

THE STRIKE GETS STRONGER EVERY DAY

El Malcriado

"The Voice of the Farm Worker"

FREE
Special
Edition

10¢
No. 21



EDITORIAL: HALF A MILLION AGAINST TWO HUNDRED

THE WHOLE STORY OF THE GENERAL STRIKE OF THE GRAPES OF 1965 WILL PROBABLY NEVER BE KNOWN. THERE WERE SO MANY ACTS OF HEROISM ON THE PART OF THE WORKERS THAT WILL GO UNRECORDED; ACTS OF COURAGE AND BRAVERY IN THE FACE OF THE MOST BRUTISH VIOLENCE: DOGS, CHEMICALS, PHYSICAL FORCE, COURT INJUNCTIONS. ACTS OF DIGNITY AND STRENGTH WHICH HAVE PUT GROWERS AND CONTRACTORS TO SHAME.

NEVER AGAIN WILL ANYONE BE ABLE TO SAY THAT THE FARM WORKERS WILL NOT FIGHT FOR WHAT IS THEIRS. WE ARE LEARNING THE VALUE OF FIGHTING FOR WAGES AND FIGHTING FOR WRITTEN, SIGNED PROMISES BY THE GROWER. WE ARE LEARNING THE VALUE OF BEING TOGETHER. WE HAVE HAD IT PROVED TO US THAT TOGETHER WE ARE STRONG. WE HAVE HAD IT PROVEN TO US THAT IF THERE ARE ENOUGH OF US TOGETHER, THEN WE ARE STRONG ENOUGH TO DO ANYTHING WE WANT.

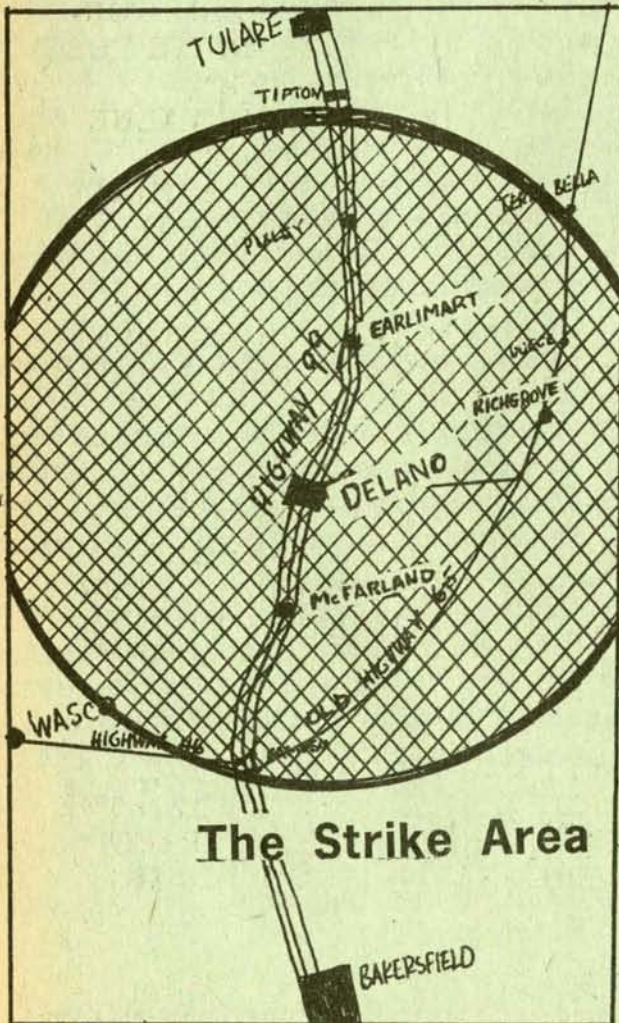
THERE ARE OVER ONE-HALF MILLION FARM WORKERS IN CALIFORNIA WORKING UNDER DEGRADING CONDITIONS. THERE ARE ONLY ABOUT 200 MAJOR GROWERS.

IN THE GREAT STRIKE OF THE GRAPES, WE BEGIN TO SEE THIS VICIOUS PATTERN CHANGE. THIS STRIKE HAS FRIGHTENED THE GROWERS TO THEIR DEPTHS: THEY HAVE SPENT THOUSANDS AND THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS TO TRY TO STOP IT, AND THEY HAVE BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL. THERE ARE TOO MANY OF US AND TOO FEW OF THEM.

AND WE HAVE BEGUN TO TRIUMPH OVER THEM. THIS YEAR IT IS THE GENERAL STRIKE IN THE GRAPES. NEXT YEAR PERHAPS WE WILL SWEEP THROUGH THE VINEYARDS AND THE ORCHARDS AND DOWN THE LONG ROWS OF MELONS AND POTATOES: INTO THE PACKING SHEDS AND COLD STORAGE PLANTS, AND NOTHING WILL BE ABLE TO STOP US BECAUSE THERE ARE SO MANY OF US.

FROM THIS DAY THERE IS NO TURNING BACK UNTIL EVERY FARM WORKER IN CALIFORNIA HAS A LIVING WAGE AND A STRONG CONTRACT WITH HIS EMPLOYER. PEOPLE ALL OVER THE VALLEY WILL REMEMBER THE GENERAL STRIKE IN THE GRAPES AS THE FIRST STEP ON THE LONG ROAD TO FREEDOM.

SCABS: Stay Out



As the growers began to hurt more and more after every day of the General Strike in the grapes, they began to resort to bigger and bigger lies to fool the workers. They spent hundreds of dollars on radio broadcasts trying to tell workers that the strike was over. It didn't work.

Meanwhile the National Farm Workers Association began an all-out attack on the people who were working in the grapes in the forbidden area of the strike. Picket lines were set up on a large scale in Earlimart, Delano and Arvin, in front of the homes of strikebreakers. The purpose of these pickets was to tell everybody who was breaking the strike and who was supporting it. Signs carried read "SCAB" or "A STRIKEBREAKER LIVES HERE!" The strikers were able to shame several contractors into stopping the vicious activity of bringing people to work at fields in the strike.

After work slowed so that many ranches were at half-or quarter-production, and others halted completely, growers began searching outside areas for labor. When people began coming from the Bakersfield area in response to the false radio announcements, the

(Continued on page 14)

THE GREAT PARADE



Nearly a thousand farm workers marched through the streets of Delano last Sunday in the second mass demonstration of the Great Strike in the Grapes. They were led by Cesar Chavez, director of the National Farm Workers Association and leader of the strike.

On either side of Chavez were Larry Itliong and Ben Gines, organizers of the Filipinos, AWOC.

At the last minute police refused to permit the crowd to march over the freeway bridge into the Main Street area of Delano. The leaders of the parade agreed to this because they have so far received fair treatment from the Delano police. Every policeman in Delano was on duty during the demonstration, but there was no trouble.



Before the demonstration the strikers filled Ellington Park as their children ran races and ate ice cream. Then the workers rallied behind the United States flag and the Eagle Banner of the Association and began their march.



Leading them was a truckful of "Reinas de la Huelga" -- Queens of the Strike -- children who had been selected for the parade. Then, carrying signs saying "THE STRIKE GROWS STRONGER EVERY DAY", "LONG LIVE THE CAUSE", and "BETTER WAGES", the workers followed in a line, four abreast, which went for 1/4 mile.

The demonstration was the largest
(See next page)



Above: Children of the strikers take a brief happy respite from the grim events of the strike in which their parents are struggling for a better life.

PARADE: (Continued)

workers' parade in the history of Delano. The Sheriff of Kern County, who is keeping a detail of ten men and a large paddy wagon at the Stardust Motel in Delano, said that the strike is growing stronger.

The parade circled the west side of Delano and returned to the park where Cesar Chavez addressed the cheering crowd, saying, "We are stopping them and we are hurting them. If we can keep our great strike peaceful, non-violent and strong, we cannot lose."

Chavez called for more pickets to join the over 300 people who are demonstrating every day to keep workers out of the fields.

Cesar Chavez, leader of the strike, addresses the cheering crowd after the march in which 800 people participated.



MONEY, FOOD AND HELP

Contributions of money, food and good wishes began to pour into the office of the Farm Workers Association during the second week of the strike. Several full-time volunteers from student groups in San Francisco and Los Angeles came to help the Association.

300 workers in San Francisco contributed \$300, saying "if you need more, just ask us for it." Truckloads of food came from unions in Fresno, church groups in Los Angeles and community groups in Bakersfield and other cities. The M. A. P. A. with whom the Association had been fighting, pledged its support and it was gratefully received. The C. S. O. offered to raise money and food. About 10 protestant ministers volunteered to walk the picket lines; a Catholic Worker group in Oakland combined with representatives from all the city unions planned a gigantic caravan of cars coming 300 miles from San Francisco Bay area to Delano, bringing money, food and help to the strikers. A bishop visited the front lines at the vineyards of Schenley Industries and watched the desperate grower trying to lure the peaceful and non-violent strikers into a fight. Ministers talked with growers, trying to get them to sit down at the table with the Association and with AWOC.

Important lawyers in the city offered to donate their help free of charge, not even asking that their expenses be paid. Meanwhile, the only help the growers could get was from \$3 an hour armed guards who roamed the county roads looking for strikers to provoke and harrass.



Minister, right, tries to reason with two growers at the vineyard of Schenley Industries, Inc. They refused to discuss the critical issues of the strike.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

I have a serious matter to report to you. As you know, I have been captain of a valorous band of pickets who operate in the McFarland area. On Monday, September 26, our group crept up on a grape vineyard at 5:00 A.M. It was very dark. With great courage we kept our lonely vigil until the sun came up.

But I must report a new tactic used by these sneaky growers. When the sun came up we found that they had removed the grape vines and planted cotton! This was a very foul thing to do! Future pickets should take notice.

I am happy to report that absolutely no cotton pickers went to work in that field on that day.

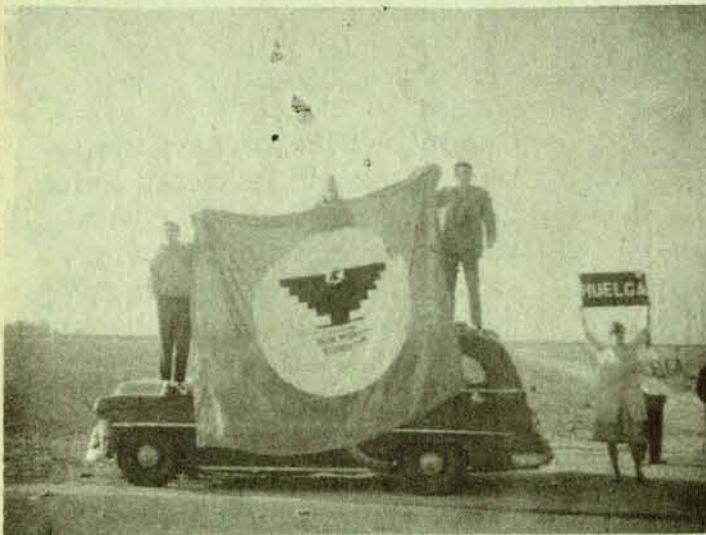
A loyal member,
Porterville



"...but our flag was still there."

HERE IN PICTURES IS THE DRAMA OF WHAT HAPPENED ON JUST ONE DAY ON ONE RANCH. THERE WERE DOZENS OF OTHER INCIDENTS PROVING THE BRAVERY AND STRENGTH OF THE STRIKERS IN THE FACE OF THE MOST BARBARIC TREATMENT IMAGINABLE. THE GROWERS PROVED MANY TIMES OVER THAT THEY ARE THE MEANEST AND MOST IRRESPONSIBLE MEN IN CALIFORNIA. SOME OF THE WORKERS WHO WERE BLINDED BY SULFUR SPRAY LATER IN THE WEEK CAN GIVE AMPLE WITNESS TO THIS.

CESAR CHAVEZ, LEADING THE GREAT STRIKE FROM HIS DELANO HEADQUARTERS, RECEIVED REPORT AFTER REPORT OF THESE INCIDENTS. "THEY HAVE THE MONEY AND THE POWER," HE SAID, "BUT THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF US AND VERY FEW OF THEM."



1

Strikers raise the banner of the Association at the field of Schenley Industries, Inc., where six crews are working in spite of the general strike. "Get out of the fields," yell the strikers at the workers.



2

One by one the workers stop their work and leave the field. The grower, trembling with rage, speeds out of the vineyard in his truck to frighten the pickets. He comes back with the sheriff, who tells him that the workers are not violating the law.

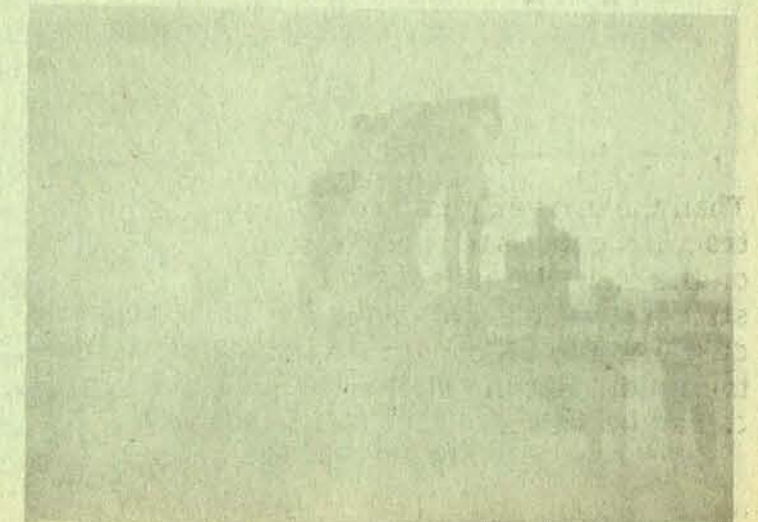
3

Then the grower gets two tractors going back and forth on the plowed field behind the strikers. Clouds of choking dust begin to billow across the road. But the strikers cannot be moved.



4

After a two-hour ordeal in which the strikers were refused protection by the more than half-dozen sheriff's deputies on the scene, the banner of the Association is still flying in spite of the swirling dust. In disgust at his failure, the grower calls off the tractor drivers. Production at this field was stopped 90% by the strikers.



THE GROWERS HIT BACK WITH

Dispoto knocks down worker with truck

Bruno Dispoto, Delano grower, backed his pickup truck into a striker who was knocked down on Driver Road in Kern County, on September 22. The police took a picture and then turned the matter over to the highway patrol. The Association will seek to place criminal charges against this man for assault with a deadly weapon.

This same grower has, according to separate reports, been illegally harassing pickets. According to one of the strikers he said, "You'll be pushing up daisies" and "I'm a member of the Mafia."

When the strike began on the Dispoto ranch, Mr. Dispoto began a campaign of terror and intimidation. Vicious dogs were in the area and the pickets on several occasions were forced to retreat to their cars. Mr. Dispoto took special pleasure in spraying the strikers with highly poisonous sulfur which he did from the safety of his own field with a tractor and spray rig. On another occasion he drove his truck directly toward a picket in what the picket says was an attempt on his life.

drive by, and quickly stopped the near-riot by notifying Cesar Chavez who sent police officers to the scene.

The officers arrived on the scene and stopped Milan Caratan, Delano area grape grower, who had just knocked down one of the strikers. Caratan was searched and held by the police.

CARATAN KNOCKS DOWN NON-VIOLENT WORKER

The Farm Workers Association began picketing at the homes of strike-breakers on the third day of the strike. Most people left the fields as soon as they learned that there was a strike; others had an opportunity to think it over as they picked grapes during the day with the pickets on the edge of the field. In most cases they walked dramatically out of the fields or failed to return the following day.

But there were a few cases of people who deliberately set out to break the strike. Some were paid extra money by the grower; others did it because they love the grower more than their own people. With these people the Association dealt harshly, marching to their homes in the evenings to let their friends and neighbors know that they were scabs.

The first of these demonstrations was at the home of Maximo Martinez on 10th Avenue in Delano, on the evening of September 23. Five pickets carried signs saying "A Strikebreaker Lives Here". After a few minutes a crowd began to gather. There were about a dozen growers and some of them were drunk.

One of the growers whistled for a Delano policeman who was parked down the street watching the scene. After talking with the grower the policeman drove away.

The growers then began taunting the little group of pickets, and pushing and shoving them. Mr. Julio Hernandez, from Corcoran, happened to

VIOLENCE AND BRUTALITY

Radovich Sprays 16 Strikers With Blinding Sulfur

It's Harvest Festival Time in Delano, and in all the stores on Main Street you will find shining displays of Ribier and Thompson grapes, beautifully packed in white tissue paper. The label on some of the most luscious looking of these grapes is that of JACK RADOVICH.

On Saturday, September 25, the fifth day of the Association strike against the Delano area grape growers, Jack Radovich, 18, son of Jack Radovich, Jr. drove down Garces Highway with a spray rig past 16 pickets blanketing the workers with deadly sulfur spray. At the end of the row of strikers, he turned his truck around and returned past about half of the workers, continuing the sulfur spray. At this point he was stopped by the police who blocked the road to prevent further injury to the workers. All 16 workers were temporarily blinded by the sulfur. One worker, Epifanio Camacho, was seriously blinded and suffered discomfort for several days.

When El Malcriado called the sheriff's office, the sheriff explained that the procedure for obtaining the arrest of young Radovich was very difficult and involved the highway patrol, the district attorney, trips to Bakersfield and long distance phone calls at our expense. The Association will demand that this person be served with the most serious criminal charges, and will press these charges no matter how difficult it is to do so.

OPEN SEASON ON STRIKERS

On the first day of the strike, W. J. Gamboni, a Delano area grower, was driving along Zachary Road near Delano. Gene Nelson, a striker, was picketing beside the road. He says that Gamboni, who was out "hunting" strikers, with his dog in the back of his truck, was speeding and went completely off the road--it appeared to Nelson--in order to hit him with the car.

Nelson jumped for his life and the truck, now travelling straight toward him at about 30 miles an hour, did not swerve. Nelson says that if he had not jumped he would have been killed.

He attempted to place charges with Judge Kitchen in Delano, who could not handle the case because--said the judge--the case appeared to be an attempt on Nelson's life and had to be filed in Bakersfield. Charges against Gamboni are now pending with the District Attorney.



\$1.40 / 25

THE STRIKERS ARE DEMANDING THAT THEY BE PAID \$1.40 PER HOUR FOR PICKING AND PACKING TABLE GRAPES PLUS A BONUS OF 25¢ PER BOX.

THIS HIGHLY SKILLED WORK HAS BEEN DONE IN RECENT YEARS FOR AS LITTLE AS 9¢ A BOX WITH NO HOURLY WAGE. THE GROWER GETS MORE THAN \$4.00 FOR EACH BOX.



*What is the Name
of This Town?*

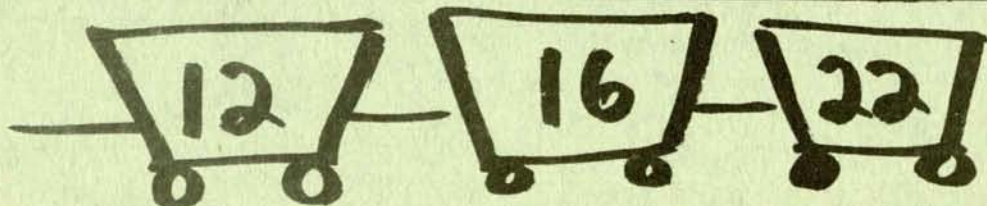


*The first answer
wins \$5.00*

SEND YOUR ANSWER AND
YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS
TO:

"GAME OF THE TOWNS"
P. O. BOX 894
DELANO, CALIF.

The first correct answer to be
received in the last contest was
from ROSA LOPEZ of RICH-
GROVE, Calif., whose answer
was LOST HILLS, CALIF.



THE STRIKERS ARE DEMANDING \$12 PER GONDOLA FOR THE FIRST PICKING; \$16 FOR SECOND PICKING AND \$22 FOR THIRD. THE GONDOLAS ARE BIG STEEL BOXES ON WHEELS WHICH HOLD TWO TONS OF WINE GRAPES.

AN APPEAL TO MOTHERS EVERYWHERE

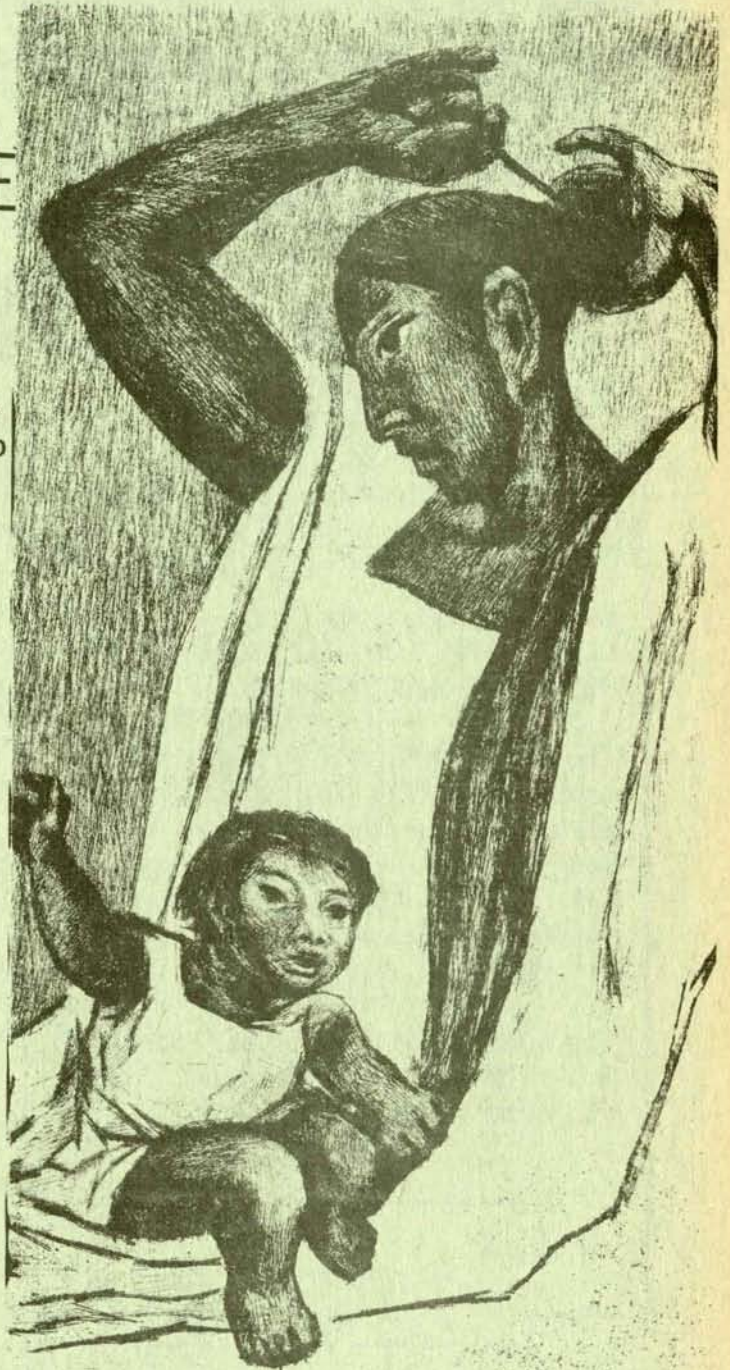
For twenty days, there has been a strike in the grapes around Delano, McFarland, Richgrove and Earlimart. The Mothers' Auxiliary Committee for the strike asks everyone to please help the striking mothers get food for our families. The need is urgent, especially for food for our children.

For our hope for a better life, and for the love of the Virgin of Guadalupe, please help us. We have pledged ourselves to stand by our husbands in the strike for as long as it lasts. Yet our children are hungry, and our food reserves are very low.

Please call the Farm Workers Association office, 8661, or write to Box 894, Delano, Calif. Or, please bring some food to the office at 102 Albany Street, Delano.

**DOWN WITH STRIKE-BREAKERS and
LONG LIVE THE STRIKE'!!**

Mothers' Emergency Comm.
Farm Workers Association



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to El Malcriado
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Send this coupon to
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DELANO, CALIFORNIA

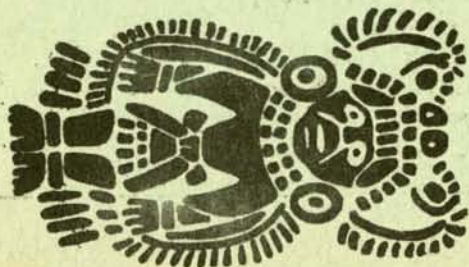
The best way to be sure you will get your MALCRIADO is by mail, delivered to your home every two weeks. Send your name and address to Box 894, Delano, Calif., and we will send you the newspaper to you for one year.

The cost is \$2.00 per year, but you do not have to send this now. We will send you a bill.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____



Strikers of Tangancicuaro

The workers of the Tudor Ranch went out together at the call of the strike. With their leaving, they demonstrated to the owners of Tudor Ranch that they were united with the cause.

These workers came from the state of Michoacan and from the town of Tangancicuaro. The efforts of Max Martinez, #1 scab, were fruitless and the Tudor Ranch is now without workers.

EL MALCRIADO SAYS: Long Live Tangancicuaro!

SCABS: (Continued)

Association distributed thousands of leaflets which said: WHERE THERE IS A GRAPE TO BE PICKED, THERE IS A STRIKE.

The leaflets gave a map of the strike zone which covers from Highway 46 north of Bakersfield, up Highway 99 to Tipton just south of Tulare; west into the Wasco-McFarland and Ave. 56 near Earlimart. This is the biggest table grape producing area in the United States and is a significant source of wine grapes.

Think of the Future



FARM WORKERS CREDIT UNION

102 ALBANY

DELANO, CALIF.

P. O. BOX 894

Monday, September 27, 1965

My dear friend,

This letter is written in haste and with a sense of urgency because time is running against the farm worker in Kern and Tulare Counties.

The plight of the farm worker in California is well known, but the attempts to help organize the workers so that they can have the same bargaining rights as most other United States Workers won years ago, are not well known.

One such attempt is being made by Cesar Chavez of the National Farm Workers Association of Delano, California. This Association - an independent union - has been building a grass roots organization among farm workers in California for some two years now for the purpose of helping the worker win his rights as a worker and therefore as person with dignity.

Perhaps that day is now! There is at this time a strike in the grape fields of Tulare and Kern Counties led by the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee (AFL-CIO) and the Farm Workers Association. Several thousands of workers are involved and the outcome, i.e., whether growers will be willing to discuss a contract agreement is probably several weeks away.

The basic demand of the workers is that they be paid \$1.40 an hour and 25¢ a box. Hardly an unreasonable request in order to enter our 20th Century affluent and "great society." But do not be deceived; growers are well aware that if they are brought to the contract table that this will mark the most significant breakthrough for social justice in the history of California Industrial Agriculture. (Yes, I use these words deliberately.)

Talking with Cesar by phone last night brought two requests to light that need our immediate attention: food and money. Sacks of beans, flour, rice and canned food are desperately needed for the families of the workers. Money for food and gas is also urgently needed.

If you can help - and that is up to you - please send whatever you can to Cesar Chavez / National Farm Workers Association / Box 894 / Delano, California.

Yours for social justice,

Brother Gilbert, FSC
(Res.) Cathedral High School
1253 Stadium Way
Los Angeles, California

El Malcriado

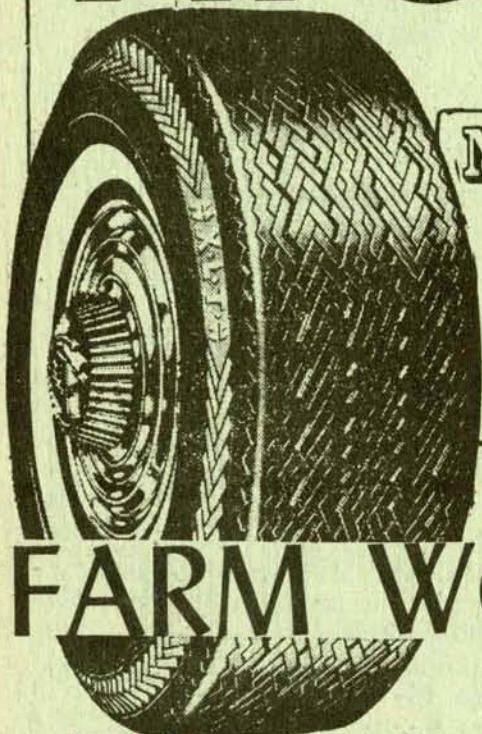
Published in Spanish and English editions every two weeks by Farm Worker Press, Box 894, Delano, Calif.

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Size tires(circle one)

700 x 14	600 x 15	White-	How
750 x 14	670 x 15	wall?	many
800 x 14	710 x 15	Black	tires?
850 x 14	760 x 15	wall?	

MOTOR OIL: What kind?
How many cans? (Minimum 12)

No tradeins needed on mail orders; Delivery chg. \$2 per tire. Total charge each whitewall \$11.87; Total charge each blackwall \$10.31. SEND \$5 DEPOSIT WITH YOUR ORDER.

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