Killed helping workers to organize
To members, subscribers, and supporters:

EL MALCRIADO wishes to thank the Franciscan brothers at San Juan Bautista for helping to provide the Union with a "new" mailing machine. It is a 1917 vintage Addressograph but has a new motor and will work fine for a long time. The generosity of the Franciscans will enable us to automate our mailing system over the next two months. We hope soon to set up a regular system of news releases and other publicity, Union news and work bulletins to members, and other publicity, as well as to automate the subscription list for EL MALCRIADO.

We must still invest in a Graphotype machine, costing several hundred dollars, to make the metal address plates, so there will still be some delay in automating our subscription list. For those of you receiving more than one copy of the paper, we ask your patience. Pass it on to a friend. We are so understaffed that we simply do not have the facilities for removing all duplications at present.

And for those of you who have never formally subscribed to EL MALCRIADO, or whose subscriptions are about to expire, we urge you to send in your $3.50 today, to be sure that you will continue to receive the paper after we change to the new addressing system.

More and more people are finding out that a subscription to EL MALCRIADO is the best way to keep up with the farm worker struggle. Don't be left out—send in this coupon today!

FILL OUT THIS CARD AND SEND IT WITH $3.50 TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS FOR A ONE-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION TO EL MALCRIADO, SENT TO YOUR HOME EVERY TWO WEEKS FOR ONE YEAR.

NAME: ____________________________ English □ Español □
ADDRESS: ____________________________
CITY: ____________________________ STATE: __________ ZIP: ________
We are 3,000 miles from the scene of the crime and we have no part in the investigation, but we have some opinions.

Martin Luther King was killed by an individual who acted as the trigger man for the hatred, hostility and violence which have come to characterize our nation.

That trigger man had to understand that he acted out the feelings of our racist

Continued on page 12

There is a bond between the struggle of the farm workers in California and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. It is a bond of love and leadership, a bond which cannot be broken by the bullet of his assassin.

It was Dr. Martin Luther King who taught us to value ourselves as individuals. His example proved for us that all farm workers, Mexicans, Filipinos, Negroes, Anglos, could live together and work together to gain the place in society which we merit as men.

Dr. King proved that the only road we can walk is that of non-violence and love. It was his example that inspired and continues to inspire us as we confront the obstacles on that road, and overcome them.

Through his work and in his death he breathes life into the teachings of Christ and Ghandi. His great faith that We Shall Overcome is the same faith which allowed us to continue, no matter the odds.

The victories achieved under his leadership were no less important for the poor in the fields of our nation than for the poor in the cities. He spearheaded the movement for voting rights, for an end to segregated facilities, for jobs, and for equal protection of the law.

He fought against police brutality and the violence which grinds down the lives of our people and all the disinherit.

It was no accident that Martin Luther King placed himself in the center of the battle against the war in Vietnam. He saw the slaughter of Vietnamese farmworkers as an atrocious abuse of military power. He spoke out against the outrageous use of black youth and all minority youth as cannon fodder in a war of annihilation. He chose to aim his movement at the war despite the advice of many that such a turn could destroy the movement for human rights. He did so because it was right.

We have a debt to Dr. King, a debt larger than to any living man. It can only be repaid as he would have it, in sacrifice and continued non-violent struggle against those who have oppressed us and would continue to oppress us. It will be repaid by effectively organizing in the fields of our nation, so that farm workers can wrest their right to dignity and a decent life from the forces that have confined us for so long.

Dr. King spoke of the dream which moved him. He dreamt of a "day when all God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing the words of the old Negro spiritual:

Free at last, free at last,
Thank God Almighty, we're free at last

When we have done our most to turn that dream into reality, we will have repaid our debt to Dr. Martin Luther King, a great leader, a great teacher, a great man.
I have a dream...

Spoken without notes by Martin Luther King at the 1963 March on Washington.

But I say to you, my friends, even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream.

It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream. I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal."

I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia that the former slaves and the sons of former slave-owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood. I have a dream that one day, even the state of Mississippi will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character. I have a dream today. I have a dream that one day in Alabama, with its vicious racists, with its governor having his lips dripping with the words of interposition and nullification, one day right there in Alabama, little black boys and little black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and little white girls as brothers and sisters. I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain and the crooked places will be made straight. This is our hope. This is our faith that I go back to the South with.

With this faith, we will be able to hew of the mountain of despair a stone of hope. With this faith we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day.

This will be the day—this will be the day when all of God's children will be able to sing with meaning: "My country 'tis of thee, Sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing / land where my fathers died/land of the Pilgrim's pride/from every mountain side let freedom ring."

And if America is to be a great nation, this must become true. So let freedom ring. From the snow-capped Rockies of Colorado, let freedom ring. From the mighty mountains of New York, let freedom ring. From the heightening Alleghenies of Pennsylvania, let freedom ring. From the snow-capped Rockies of Colorado, let freedom ring. From the snow-capped Rockies of Colorado, let freedom ring. From the snow-capped Rockies of Colorado, let freedom ring.

But not only that; Let freedom ring from Stone Mountain of Georgia, let freedom ring from Lookout Mountain of Tennessee, let freedom ring from every hill and molehill of Mississippi. From every mountainside, let freedom ring.

And when this happens, when we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics will be able to join hands and sing the words of the old Negro spiritual:

Free at last, free at last,
Thank God Almighty, we're free at last.
DEAR MRS. KING,

We are deeply saddened to learn of the death of your husband. Our prayers are for you and your children in your sorrow. It is my belief that much of the courage which we have found in our struggle for justice in the fields has had its roots in the example set by your husband and by those multitudes who followed his non-violent leadership. We owe so much to Dr. Martin Luther King that words alone cannot express our gratefulness. Despite the tragic violence which took your husband, there is much that is good about our nation. It was to that goodness that your husband appealed. It was that compassion in all of us that he reached out to touch. His non-violence was that of action—not that of one contemplating action. Because of that, he will always be to us more than a philosopher of non-violence. Rather, he will be remembered by us as a man of peace.

Cesar E. Chavez
Director, UFWOC

At a memorial service for Dr. King held in Bakersfield recently, Rev. Emilio Carranza, minister-farm worker, and UFWOC vice president Andy Imutan were speakers. We reprint here Brother Imutan's talk.

For the farm worker Dr. King's influence has been and will continue to be the greatest source of our strength next to our united numbers. Through his life he has welded the concepts of non-violence, organization and unity into living concrete examples which give us hope for a future with justice.

Commitment to non-violence has become for us in the Farm Workers Union a way of life. The basis of our movement is a belief in the importance of each individual human life. We cannot compromise.

The measure of a man is not how violent he may be—it is in his strength and his will to achieve justice through just means.

In this measure Dr. King was a truly great man. It is this greatness to which our Union is committed.

We may take today to mourn the death of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, but that really doesn't mean much. Words of mourning have fallen from the lips of many enemies of the cause of social justice. The very racists Dr. King was marching against in Memphis have put up a reward for his assailant.

Rather than mourn his death, we should learn from his life and work in our own lives according to his wisdom. Dr. King stated many times, "If a man has nothing worth dying for, then he also has no reason to live." The farm workers who are waging a non-violent battle for dignity and a decent life accept that statement and live by it. When each of us takes that statement as a code of our own lives we will be honoring the man, Martin Luther King, and his memory.
Reagan recruits scabs

The California Department of Employment marked the passage of April Fools Day by initiating a new policy of strikebreaking and scabherding. They issued an order to the state farm labor offices to begin sending scabs to six of the strike-bound ranches in Delano. The decision was made on the basis of "proof" offered by the growers, following a strange sort of investigation. Evidence, proof or argument of the striking Union, UFCW, was never asked for or looked into.

Reagan's little Labor Department declined to recognize the fact that the Union might even have arguments which contradict those of the growers. The matter seemed to hinge upon whether or not the original strikers were still a part of the strike action against the growers.

The Union supplied Reagan's Labor Department with a list of some of the strikers who walked out more than two years ago. Many of them have been a part of the strike since 1965; some have taken jobs with other ranches and are either working out of the area, at Union ranches or for ranchers who are not being struck. The Union stated that the list was still a partial list and that many people were here in Delano ready to be interviewed by the investigators. The list was never examined, the strikers never interviewed, and the decision was made.

The Reagan Labor Department sent out an April Fools Day letter to the six growers, Caric & Sons, Zaninovich, Jack Cesare & Sons, Jack Radovitch, Sandrini Brothers, and Anton Caratan & Sons. We assume they are all loyal Reagan supporters. There are still some weather-worn Reagan election signs at some of the ranches. The letter stated "Our attorneys have reviewed your proof... and found that your proof is valid."

It is hardly surprising to find the Reagan administration overlooking the rules of evidence. It is in line with the general Reagan policy of overlooking the rules of fairness, decency and intelligence.

The state is supposed to refrain from referring workers to ranches where the people have walked out in a labor dispute whether or not there is an active picketline on the day of referral.

We have evidence to prove that Reagan's Labor Department has been guilty of referring workers to Giumarra. In one instance a worker was given a hand drawn map directing him to a ranch which was surrounded by seventy pickets just a few blocks away from the Farm Labor Office. The worker returned to the office, refusing to cross the picketline and was told, "You just go back there again tomorrow. That picketline moves around all over the place, they may be up in Ducor in the morning."

Stories from the past...

by William T. Gray
Westminster, Colorado

In Colorado, there were no early reservoirs of cheap labor in the sugar beet district. In 1918, sugar beet companies began the importation of laborers from Mexico, the Great Western Sugar Company being the chief importer.

The technique was a one-way transportation system. The company distributed Mexican laborers to growers. The growers tried to place the responsibility for the welfare of the workers on the company; the company disclaimed the burden.

There was neither a company-employee, nor a satisfactory grower-employee relationship.

This was an era of human exploitation and economic boom. From 1905 to 1939, common stockholders in the Great Western Sugar Company received an average annual return of 43.2 per cent on original investment.

The spirit of these times is reflected in legislation passed by the State of Colorado. In 1927, a law was enacted prohibiting the use of county funds for the burial of these poor workers. Their bodies had to be delivered within 24 hours of death to the State Board of Health for removal to one of the medical colleges for dissection.

This law struck mortal terror to thousands of workers. In death, as in life, the Great Western Sugar Company disclaimed any responsibility for the welfare of its workers. At present, sugar beet workers in Colorado are without the protection and human dignity offered by UFCW.

¡VIVA LA CAUSA!
April Fool's day in court

BAKERSFIELD, April 1—Kern County's reputation for justice grows daily. April Fool's Day is no exception. With all the wisdom of a Solomon, Judge P.R. Borten coached the Giumarra attorney to protect his client. But in trying to respond dutifully, the rancher lawyer flubbed up.

UFWOC attorney Jerome Cohen appeared before the judge on a motion to release the Giumarra evidence for inspection in the contempt case against the Union, Cesar Chavez, Epifanio Camacho, and 300 "John Does." Cohen argued that when there are criminal charges the defense attorney has a right to inspect the evidence.

Judge Borten reluctantly agreed, then leaned over the dais to tell William A. Quinlan, Giumarra's lawyer, that he would limit the order if only he would give some evidence to justify a limitation.

Quinlan hastily took a highly unusual course by rushing to the witness stand and swearing himself in as his own witness.

UFWOC attorney Cohen followed Quinlan's precedent and he too took the stand as a witness, stating, "Yes, there were 2,000 farm workers, but not a single threat or even a look of intimidation. The man taking the pictures was from EL MALCRIADO. We have pictures of the witnesses for the last month and they have not been intimidated or molested at all. How can the Court be protecting the identity of the witnesses when we already know who they are?"

In the nature of Kern County Justice the judge's order stands, but it will be open to review shortly, and we expect that it will be changed.

"Right to work"?

"Right to work" is a shiny phrase, invented by the Advertising Men. It covers a law which denies the right of the majority when they want a union. It ends the possibility of having democracy on the job.

When a man goes for a job, who sets the conditions of employment? The boss tells the man how he will dress, when and where he will go, what he will do, and how much he will be paid. This only changes when there is a union to sit down and work out an agreement with the boss to change the conditions of employment. If a majority of the workers decide that they want membership in a union to be one of the conditions of employment and they have the unity to make that decision stick, that is the beginning of democracy on the job.

Under a "Right to Work Law" the boss would have complete control. The only decision about the job a worker would have left would be whether to take the job or starve.

EL MALCRIADO says: When workers believe in on-the-job democracy they fight "Right to Work" laws. We are not so stupid to swallow poison no matter how sweet the candy coating.

He testified that if his contempt witnesses were known they would be intimidated by the Union. When Borten asked how they would be intimidated Quinlan responded: "At the last hearing there were 2,000 farm workers here and my people were scared. They even had a man who kept taking their pictures. They were intimidated."

Borten: "Has the man with the camera from the Union?"

Quinlan: "I think so, but we're not sure."

With the new "evidence" in hand the representative of Kern County Justice limited UFWOC's right to view the evidence to 24 hours before the next hearing—hardly time to study and prepare a case.

UFWOC attorney Cohen then followed Quinlan's precedent and he too took the stand as a witness, stating, "Yes, there were 2,000 farm workers, but not a single threat or even a look of intimidation. The man taking the pictures was from EL MALCRIADO. We have pictures of the witnesses for the last month and they have not been intimidated or molested at all. How can the Court be protecting the identity of the witnesses when we already know who they are?"

In the nature of Kern County Justice the judge's order stands, but it will be open to review shortly, and we expect that it will be changed.

EL MALCRIADO says: The only intimidation which took place in connection with the pictures of the witnesses was when one of the scab group came at the photographer with a raised fist, saying, "I'll knock that camera into your face." The photographer ducked the blow, but photographed the man as he approached.
Yuba City

The Jolly Green Giant in Yuba City was found to be trampling on the workers in his asparagus fields. The Green Giant may have thought of those workers as the cute little elves depicted in the TV commercials. On the other hand, the workers thought of themselves differently - as men of value and dignity who have a born right to be treated as such. The "elves" united and proved themselves far taller than the giant.

The men had been promised $4.75 per 100 pounds of asparagus cut. Resentment in the camp grew as the bosses cheated the men of up to 60 per cent of what the wages should have been.

There was never any accurate accounting of what a man produced, the sanitary conditions in the field were atrocious and in violation of the law; the conditions had become totally intolerable.

There were about 50 men living in the camp and working in the Jolly Giant's asparagus patch. Three representatives were chosen: Ricardo Gaytan, Rafael Berver and Refugio Ramirez.

They spoke with the boss, an unlicensed labor contractor, and tried to remedy the situation. They had no success. Instead they found that, after working five hours one day, they were paid an average of $2.79 gross wages.

The next day they failed to get their paychecks on time. When the paychecks finally did come, they were short. Gaytan refused to accept his abbreviated check and told the others to refuse the checks until they were filled out to the right amount.

Gaytan was then told to turn in his blanket and get out of the camp. Within minutes the police arrived and Gaytan was carted away, arrested for trespassing.

Nobody went back to work after the arrest. A series of meetings was held at the only available place, a local church. The men drew up demands: that charges against Gaytan be dropped, all men fired for walking off the job be taken back, sanitation standards be brought up to state requirements, and that the company pay according to its promises when the men were hired.

The morning of March 28 the sun came up on pickets orderly stationed at the entrances to the ranch, camp and packing shed. That same day a busload of 72 scabs arrived. They had been recruited by the California Department of Employment in Calexico and subjected to a 20-hour ride with one meal, bad enough to make some of the men ill. The pickets convinced about 50 of the scabs to join their ranks, while the other 20 left to find other jobs.

The strikers found enough sympathy and support in Yuba City to provide 100 people with food and lodging. The picketing continued, aided by sympathetic Yuba City residents, while a six-man delegation of strikers discussed a settlement with three "Green Giants" flown out from the home office in Minnesota.

After an allnight bargaining session the strike was terminated. The company was frightened of losing its crop, and apparently scared to death that the men might call in UFWOC. They bowed to all the demands of the strikers. All charges were dropped, all strikers rehired. A minimum of $1.65 per hour or $1.50 per box was set, and the men agreed to go back to work.

As if to underline its fear of the Union, the Jolly Green Giant wrote individual contracts for each of the men. When the work is done, the men, having learned the power of unity, can keep those documents as written proof that the little elves can whip a Green Giant, no matter how Jolly, just so long as they stand side by side with their brothers.
Growers fracture law

Despite the whimpering pleas for law and order on the part of Ronnie Reagan, his administration does little or nothing to control the lawlessness of agricopower.

The Marysville office of the California Rural Legal Assistance Program recently ran a survey of labor law violations on the ranches of four counties. The survey was a part of the research necessary to represent a farmworker who had been denied unemployment insurance when he refused a ranch job that had substandard conditions.

The survey was made in Northern California's Sutter, Yuba, Colusa and Butte counties. The employers sampled were a reasonable cross section of 173 ranches. The overall finding was that 95% of the ranches were in blatant violation of the law.

Ninety-one percent of the growers violated the law on drinking water. Either it was not available for the workers at all, or it was distributed in a way that could spread disease.

Ninety-eight percent of the ranches failed to live up to the laws which require clean toilets for the field workers.

Ninety-five percent of the farms surveyed failed to live up to the laws which protect the worker on payday. Many had no notice of the time and place of payment. Often workers were laid-off without immediate payment. Workers who quit, frequently had their pay withheld beyond the legal 72-hour limit. A large number of employers never itemize the deductions on the paystubs. It was not unusual to find employers paying a whole family on a single paycheck, with a single social security deduction.

The investigators found 2,468 violations in all, exactly half of them relating to the protection of consumers from contaminated food. The health laws concerning both consumers and farm workers were broken in 735 cases. The ranches surveyed collided with the law in 499 cases relating to wage payments.

There is no reason to think that this report made any attempt to single out ranches. The figures obtained only bear out the facts of life which are familiar to anyone who has ever worked in the sunlit sweatshops of California.
Back the boycott!

The intensive boycott work begun by 48 members of the United Farm Workers in New York City in January has now branched out to include Boston and Chicago. It is a period of the year when there are almost no table grapes on the market. The grapes now on the shelves have been in cold storage for six to eight months and are very low quality and high in price.

But Giumarra will soon be trying to sell his scab potatoes to the American people. And his next crop of grapes will be hitting the market in less than four months.

The farm worker boycotters want to make sure that every union member and fruit broker and grocery store owner will know about the Giumarra strike and will refuse to handle Giumarra products when they arrive on the market.

Dolores Huerta, Vice President of the UFWOC is in charge of the Boycott in the East. She reported to "EL MALCRIADO" from Chicago last week that progress was good in the Windy City. Headquarters of the Union and boycott committee in Chicago are 1300 Habash, and Midwest supporters of the Union should write there for information on how to help in their towns and cities.

In New York boycott headquarters are at 182 21st St., in Brooklyn. Thanks to the tremendous generosity of Paul Hall and the Seafarers International Union, the boycotters were equipped with an office, typewriters, mimeo machines, food and living quarters. The S.I.U. helped the Californians to fan out over the City, which has more than 8,000,000 inhabitants, and to reach literally thousands of Union locals, churches, clubs, groups and organizations of all kinds.

"He doubt a scab grape ever reaches a store counter in New York, but if it does, we'll be ready with our picket signs," one huelguista stated with confidence. "And the people here know about our strike. Cesar's fast reminded them of our suffering. They will not cross our picket lines."

In Boston, Marcos Munoz heads the boycott, with headquarters at 73 Tremont Street. Munoz led successful boycotts in Sacramento and Arizona against growers who later signed contracts with the Union.

In California, the Boycott centers are Los Angeles and the San Francisco Bay area. Bill Chandler leads the boycott in L.A. (2827 Winter, Phone 262-5479) and Pete Velasco leads the boycott in the Bay Area (568 4th St. Oakland, phone 655-3256). The next issue of "EL MALCRIADO" will give more information on the boycott in California, and the labels that Giumarra is using this year to try to market his potatoes.

Every month that Giumarra and the other 30 scab table grape growers refuse to sign decent contracts is causing the table grape industry irreparable damage, according to Mrs. Huerta. Many people, confused by all the label switching that Giumarra does, have simply given up eating all table grapes.

For those of you who have joined your dinner table to the massive boycott, and like to write letters, why not this month write to Milan Caratan (Cecil Avenue, Delano, California 93215).

Caratan is the President of the California Table Grape Commission. He is one of the original 33 struck growers who refused to open the letter from Cesar Chavez when the Union asked for a meeting and discussion of wages and working conditions.

Caratan helped Giumarra recruit workers and loaned Giumarra his labels. Write to Caratan and tell him you won't eat any California table grapes until the growers begin negotiations with their workers. And send a carbon copy of the letter to UFWOC, so we can send copies to the other 30 growers. Our address is P.O. Box 130, Delano, California, 93215.
Hurt? Get paid for it!

There is an accident. A tractor in reverse crushes a worker's leg. Juan screams. The crew gathers around and a friend carries him off to the hospital. Juan recovers but the doctor says he'll be crippled for life. The company pays the doctor bills as if they are doing a tremendous favor. They then offer $500 so the family can get along while Juan recovers. Juan signs a little paper and takes the money.

Everyone is happy for a few weeks until the money runs out and the family is hungry. Juan spends the rest of his life as a cripple, begging for odd jobs until the kids are old enough to go into the fields to earn a living.

How many times has this sort of thing happened? Nobody knows. Nobody counted, but always the company is thought of for what they have done for the "Juan" involved.

Every large company or ranch which employs workers has to carry insurance in case a man is injured. The more costly the injuries, the higher the rate for the company. The company always try to skin by with paying the least. They never let a man know his full right of workmen's compensation. If they have to let the insurance company know of the injury, then it is the insurance company which tries to cheat the worker. The less the insurance company pays out, the more money it makes. They are in business to make money, there is no other reason.

The insurance companies hire high powered lawyers whose only job is to keep the company from paying out money when a man is hurt on the job. These men are specialists in using the law to cheat the workers. And the law they use was written for no other reason than to protect the workers. These insurance company lawyers know all the tricks. No man is qualified to beat them at their own game unless he has studied the law and is a professional at that same game. A farm worker knows farm work. When he is hurt on the job he needs a lawyer to deal with the company lawyers.

When you are hurt on the job and it costs you any time at all, you need to see both a doctor and a lawyer. Always report an injury to your foreman or supervisor. Never trust the company's doctor, lawyers, or word. They are out to beat you out of the compensation that you have coming to you.

The next time you have any accident at work, get in touch with your local Union office and get help from your representative. You never know how serious a small injury can get in later years. Any time you have to lose work to recover from a job injury you can be getting temporary compensation which is at least 65% of your regular earnings. It goes a long way toward easing the pain. The final disability award which is won by your lawyer can often amount to thousands. It is better than any medication.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION, SEND YOUR QUESTION TO EL MALCRIADO.
'Good Grief! They Want To ORGANIZE - Just Like Us!'
--Reprinted from Ventura Star-Free Press. Sent to us by Peter Renault. With permission.

Who killed King?

Continued from page 3

society. He acted for every Klansman who ever wore a hood. He acted for every cop who ever raised a billy club needlessly. He acted for every judge who ever ruled to maintain the nationwide standard of racial, national, ethnic and economic inequality before the law. He acted for every member of Congress who ever allowed this nation to withhold the natural rights of a man because he was poor or black or brown.

He acted for every employer who ever drew a penny of profit by exploiting the group differences between men. He acted for every newspaper, movie company, T.V. mogul and educator who allowed racism to permeate our society, whether by design or default.

King's killer acted for every man whose courage weakened when another said "nigger" or "greaser" or "wetback" or "flip" or "kike" and he failed to say NO. Those who never challenged the racist institutions such as the draft and the war killed King, just as surely as if they had raised the gun.

Racism, subtle or strong, direct or passive, taints the past and present of Americans. Whether or not the trigger man is brought to justice, we know who the killer is.

"Our King is dead. Our King of Peace is dead. Long live our King."
Struck grower backs hoax

Struck Delano grower Jack Pandol took a dive into the slime of politics with his entry into "Californians for Right to Work." Pandol is one of the best known growers hit by the strike. He is not well known because of power, wealth, cruelty or the outstanding quality of his product. He is known because every time a TV camera or a news reporter came near the picketline in the first year of the strike, Jack Pandol was there to be seen, photographed, and interviewed.

Pandol is a studiously pleasant man whose mouth seems never to stop recounting the woes of the poor grower. He is so convincing about the "hardships" he is forced to endure as a rancher, that our hearts go out to him. We have nothing but pity for the poor man.

Our feeling for Pandol is not wasted either. In return he has "great feeling" for the plight of the poor farm worker. "I pay them even more than the Union asks. If one of my boys treats me right, I give him the best. I give him the best house to live in and a job for life."

We know that when he makes a statement of this sort he speaks with the greatest sincerity and understanding. But we understand him at least as well as he knows us. For instance we all know what he meant when he said "Our workers have never shown any dissatisfaction. We take good care of them. And most of these Mexicans like the arrangement of not working steady. It's the nature of these people to move from place to place." One of the Pandol brothers once told a MALCRIADO reporter that the reason Mexicans are poor is that they have too many children, and that if they worked harder in the fields they would not have that sort of problem. Oh, yes, those Pandol's understand us!

Jack Pandol has now become the Secretary-Treasurer of the "Californians for Right to Work." He is not satisfied just to fight the Union on the picketline. He is now working to destroy the right of the workers to have a union shop agreement. He is joining forces with some of the most conservative and ignorant political forces in the state. Their philosophy seems to be "If you can't win in the twentieth century, you may as well try the nineteenth."

Pandol and his buddies seem to forget that is was the "Right to Work" item on the ballot in 1958 which resulted in the most overwhelming defeat the reactionary anti-labor forces ever received in this state.

In the past we have been honored to be considered an enemy by Mr. Pandol. Now we feel a little left out. His new friends in "Californians for Right to Work" are likely to do him even more harm than we ever could. Sincerely, though, we pity the "Poor" Pandol.
Gift from the bloody 30's

Two "old timers" visited Delano last month, wish the strikers luck, perform an act of generosity, and tell some hair-raising stories about the "good old days:"

Haskell Smith of Fresno and Charlie Bolton of Tulare have been in this valley almost 40 years. They have worked in just about every crop. They have seen farm workers try to get together and organize, and they have seen the growers and cons and judges and politicians crush the poor people with bullets and laws and injunctions and frame-ups. But they were not afraid to fight for what they believed in. And their struggles are part of the rich tradition which gives us inspiration and courage today.

Let Haskell Smith tell it in his own words:

"I came out from Oklahoma in 1937. Things were bad there and they said that everyone got rich in California. Well I wasn't here very long before I joined the Union and got into the strike.

"Our Union was the old "UCAPAWA" (United Cannery Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America, CIO, founded in 1937). There was all kinds of people in that Union, Oakes, Negroes, Mexican people. I was in Madera in 1939, and pretty much all the workers there wanted the Union.

"In the fall of 1939 we began a strike in the cotton. Sometime they paid 75c, sometimes 85c a hundred (it takes two to three hours for an average worker to pick a 100 lbs. sack of cotton). From the first day they were out to get us. On the first day we put up a picket line, 24 were jailed. They tried to pick up all the leaders and 16, that they thought were leaders, was in jail for 8 months. Not for burning, or hitting anybody. Just for being strikers.

"We couldn't rent a hall so we met in the park, but one day the farmers came in and beat up a lot of guys, beat up women and children, clubbed them. They used tear gas. Thirty or 40 women and children had to be hospitalized after those Associated Farmers got through with the clubbing and beatings. (The Associated Farmers were the notorious storm-trooper-vigilante organization of California growers exposed by the LaFollette Report and U.S. Senate investigation. LaFollette revealed that the Associated Farmers had stocked up on machine guns, submachine guns, rifles, pistols, tear gas, and clubs and ax handles in arsenals all over the state to "preserve law and order")

"It was a struggle, and a hard one. So the cons moved in, Not to protect us. Oh no! But to throw us out of the park.

"So we had to build a hall. It's in the southeast part of town. We got a little piece of land and built it ourselves. After we built this hall, they tried to burn it down. But we got insurance on it and once they found out, they decided not to try to burn us out, 'cause they knew we'll just build a new and bigger one.

"We never did get no contract, but some of them growers went up from 85¢ to $1 or $1.25 a hundred.

"There was two killed in Madera in that strike, but they never did try to find out who did it.

Still standing, as a monument to the two killed, the dozens jailed or injured, the bravery and courage of those farm workers, the old UCAPAWA Union Hall remains a symbol of the great struggles for justice in the 1930's. Haskell Smith, Charlie Bolton, and Steve Rodriguez of Madera have kept the hall in pretty good shape. Now they are donating it to the United Farm Workers for meetings and an office for Madera.

"And we wish you all the luck in the world," said Mr. Smith in closing his talk to the Union members. "Take it from me, you're gonna need it."
Court okays gun threat

LAMONT, April 5 — The law in Kern County ruled today that it's okay to pull a pistol on a striker, just so long as you back up the pistol threat with a sawed-off shotgun. Judge Head ruled on a case which originated last August when Miss Jessica Govea, UFWOC secretary, tried to serve a subpoena at a Giumarra labor camp.

On an evening at the beginning of the strike, Miss Govea, riding in a car driven by Union organizer Marcos Munoz, showed up at the camp on court business to serve a paper. According to sworn testimony they were greeted by company fuzz Ed Hooper, who, over the barrel of his pistol, ordered them to leave.

In the court testimony, Hooper spoke of the gun as his 'persuader'. Miss Govea, a shy, soft-spoken brunette, tried to convince Hooper to allow her to complete her business. Hooper then told her to get out and stay out, or the next time he'd have a sawed-off shotgun.

The defense lawyer insisted that Hooper pulled the gun on Miss Govea in "self defense." The prosecuting D. A. failed to ask several pertinent questions and did not seem too interested in obtaining a conviction, according to courtroom observers.

Jessica Govea is convinced that "this man threatened me with a deadly weapon and then threatened to get a lethal crowd killer for us. He could never have gotten away with that if not for the law's prejudice against the Union," she told EL MALCRIADO.

According to the Kern County pattern, Hooper was acquitted. The law may just as well be written on a perforated roll for all its effectiveness in protecting a striker.

Filipino-American Political Association backs huelga

DELANO, March 30 -- Saturday is the day caravans of farm worker supporters arrive in Delano bearing the supplies which keep the strike and the strikers alive. The Filipino American Political Association (FAPA) paid its first visit to the strike area. They have sent us support since 1965 but this was the first organized caravan which arrived. They brought food, clothing and money and spent the afternoon talking with strikers and visiting the strike area.

Emile Haradia, FAPA president, lives in San Francisco, where the organization is based. He says "Our group is already more than two years old, and our growing membership is working for political representation so that we will have some voice in the way our government operates. Right now we are working to see that all American citizens of Philippine origin are registered to vote. We are very much interested in seeing Mr. Johnson replaced by Senator Kennedy, but we are also interested in local politics wherever we have members."

The 35 member delegation also included Mr. Alex Escalante, publisher of the Philippine News, who took numerous pictures and promises to "try my best to rally Filipinos to the cause of the farmworker and UFWOC."

The strikers gave the group a warm welcome and look forward to continuing the relationship of cooperation. Only recently a FAPA chapter was formed by the Filipino workers in Delano.

Named president was Phillip Veracruz; vice president, Willie Barrientos; secretary, Luming Imutan; treasurer, Lourdes Dahilig.

Veracruz, also a director of UFWOC, stated the first activity of the local FAPA chapter is to "work in full cooperation with the Union on voter registration for Kennedy."
The voice of discontent

VISALIA, March 27—Three hundred farm workers voted a resounding NO to continued second class citizenship today. The Legislative Committee of Farm Workers of Tulare County, mostly UFWOC members, called a meeting to discuss unemployment insurance and NLRA coverage for agricultural workers. By the time the meeting was over they had shown their active concern, anger and resolve to make some immediate changes.

Eddie Cuellar, partially retired farm worker, played the most important part in developing a resolution which was agreed upon by the meeting. His resolution pointed out that the "1937 lawmakers who established unemployment insurance promised coverage for farm workers within one year," and that the "NLRA discriminates by excluding farm workers." This situation of inequality for people in agriculture has continued for 30 years, "thus condemning all agricultural workers to the stigma of second class citizenship."

When discussion turned to the income tax, several workers gave the opinion that the tax laws, too, hurt farm workers by excluding deductions for transportation, rent, and work clothes.

The final note of the meeting was sounded with unanimous agreement, "that if the government continues to violate the rights of agricultural workers, neither agricultural workers nor their sons should be forced into the armed services to fight for the so-called freedom which discriminates completely against low-income workers."

The message is to go to General Hershey, head of the draft; the Internal Revenue Service; the President; all congressmen, and distributed throughout the community.

Mr. Leap will be in the UFWOC Service Center (105 Asti Delano) every Wednesday to serve Union members.

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