

Chavez Warns of Boycott If Grape Pacts Are Shifted

ARVIN, Calif., April 12 (UPI) —Cesar Chavez, saying, "We're fighting for our lives," pledged yesterday to strike and boycott grape growers if they refused to renew their contracts with the United Farm Workers union.

About 300 grape growers signed with Mr. Chavez's union after he led a successful five-year nationwide boycott of grapes. Many of those contracts expire this weekend and some growers have been meeting with the rival International Brotherhood of Teamsters, which already represents most of the large lettuce growers in the Salinas Valley.

In Palm Springs, a teamster's union official said that several large grape growers were discussing a contract that would put workers previously in Mr. Chavez's union under teamster jurisdiction.

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