



El Malcriado

THE VOICE OF THE FARM WORKER

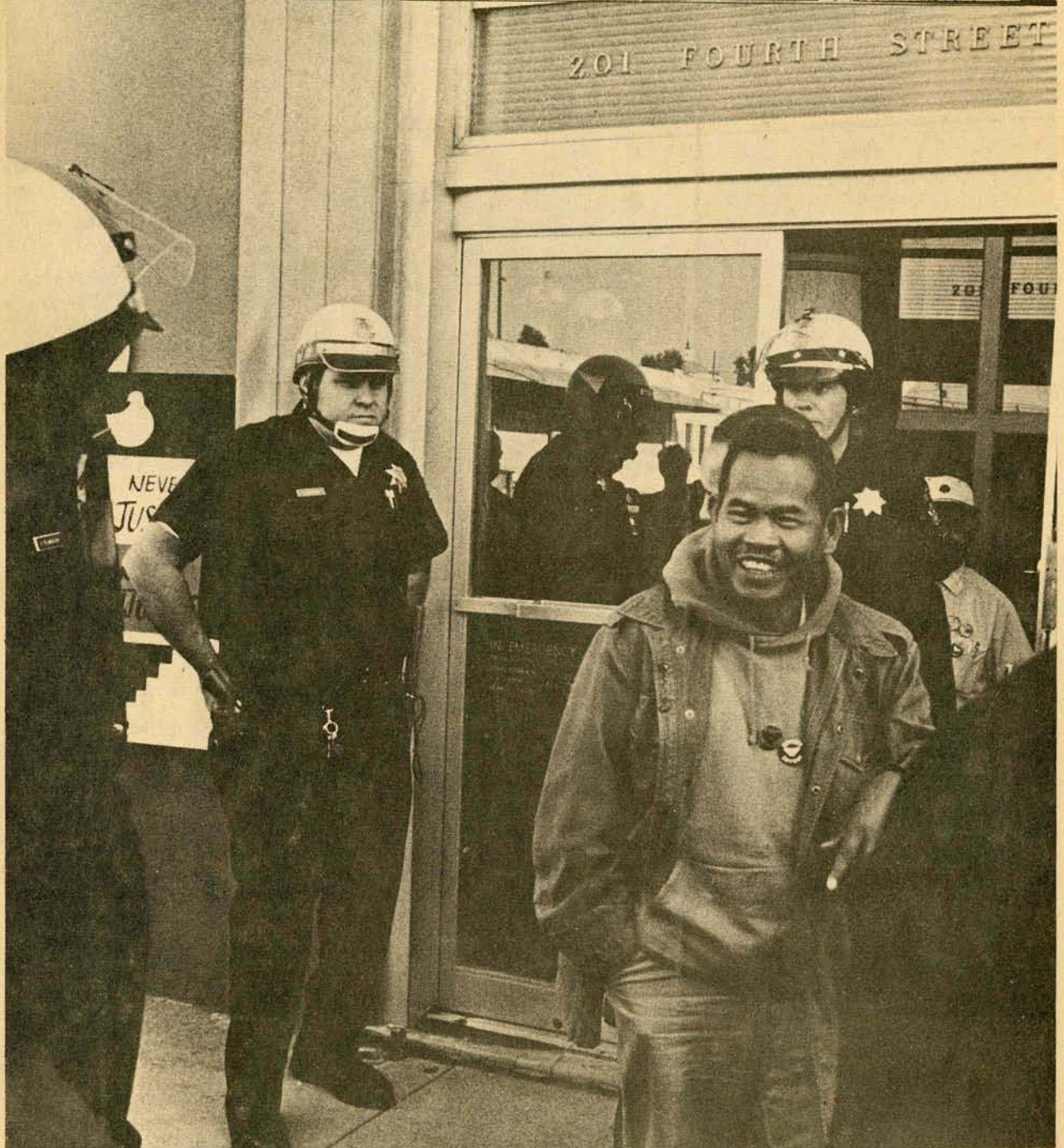
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in English

Volume III, Number 5,

Delano, Calif.

May 1-31, 1969



UFWOC Assistant Director Larry Itliong is led away to jail after Safeway Officials ordered his arrest in Oakland. See story, page 5.

Photo by Jon Lewis.

MARCH TO THE BORDER--see p.2-3

STRIKE IN COACHELLA--see p.16

MARCH TO MEXICO BUILDS

CALEXICO, May 18--Over 4,000 farm workers and their friends joined together in this border town tonight in a show of international solidarity and unity forged between farm workers of the United States and Mexico. The rally, attended by two U.S. Congressmen, three U.S. Senators (including Sen. Ted Kennedy of Massachusetts), a delegation of movie and television stars from Hollywood, labor leaders from the U.S. and Mexico, and thousands of farm workers from the Coachella and Imperial Valleys and Mexicali, came at the end of a 100-mile march from Indio to the Mexican border. The march was organized by the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO, to demonstrate its commitment to improving wages and working conditions for all farm workers, regardless of race or nationality. The UFWOC led a strike in the grape vineyards of the Coachella-Indio area last year and another strike is about to break at the end of May of this year.

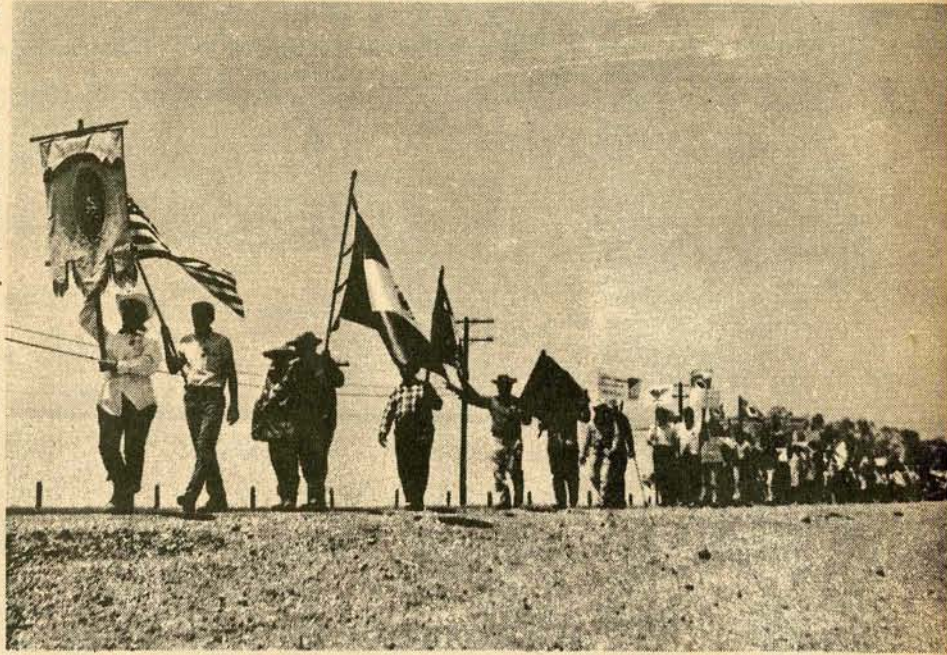
The march from Indio to Mexicali was through some of the richest, and hottest, agricultural districts in the nation. Temperatures

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rarely went below 100 and for most of the day hovered near 110 degrees. Outsiders expressed amazement that farm workers could put in a 10-hour or more work day in such heat. Yet farm workers' wages and working conditions along the border are usually the worst in the nation, and growers take cruel advantage of the poverty and unemployment in Mexico to force down wages and working conditions in this country. Last year Coachella Valley grape growers used thousands of Mexican nationals to break the strike. This year, UFWOC is hopeful that Mexican nationals will join with the residents of the Coachella Valley to make the strike victorious.

Some 400 Mexicans staged a march to the Mexican side of the border, and delegations of workers from both sides met at the border crossing to shake hands and pledge cooperation and solidarity. But Mexican government officials, perhaps under prodding from the Nixon administration, had done all they could to prevent a massive spontaneous demonstration on

the Mexican side of the border. Government officials made completely unfounded warnings about "impending violence" and warned Mexican residents with green cards that their green cards could be revoked if they participated in the rally.

At the rally in a nearby park, following the meeting at the border, UFWOC Assistant Director Larry Itliong introduced many of the guests, which included William Kircher of the national AFL-CIO, Paul Schrade of the Auto Workers, Congressmen John Tunney of the Imperial Valley and John O'Hara of Michigan, and Senators Walter Mondale of Minnesota, Ralph Yarborough of Texas, and Ted Kennedy of Massachusetts.

Congressman Tunney was briefly booed when he spoke, since Tunney has refused to endorse the grape boycott. UFWOC Director Cesar Chavez motioned for tolerance, and later noted that Tunney's presence at the rally might serve to baptize him into the "boycott spirit".

Senator Kennedy spoke of his

INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY

commitment to improving conditions for farm workers. A country that can spend \$30 billion a year on a senseless war, send men to inspect the wonders of the moon, and give farmers millions and millions of dollars in subsidies for crops that they do not grow, can afford to raise the standards for the farm workers who feed this nation, Kennedy said.

UFWOC Director Cesar Chavez spoke movingly of the suffering that farm workers must endure, and how the growers have traditionally pitted bracero and green-carder against resident worker, Mexican against Filipino, white against black, to divide the workers and break the unions and strikes of the past. Chavez, who as a young man lived and worked in Brawley and the Imperial Valley, noted the long history of unsuccessful organizing attempts in the Imperial Valley, which were usually met with bitter violence and suppression by the growers and public officials. Chavez stressed that this time the workers would remain non-violent, in spite of provocation and lack of protective laws. And he stressed again and again, as the main emphasis of his speech and of the whole rally, that the real enemy of the U.S. farm worker is not the Mexican farm worker, but rather the growers who refuse to pay decent wages.



Singing makes the miles seem shorter...



A rest stop along the way...

"V" for Victory...



Safeway on the Spot

PICKETS NUDGE, BUT SAFEWAY STILL WON'T BUDGE

Over 25,000 consumers demonstrated against Safeway Stores and other large buyers of scab grapes on May 10, 1969, in the most widespread and coordinated boycott action ever to take place in North America. Safeway Stores, the main target of the boycott in the Western states, felt the wrath of consumer pressure in more than a dozen states and at some 400 of their 2200 stores.

The United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO, had called on everyone who supports justice for farm workers to refrain from shopping at Safeway or any other store which continues to purchase scab grapes, until grape growers agree to negotiate a contract with their workers.

Safeway Stores, which buys over \$5,000,000 worth of grapes per year, continues to claim that they are "impartial" in the dispute, that their customers want grapes, and that they will keep on buying them regardless of the moral or economic reasons for discontinuing the purchases.

Several major growers sit on the Safeway Stores Board of Directors.

J.G. Boswell and Robert Magowan, Safeway Directors, are also members of the Board of Directors of Boswell Ranch, one of the largest grape growers in Arizona. Ernest Arbuckle, another Director of Safeway, is also Director of Kern County Land Company, a billion-dollar agribusiness corporation with extensive vineyards. It seems obvious that these and other powerful agribusiness interests which control Safeway are encouraging Safeway to enter into full scale war with the farm workers and through huge purchases of the 1969 grape crop, to break the grape boycott and the Union.

Unable to convince Safeway's Directors to act out of moral concern for the plight of the farm workers, UFWOC has pledged to exert all possible non-violent economic pressure on Safeway in order to force them to do what they should have done voluntarily --stop buying grapes.

In California on May 10, Safeway stores were picketed in the following cities: Arvin, Bakersfield, Antioch, Pittsburg, Martinez, Moraga, Concord, Walnut Creek, Hayward, Fremont, Santa Rosa, Napa, Vallejo, Davis, Delano, San Luis Obispo, Paso Robles, Atascadero,

Pismo Beach, Santa Maria, Lompoc, Fresno, Livermore, Lodi, Sacramento, Palo Alto, Merced, Modesto, Oakland, Santa Barbara, Visalia, Stockton, Selma, and Tracy.

Support for the boycott in the rural towns was terrific. This was the first time that farm workers have been out in mass to picket Safeway, and the support is growing steadily.

In the Los Angeles area, 70 stores were picketed. Consumers and farm workers were aided by a committee of movie stars who had a traveling picket line from store to store.

Safeway stores were also picketed in Phoenix, Flagstaff, and Tucson, Arizona; Boulder, Colorado Springs, and Denver, Colorado. (Three Colorado State Senators attended the picketing.) Twelve stores were picketed in the Washington, D.C. area. In Iowa, Safeways were picketed in Ames, Council Bluff and Omaha. In Kansas City and Columbia, Missouri, Safeway stores were picketed all day. Safeway stores were picketed in Tulsa and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The boycott was endorsed by the Tulsa Council of Churches. Oregon boycotters and supporters picketed Safeways in Corvallis, Eugene, Klamath Falls, and Portland. In Albuquerque, New Mexico, 17 carloads of consumers visited all Safeway stores with a roving picket caravan. In El Paso, Texas, 4 stores were picketed. In Washington, Safeways were picketed in Fort Thomsend, Olympia, Seattle (over 100 people involved in demonstrating) and Toppenish (several stores in the Yakima Valley).

UFWOC Director Cesar Chavez expressed his appreciation to all those who helped in the demonstrations of support on May 10. With the grape harvest due to begin this week, the boycott will now be escalated whenever and wherever scab grapes appear.





Safeway Answers Consumer Appeals With Arrests

SAFEWAY CLAIMS

Buying Grapes is "Neutral"

OAKLAND, May 15--Safeway officials today ordered the arrest of six members of a negotiating team which had come to Safeway's national headquarters here to discuss the grape boycott and Safeway's million-dollar purchase of scab grapes.

Those arrested included Larry Itliong, Assistant Director of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, Felix Ytom, a grape worker from Coachella, Father William O'Donnell, and Art Carter, Russell Crowell, and Richard Groux of the Contra Costa and Alameda County Central Labor Councils.

Safeway officials repeatedly refused to admit that they were involved in the grape dispute. They claimed that their customers wanted grapes and that this was why they would continue buying grapes. This argument was disproved by Mrs. Dorothy Kauffman, a Bay Area housewife, who pointed out that over 140,000 consumers feel so strongly against grapes that they have signed petitions refusing to shop at Safeway until the grapes are removed. The petitions, with names and addresses of the 140,000 signers, were then presented to the Safeway management.

Signatures are now in the neighborhood of 200,000 according to the UFWOC.

Mrs. Kauffman asked how many customers had actually requested that grapes be sold this year. Safeway officials had no answer. Obviously, Safeway must have some other reason than "concern for the consumers", if it would deliberately turn away 200,000 customers by its continued purchase of scab grapes.

Continued on page 12

BALTIMORE, May 20--"Certainly there has been flagrant injustice for the Mexican migrant worker," stated Robert Magowan, Chairman of the Board of Safeway Stores, at an annual stockholders meeting in Baltimore today. But, he stated, "We are not a party to this dispute. That is between the growers and the Union." He concluded by saying that Safeway would buy millions of dollars worth of grapes this year.

Magowan had just cut short Safeway's annual stockholders meeting, to avoid a press conference, or confrontation, or discussion with 50 supporters of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, led by UFWOC Vice-President Andy Imutan. Imutan and a delegation of clergy, labor, and consumers were appealing to the stockholders of the corporation to reverse the directors' decision on grape purchases. But according to a report in the Baltimore "Sun", Magowan and the other officers of the corporation abruptly adjourned the meeting, scheduled as an all-day affair, after little more than an hour of reports. The press was excluded from the brief meeting, but informed sources indicated that no discussion of the grape dispute was allowed.

Magowan and Safeway President Quentin Reynolds informed the stockholders that Safeway's sales reached \$3,685,000,000 last year and should top \$4 billion this year. The directors re-elected themselves, with votes or proxies for 21 million shares out of a total of 25 million shares.

But the confident "business as usual" reports could not hide the fact that Safeway's directors are feeling UFWOC's economic pressure, even if they are not swayed by our moral arguments. As Magowan fled, from his own stockholders meeting, he refused to talk to the press, T.V., the delegation of clergymen, or consumers. "Oou attorney says that I might be too loquacious, so I am going to duck out," the "Sun" reports him as saying before he stepped out into his limousine and sped away from the problems and misery that his corporate decisions were causing.

EL MALCRIADO SAYS: We will not let Mr. Magowan and Mr. Reynolds remain silent. We will persuade them, if we must, with every bit of economic and non-violent power at our disposal, to sit down and take a long, hard look at their own complicity in the oppression of American farm workers. They are not neutral, and we will not let them pretend to be neutral. And if, through their million-dollar purchases of scab grapes, they seem determined to break our boycott, we will make them feel the economic consequences of their actions against us.



Felix Ytom, a grape picker and striker from Coachella, gives "Victory" sign after Safeway bosses ordered his arrest. Photo by Lewis.....

INTERNATIONAL BOYCOTT SUCCESS

NEW YORK, May 10--International Grape Boycott Day was as outstanding a success in the Eastern United States and Canada as it was in the West, according to reports coming in from the dozens of Eastern states and Provinces where demonstrations were held.

Pittsburg's Mayor proclaimed International Boycott Day and the Pittsburg Division of A&P announced that it would respect the wishes of its customers on the grape boycott. Boston's 200 A&P stores also gave a favorable response to their consumers' wishes. Baltimore boycotters and friends leafleted A&P's all over the city with a 200-car caravan. Mayor D'Alessandro of Baltimore again endorsed the boycott and said that the city would not buy any grapes for public institutions again this year. And Governor Mandel of Maryland stated in a letter to UFWOC that "I wish you success in your long fight for proper working and living conditions for the people employed in the grape industry."

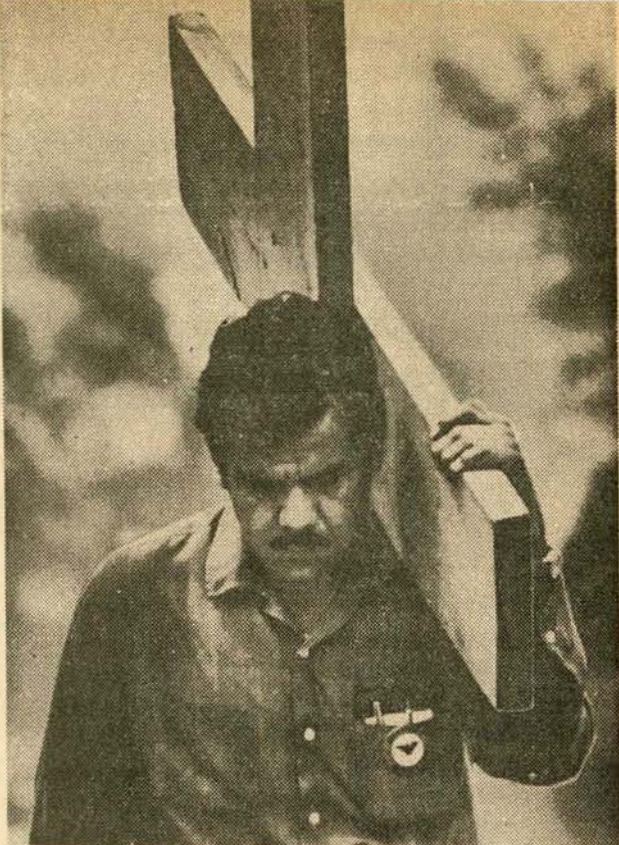
In Columbus, Ohio, all 17 A&P's were picketed, in spite of rain and hail. In Chicago, supporters also braved bad weather to picket many Jewel supermarkets. In Philadelphia, 25 A&P stores were visited by car caravans. Mrs. Hope Lopez of Fresno, mother of 8 and leader of the grape boycott in Philadelphia, began a fast to protest the local buying of grapes, especially by Philadelphia's A&P chain.

At Times Square in New York, Pete Seeger and other folk singers entertained at a rally. Over 150 people marched and held a rally in Queens, and 4 stores in Brooklyn, 4 stores in New Jersey, and many others were picketed in the New York area.

In Canada, the largest supermarket chain in Eastern Canada, Dominion Stores, announced publically that they would accept the wishes of their consumers and stop handling grapes for the duration of the grape boycott.

Even in the South, consumers made their opposition to grapes clear. Demonstrations took place in Memphis, New Orleans, Atlanta, Mississippi, and Alabama. Over 200 pickets, including a group of Florida migrants from the organization OMICA, demonstrated at an A&P store in Coral Gables, outside Miami and reported to be the richest town in the nation.

Consumers all over the nation have now made their voices heard. But as the grape season begins, growers and their agents will be trying harder than ever to sell their grapes. The Union is appealing to every member and supporter of the Union to help on the boycott in your area this summer. If you can help, and do not already know the address of the Grape Boycott office nearest you, please call Juanita Brown, collect, at (805) 725-1314 in Delano (who will return your call on our WATS line).



March, Fast Remind Michigan of Farm Workers Suffering

DETROIT, May 19--Hijinio Rangel, a farm worker from Tulare County and leader of the grape boycott in Michigan, led a 45-mile march of nearly 100 persons from Ann Arbor to Detroit this week in support of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee grape strike and boycott. Over 1000 people joined the march and rally at its conclusion here on May 10 in Kennedy Square. Rangel carried an 8-foot wooden cross during the march, and at the conclusion of the march began an 11-day fast to pray for justice for farm workers. Rangel was joined by Michigan State Senator Roger Craig and Rev. Robert Baldwin, a leader of the black community in Detroit, in the fast.

Rangel made public a statement which said, in part: "For the last 25 years, I have been a farm worker. I was very dedicated on my job, but I found that sometimes I could not make enough money to support my family. Then I decided to join the strike in Delano in 1965.

"For the last 3 1/2 years, we have almost felt defeated, but the American people have lifted us up with their hands and their hearts.

"The boycott of grapes is the last hope to bring the growers to the bargaining table to negotiate with the farm workers. If I have to crawl on my hands and knees, I will, if that is what it takes to win social justice for my people. We have struck many times before, but this time we will win with your support."

A&P and other major supermarkets in the Detroit area seem to be getting the message, after being made so graphically aware of the Union's determination to win this struggle, and of the broad based support for the grape boycott by consumers.

Ano Ang Grape Boycott

Marahil, ang karamihan sa atin ay nakakatalos sa kahulugan at sa kahalagahan ng boycott sa ubas. Ngunit, sa mga hindi pa nakakatalos, tayo sana ay magkaliwanagan.

Ang boycott sa ubas, o sa ibang salita, ay hindi pamimili ng ubas, ay siyang pinakamahalagang sandatang ma-aari ninyong maiyabuloy sa ating labanang pangkabuhayan.

Ang Union ay matagal nang humihingi ng kalinawan mula sa arihang patanimang ubas: "Kami bang mga nakikipantrabaho sa inyo ay mga tao, o kalabaw? Bakit ang ibang mga trabahador sa mga ibang industriya ay mayroong mga Union at maraming karapatan at kasaganaan?"

Ngunit ang arihan ay patuloy na tumatanggi. Ayaw nilang ang kanilang mga kalabaw ay maging taong may mga karapatan. Ngayon, sa hinabaha ng panahon, ang mga kalabaw ay tumatanggi nang patadyakan o kayay madapuan ng pamaltik. Nag-simula silang magtanong-tanong sa kani-kanilang mga sarili--Bakit natin pababayaan ang mga tigapamahalang mang-api sa atin ay kakaunti lang naman sila, habang tayoy hindi mabilang sa rami? At anong silbi ng ating mga sungay? Pababayaan ba nating gamitin lang nilang sabitan ng kanilang mga mamahaling sambalilo? Bakit hindi natin gamitin ang ating mga sungay sa tamang kagamitan? Ang sungay ay pinatubo ng Diyos sa ating mga noo upang gamitin natin na pantanggol laban sa sinumang aapi sa atin. Sa maliwanag na salita, pansuag.

Ang ating sungay ay tinatawag nating GRAPE BOYCOTT. Huwag sana tayong mawawalan ng pag-asa kung tayoy makarinig ng sabi-sabing ang aklasan daw na ito ay walang kapararakan, na ang tamang paraan daw ay patuluan ng dugo at pamasagan ng bao. Sa loob ng baong tinubuan ng sungay, tayo ay mayroong kaunting bagay roon na ating tinatawag na utak. Gamitin natin ang utak na yan. Ang utak ang pabayaan nating maging tigapanuro sa pinakamabuting bahagi



These farm workers formed the boycott committee in Selma, California, for the May 10 demonstrations.

ng katawan ng kalaban na tarakan.

Bakit bihira ang torong makapanugat ng torero? Dahil ang toro, sa halip na suwagin ang torero, ang kanyang pinag-iinitan ay ang mapulang pirasong damit na ginagamit ng torong pambulag.

Kung magpatayan ang dalawang panig ng manggagawa, sino ang masasaktan? Walang iba kung hindi ang mga manggagawa. Kung magkasakit ng malubha ang dalawang panig ng mga pobrang nakikipantrabaho, at nagdatingan ang mga pulis at ang National Guard, kaninong bungo ang magliliparan at kaninong katawan ang magkabutas-butas sa punlo? Hindi naman ho sigurong ma-aaring ang masasaktan ay ang mga mayayamang may-ari. Nandoon silang nakaupo sa malambot na kutson sa harapan ng television, at tumutunga ng pagkasarap-sarap na Cocktail. O kaya ay nandoon sa New York o sa Europa na dumadalo sa mga kasayahan.

Kaya ang ating sungay ay doon natin ipanarak sa kanilang bulsa. Sa mga mayayaman, ang pinakahapding

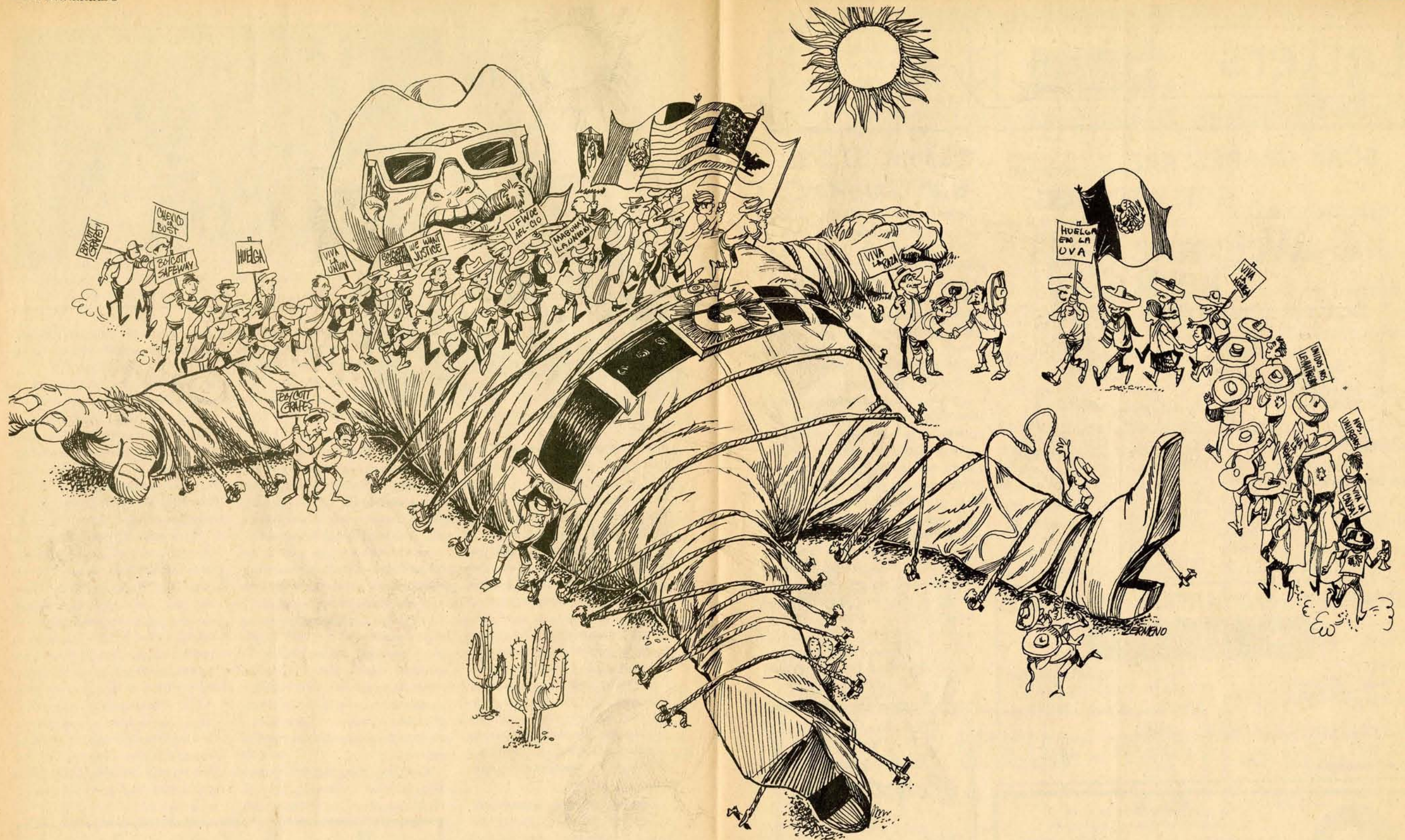
sugat sa kanila ay kung mapagbantaan natin ang kanilang Diyos, at iyan ay ang kanilang salapi.

Kaya huwag nating bilihin ang kanilang ubas, at huwag tayong mamili sa mga tindahang nagtitinda ng ubas. Mayroon naman tayong puso, hindi naman nating gustong sila ay maghirap, ang gusto lang naman natin ay laki-lakihan naman sana nila ang ating bahagi at bigyan tayo ng mga karapatang tao, hindi sa hayop.

Ngunit paanong malalaman ng mga tindahan na tayoy tumigil ng pamimili sa kanila dahil sa ubas? Baka sabihin lang nilang marahil ay naubusan lang tayo ng pera kaya nagtigil na tayong mamili ng pagkain mula sa kanila. Kaya tayo ay maglagda sa petition na tayoy hindi na mamimili sa kanila hanggat di sila humihinto ng pamimili at panininda ng ubas.

Dito sa California, ang pinakamalaking mga tindahan ay ang Safeway. Sila ang utak ng mga tindahan. Kung walang utak, patay ang katawan. Ba yanihan lang ho sana, huwag nating kalilimutan ang ating kinagisnang panulungan.

<h2 style="margin: 0;">Henry R. Tafoya, Jr.</h2>	
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<p>FRESNO</p>	<p>CALIFORNIA</p>



TAMING THE AGRIBUSINESS GIANT

Letters



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

SCAB GRAPES ARE NOT WELCOME



Gentlemen:

Returned herewith are my Welcome Cards, unused. It is unlikely that I will need them for some time as all of our local Safeway stores handle California grapes.

As I was briefly a grape picker in my youth, I find that I cannot

in good conscience patronize merchants who refuse to support the striking grape workers to even the slight extent of refusing to handle scab grapes.

Sincerely,

Emerson Symonds

San Bernardino, California

"Spent \$1,530 with Safeway"

Safeway Stores
4th and Jackson Streets
Oakland, California
Gentlemen:

In common with many thousands of others, we have carefully refrained from any purchase of table grapes for more than two years now, in an effort to make our contribution to the effort of the vineyard workers to organize.

More recently, although we have not taken part in the picketing of your stores, we have halted our patronage for the first time since 1946--twenty-three years now. You won't miss us, I suppose, because our family is down to three, plus the dogs and cats--who are good consumers, too.

Mrs. Sweetland made a rough computation when she put together our income tax this Spring that we spent just about \$1,530.00 with Safeway last year--almost all of it at your Crystal Springs Market nearby. We have now begun to buy at other and much less con-

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Residence, 266-1349

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

venient markets because of your obstinance in resisting the boycott which a number of other distributors of the "hot" grapes do respect. The inconvenience to us seems a small detail in contrast to the shameful and continuing disgrace of sub-standard and un-American existence of workers in the table grape industry. Public welfare and the agricultural workers have subsidized the fruit and vegetable industry for too long. May-by through this effort of farm workers and consumers we can get through to Safeway that you owe it to the Nation--which has been very good to you!--that these conditions be changed.

We have read your public statements but they are entirely unconvincing. If you have a pamphlet or release with any detailed justification of your stand, we would read it carefully. We have always been very partial to Safeway the best market by far, and we don't leave you easily or lightly!

Yours sincerely,
Mr. and Mrs. Monroe
Sweetland

San Mateo, California



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LAUREANO ESPARZA, Prop.

"Profile in Courage"

Dear Brothers in Delano:

I would like to take this opportunity to commend yet another "Profile in Courage" from Delano, Fernando Chavez. Our local Catholic paper, "The Tablet", ran a picture of Fernando Chavez accepting loaves of bread for social justice from Father Day, who I immediately recognized, when they were in Fresno at the time when he refused induction in the Army. I was so impressed by his courage that his noble father instilled in him, that I wanted to give my personal "Well Done!" through EL MALCRIADO.

I am so proud of him, especially because he is carrying on in his father's footsteps. I am also proud of Cesar Chavez for bringing up his children to respect human life and to abhor violence. If more children were brought up loving all humanity and hating the thought of killing another person as Fernando Chavez was, then, perhaps, there would be peace in the world at last.

VIVA CESAR CHAVEZ!

Y VIVA SU HIJO FERNANDO!

With love in Christ,
Bette-Marie Miller

Brooklyn, New York



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

Safeway on the Spot

Continued from page 5

Safeway officials then claimed that they were seeking a solution to the farm labor problem by supporting Federal legislation. Workers pointed out that it might take years for such legislation to pass, that farm workers have been trying for years to get legislative protection and equal rights with other workers for 30 years. And on further questioning of the Safeway officials, it was revealed that Safeway was supporting a law which would outlaw strikes and boycotts and give no guarantee that a grower would have to sign a contract with a Union that won a representation election. The supermarket executives even had the gall to suggest that farm workers should be campaigning for this type of legislation rather than trying to improve their wages and working conditions and lives through the non-violent strike and boycott.

Finally, Safeway's officials terminated the meeting by saying that they were "neutral", that the misery and suffering of the farm workers were not their concern or worry, and that they would continue to purchase the \$5 million or more in grapes this year, regardless of what their customers or the Union said. UFWOC spokesmen said that this was a totally unsatisfactory answer and six of the negotiators voted to stay in the Safeway office until Safeway agreed to mean-



ingful discussions of the real issues. Safeway then ordered the arrests.

Over 300 supporters of the grape strike and boycott, meeting in a small park in Oakland, marched in silent protest to Safeway's fortress-like headquarters after receiving word that Safeway would continue to support the grape growers. A six-hour picket line formed around the Safeway office.

As police escorted Larry Itliong through the crowd of supporters, he raised his fingers in the "V" for victory sign and said with a determined smile, "We'll be back, again and again, until they decide to listen to us. We shall return."

"The Store"

5-J MARKET

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STRIKE NEARS IN ARIZONA VINEYARDS

PHOENIX, May 25--A two-day march by several hundred Arizona farm workers into Phoenix, and a rally attended by over 500 farm workers and their supporters, set the stage for the newest drive by the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO, to bring justice to American farm workers.

Gustavo Gutierrez, leader of the UFWOC in Arizona, reports that UFWOC began stepping up its organizing drive in Arizona a year ago. Last year, he reports, wages jumped from \$1.25 or less to \$1.35 or \$1.40 an hour. "Since we began organizing in the grapes, the jump in wages has been fantastic," he reports. "I was tying vines in February for \$1.40 an hour at El Dorado Ranch near El Mirage. Now they're paying \$1.65. Matori's Arrowhead Ranch raised wages from \$1.35 to \$1.65 when they heard that we're signing up their workers. But that's just in the grapes. Some of their tractor drivers still get \$1.35."

The Union is concentrating on Arizona grape growers, since pressure from the grape boycott can also be brought to bear on them. Most Arizona grape growers also grow other crops and many of the ranches are owned by big corporations (agribusiness).

Disputo Ranch of Delano owns land in Arizona. Bianco has another huge ranch where UFWOC already has a strike in California, owns a large ranch in Arizona. El Dorado Farms, one of Arizona's biggest grape ranches, has headquarters in Dinuba, California.

And one of the largest grape vineyards in Arizona is owned by J.G. Boswell Farms, the huge agribusiness complex that owns over 32,000 acres in California and collected a modest \$4,000,000 or more a year in Federal subsidies for not growing cotton. Boswell sits on the Board of Directors of Safeway Stores, which is continuing to buy scab grapes in spite of the tremendous consumer pressure on Safeway to discontinue buying the scab product.

Helping Gutierrez and the other workers in Arizona are UFWOC organizers Manuel Chavez, Fernando Chavez, Willie Barrientos, and Pancho Botello. Manuel Rivera and his family, who left Delano to head the Grape Boycott in Arizona, are also helping in the organizing drive.

RUN THEM OUT OF TOWN

"EL PAISANO", the Voice of the Arizona farm worker, reports that Arizona growers have their own plans for dealing with the Union. The following is taken from "EL PAISANO". (Subscriptions to "EL PAISANO" are \$2 a year, from UFWOC, P.O. Box 155, Tolleson, Arizona 85353.)

"April 30--Harry, the foreman for a grape grower in Harquahala said, "We heard about the union. Don't worry, we had a meeting with the sheriff. They said that as soon as the Union organizers come in, they'll get a paddy wagon and extra help, and put them all in jail, and run them out of town."

The above statement was made to Union organizers Manuel Chavez, Pancho Botello and Vincente Mier on the morning of April 30. The organizers were looking over the vineyards in Harquahala when Harry came along. They told him they were looking for a job."



UFWOC's Arizona organizers, Manuel Chavez, Gus Gutierrez, Willie Barrientos, "Pancho" Botello and Manuel Rivera.

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Farm Bureau Backs Ban on DDT

BERKELEY, May 25--The California Farm Bureau Federation has requested that the State Director of Agriculture declare a moratorium on the use of the chemical pesticide DDT in California. The Farm Bureau reacted to increasing consumer and public pressure calling for action to regulate and control the use of chemical pesticides and fertilizers which have adverse long-range effects on the health of workers and consumers, and are upsetting the balance of nature in many parts of the state.

The United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO filed twin lawsuits last month demanding that the Health and Agriculture Departments of California halt the use of DDT in California and confiscate all crops which have already been sprayed with the chemical.

The conservative Los Angeles Times and San Francisco Chronicle have editorially called for regulation of DDT and other pesticides, and the Chronicle pointed out that agricultural pesticides have polluted rivers feeding into the San Francisco Bay and are endangering the fish and crab industries of Northern California.

The Farm Bureau, acting defensively, said that a voluntary moratorium on the use of DDT would be preferable to a court injunction or legislative action banning it.

Meanwhile, in Washington, Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin has called for a nation-wide ban on the use of DDT. "The accumulation of DDT in our environment and in fish and wildlife is reaching catastrophic proportions," he said. "The seizure of 2,000 pounds of contaminated Lake Michigan Coho Salmon by the Food and Drug Administration could be the straw that breaks DDT's back."

Growers Launch Million Dollar Propagand Drive

SAN FRANCISCO, May 1--While California grape growers are tearfully complaining to the public that they cannot afford to pay a penny more to their workers, they have also begun a multi-million dollar propaganda campaign aimed at proving how poor and abused they are and how evil they feel the grape boycott is.

The first step in this campaign was the hiring of an expensive public relations firm, Whittaker and Baxter, to counter the international boycott of table grapes. Whittaker and Baxter first attracted national attention when the firm received a reported \$1 million back in 1948 to block former President Truman's push for national health insurance. Medicare did not pass Congress for 17 more years and Whittaker and Baxter claim credit for much of the prejudice and hostility that built up against the program.

More recently, W&B was hired to mastermind the nationwide lobby campaign for constitutional convention to overturn the Supreme Court's "one-man-one-vote" ruling.

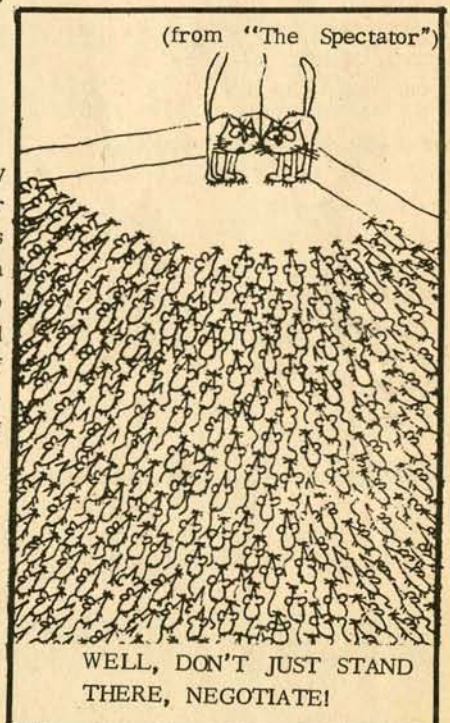
The California Table Grape Commission has also retained a P.R. firm, J. Walter Thompson Co., "to

combat adverse publicity caused by the continuing grape boycott," according to Supermarket News. And some supermarkets themselves are entering the fight more directly on the side of the growers. The National Association of Food Chains has run expensive ads defending its continued purchase of grapes.

The first major drive of the P.R. firms was to publicize a libelous smear statement by E.L. Barr, President of the California Grape and Tree Fruit League, accusing UFWOC and Cesar Chavez of using widespread violence to achieve their ends. There has also been a rash of nationally syndicated columns against the strike. Senator Dirksen of Illinois, closely associated with Whittaker and Baxter in the one-man, one-vote campaign, attacked the boycott in his column, and one national columnist, James Kilpatrick, described farm work as being "picnic-pleasant" where the workers took their wives and children to work in the fields because it was so much fun, and where they all ate their lunches together in the fields, as in a pleasant Sunday afternoon outing.

OKRA GROWERS CLAIM PESTICIDE DAMAGE

INDIO, May 1--Coachella Valley okra growers are in an uproar over the use of chemical insecticides which they claim have ruined a sizeable portion of their crop. Indio okra grower Robert Zillioth has filed a \$250,000 damage suit on behalf of himself and the other okra growers against the State Department of Agriculture, claiming that the State conducted a spray program to eradicate the pink bollworm. The State claimed that the okra was the host plant for the pink bollworm, and that the crop had to be fumigated to prevent the bollworm from multiplying and then damaging the cotton crops.



An Appeal from Delano

DELANO, May 31--With the grape harvest and strike already underway in Coachella and soon to begin in Arizona and Arvin, United Farm Workers Organizing Committee Director Cesar Chavez has made a special appeal to all Union members, friends, and supporters of the farm workers' movement to rededicate themselves to non-violence and to help exert that extra effort needed to push us on to victory this season.

members

Members of the Union have a special opportunity to aid the Union directly in this struggle. Each and every member should become a Union organizer. If you work at a non-Union ranch, tell your fellow workers about the Union and what we are trying to do. Get them to sign authorization cards for the Union and encourage them to join the Union. you can pick up cards and information at your local UFWOC office. The dues of \$3.50 a month are like an investment which will benefit every farm worker and his family and children for years to come.

And wherever you work, whether on a ranch with a Union contract or not, you can help us on the boycott, which, after the strike, is our most effective way of win-

ning better wages and contracts. If we can convince the big chain stores like Safeway to stop selling grapes (and many chains have already agreed), then the grape growers will have to sit down and negotiate contracts with us so we will end the boycott, by passing the boycott petitions and getting your friends and neighbors to sign them.

Finally, your Union desperately needs your financial help to carry on the struggle. We know that you and your families need every penny you earn. But we are asking you to make sacrifices now, so that you will have a better life in the future. When you remember that wages have already gone up from \$1.20 an hour before the strike to \$1.60 an hour now, because of the strike, you realize how much the Union has already affected your pay check. And members working where we have a contract are now getting \$1.90 or more an hour. If each and every one of us gave just 5¢ or 10¢ an hour, or \$5 a week to help our Union win this struggle, we would have the extra money we need to beat these table grape growers. Why not start a "\$5 a week club" at your ranch and all chip in to help us finish the job that we have begun.

VOLUNTEERS

The Union also needs volunteers students, teachers, people on vacation, anyone with time to help us on the boycott this summer. We are pushing the boycott from Montreal to Miami, from Seattle to San Diego. We need people for community organizing in support of the farm workers, people to run off leaflets, to organize picket lines and demonstrations, and to spread the word about conditions "down on the farm". If you can help, please call Juanita Brown immediately. Call collect, (805) 725-1314 in Delano.

FINANCIAL HELP

With each year of our struggle, our debt to those of you who have aided us so generously grows larger. You have sustained us through so many crises that we might otherwise have stumbled or fallen. But once again, we are appealing to you for funds to help us continue and expand our efforts. Frankly, we have been stretched to the limit by the expenses of the boycott, and the new organizing drives in Coachella and Arizona. So this is a special appeal to you to dig into your pockets again and to donate whatever you can afford to our struggle. Please answer our prayers. And again, gracias.



FIGHTING THE FEDS, TOO

New Strike in Coachella Valley

COACHELLA, May 31--The strike has begun in the Coachella vineyards, and there is every indication that the Federal Department of Labor and the State Department of Employment have a deliberate policy to aid the growers and break the strike. "It's a Nixon-Reagan conspiracy to screw the farm workers and to help the growers recruit workers illegally," said David Averbuck, attorney for the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, "It's so blatant it's unbelievable".

The strike began on Wednesday, May 28, with over 150 local workers leading the picket lines, reinforced by two dozen organizers from Delano. During the first two days, over 200 additional workers joined the strike. Since the harvest is not yet in full swing, this is already a healthy percent-

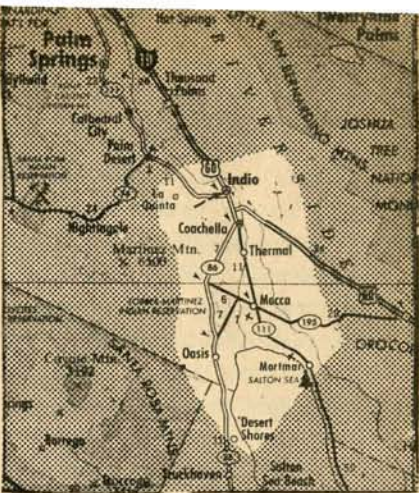
tage of the work force.

Most of the workers going on strike made signed statements indicating that they were going on strike and noting for whom they were working. Workers have gone on strike this season at David Freedman Ranch, Travertine Ranch, Richard Glass, Valdora, Valley Vista, Marvel, C.I.D. Farms, and Heggeblade-Marguleas.

But, though there are two "observers" from the Department of Labor in the Coachella area, they are not allowed to interview workers and are not allowed to look at the declarations the strikers have made. The Department's regional director, Norm Lueck, stated to Averbuck that "orders from Washington" forbid him to investigate the strikes or certify them. Without Labor Department certification, the border will remain wide open to green carders recruited in Mexico to break the strike.

Lueck told Averbuck that the Federal Government would do no investigating on its own, but would base all its decisions on findings made by Governor Reagan's investigators. It was Reagan's investigators who came to Delano last year and refused to talk to the workers and after interviewing a few growers, decertified most of the strikes in Delano.

Averbuck finally got through to Mr. Jack Ward of the State Department of Employment and Ward



was at least honest as what the Union could expect. Ward stated flatly that his Department would not interview workers who went on strike. Though the Reagan officials could be seen conferring with the growers, they flatly refused to talk to strikers. Secondly, Ward said his Department would accept the affidavits, signed by the strikers, but these affidavits would then become available to the growers. Averbuck pointed out that the growers could then get the names and make a black list. But Ward refused to guarantee that this would not happen.

Averbuck also warned that local law enforcement officials were taking open sides with the growers. One constable from Mecca, Mr. Bill Lester, has ordered shotgun shells and mace "to control the strikers", has vowed "I'm a gonna get me one of them strikers."

EL MALCRIADO will carry a full report on the strike and its effects next issue. But as of this writing, it looks as if, in addition to fighting the immensely powerful growers, we will also be fighting the Federal and State Governments

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