The Voice of the Farm Worker



In English



DELANO, CALIF.

JUNE 7, 1967

"The Sweet Life" (page 20)

THE WORKERS HE NEEDS, MAN. MULE 'N ME DIIN'T EVEN GET ON THE TIME, BUT WE CAN'T WE'N ALL. WE'LL GET ON WITH ANO-THEN CONTRACTOR. DOOD LUCKIW

Farm Workers Health Clinic

(page 10)



FELIX ZAPATA

EDITORIAL

" I WAS BORN IN MEXICO AND GREW UP IN TEXAS. I WORKED ON THE COTTON COMPRESS THERE AND WORKED HOEING COTTON FOR 70¢ AN HOUR. MY FAMILY HELPED ME WHEN THEY COULD. EVEN-TUALLY MY CHILDREN HAD TO DROP OUT OF SCHOOL. I FEEL BADLY THAT THEY LEFT SCHOOL. BUT I KNEW FROM THE BEGINNING THAT MY KIDS WOULD BE WORK-ING IN THE FIELDS BECAUSE WHAT ELSE COULD THEY DO? I KNEW I HAD NO MONEY TO KEEP THEM IN SCHOOL, AND UNLESS OUR CHILDREN STAY IN SCHOOL, THEY WILL ALWAYS WORK IN THE FIELDS. MAYBE WHEN THE STRIKE IS OVER AND THE UNION IS STRONG WITH PAYING MEMBERS WE CAN SAVE SOME MONEY FOR OUR CHILDREN TO GO TO SCHOOL.

"I BROUGHT MY FAMILY TO DE LANO IN JANUARY OF 1966 IN ORDER TO BRING MY NIECE HERE. WE STAYED AT MY FATHER-IN-LAWS HOUSE AND HE TOLD US OF THE STRIKE. EUDARDO CAMPOS, MY FATHER-IN-LAW, HAS BEEN IN THE STRIKE SINCE THE BEGINNING. WE WERE PLANNING TO WORK IN ORDER TO GET ENOUGH MONEY TO GO BACK TO TEXAS BUT WE COULDN'T SCAB, SO WE JOINED THE STRIKE THE NEXT DAY." "We will stay in

the strike as long as

Cesar needs us."

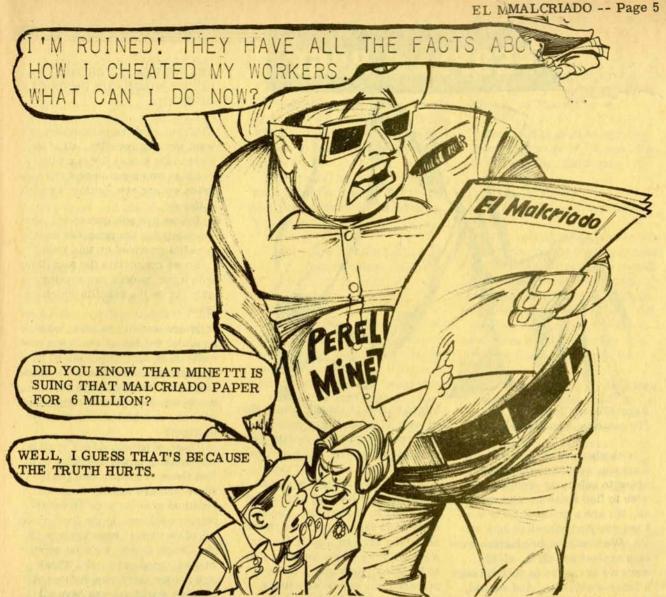
"My family and I will be here until we win the strike and get all of the growers to sign contracts, and that may take another 2 or 5 years because of our worst enemy: the Teamsters Union here in the Valley. The Teamsters in other locals have helped us and they are not like the ones here. The Teamsters use violence on the workers and this is wrong because we are not animals. They scare people and try to buy them out, but the Teamsters are the ones that think they are powerful, we know they are not.

"The reason that the workers here are hard to convince about the Union is because they come from other places to make money here, and they don't care about anything else. Their bosses scare them by firing them when they sign the Union's authorization cards. In the beginning of the strike all the scabs that signed up with us got fired and this scared the other workers. We told them not to sign the cards in the fields, but to come to the office and sign the authorization cards after work.

"We will stay in the strike as long as Cesar needs us, because we trust him to make the right decisions for the Union and we appreciate what he has done for all farm workers. We will never work while we are in the Union. We will stay in completely or we will get out. Why would we give up the strike to work , we will never have anything anyway.

"All farm workers should join the Union and negotiate their contracts to say what they need. The Union cannot give them everything they need, but through the Union they can work for what they need and we are the only ones that make the Union what it is. We are the only ones that can change anything by working together in the Union, for without the farm workers there would be no Union.

"When the strike is over we will go back to Texas. But now they have machines to do the work that I was doing, and I don't know what we are going to do. The only way that we can stop the machines from doing our work is by a Union contract. The contracts depend on the negotiator and the only way that farm workers can negotiate is through the Union. We negotiate our own future and the future of our children."



THE FACT THAT PERELLI-MINETTI HAS NOT SERVED THE PAPERS ON HIS SIX MILLION DOLLAR LAWSUIT AGAINST EL MALCRIADO, IS AN ADMISSION OF GUILT.

IF HE SERVES THE PAPERS, THEN EL MALCRIADO HAS THE LEGAL RIGHT TO DRAG ALL OF HIS BUSINESS RECORDS INTO THE COURT. MINETTI'S OWN INCRIMINATING RECORDS BECOME PUBLIC INFORMATION, AND HE WILL "HANG HIMSELF WITH HIS OWN ROPE." THIS IS THE REASON THAT HE HAS NOT GONE THROUGH WITH SERVING THE PAPERS ON HIS LAWSUIT.

WE CHALLENGE PERELLI-MINETTI TO GO THROUGH WITH THEIR <u>\$6</u> MILLION DOLLAR SUIT. THEIR FALIURE TO DO SO IS PROOF THAT THEY ARE GUILTY OF ALL THE CRIMES WITH WHICH THEY HAVE BEEN CHARGED IN THIS NEWSPAPER.

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zip code

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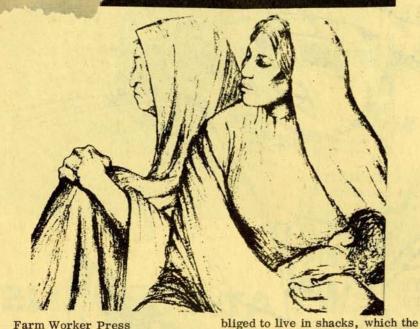
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EL MALCRIADO BOX 1060 DELANO CALIF.

Name_____ Address

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PEOPLE'S PAGE



ADO

Farm Worker Press (To someone who can help us)

With pleasure we write to this magazine seeking information in order to solve our problem. We wish to find someone who can help us. We are a group of farm workers who find ourselves in a crisis. We now have two factors working against us: first, all the work we are given is done through a labor contractor. And second, this rancher prefers people without papers, or, to say it another way, people who are living in this country illegally, so that he can make as much (money) as possible. We have no means of demanding our rights because there are many wetbacks doing the work for the shells of the peanuts. And all of us have families and we are o-

rancher almost always controls, with rents from \$80 a month. Ten years ago the work which we are doing paid 80¢ a box; and right now they give us 90¢ a box. And to have to pay the rent and our other bills is impossible. Those of us from this country and those of us who arrived legally have to work with our whole families just to be able to survive. If there is someone who can do something for us poor people please tell us how to get in touch with him. Without saying more I thank you beforehand.

> A friend of this magazine Saugus, California

P.S. For no reason whatsoever use my complete name. If you wish you may use my initials.

El Malcriado Says:

The Union which is now called the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee started in the early sixties when a man moved to Delano with his wife and eight children and worked in the fields by day and organized his dreams of united farm workers into a now-growing reality by night. But this union has been possible not because one man wanted a decent life, but because all farm workers want a decent life and began to help themselves by organizing.

And this is what you must do. You need help: contact Manuel Chavez, PO Box 130, Delano, California. But your strength in the greedy face of barely surviving lies primarily within yourselves, and in your own determination and efforts to organize. The Union-<u>your</u> Union, too-will spread, but it moves forward slowly so that it is not too weak to hold on to what it gains. You too must move forward-slowly. But begin today. Progress comes.

ARE WE READY FOR THE BE-NEFITS WHICH OUR UNION CAN GIVE US?

All farm workers everywhere w want working benefits, all of us want more money for our work because we cannot accept the salaries we are now getting: we want a Union.

But we can ask ourselves: are we ready for the progress and the benefits provided by this Union?

Do we appreciate the sacrifices which our leaders are making to gain for us the benefits which we want?

Or are we only children who squander the bread which our parents work hard to get for us without taking into account the hardships they must undergo, or who waste whatever money our parents give us, or who lose this money outright?

Those of us who do not realize the meaning of the sacrifice to effect these economic changes by those who are making them will continue to be as poor as we always have been. In the first place, all of us want to have savings in the Credit Union, we want good houses, good cars, etc. These are not the fairy tale dreams of another world; we can have all these things if we have a more-or less decent wage like that for wh which the UFWOC-AFL-CIO has been fighting to obt ain for all farm workers. In the second place, we have to have a good plan to insure the permanence of the increase in our wages; in this way we can attain a better life economically, despite the fact that never before were we able to do anything even though we might have had the opportunity.

It is understood that having a home with every comfort is to have a happy home; but what happens when one has more bills to pay than money with which to pay them? Then the home is not a happy one; worry, despair, and discontent arise from such problems, which in many cases cause serious family fights, the loss of all the comfortable things and then the credit with which they were bought. Therefore it is necessary that the head of each household have a good plan for spending the money.

With active membership in UF-WOC, through which one can obtain a wage more-or-less decent and many other benefits, we can have what we want: I am not trying to say that this is going to stamp out poverty completely, because there will always be poor people, but that the percentage of poor people will be much lower.

Also, there will be no great social and economic changes just because one belongs to the Union, if one does not know how to use correctly the privilege which the farm worker is enjoying now and which is a grand opportunity.

In this way we can make worthwhile the sacrifices of our leaders and of all the people who have supported us so that we can change our system of poverty.

> -Unsigned-McFarland, California

Dear Sirs:

I am an Italian student, majoring in Economics at the University of Turin next October with a thesis on American farm labor and migrant workers, dealing especially with the problem in California and with the Delano grape strike.

I would appreciate very much your sending me literature on the present situation and the strike and more information about the Farm Workers Association, I would like especially to receive issues of El Malcriado, of which I have only a couple of numbers. Please if you send anything do it soon and let me know at the same time if there is a charge for the literature and how much it is. I would like to know also what books you have printed on the subject: I have already "Huelga" by E. Nelson.

Let me thank you very much in advance.

Best regards.

LAURA PORTIGLIOTTI Torino (Turin) Italy

UFWOC Gentlemen:

The Los Angeles Times recently carried a news article to the effect that you plan to use unarmed men to guard your offices and property.

If the threat of arson, burglary, and vandalism continues, I volunteer my services as watchman beginning June 6, 1967.

> JOE ARMENDAREZ Los Angeles, California

Dear Brothers:

I just wrote to my union (Retail Clerks #770), with 17,000 members, asking them to put your appeal for used cars, in their next edition of our monthly magazine.

I wrote the same appeal also, to the magazines and newspapers of: National Guardian (California Page), Jewish Currents (California section), and the People's World.

We will wait and see if there is a used car(s) among all their readers.

> Sincerely, MAX MILLER Los Angeles, Calif.

Editor, El Malcriado:

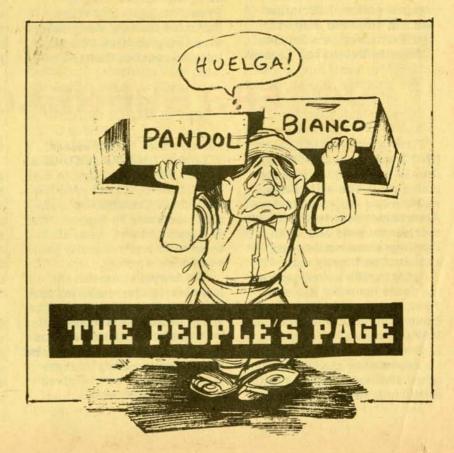
Enclosed is another clipping describing more of the good life in Watsonville, California.

> A Reader Capitola, California

***The article in the Watsonville paper (the ''Register-Pajaronian') recounts the burning of a restuarant building and the injuries done to four policemen in their attempts to put out the fire. But the important part of the story concerns the farm worker who started it and why he did so:

"He told police he had started the fire because his entire pay check for 3-1/2 hours' work had been taken to pay for his room and board there. "There were 10 beds in the 20 by 20 foot room used as living quarters above the restaurant..."

El Malcriado does not need to add an editorial comment "El Malcriado Says" to this story. Printing it is enough.



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'M' Is for Mexican

Perhaps the Bakersfield Police Department was attempting to classify people according to their own peculiar concept of race. This was the idea of Miss Jessica Govea when she received a traffic ticket marked "M" for Mexican in the space reserved for nationality.

Miss Govea, a citizen of the U.S., and a worker in the Farm Worker Service Center in Delano decided to protest the ticket. She told the judge she was refusing to pay the \$13.00 fine until the "M" was removed from the ticket. Judge Davis told her it was beyond his power to do so, but apparently he changed his mind. Miss Govea continued to refuse to pay the fine and the Judge finally agreed to remove the "'M".

If you are ever "labelled" on a traffic ticket, fight it. Tell the judge that Judge Davis' practice must be followed. This is just one small round in the battle against police discrimination. If you need help, use the Farm Workers Service Center in Delano and Lamont.



L. to R.: UFWOC organizor Pete Cardenas, his wife Mary, Senator Robert Kennedy, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bustos of Delano. Photo was taken on Kennedy's trip to California last month to raise money for the farm worker clinic. \$7000 was raised.

SCABS CAN'T CROSS BORDER

The United States Department of Justice ruled this week that green card holders may not enter the United States to work at a ranch where there is a strike. This rule applies immediately to the La Casita Farms strike in Texas.

Scabs have been using their green cards to come into the country at Roma, and Rio Grande City, Texas. Under the new rule, they will not be able to do so. In a letter to Cesar Chavez, leader of the farm workers, President Johnson's office indicated that the new order would stop the flow of scabs into the ranches that are on strike.

The AFL-CIO in Washington added the suggestion that workers who break a strike should have their green cards revoked.

EL MALCRIADO SAYS: We will report on the enforcement of this new rule. If it is enforced by immigration officers, as is their duty, it will be a revolutionary development for South Texas, and for the Imperial Valley of Calif. This rule was passed because the farm workers are becoming a power in Washington. We want to see that power grows and creates true economic and social justice for all the people.

VOTERS SUE REAGAN

Four American citizens filed a suit against Governor Ronald Reagan of California last week. The suit charged that the law stopping Mexican-Americans from voting if they cannot read and write English is unconstitutional and must be thrown out.

Bringing the action against the governor were Hermengildo Loredo of Delano, Margarito and Paulito Salazar of McFarland, and Eduviges Lugo of Lamont. They were represented by the lawyers of the California Rural Legal Assistance program, which has an office in McFarland.

Loredo filed the suit because he was denied the right to vote because he could not read the California Constitution in English last year in Sanger. The Salazars and Mr. Lugo also believe they are unjustly prevented from voting.

The lawyers say that the law clearly discriminates and will have to be abolished. The effect of its abolishment will be that close to a half million Mexican-Americans and others in California, many of them farm workers, will be given the right to vote which they do not now have.

The case will probably take a long time, and the lawyers will need all the help they can get. If you as a U.S. citizen have ever been denied the right to vote, for any reason, contact the Farm Workers Service Center, 105 Asti St., Delano, Calif., or 10913 Main St., Lamont, Calif.

EL MALCRIADO SAYS: The Constitution gives the right to vote without regard to race or color. /With enough people working together we can force Mr. Reagan to follow the Constitution. "You cannot lose any of your papers or any of your rights if you join a union." This is what U.S. Immigration officials told members and supporters of the United Farm Workers last month at a meeting in the Fresno, Calif. library. "...And it doesn't matter whether or not you are a citizen," they said. "You still have the right to be a member of a union or any other group."

At the same meeting were Mexican government officials who explained other rights that Mexican citizens have in this country. The meeting was led by Crescencio Mendoza, leader of the farm work-

Tortilla Power



ELOISE CHAVEZ is one of four girls who make tortillas for the Delano strike kitchen every afternoon. The other three are her sisters LINDA and SYLVIA, and their cousin DOROTHY CHAVEZ.

The project started last month after the filipino women who regularly work at the kitchen went "on strike", because tortilla-making was difficult for them. Helen Chavez, the girls' mother heard about their problem solving it with a strong application of tortilla-power. ers in the Fresno area. It was held in response to a demand by emebers requesting information on immigration laws. The major advice that the officials gave was that non-citizens have all the rights and obligations of citizens, except that they cannot vote or hold political office.

HELP WITH IMMIGRATION P

Farm workers who have immigration problems can solve them by contacting the Service Center, 105 Asti, Delano, Calif. In the Fresno area they may call Crescencio Mendoza at 485-8395. The Service Center is for members of the United Farm Workers Union only.

BASTA IS A BOOK

The Post Office ban on the book BASTA was lifted last week. The Delano postmaster Robert Senini received orders to accept mailings of the book from Farm Worker Press, the publisher.

Senini was asked by El Malcriado why the Post Office Department had reversed his ruling. He said, "It must be because of pressure in Washington by you people."

El Malcriado replied, "You're damned right."

During the ban we had sent out several hundred copies of the book from other post offices to avoid Senini. Senini had been breaking open packages mailed by us at Delano to be sure that no Basta mailings were included at the special fourth class rates.

"Basta is not a book," he had said earlier, "because it contains advertising material such as the phrase, 'Don't mourn, organize', on a picket sign on the back cover.

EL MALCRIADO SAYS: Postmaster Robert Senini has been "organized." We think he will leave us alone now.

Union Chief Harassed in Coachella

Seized by Coachella police "for distributing leaflets" was Joe Serda, chief of the United Farm Workers hiring hall in the Coachella Valley. 46 leaflets were taken from Serda in a Coachella city park. The leaflet said, in Spanish, WORKERS NEEDED FOR DI GIORGIO FARMS IN BOR-REGO SPRINGS. \$1.65 AN HOUR MINIMUM PLUS UNION BENEFITS. COME TO THE COACHELLA HIRING OFFICE OF THE UNITED FARM WORKERS UNION.

Serda said, "I don't believe that the city ordinance under which I was arrested is constitutional. This is what I told the arresting officers. Besides I have a different interpretation of it. I'm not selling anything and this is a law against selling. I don't believe I should be required to get a police permit in order to do this."

The local newspaper in Coachella, a grower paper, accused Serda of distributing the same leaflet there on May 5, saying that at the same time he was warned. But on May 5, according to El Malcriado, the Congressional Record, and other publications, Joe Serda was speaking before the Congress of the United States, explaining to them exactly the way things were in California, 3000 miles away.

Serda's small office in Coachella, the union hiring hall for the valley, has frightened the powerful growers in this area, all of whom are without unions for their field workers, except for the Di-Giorgio Corporation. "You would think that our little thunderbird had magical powers, these ranchers are so frightened, " Serda said. "It must be that they think we intend to organize this whole valley and get union contracts and wage increases for all the field workers."

Attracted by stories that Pete Velasco, labor contractor in Richgrove, sells wine to his workers at exorbitant prices, and mistreats the labor that he picks up off the streets of West Fresno, EL MALCRIADO went to Rich-

WARNI

VERAL ALST grove to see if it was true. Velasco's sprawling labor

camp fills a large part of the town. In the evening the winos who work for Velasco, and others, can be seen lounging in the alleys of the camp. We asked where we could find Velasco, and were directed to a central dining hall, which was noticeably clean and neat.

In the center of the dining hall sat Velasco, a fat unpleasant looking man. He was selling cans of tobacco to a line of workers, most of whom were winos. There was no wine in sight.



He looked up and said, "I got nothing to" say to El Malcriado. Nothing except that I

> run a clean camp. My camp is a lot better that the houses of a lot of people who live in Richgrove."

"Do you sell wine to your workers?" we asked.

"You stay out of my three camps, " Velasco replied. "If you're going to give me a lot of s--t, I'm going to give you a lot of s--t right back, do you understand? Now get out of here."

Velasco was sweating and gesturing. "Those two guys you wrote about that died in my camp. You got the whole story wrong. You said it was gas. It wasn't the gas. Now get out of here. I run a clean camp."

EL MALCRIADO persisted: "Chaney says you sell wine to the workers at \$2.00 a bottle. Is it true?" "F--k Chaney." said Velasco. Then the fat, unpleasant looking man got up from his seat and moved toward us. It was the end of our interview.

EL MALCRIADO SAYS: We lasco.

join with the people of Richgrove in their efforts to get Pete Velasco out! In the Huelga there is no room for labor contractors whose greed blinds them to the needs of the people. Write us and tell us what you know about Pete Ve-

Fired Men Get Their Jobs Back

On May 19, a grower and his employees gathered in the same room in Bakersfield, California, and presented grievances they had against one another to an arbitrator, an impartial man who was to decide whose case was correct—that of the grower or that of the farm workers. He would do this by deciding which side was violating the union contract which both had signed a short while ago. The grower was the giant DiGiorgio Corporation, one of the largest in the country, and the workers were members of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee.

This was an historic occasion, for it was the first time that a farm worker's complaint had been settled this way. Before this, if a farm worker felt that he had been treated unfairly there was nothing he could do about it. If he complained to the boss, he was told that he could leave if he didn't like it, or he was fired on the spot. Now it is different on the ranches of the DiGiorgio Corporation; the Union is here and the workers must be treated fairly. If they are not, they can do something about it.

On April 24th, two workers, Grady Barnes and James Lee, were fired. They had been picking asparagus. The man who supervised the picking, Ransom Beahr, said that they had not cut it long enough and told their crew pusher to fire them. A Union representative, Sandy Taplin, objected to the firing, but they were fired anyway.

The two workers went to the Union office and complained that they had been fired unfairly. Mack Lyons, a Union leader at the Arvin Ranch, took them back to the field and looked at the place where they had been working. He saw that their work was the same as everybody else's work. Mack then gathered together all of the men who were working there and questioned the bosses in front of them. One company man claimed that he himself had cut the long grass after the two workers had left the field. All the workers there said that the bosses were lying.

Now the grievance procedure of the Union contract went into effect. A representative of the Union went to see Bud Hughes, the ranch supervisor, to discuss the problem. The Union claimed that Barnes and Lee had cut the asparagus the same as everybody else.



D. B. Hauser, the crew pusher

Even if the company was right and the two workers had left the grass too long, this was not a good reason to fire them. The company must warn the men whom they want to fire that they are doing something wrong. Taking away a man's job is the worst thing that can happen to him, and the company must have a very good reason to do this.

The company did not warn the men and did not have a good enough reason to fire them. However, the ranch supervisor still refused to give the men back their



Mack Lyons, on the left, congratulates the two men on the right, Grady Barnes and James Lee, after they won their jobs back with the help of the union. Standing between Mack and Barnes are Sandy Taplin, a Union Steward, and Thomas Washington, a witness.

jobs. The Union representatives went to see Dick Meyer, the Personnel Director for DiGiorgio. He, too. refused to rehire the workers.

The next step was the arbitration, a "trial" in which both sides present their cases and a decision is made by the arbitrator according to the "law," which is the Union contract. This trial was set for the Nineteenth of May.

The company presented its evidence through two witnesses: Beahr, who supervised the picking, and Hanson, the crew pusher. The pusher had refused to testify for the Union and had said that he wouldn't get involved unless he was forced to. But he showed up anyway, testifying for the company. The Union revealed a statement from Hanson saying that he hadn't wanted to fire the men, and that he had been forced to do so by the supervisor.

The Union witnesses then testified: the two men who were fired, the Union Steward, and a witness to the firing, Thomas Washington. They testified that Barnes and Lee had not been warned and that their work was no different than anyone else's.

At noon Sam Kagel, the arbitrator, called together all of the people involved and said that he had decided that the men should be given their jobs back. He is now considering how much back pay the men should receive for the days in which they did not work because they had been fired unfairly.

According to Marshall Ganz, a staff member of the Union: "This is a milestone in forcing ranchers to realize that workers are human beings. They used to treat them like the do the potatoes and asparagus that they harvest, but they can't do this any more. They have to have a damn good reason for firing someone, and they've got to be able to prove that they've got a good reason."



Dr. Brooks and Miss McGivern discuss a patient's problems.

Just as the wages paid in California and in Texas are a disgrace to the nation, so is the medical care that is available. HUN-DREDS OF FARM WORKERS, THEIR WIVES AND THEIR CHIL-DREN DIE EVERY YEAR BE-CAUSE THEY CANNOT AFFORD THE MEDICAL CARE THAT THEY NEED. When the huelga of Delano began, one of the goals of the strike was to prevent the suffering which all farm workers had to endure when they were sick.

THE DENTAL CLINIC

Dental care is only one area in which the needs are so great as to be almost unbelievable. People come to the farm worker clinic one after another with their teeth rotting out because they have never been able to afford a dentist. They come nearly out of their minds with pain, asking for help.

From December until the present there was nothing the cliniccould do for them, because the State Board of Dental Examiners had told them that the dental clinic was illegal.

The nurse who has been with the clinic since the beginning of the strike said, "People come in here in acute pain, and they ask for the dentist. How can I explain to them that the state won't let us have a dentist here? How can I tell them that is a dentist does come to help us, he may lose his license? The people get angry with me; they ask 'how can it be?' It is hard for a father to sit by and see his children's teeth loose or rotting and be able to do nothing.

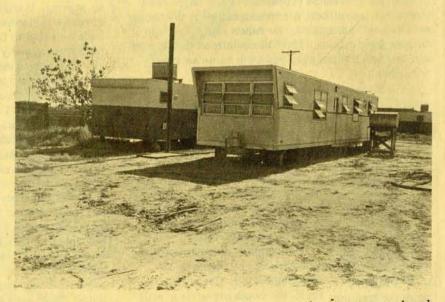
Until December, about 15 dentists had come to Delano on their

THE FIRST CLINIC WAS A SHEET OVER A KITCHEN DOOR AND THREE CARDBOARD BOXES OF DRUGS.

Farm W Health

own time, on weekends, and taken care of the loose and rotting teeth, and stopped the pain of the farm workers, their wives and children. In December it all stopped, by order of the Board. On January 1 Governor Reagan took over in Sacramento. The order stood and there was no dental clinic.

"But now we're starting all over," the nurse told us. "We have finally been given a license,



These two house trailers are the temporary headquarters of the Farm Workers Health Clinic.

"BUT NOW WE'RE STARTING ALL OVER," THE NURSE TOLD US..."

orkers Clinic

after much trouble involving lawyers, paperwork and government regulations. Our visits by volunteer dentists will resume -- when we can get them -- and right now we are advertising for a dentist to come to Delano to live and work with us full time. This is the only way that the dental needs of the people will begin to be met. Right now our needs are so great that any kind of help that anyone can give will be useful -- just from the point of view of the amount of pain which will be relieved.'

"I'm talking about people who go around for days and weeks using their own home remedies for extreme pain out of desperation: Oil of cloves, aspirin, ice. Now it is the desire of the union to bring dental care to all farm workers who are union members at a price they can afford, and at



Dr. Brooks examines Rosario Herrera while her mother, Juanita Herrera watches.



Mary Covarrubias, a staff member and trainee at the Clinic.

the time that they need it. Any outside help that we get, we can certainly use."

THE BEGINNING OF THE CLINIC

The first clinic was the kitchen of a rented house behind the union office in Delano. It was opened when the strike was a month old. A resident nurse and visiting volunteer doctors made it all possible. They hung a sheet over the kitchen door for privacy, and made a cardboard sign CLINIC to hang over the door. The medicines and equipment were kept in cardboard boxes when not in use and stored in the EL MALCRIADO office.

After several months of makeshift operation, the clinic moved to 1554 Borel St. in Delano, "here it shared a 4 bedroom house with the DiGiorgio boycott headquarters and the Farm Workers Theatre. In both these locations hundreds of strikers were treated.

The clinic survived completely on donations. Medical support committees from several colleges raised money and medicines to send to Delano. The needs were



The waiting room at the Clinic: 1. to r.: Lupe Herrera, Eva Rivera, Ruth Flores, Freddie Herrera, Juanita Herrera, Rosario Herrera, Petra Agundez

so acute that for months there was no bank account because every available dollar was spent instantly on needed medicines.

Gradually, the portable clinic in the cardboard boxes was replaced with a locked cabinet, a full room and finally doctors began to bring major pieces of equipment needed for modern medical care. At about the same time the City of Delano ordered the clinic to get out of the residential neighborhood of Borel Street, in order to meet the zoning law. This was last summer.

Someone agreed to pay the rent, and a trailer was rented, 50 feet long and ten feet wide. It was pulled out to the soggy piece of ground known as Arroyo's Camp, outside the city to the west of Delano. The camp was then serving also as a strike kitchen and grocery store.

The trailer was broken in many ways and it was very difficult to set it up, but it was only a matter of days before the crowds of people needing medical attention began to wait around the trailer for the volunteer doctors and dentists to make the long drive from their homes and hospitals in Los Angeles or the San Francisco Bay Area. The clinic quickly ran out



Helen Trujillo, 18, is being trained as a medical and dental assistant.

of space.

Another trailer was obtained by paying the storage charges on it. This was a trailer which had served in Mississippi with the Civil Rights Movement. It was parked next to the old one, and the two trailers are what the clinic has to work with now. Again they have run out of space, and are planning a new building on the union's new land nearby on Mettler Road and Garces Hwy. Within a month, the two trailers will be moved to the new land next to the site of the clinic building.

A NEW BUILDING

After Roger Terronez, one of the top union leaders, suffered a tragic death only a hundred yards. from the present clinic location, the directors of the clinic and the membership of the National Farm Workers voted unanimously to rename the "Farm Workers Health Clinic," the RODRIGO TERRO-NEZ MEMORIAL CLINIC: Clinica Medica Campesina. When the new adobe building is completed, this is the name it will bear. It will provide 3000 square feet of clinic space.

Service will be limited to farm workers who are members of the United Farm Workers AFL-CIO. This is because without the union, the clinic could not exist. It is an integral part of the strike. It is the only clinic anywhere in the world that is operated by and for farm workers.

How do the farm workers operate the clinic? There is a Health Committee which makes all the major decisions. This committee consists of Manuel Rivera, Ra - "THIS IS OUR OWN CLINIC. IT IS GOING TO BE THE FINEST MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICE IN THIS VALLEY."

chael Orendain, Mary Covarrubias, Helen Trujillo, Josephine Hernandez, Lourdes Dahilig, Margarito Munoz, Clarisse Parashis, Betty Sceales, Peggy McGivern, R.N., and David Brooks, M.D. They decide what the fees will be, because the clinic can no longer survive on outside donations, even though it can provide the best medical care possible for very little money. The Health Committee also is deciding on a pre-payment health plan, such as workers in many industries have. They are also considering someone to become the Clinic Administrator.

Some of the problems to be faced by the Health Committee is



Cesario, wait to see the doctor.

to determine what kind of prepaid medical care can be given to members of the union who are not covered by a work contract like the Di Giorgio Contract, which has some medical coverage as one of its benefits paid for by the Company.

Said the nurse, "Our clinic could have been taken over by the medical professionals a long time ago, by the people who think they know what we need. We didn't allow that to happen, because we know what the local doctors are like, we know what the county hospital is like. This'is our own clinic. It is going to be the finest health and medical service available in this valley. We will do this because the need is so great and our desire is so strong."



STAFF OF THE FARM WORKERS HEALTH CLINIC: 1. to T. . Characters, M. D. McGivern, R. N., Mary Coyarrubias, Helen Trujillo, Dr. David Brooks, M. D.



Mrs. Alice Jiminez

NENBERS

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Mrs. Marjorie Keiffer



Jean Bellow & Jessica Govea



Mrs. Bonnie Chatfield & Mrs. Carmen Serda

FARM WORKER Service Center

NEW SUMMER HOURS

Monday through Thursday 8:30-8:00

> Friday 8:30 - 7:00

and Saturday 8:30-6:00

A NEW FARM WORKERS' UNION

A farm workers union is growing in Wisconsin. It is called the Obreros Unidos (United Workers), and is led by Jesus Salas, a former migrant farm worker, who lives with his family in Wautoma, Wisconsin. Mr. Salas was born in Crystal City, Texas, and worked in the fields for eight years, moving from place to place with his family. They finally settled down in Wautoma, and now. inspired by the example of Cesar Chavez in Delano, he is trying to organize farm workers there.

Two major events gave birth to this union. One was the 85 mile march of farm workers and their supporters from Wautoma to Madison, the state capital of Wisconsin. The other was a strike, the first strike by migrant workers in Wisconsin.

The march was organized when the farm workers there heard about the Delano farm workers' famous march to Sacramento. The problems in Wisconsin are the same as those in Delano, bad 'vages and even worse working

conditions, so the workers in Wisconsin decided to go to their state capital and demand help from the governor, just as we did in Delano. They asked for representation in the state government, the enforcement of the housing code, toilet facilities in Wautoma, a raise in the minimum wage (which covers farm workers), and widespread education of farm workers as to their rights under the law.

The government tried to get them to call off the march, but the workers refused.

With the blessings of the Catholic Church in Wautoma, they set out, carrying the American Flag, the Thunderbird of the United Farm Workers Union, and the standard of the Virgin of Guadalupe. When they reached Madison, the capital, they were greeted by hundreds of supporters from the cities, government officials, and members of the AFL-CIO. For the first time in Wisconsin's history, farm workers, growers, state officials, and union officials met together to

discuss the problems of the migrant worker.

Since the march, many of the demands of the farm workers have been won; the rest of them will be gained shortly. But the best thing to come out of the march was the lesson learned by those involved -- that people must organize and work together to improve their conditions; that they can do this only through taking action as a group.

Now the Obreros Unidos are helping the Delano farm workers on the boycott, and this summer, when the migrants start coming through Wisconsin again, they have plans to start organizing the workers to bargain with their emlovers for contracts.

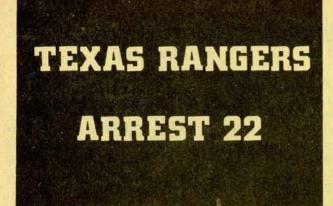
El Malcriado wishes them luck and is looking forward to the day when farm workers all over the country will be organized into one great powerful union. On that day farm workers will have joined this society as citizens equal to all others, and this equality will be recognized and respected by the ranchers.



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RIO GRANDE CITY, TEXAS--

The notorious Texas Rangers committed their latest outrage against defenseless Mexican-American on Thursday, May 18, when they arrested and jailed 22 poverty-stricken farm workers picketing at Trophy Farms near Rio Grande City.

The 22 workers were charged with violating Texas' ridiculous and obsolete anti-union picketing law which allows only two pickets every 50 feet. The prisoners included 17 men and 5 women, bringing to 78 the number of arrests in the current strike for decent wages for farm workers.

Gilbert Padilla, vice-president of the Union, called the arrests "silly and ridiculous. We were picketing at the same place yesterday and the day before."

The arrested, including local strike committee president Domingo Arredondo, were taken to the Starr County jail and each placed under \$100 bond.

Onas Brand of McAllen, wealthy partner in the firm of Griffen and Brand, owner of Trophy Farms, signed the complaint against the pickets. Griffen and Brand is one of the largest farming operations in Texas, and in the forefront of those anti-Latin and anti-Union forces trying to keep the farm workers living in poverty and bondage. (Othal Brand was recently defeated in an attempt at re-election to the McAllen, Texas, school board, after a conservative term on the board in which he sabotaged a scheduled speech by liberal Senator Ralph Yarborough at the McAllen High School Auditorium.)

The 22 pickets, who were picketing in a comple-



REV. ED KRUEGER OF THE TEXAS MIGRANT MINISTRY, talks with Guillermo de la Cruz of Rio Grande City. Texas Rangers pushed and shoved Rev. Krueger. Later they arrested de la Cruz and 21 other strikers who were peacefully picketing.

tely peaceful manner, were arrested after a two day period in which their appeals to many of the unsuspecting scab workers coming from the lower Valley to work at Trophy Farms had been unsuccessful. Many of the farm workers from Hidalgo County had stopped at the edge of the farm and refused to break the strike when the union members explained that its purpose was to benefit all of the workers in the Valley. They went in to work only when they were told to do so by the strike-breaking Texas Rangers and local police.

It is a curious thing that the police, acting as puppets for the rich growers, enforce the so-called "mass-picketing law" only when the pickets are having some effect in keeping the scabs from working. So it was last February when they arrested five Catholic priests near La Casita Farms only after they had persuaded scabs not to break the strike. Otherwise, the police don't lift a finger to enforce this ridiculous and unjust law, which does not have a counterpart in any other state in the US.

One observer commented that it would be much fairer to have a law allowing only two Texas Rangers every fifty feet. Then maybe the poor people would have abetter chance in their battle for justice.

The signs in English and Spanish say "private property" and "no trespassing". This is La Casita property and only employees of the company are allowed past those signs. But the Starr County Sheriff Department and the Texas Rangers drive their cars in with the other employees of La Casita. They park by the cars of La Casita foremen and security guards. They stand with the other La Casita employees and discuss how to break the strike. In the picture above, you can't tell the cops from the employees and scabs.



Boss Signs Agreement

First Victory for the Union in Starr County

RIO GRANDE CITY, TEXAS--

It happened under a tree at the edge of a melon field--a tree that will go down in history. Under this tree near Rio Grande City the first union recognition agreement for farm workers in the history of Texas was signed on May 15th.

The great breakthrough was at Rancho Las Velas, where prominent Starr County grower Virgilio Guerra is preparing to harvest 300 acres of cantaloupes. It is sure to signal the beginning of a chain of union victories. The union had been on strike against Rancho Las Velas and other large Starr County farms since June 1, 1967.

Virgilio Guerra signed the historic recognition agreement in which he promised to negotiate a contract covering the wages, hours and working conditions of his 60 workers within two months. He said:





"I feel confident that this action will be an important step in eliminating the strife which has beset Starr County in recent months. I feel that any course of action which is advocated by the 10 bishops of Texas can't be far wrong." (Mr. Guerra was referring to the recent statement of the 10 Catholic bishops of Texas that it was the "duty" of farm workers to organize themselves into unions for their own protection and welfare.)

Also signing the historic document was Roma attorney Arnulfo Guerra. Signing for the union were UFWOC national vice president Gil Padilla, David Lopez of the national organizing staff, and Domingo Arredondo, president of the Starr County Strike Committee.

Union pickets ripped up "Huelga" signs after the agreement was signed, and preparations were begun for a gala fiesta to celebrate the great victory.

Union leaders saluted all of the striking members who had made the triumph possible. Special praise goes to the brave and dedicated union members of the CTM in Mexico, whose recent cooperation in stopping strike-breakers contributed to the great breakthrough.



Fernando Castro Pacheco

Memories of an Old Woman

We were asking for more pay and he said that he wouldn't give us any more money. Then he said that we would have to leave the camp. Mr. Peterson sent all of his regular, full-time workers to take everything out of our houses. They threw all the furniture outside, from our houses in the camp out into the street. We all had to live outside in our cars. This was in the month of October in 1932. At this time they were paying us 40 cents for every 100 pounds of cotton that we picked. When they threw us out of the camp they did not let us have any water or use the bathrooms. Some workers who lived on a ranch closeby let us have water. Later the rancher told us that if we thought we would ever want to return to work he would give us the houses back. When he found that we were determined not to work there they took us to a big camp which was near Corcoran. There they gave us almost nothing to eat but with what little food they did give us they expected us to survive. We didn't know where the food came from-only that it wasn't free. I guess it must have been government food-I don't very well recall. They would give us a little bit of flour, beans, and some of the main staples. It was very cold during the nights. All we had to sleep in were old tents. All the strikers that were being kicked out of their housing from the ranches that were on strike were sent to this big camp just outside of Corcoran.

Every day the strikers would go out in cars or in trucks to the fields where the scabs would be. They would call them to come out, on several occasions there was violence. There were a lot of strike breakers that were coming in from Los Angeles and from San Bernardino. The strikers on calling the scabs to come out of the field were yelled at by the very same scabs inside to "go to work you lazy no good for nothing bums. You are out there because you like to ride aroundthat's your only reason. We come from the outside and we have a need to work." During this occasion when the scabs were yelling back at us, one of the women jumped across a fence which was between the rancher's property and the road. Then one of the younger more determined scabs jumped her and started to kick her while she was on the ground. We thought he was going to kill her. He beat her and kept on beating her till we could see blood coming out from the bruises and cuts which he (the young scab) was inflicting on the woman striker....

At that moment I got furious and called on the men to jump over the fence and help the lady but some of the men were rather afraid of all the policemen that were on the side of the road doing nothing. I jumped the fence and so did some other women, then the rest of the men followed to try and help the poor lady. When the rancher saw this he drove up very fast and got the young scab in the car and drove off fast with him. The woman was left on the ground all beaten up. The strikers kept on moving into the fields, enraged at what had happened. They got to the scabs and cut their cotton picking sacks to shreds and told them to go back to where they came from. Some of the scabs w were even beaten up at that time. I recall the scabs yelling out, "NO, Don't hit us. We'll go back we only came because we need to work" I also remember some of the people telling them not to forget that they also were out of a job and that they were living out in their cars with their families. Then the rancher drove up very furious with a gun in his hand threatening to shoot at the people unless they cleared off the property. The strikers yelled at him, "Go ahead and shoot. Kill us if you think this will end the strike," the rancher was shaking so much that he dropped the gun. He got sick right there and had to be taken to the hospital. The police came in at this point and drove us out. They forced us back to the camp then told us to go to work, that we had to go back to work or we would not move. The strikers yelled back, "We won't go to work." The reply from the police was, "If you don't quiet down we'll throw tear gas at all of you" Then one of the police, Acosta I believe his name was, said, "Well, we're going to come to an agreement here. Go back to the camp and the ranchers will sign an agreement there and the different families can go back to whichever rancher that they were working for." The ranchers did agree to pay us at the rate of 70 cents per 100 pounds of cotton.

At the time that the strike broke out I had a son who was just 12 days old, I had just given birth to him when all of us were thrown out of the camp housing into the road with nothing and nowhere to go.

In the same incident named above the women strikers took care of the women scabs and beat them and tore their clothes off; the men strikers took care of the men scabs and practically forced them off the field. Before the incident the men would yell at the women strikers to provoke them and yell at them such things as—"Come in where we have what it takes to make you fat."

The workers were asking us not to hit them any more that they came from very fary away and that they would go back-"Just don't hit us any more." The men would tell them in return, "This is so that you won't come back. And for what you yelled at us, and for our suffering while you stayed in the fields to break out strike even though we tried to do some good for everyone." There were a lot of policemen that came from Tulare, Visalia and various other towns. I recall that they put a wire fence around our camp which had lines that were charged with electricity. This was done so that the contractors would not come in and pick fights. The ranchers would yell at us if we had already repented that we could go back to our housing the ranch camp in.

I recall very well that the Cotton Strike was a very violent one and there was a lot of bloodshed and beatings of the strikers.

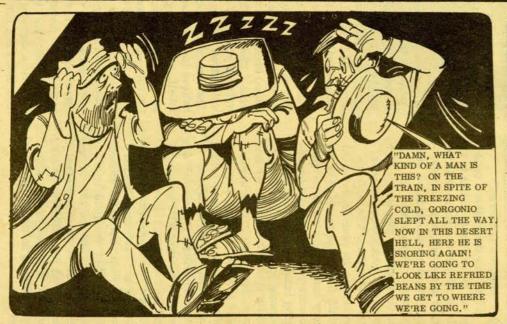
> As told by HELEN FLORES Of Hanford, California



IN A RESTAURANT IN CALEXICO, HONORIO MET AN AMERICAN NEWSPAPERMAN CALLED BILL STONE, AND QUICKLY BEFRENDED HIM BY POSING AS A MEXICAN JOURNALIST. STONE WAS GOING TO COACHELLA TO COVER A HUGE FARM LABOR STRIKE, AND HE OFFERED HONORIO A RIDE. OUT-SIDE OF TOWN IN "THE HOLE" TELESFORO AND GORGONIO WERE UNWITTINGLY HIRED AS SCABS FOR THE SAME STRIKE. WHEN LAST SEEN, HONORIO AND BILL STONE WERE FOLLOWING THE CON-TRACTOR'S TRUCK.

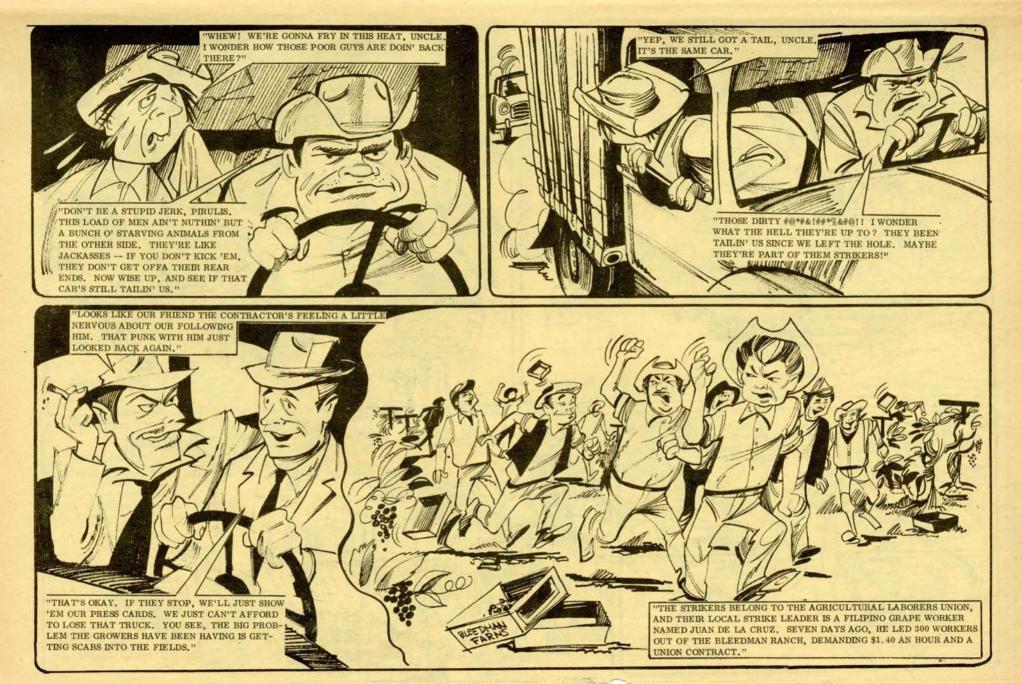
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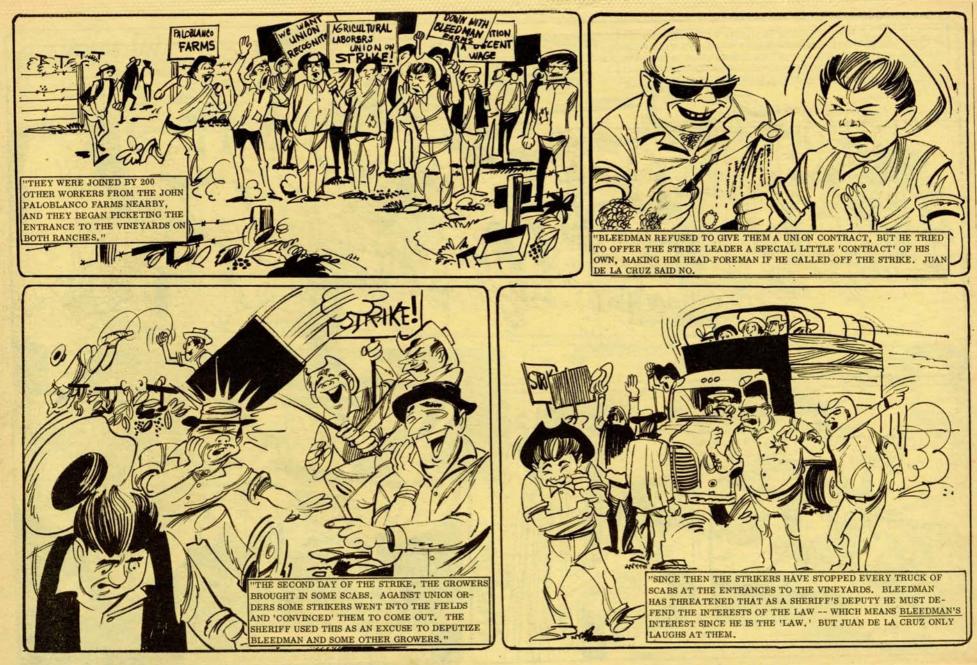


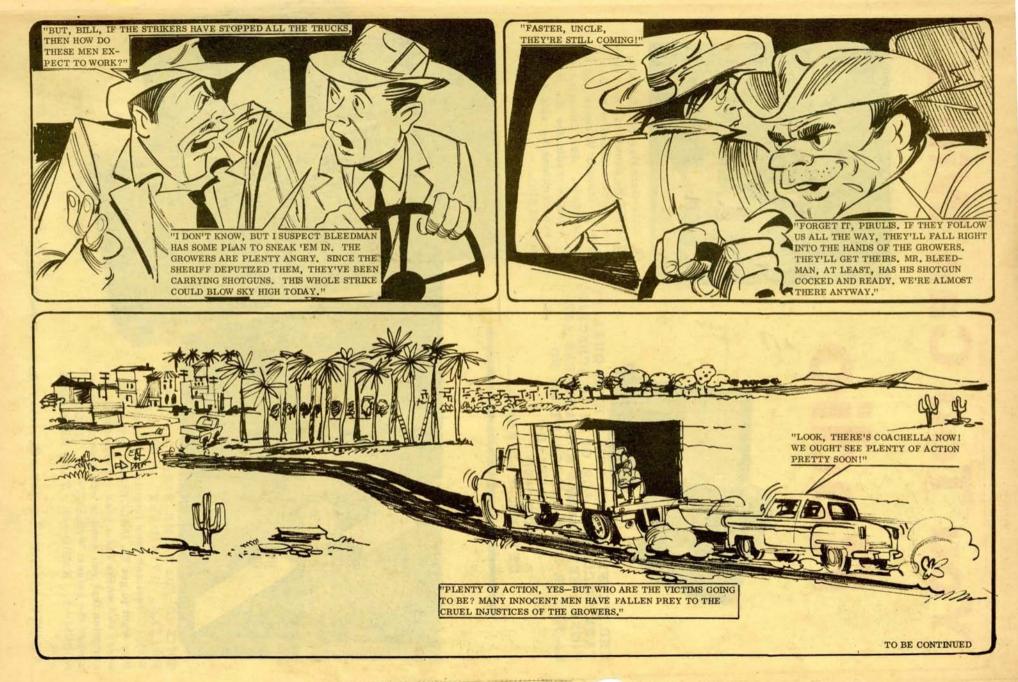


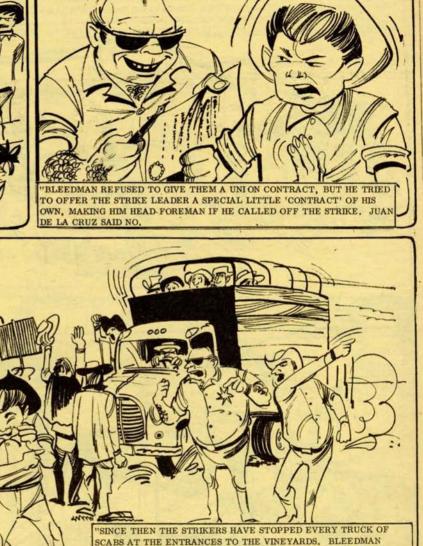
GETS ME DOWN."

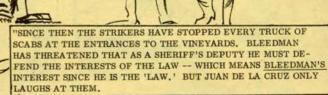


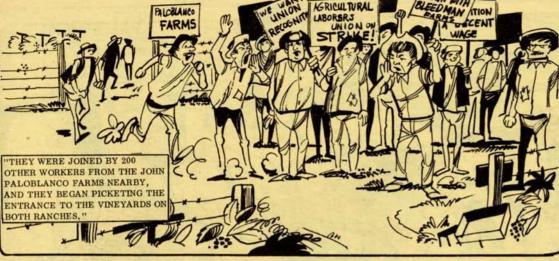
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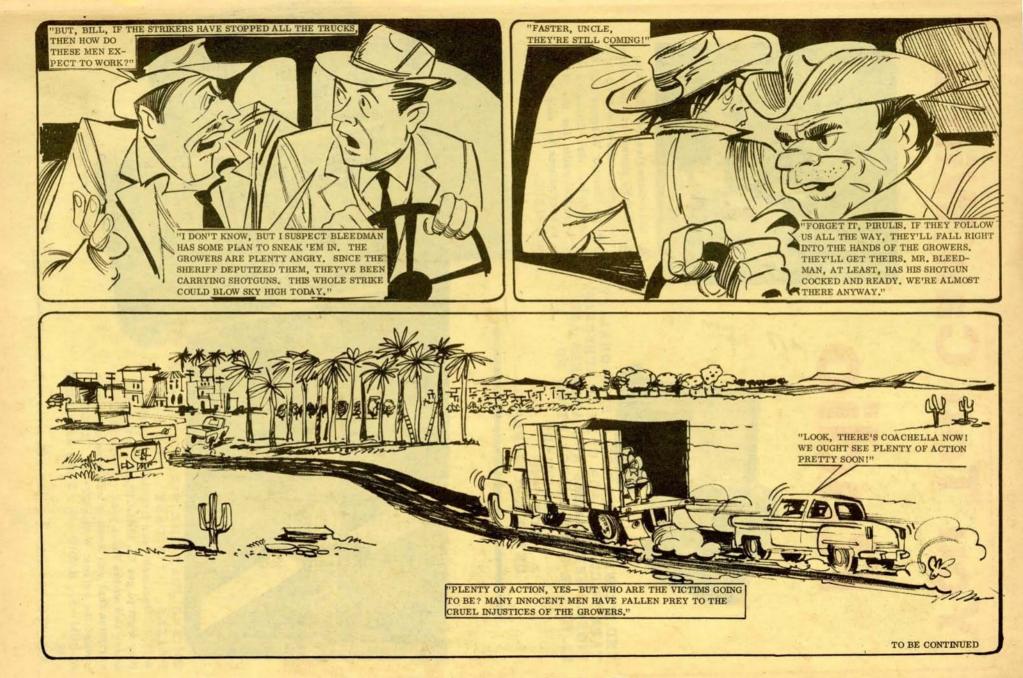












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Sr. Luis Gonzales of ADRIAN, MI CHI GAN, shown at the center of the picture above with Delano strikers Manuel Vasquez and Maria Saludado. Sr. Gonzales won the beautiful radio for the first ten subscriptions he sold for EL MALCRI ADO.

Jugrantes

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