney concluded.

SI KAPATID NA GALAPORT AY NASA PAGAMUTAN

DELANO, Enero 27--Ang kapatid na Martin Galaport na ipinasok sa Delano Hospital ay inilipat sa Manor Convalescent Hospital ng Visalia. Si kapatid na Galaport ay nasa ika-82 na gulang. Ang kanyang kalagayan ay hindi naman malubhang unit nangangailangan ng pahinga at mabuting pangangalaga ng katawan sanhi sa kanyang kagulangan. Ito ay batay sa ulat ni Dr. Josef Heilman ng Delano.

MARTIN GALAPORT HOSPITALIZED

DELANO, January 27--Brother Martin Galaport, who was hospitalized on Friday, has been transferred to the Manor Convalescent Hospital in Visalia.

Brother Galaport, who is 82, was not in serious danger, according to Dr. Josef Heilman of Delano, but needed rest and care because of his age.



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