

OUR UNION GAINS NATIONAL CHARTER



Photo: Merkle Press

Union Director Cesar Chavez receives our national charter from AFL-CIO President George Meany. Msgr. George G. Higgins witnesses the historic event.

• 'United Farm Workers, AFL-CIO' • Hard Work and Sacrifice to Continue

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- AFL-CIO President George Meany formally handed Union Director Cesar Chavez a charter Feb. 25 giving our Union the status of a full-fledged national Union in the AFL-CIO.

Present to witness La Causa's great landmark in American labor history was Msgr. George G. Higgins, director of the Division of Urban Affairs of the U.S. Catholic Conference. He has been instrumental in helping to mediate a number of our Union's disputes with growers.

Approval of the farmworkers as a chartered national Union was approved by the 35-man executive council of the 13.6 million-member AFL-CIO. The United Farm Workers, as the Union is now known, attained its new status after being an "organizing committee" since 1966.

In 1966, the National Farm Workers Association, founded in 1962 under Cesar's leadership, merged with the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO to form the United Farm Workers Organ-

izing Committee, AFL-CIO.

The merger came during the long, hard-fought Grape Strike which began in the Delano area in 1965. After the merger, the UFWOC organized the now-famous International Grape Boycott winning major contracts with more than 90 percent of the table grape growers after involving millions of people all over the world in the Non-violent struggle.

After learning the Union would receive a national charter, the Union's Executive Board expressed its delight and at the same time acknowledged that as a national Union, the United Farm Workers has an even greater responsibility to bring La Causa to all farmworkers.

The Executive Board declared the Union would continue to live by La Causa's long-standing principles of sacrifice and hard work, stipulating that all full-time organizers and staff personnel work for La Causa as volunteers receiving only room, board, and \$5.00 a week.

Migrant Ministry. Florida Governor Reuben Askew opposed the two anti-farmworker amendments as "discriminatory."

Florida, like many other states in the South, has a long history of "Right to Work" legislation ("Right to Work" is really a misnomer, for such laws attack worker and Union security.) The "Right to Work" (anti-Union security) provisions of the Florida constitution date from 1944, making them the oldest in the United States. The defeat of HB 2008, which would have strengthened and extended the bad effects of these provisions to farmworkers, is a victory for La Causa and confirmation of the recently-won Coca-Cola and H. P. Hood contracts.

LABOR LEADERS BOYCOTT REPUBLICAN-DOMINATED PAY BOARD

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- President Nixon's appointed fifteen-man Pay Board lost three of its five labor appointees when George Meany, president of the AFL-CIO, along with I.W. Abel, president of the United Steelworkers, and Floyd Smith of the International Association of Machinists announced their resignation March 22. Leonard Woodcock, president of the United Automobile Workers resigned the following day.

George Meany blasted the Pay Board, supposedly set up to equally represent labor, business and the public, and whose job it is to control prices and wages. It "represents government control. It represents political and business interests," he charged.

CESAR ANNOUNCES IDAHO POTATO BOYCOTT

Idaho Governor Signs Union-Busting Bill

BOISE, Idaho -- Idaho Governor Cecil D. Andrus signed an anti-farmworker bill Mar. 24 despite mass protests by farmworkers and their supporters.

After receiving more than 250 letters and 50 telegrams from farmworkers in Idaho protesting the passage of the bill, Union Director Cesar Chavez announced a Boycott of Idaho Potatoes.

Cesar condemned the law as "the most oppressive piece of legislation I have ever seen. We know the act is unconstitutional."

He said the Union will send a team to Idaho to discuss the new act with farmworkers and to plan the Boycott. "The workers in Idaho are very upset about the legislation, because it is an attempt to destroy their hopes of organizing," Cesar declared.

Immediately after the signing of the anti-farmworker bill, Idaho Union organizers Dan Sudran and Ausencio Garza reported "The farmworkers on the drafting committee were opposed to any labor legislation. Their beliefs were ignored and they were told by the governor that, like it or not, a farm labor bill would come out of his committee."

The drafting committee was formed by the governor after he vetoed an earlier anti-farmworker bill.

"Our Union's position is state farm labor legislation is both unnecessary and inappropriate," Dan said. "Some farm groups state farm legislation is needed to prevent violence, coercion and the law of the jungle. Violence, coercion, intimidation and obstructive picketing are already illegal under existing criminal and civil law."

"The exercise of constitutional rights of speech and assembly is not the law of the jungle," he declared.

"The governor sees where the most power and money lie; therefore there has to be a bill. We feel the time is past that labor can be considered a commodity," Dan stated.

Farmworkers protesting the anti-Union measure are passing out leaflets saying: "Politicians and growers have decided they have the right to tell farmworkers how they must organize and what their rights will be. Farmworkers don't belong to growers."

The Union-busting bill gives farmworkers "secret-ballot elections" by establishing a grower-dominated Agricultural Labor Board that will determine what the bargaining unit shall be and who is eligible to vote in an election. This means that at any given time the Board can exclude seasonal or

George further charged the Pay Board decisions had been dictated by the industry members and the public board members, most of whom have backgrounds in government or business. The AFL-CIO would no longer be used "for the benefit of business profits," he declared.

Leonard Woodcock said the administration of wage-price controls was "scandalous and unfair" and labeled the "Nixon controls" as "neither equitable nor effective."

Union Director Cesar Chavez sent a telegram to George Meany stating:

"Our sincere congratulations on your walkout from the Pay Board. Yours was a strong move of leadership and solidarity with working people throughout the country."

The Republican Administration has been firmly put on notice that workers will not allow years of struggle for collective bargaining to be destroyed."

Cesar also sent Leonard Woodcock a telegram congratulating him for resisting the Republican Party's attacks on American working people.

The only labor leader remaining on the Pay Board, Teamsters President Frank Fitzsimmons said he would remain to "work within the system."

resident workers from voting depending on which group will most likely support or oppose the Union.

Secondary Boycotts and mass picketing to "restrain or hinder work" are outlawed. Growers can get 72-hour injunctions against farmworker Strikes by calling the Agricultural Labor Board.

The bill's anti-Union Security (sometimes misnamed "Right to Work") clauses are aimed at undermining the Union's hiring halls by stipulating that a grower can go anywhere to get his labor. These provisions make it impossible for farmworkers to find real job security in Idaho.

The new law also says growers can use any "lawful" pesticide, insecticide or herbicide. So the use of economic poisons cannot be a topic for negotiations in collective bargaining. This means the Union cannot push to ban the use of DDT, Aldrin, Parathion and other poisons dangerous to both farmworkers and consumers.

Many restrictions are placed upon the Union by the Idaho farm labor law. Dues can be found excessive and discriminatory by the Board. This places the Union's solvency at the mercy of the Board. The Union must submit a detailed financial statement annually, including an annual filing of the Union's constitution and by-laws and names of leadership. However, the growers, including those who sit on the Board, do not have to open themselves up to this kind of scrutiny.

General Meeting in Coachella:

UNANIMOUS VOTE FOR STRIKE ASSESSMENT

COACHELLA, California -- More than 500 Ranch Committeemen and Union members attending a general meeting at the Coachella Union office Mar. 17 voted unanimously to establish a \$1.00-a-week Strike Assessment.

The Assessment will be paid by all Coachella Valley farmworkers whenever they work under Union contract. The vote for the Assessment came after it was revealed that a number of grape contracts (including Beckman and Bender; Bobara, Coachella-Imperial Distributors, Coachella Vineyards Co., Laflin and Laflin, Karahadian and Sons, Inc., and Mel-Pak) are being re-negotiated and there is a possibility the sisters and brothers involved in the negotiations may have to go on Strike in order to keep their Union contracts.

Antonio Arrendondo and Fred Abad, representatives, from the Union negotiating team consisting of 15 farmworkers from the companies involved, said they wanted to know whether or not they could count on the support of all Union members in the event of a Strike.

Coachella Union Office Director Ray Huerta asked the members for their answer. With shouts of "Solidarity Forever!" everyone stood up in favor of the \$1.00 a week Strike Assessment.

The funds raised by the Strike Assessment will go into La Causa's Strike Fund to help support Union members who find it necessary to defend their rights with a Strike. The Strike Assessment is crucial to the growth of our Union because our dues of only \$10.50 every three months is barely enough to cover the costs of administering and enforcing Union contracts.

An ever-increasing number of sisters and brothers are voting in favor of the \$1.00 a-week Strike Assessment to defend the Union contracts we already have. In addition, the assessment is used to carry on La Causa to valleys all over the country where farmworkers do not yet enjoy the benefits of a Union contract. In favor of supporting their sisters and brothers. A unanimous vote in favor of the \$1.00 Strike Assessment followed.

Grower Bill Killed in Florida

TALLAHASSEE, Florida -- A bill which would have crippled contracts newly-won in Florida by the United Farm Workers died in a Conference Committee of the Florida House of Representatives here at 11:30 p.m. on Friday, April 7.

House Bill 2008, designed to strengthen the "Right to Work" provisions of Florida's constitution, would have outlawed hiring halls in agriculture and would have established criminal penalties for violations of the law.

Abolition of hiring halls was a direct attack on the job security and seniority provisions of the Union's recently-won contracts in the state.

The measure would also have enabled elected public officials to prosecute Union officers, opening the way for harassment and intimidation of United Farm Workers officials and organizers. Union leaders would have been subject to penalties of up to six months imprisonment and \$500 fine. The bill was described by its supporters as a direct assault on our Union, its Director, Cesar Chavez, and the recent victories won by the Union in Florida under the direction of Manuel Chavez.

Florida Rep. Mixson, author of the measure, admitted on the floor of the Florida House that it was an anti-Chavez amendment. Rep. Jim Tillman (R-Sarasota), another of the bill's supporters, said, "To put it in plain language, this is an anti-Cesar and Manuel Chavez amendment."

Instrumental in defeating the bill was Rev. Paul Wilson of the Florida Christian

SALVADOR SANTOS DIES IN AUTO ACCIDENT

HANFORD, California-- On April 11, 1972, a rainy Tuesday, the Farmworkers lost a dear friend and brother in the struggle, Salvador Santos.

Sal had been working all day in Delano on the Credit Union, which he headed, and was on his way back to La Paz. About a mile below La Paz on the freeway, his car skidded out of control on a curve, hit an embankment and flipped over, throwing Sal out. By coincidence, his wife, Ann, was coming back from Bakersfield and passed the accident shortly after it happened. She recognized the car and turned around and stopped. She was the first person there. Sal was taken to Kern General Hospital in Bakersfield and pronounced dead.

Sal's funeral was held April 14 at the Peoples' Funeral Chapel, 10th St. & Dowdy, Hanford, California, followed by a Requiem Mass at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, with Father Joe Melton officiating. Union Director Cesar Chavez read Jesus' parable of the separation of the sheep from the goats from Matthew 25. In this parable those who have served Jesus by serving the poor and outcast are rewarded with Eternal Life, while those who have failed to serve the poor are condemned by their own inaction.

In his remarks Father Joe noted it is difficult to love and to serve, that many want to help their brothers, but few have the strength and courage to make the sacrifices necessary for real service.

Many could not understand Sal's dedication to La Causa, many had told him that with his skills and education, he could be making much more money elsewhere. But Sal Santos had the strength to forsake the world for his brothers and sisters.

Sal was born on November 25, 1939. He grew up in Hanford, Kings County, California, and attended Fresno State College in Fresno, California. After leaving Fresno State he worked for the Fresno Community Action Program and with the California Rural Legal Assistance.



SAL SANTOS

In August of 1970 he left the CRLA to work full time for the Farm Workers Credit Union in Delano. On April 9, 1971 he married Ann Mendoza, who also came to work for the Union. About two months ago, the Santos family moved to La Paz so Sal could become Credit Union Manager. Ann has been working in the Accounting Office.

Three hundred farmworkers attended Sal's funeral in Hanford. Union songs and expressions of solidarity possible only at the time of the losing of a brother were important parts of the service. At his burial many farmworkers and friends filed by his casket to lay a handful of dirt upon it in a final farewell.

Sal was buried in Calvary Cemetery in Hanford, the same cemetery where Roger Terronez, one of the earliest organizers in the Union and a fellow victim of an automobile accident in 1966, is buried. After Sal's burial a brief memorial service for Roger was held at his gravesite.

Sal will be missed: he was much needed and much loved. But his courage and strength are still with us, and will help us to continue the struggle. Viva La Causal Viva Sal Santos!

SPECIAL EL MALCRIADO BULLETIN

The hearings scheduled by the National Labor Relations Board on April 6 have been postponed, pending negotiations between our Union and the government.

Union Director Cesar Chavez told EL MALCRIADO: "Negotiations are taking place because farmworkers and concerned Americans everywhere have sent more than one million letters to Senator Robert Dole, chairman of the Republican National Committee."

"The growers seem to think they can do away with the secondary Boycott. If the

Republican Party thinks a settlement can be reached on that basis, it is sadly mistaken" Cesar declared, "Both the growers and the Republican Party must realize that we will never give up our right to use the secondary Boycott. If necessary, we will take our fight to the National Republican Convention in August and to the polls in November."

Marshall Ganz, who directs the Union's Boycott activities, urged all Americans to continue writing to Senator Dole asking the Republican Party to stop its attack on our

In the next El Malcriado ..

- * Interviews with our sisters and brothers who struggled five years to win the Union contracts in the table grape industry.
- * A farmworker victory over Roberts Farms and its company supervisors.
- * Our farmworker youth struggle for La Causa.
- * More on our Boycott of the Republican Party.
- * Farmworker news from Florida, Texas, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, California and other states.

Keep informed!

Read and support EL MALCRIADO

Cesar:

Sal gave his life to the service of others.

The news of Sal's death brought grief and shock not only to his family and to his wife Ann but also, to farmworker sisters and brothers throughout La Causa. At La Paz, everyone gathered to celebrate a special Mass Tuesday evening, April 11, in memory of our brother and to unite ourselves with his wife Ann, at this time of sorrow. During the Mass, our brother Cesar Chavez offered the following words:

Sal Santos died this afternoon. We deeply share Ann's sorrow and that of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mendoza. Ann is not alone because she is our sister just as Sal was our brother. All of us here offer her our compassion and our support.

Sal came to the Movement like most people. But he chose to stay and to give his life to the service of others.

We will miss him dearly. We will miss him because he was our brother and he was one of those rare persons who have chosen to give their life's work for the poor. We will miss him for such lives are precious. We will miss him because he was young. We will miss him because he had many more years of

service to the poor to give. And we shall miss him -- and envy him -- for his gentleness.

Although it is very sad, it could have been much sadder -- had he not been the person that he was. The saddest thing is for a person to live and to die without knowing the great personal satisfaction and joy of loving and giving to others. The world is better for Sal's having lived in it.

The greatest tragedy is not to live and die -- as we all must. The greatest tragedy is to be born but not to live for fear of loving and giving oneself to others. Sal Santos was not afraid. Neither should we be.

May he rest in peace.

Farmworkers Hold Memorial Services for Sal

Quietly the people came on the evening of Thursday, April 13. Many recognized friends, shook hands in the familiar farmworker fashion, silently signed the guest book, reverently entered the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Hanford, California to stand in simple respect for our fallen brother, Sal Santos, and then found seats and sat or knelt in continued meditation and prayer. Sharing the community of faith even til death is the solidarity we often sing. Farmworker men, women, young and old led first by Cesar Chavez maintained an honor guard throughout the rosary.

Our Union Chaplain Father Joe Melton led in the reciting of the rosary. Portions of scripture were read from St. John's in Spanish by Andy Anzaldua and English by Bob Margetts and from St. Paul's Letter to the Thessalonians in Spanish by Cesar Chavez and in English by Phillip Vera Cruz. Father Joe led the recitation of the resurrection rosary and the singing of three Ave Marias. Alfred Lopez, Pedro Lopez, and Francisco Garcia provided music for the singing of La Causa's songs of springtime and new life, "De Colores," "Nosotros Venceremos" and "Solidaridad Pa' Siempre." Alfredo sang a song he wrote for Sal.

Father Joe spoke to us about Sal's commitment to life. He said we learn that our brothers' needs are the same as our own. We seek compassion in order to show compassion to others. Death can give us the chance to stop and look deeply at life. It can remind us we have no promise of having the life we enjoy today fifteen years or thirty days from now or even tomorrow. It can remind us the best we can do is use the gift of life that is ours today in such a way others may enjoy life more fully. It can give us the chance to commit ourselves to live for others.

The real danger in holding life close to us, in seeking to protect our life, is in clinging so tightly to that life it becomes an agony of living hell. When Jesus talked about the seed falling into the ground, becoming a plant and bearing much fruit he was talking about life - his own and yours and mine. He was talking about concern for others.

Farmworkers know there are no flowers without fertile soil and there is no fertile soil without leaves that fall to the ground and die. Just so there can be no resurrection without crucifixion and no joy without sadness and pain. During his life, Sal set an example of giving to others. We shall miss him dearly. God help us to be strong, courageous, self-giving in the face of every difficulty. God help us to be men.

A NOTE OF GRATITUDE

My family and I wish to express our deepest gratitude to everyone who showed their sorrow. We are very thankful to those who sent flowers, telegrams and letters. Through our working together Sal will continue to live with us in our hearts and in La Causa.

ANN SANTOS and family

YAKIMA VALLEY:

Violence Used Against Union Organizers

SUNNYSIDE, Washington-- Just as EL MALCRIADO was going to press, Fred Ross, Jr., Robert Treviño and Lupe Gamboa, Union organizers in the Yakima Valley, reported that Dan Alexander, half-owner of the Yakima Chief Ranch, attacked them and their property last week while they were attempting to meet with farmworkers.

On Thursday, April 13, Alexander chased Robert around the Yakima Chief Ranch with a forklift tractor and then with a jeep. Robert was on foot and had entered the ranch to talk to farmworkers. Alexander used these physical threats in an effort to force Robert to divulge the names of all the workers he had contacted. Robert refused.

On Tuesday, April 18, Robert and Fred went to the ranch and parked their car, a 1969 Ford Maverick, on the parking lot of the labor camp. It was after working hours. Dan Alexander drove up in a heavy-equipment caterpillar, chained the small Maverick to it, hauled it to the edge of a road off the ranch and dumped it. The car had been parked in gear, so that its transmission was seriously damaged. The repair estimate totals \$300.

Our Union responded to these violent attacks by sending a telegram to Father Theodore Hesburgh, chairman of the United States Civil Rights Commission, asking for an investigation of violations of workers' and organizers' rights. As a result, the Seattle Division of the Commission was assigned to investigate the situation.

Apparently Alexander is ignorant of the fact that court decisions in a number of states and at the federal level have affirmed the constitutional right of farmworkers to receive visitors wherever they may be living, including grower-owned labor camps.

The next issue of EL MALCRIADO will feature a report on further developments and a history of our organizing drive throughout the Yakima Valley. (For other news from the Yakima Valley please turn to pages 12-13).

Strike Against Talisman Sugar Corporation

FLORIDA

• NAN FREEMAN KILLED ON PICKETLINE
• TALISMAN TRIED TO BREAK STRIKE

BELLE GLADE, Florida— More than 250 farmworkers have been on Strike since Jan. 11 against the Talisman Sugar Corporation located about 20 miles north of Belle Glade, Florida.

The Talisman Strikers, mainly cane loaders, field equipment operators and some truck drivers, are protesting the company's refusal to recognize our Union as their bargaining representative and to negotiate a Union contract.

sent a telegram to William D. Pawley, President and principal owner of Talisman Corp., requesting immediate recognition of the Union as the bargaining representative for the Strikers and the initiation of negotiations. So far Pawley has failed to reply.

Pawley is a Miami-based millionaire who is known to be friends with former Cuban dictator Batista and Taiwan's Chiang Kai-shek. He is a former ambassador to Peru and Brazil and is a long-time friend of



Strike against Talisman Sugar Corporation -- Union organizers and Strikers try to explain La Causa to truck drivers hired by the company to break the Strike. Many of the drivers joined.
Photo: Palm Beach Post-Times

The workers are struggling to eliminate what they describe as abusive treatment from company supervisors and foremen. Many workers are forced to work 12-hour days, seven days a week with no overtime pay, no fringe benefits, and no job security.

When the cane is in, most of the workers, all classified "temporary," are laid off until the next season.

After going on Strike, the workers asked for help from the United Farm Workers and by Jan. 20 Huelga flags flew on the picketlines at the entrances to the Talisman sugar mills. Also, Union Director Cesar Chavez

anti-farmworker President Nixon. Pawley is a member of the right-wing John Birch Society and looks upon workers as commodities to be bought at the lowest possible price.

The struggle has been long and hard. Pawley's company has done everything possible to break the Strike and to keep the Strikers from talking to the technicians, truck drivers and the estimated 1,100 imported Jamaican sugar cane cutters still working with the company.

On Jan. 28, Charles Lee of Homestead, Florida, a truck driver hired by the company to break the Strike, said he was forced from

his truck at gunpoint by company officials for talking to a Union official.

He related that as he was driving his tractor-trailer truck down an isolated stretch of SR 827A at the entrance to Talisman's Boca Chica Farms cane fields, shortly after 2 a.m., he was flagged down by a man who got out of a Talisman pickup truck.

"I came to a complete stop and he came up and unbuttoned his shirt and pulled out a pistol and motioned me from the truck."

"Another Talisman pickup behind me stopped and another man got out to ask me if I had been talking to Union Attorney Judy Petersen, and when I said I had, he told me to get into his truck, Charles continued.

"So, when we slowed down to go into the plant, I thought it would be best for me if I parted company. I opened the door and jumped."

Charles landed at the feet of our Union pickets at the entrance to the Talisman plant and joined the picketline.

According to a report filed by Deputy Sheriff James Meeks, Lee pointed to two Talisman supervisors as the men who forced him from his truck. Meeks termed the incident a possible aggravated assault.

Union Attorney Judy said she and Union organizers had been meeting truckers at the Sawgrass Inn in South Bay, Florida, asking them to abandon their jobs and join the picketlines.

Judy said Charles and other drivers hired after the strike had been "friendly and helpful," supplying the Union with information about how much cane was at the plant and how production was going.

The truck drivers also reported the trucks were being dangerously overloaded. Charles said, "I know I have driven trucks that were 30,000 pounds, overloaded, and they just take too long to stop to be legal."

Charles and about ten other drivers were supplied by Employers Overload Company of Miami to break the Strike. But Charles and some of the other drivers won't be working for them anymore because "the company felt Talisman could tell us who to talk to and anything, but I didn't go along with that."

"I believe in the Strikers now because I've seen what it's like," said Charles.

Talisman had tried hard to keep the Strikers from bringing the message of La Causa to the workers imported from Jamaica to cut cane in its fields. On Feb. 2, Union Attorney Judy, Rev. Frank Smith of the Florida Migrant Ministry and Dave Hernandez of the National Farm Worker Ministry were arrested for "trespassing" on Talisman property.

They were arrested after they attempted to talk to the Jamaican workers at the Talisman labor camp, even though Florida trespassing laws no longer cover labor camps. Farmworkers have the right to receive any visitors they want at their places of residence.

Judy, Frank and Dave were later released from the Belle Glade jail on \$50 bond each.

According to Judy, they have not yet been charged with trespassing. "The Palm Beach County Solicitor, Marvin Mounts, has written to the Florida State Attorney for an opinion, but the state attorney refuses to give an opinion."

Judy explained, "We wanted very much to talk to the Jamaican workers because they are completely isolated from contact with the rest of society. They live 29 miles away from Belle Glade and the only way to get to town is by taxi cab at a cost of five dollars."

Talisman has even barred an investigator sent by the State Division of Labor from talking to the Jamaican workers last February. The company refused to talk to the press about this event.

The saddest incident during the Strike was the death of New College student Nan Freeman, killed by a large sugar cane truck as she picketed with the Strikers at the entrance to the Talisman plant.

Despite the harassments and tragedies, our sisters and brothers on Strike at Talisman have ended the sugar cane-cutting season with complete confidence in their final victory. They report "there will be a lot of action for Talisman when the next sugar cane season comes in late September or October."

When we're really honest with ourselves we must admit that our lives are all that really belong to us. So it is how we use our lives that determines what kind of men we are. It is my deep belief that only by using our lives as we find life, I am convinced that the truest act of courage, is to sacrifice ourselves in the non-violent struggle for justice. God help us to be men."

Order No. GHU \$1.50

CESAR CHAVEZ poster "... the truest act of courage, is to sacrifice ourselves in the non-violent struggle for justice. God help us to be men."

Order No. GHU \$1.50

Beautifully sculptured black and gold farm worker eagle lapel pin.

Order No. EAGP \$1.50

CHAVEZ pamphlet: Two articles by Peter Matthiessen are combined to give a thorough biographical sketch of Cesar Chavez. The articles originally appeared in the New Yorker.

Order No. NYA .50

VIVA LA REVOLUCION

This poster features a picture of Mexican agrarian reformer, Emiliano Zapata. His famous motto is: "La tierra pertenece a quien la trabaja!"

Order No. EZ \$1.50

BASTA!

BASTA: A compelling pictorial history of the great moments of the grape strike, including the famous march from Delano to Sacramento.

Order No. BAS \$2.00

HUELGA

HUELGA, the first book written on the grape strike, "The First Hundred Days of the Great Delano Grape Strike."

Order No. HUE \$1.50

HUELGA

These artistically superb Huelga Stamps portray the farmworker and tell of the benefits of collective bargaining in agriculture.

Order No. STMP \$1.00

HUELGA

This poster by Andy Zermeno captures the spirit of La Causa in struggle.

Order No. HUP \$1.50

A beautiful color poster showing Cesar Chavez with farmworkers in a vineyard outside Delano. "The time has come for the liberation of the farmworker..."

Order No. CIG \$1.50

Also these assorted packages are available:

- FIVE ASSORTED UFW POSTERS - Order No. UFWP - \$2.00
- FIVE ASSORTED UFW BUMPER STICKERS - Order No. UFBS - \$.50
- ASSORTED UFWOC BUTTONS - Order No. UFBW - 5/ \$.50
- ASSORTED FARM WORKER STICKERS Order No. FWST - 12/ \$.50

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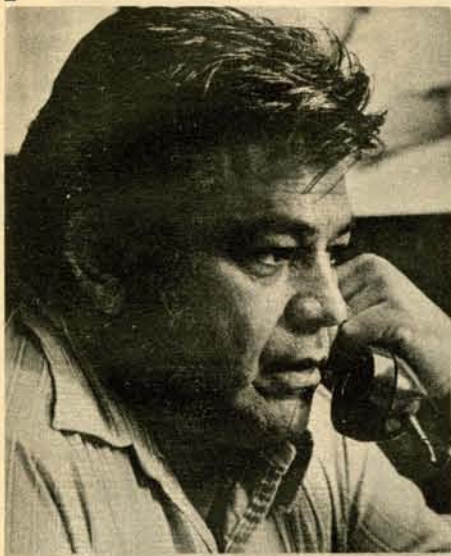


Photo: Hap Stewart

Union organizer Manuel Chavez is leading a successful organizing drive among our farmworker sisters and brothers in Florida. Thanks to the hard work of Manuel and the volunteers who are helping him, La Causa's ideals of justice and freedom are being felt throughout the state.

La Causa Wins Again in Florida

UNION WINS SECRET BALLOT RATIFICATION ELECTION

DUNEDIN, Florida -- La Causa won a second major victory in Dunedin, Florida Mar. 21 when Union members voted 97 to 67 in favor of a Union contract with H. P. Hood and Sons, Inc.

The secret ballot ratification election was supervised and certified by the Catholic Bishop's Committee on Farm Labor and by other clergymen to prevent harassment of workers by labor contractors and to insure a fair election.

This Union contract is a tremendous achievement for Union organizer Manuel Chavez, his staff and all the sisters and brothers who united to win this contract from a company that is proud of the fact that it had never negotiated and signed a Union contract in its 120-year history.

The three-year Union contract covering a minimum of 300 workers, effective March 21, 1972, guarantees a 5 1/2 percent wage increase after the first year.

The contract with Hood and Sons is similar to the Coca-Cola contract recently won by the Union and has the following main provisions: Union security; standard Union regulations regarding camp housing, Credit Union deductions when requested by Union members; leaves of absence for Union business; a minimum wage of \$.40 per box for harvesters and \$2.25 to \$2.40 an hour for tractor drivers; a guaranteed ten-hour day and fifty-hour week; and paid vacations.

The contract also includes coverage by the Robert F. Kennedy Medical Plan for which the company will pay 10 cents an hour per worker.

H.P. Hood and Sons owns 3500 acres of orange groves spread throughout Florida, and operates a large plant in the City of Dunedin. One of its leading products is single strength orange juice. The company also engages in other products such as milk, cheese, and frozen foods.

MIAMI, Florida -- La Causa won its first major victory in the State of Florida when our Union signed a collective bargaining agreement with the Coca-Cola Company on Feb. 29.

The Union contract covering about 1,250 farmworkers employed on Coke's 40,000 acres of citrus groves was announced at simultaneous press conferences held in this city and at the Coke headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia.

The vast majority of Coke workers showed they wanted to be represented by the United Farm Workers in a card-check election supervised and certified by the U.S. Department of Labor. The company decided to recognize and negotiate with the Union.

During the negotiations, the Union was represented by a committee of seven workers elected by the brothers and sisters who work for Coke. Union General Counsel Jerry Cohen assisted the committee.

The three-year contract, effective retroactively to January 3, 1972 is the result of months of hard work by Union organizer Manuel Chavez, his staff and the Coca-Cola workers. The contract contains the following benefits and provisions:

- 1 Recognition of the United Farm Workers as representing all of Coke's agricultural workers.
- 2 Union Security and Hiring Hall.
- 3 Standard Union provisions regarding camp housing, credit union deduction, leaves of absence for Union business, discharge protections and grievance procedures and maintenance of standards.
- 4 The Union has the right of access to records and to pay period information.
- 5 All fresh fruit shipped by Coke will bear our Union's label.
- 6 A minimum hourly increase of 25¢ per hour. Minimum wage for pickers is \$2.25. Piece rates will be increased 5¢ a box across the board.
- 7 Hourly workers are guaranteed a minimum of 50 hours work per week.
- 8 Show-up pay and stand-by time.
- 9 The higher wage is paid in case of a temporary transfer of job classification. Travel time is paid by the company. (Coke's groves extend for 120 miles). If overnight travel is necessary the company will pay time, food and lodging.
- 10 Four days funeral leave with pay. Retirement program, credit union plan, tuition refund plan. Nine paid holidays a year. Citizenship participation Day. Jury Duty pay. Paid sick leave; five days for seasonal workers, ten days for regular workers per year. Paid vacations. 5¢ per hour paid by the company to the Farm Worker Fund.
- 11 10¢ per hour paid by the company to the Robert F. Kennedy Medical Plan. A minimum automatic increase of 5 1/2 % is provided on the first anniversary of the contract.
- 12 An outright ban is placed on dangerous pesticides such as DDT, DDE, Aldrin, Dieldrin, Endrin, Parathion and TEPP. The 1,250 Coca-Cola workers scattered over 120 miles of Florida now have the opportunity to explain what La Causa means to all farmworkers. They realize the benefits of this contract have taken away some of the misery in their lives. They have taken a step toward being masters of their own destiny. What started with Coca-Cola will continue until our Union brings benefits to the rest of our 150,000 farmworker sisters and brothers all over Florida.



Union Director Cesar Chavez hands a pen to William Kelly, Vice-President of Minute Maid, a subsidiary of Coca-Cola Company. Union Attorney Judy Petersen gives the contract a final inspection. The Coca-Cola contract marks the first victory for La Causa in Florida.

Photo: Hap Stewart

Union Crew at Coca Cola Wins Piece-Rate Victory

- enforced union contract
- won company's respect

ARBURNDALE, Florida -- A crew of 20 Union members working for Coca-Cola's Minute Maid successfully enforced the Piece-Rate Adjustment Procedure clause of their Union contract.

The struggle began after the crew realized they were not making a living wage on the 40 cent-a-box piece-rate the company was paying for that grove in Arburndale, Florida. Crew Steward Walter Williams and Alternate Arthur Pounds, elected by the crew members to represent them, presented the workers' demands for an increase in the piece-rate to 50 cents to the company field rider (supervisor). The field rider would not budge from the company's position, so the entire crew confronted Minute Maid's Vice President William Kelly at the company's headquarters.

With the help of local Union Representative Mack Lyons, according to the Union contract's piece-rate adjustment procedure, the crew negotiated firmly with the company for several hours. Victory came when the company finally decided to pay the 10 cent-a-box piece-rate increase.

After the meeting, Union Steward Walter said, "We could have asked the company for 70 cents a box and negotiated down to the 50 cents we wanted. But we wanted to treat the company with respect, and in return, we expected the company's respect."

"So we asked for exactly 50 cents. That is what we needed to earn a living wage," he said.

"The company argued there was enough fruit to pick in that grove to make a living wage at 40 cents a box," explained Alternate Crew Steward Arthur. "The company tried to say we are lazy!"

But the company lost the argument because some of the fastest pickers in the company are members of that crew.

The Piece-Rate Adjustment Procedure clause in the Union is important because the quality of the fruit to be picked varies grove by grove. Some groves are laden with so much fruit that a living wage can be earned with a lower piece rate, while others have so little that the rate must be higher. Groves range from 40 to 100 acres in size. Picking lasts from one to four weeks depending on the size of the grove.

Union Representative Mack explained, "When you sign a contract, it is for the future. But you never know whether or not a grove is worth anything until the day you

are working it. That's why it is better to negotiate the piece-rates right on the spot."

When a crew is dissatisfied with a piece-rate, the Union contract's Adjustment Procedure consisting of three major steps goes into effect.

First, the Union Crew Steward attempts to negotiate a better rate with the field rider.

If the attempt fails, the local Union Representative meets with a representative designated by the company. If an agreement still isn't reached, then a Piece-Rate Negotiating Committee consisting of Union Crew Stewards and Alternates elected from the crew or crews involved meet with top company officials.

The Piece-Rate Adjustment Procedure can be initiated by a Union crew on a grove by grove basis. Under the Union contract, the workers have the right not to work in the grove in question until a piece-rate is settled. During negotiations, the company is required to send the crew to another grove.

According to Mack, workers agree the Piece-Rate Adjustment Procedure provided by the Union contract is the best way to settle piece-rates justly.

"The company is learning very quickly the workers know which groves are good and which are bad. So there have been no more problems in settling piece-rate," he concluded.

EL MALCRIADO

Voice of the Farmworker

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UNITED FARM WORKERS
AFL-CIO

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FARMWORKER POLITICAL ACTION IN LOS ANGELES

EL MALCRIADO traveled to Los Angeles April 8 and 15 to see first-hand what our farmworker sisters and brothers are doing there in the campaign against the Republican Party's attempts to destroy our Union. The first time gave us the feeling of what is happening there; the hard work, the dedication. We decided to return the following weekend and talk to the people who have made our campaign in Los Angeles such a beautiful success.

A WEEKEND ON THE LETTER CAMPAIGN

Recent weeks have seen a new development in our struggle to form a Union for farmworkers. Since NLRB action instigated and supported by the Republican Party against our right to Boycott we have taken our case to the American people. Farmworkers have been leaving the fields by 10's and 20's and 100's and pouring into Los Angeles by the carload, in pickup trucks, in camper trucks and wagons, by busloads to fight for our lives.

Arriving at the corner of 25th Street and Magnolia April 8 we find Ward Methodist Episcopal Church, whose large gymnasium and other facilities the pastor, Rev. Love, and the people have generously granted for our use as an operating base from which all our activities are planned and carried out.

Entering the gym we are greeted with a mixture of farmworker expressions depicting the present stage of our struggle, the warm hearty saludos of old friends meeting again, people industriously writing the many letters that we shall later take to the people for their signatures. Against the walls lean stacks of boxes with unsigned letters, envelopes to be addressed, paper to be cut for still more letters, addressed envelopes awaiting the signed letters, leaflets in English and Spanish, and EL MALCRIADO in both languages to be distributed to the people we shall later meet in the streets. The work of addressing, stuffing, stamping, sealing and counting goes on at tables throughout the room

until word comes from the kitchen that Sra. Estorga and her crew who have been preparing a delicious meal are ready. Letter-writing materials are quickly put away, tables cleared and everyone enjoys good food. Whether we have spent the day collecting signatures to our letters or working in the fields and have just arrived the hot meal really hits the spot. Food finished, tables are cleared away and chairs arranged theatre fashion for the "show" to be presented by our own people. We enjoy singing together some old favorites - "De Colores", "Solidaridad", "Nosotros Venceremos" and we listen while others sing and play for us - "Guantanamo", "La Paloma" and the CBS-TV cameras try to capture on film the enthusiastic response of the listeners as the crowd rises to its feet in a gesture of genuine appreciation.

Now the evening grows late and we must rise early to meet the worshipers at morning masses to ask for their support for La Causa. Chairs are quickly folded against the walls and mattresses are brought out and placed on the floor. Exhausted bodies stretch out and even before lights are extinguished the sounds of sleep mingle with the soft murmur of still visiting friends, who soon give themselves over to the refreshment of sleep to be ready for the task that waits us on the morrow. No one complains about weekend work schedules. Everyone rises at 6:00 a.m. for a hearty breakfast. From 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. we meet people at stores, shopping centers, in the streets, at religious masses collecting signatures. From 6:00 p.m. to midnight we have become accustomed to stuffing the envelopes with the signed letters secured during the day.

Sunday afternoon we all gather together for our own religious celebration with Father Romero who has kept in close contact with us throughout the campaign. Another new experience for us was the farmworker mass offered in La Plazita two weeks ago by Bishop Arzube of Los Angeles who praised our Non-violent struggle for justice. At the close of the service one lady turned to inquire how and where she could sign a letter. There in the pew one was quickly written and she signed it assured that we would mail it. Then remembering friends who had not come to the mass she wanted a sample to take with her for others to copy and mail in their own, so fliers were marked with sample letters to be written. We gained another volunteer.

We know that although the NLRB attempted action has been described by some as crippling to the Boycott, in reality, it is designed not simply to cripple the most effective Non-violent tool we have developed but to destroy the Union as well.

That is why we go to the cities to lay our case before the people who live there; to help others to see what our reality is, to help others to understand why we oppose the Republican Party's attempt to use the NLRB to deny us our right of the Boycott, and to ask for their support. The people have responded. As of April 9, they signed 80,438 letters in Los Angeles alone asking the Republican Party to stop its anti-farmworker activities.

Photo: Tejada-Flores/Fietinghoff



Photo: Tejada-Flores/Fietinghoff



Photo: Tejada-Flores/Fietinghoff

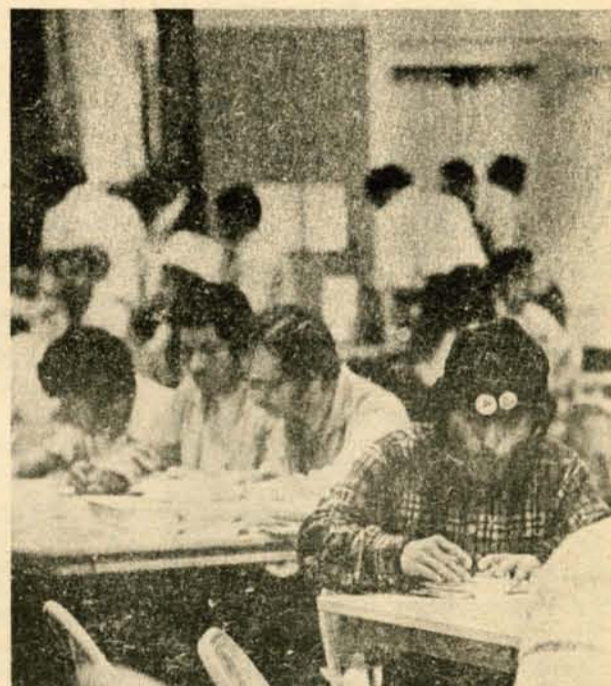


Photo: Tejada-Flores/Fietinghoff



WHY OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS GIVE THEIR WEEKENDS TO LA CAUSA

EL MALCRIADO traveled to Los Angeles again on the evening of April 15 this time to talk with our farmworker sisters and brothers who are making our Boycott against the Republican Party so effective in that city.

We found the same long tables where over 200 farmworkers and supporters worked quickly and intently.

A large "thermometer" ran up one of the walls of the gymnasium from the floor to the ceiling. On it a wide strip painted in red marked the latest count of letters sent to Senator Dole, chairman of the Republican National Committee. The thermometer had originally been set at a goal of 25,000 letters. But sections had to be taped on as the total number of letters went past 30,000 to 40,000, from 40,000 to 60,000, reaching more than 95,000 on April 15. At this time we know the number of letters sent from Los Angeles has surpassed even this number. No wonder more than one million letters have reached the Republican Party condemning its attempts to use the NLRB to deny us our right to Boycott!

During our visit that night we talked to the following sisters and brothers: Antonio Muñoz, Isidoro Nava, Nicasio Campos, Fidela Rivera, Rafael Torres and Juan Rodríguez from Coachella; Luis Ayala, Paulino Pacheco, Irene Mejía, Tomas Mejía and Leopoldo Rodríguez from Santa Maria; David de la Fuente from Selma; and Jessica Govea, who is in charge of our campaign in Los Angeles.

We asked them to tell us why they came at such sacrifice we work with La Causa in Los Angeles during the weekends, how they work once they get here and why so many people have responded to our call for justice. Enthusiastically and honestly they opened their hearts to us. Their words show how beautiful it is when we farmworkers break the chains of fear and selfishness to reach toward the ideals of Solidarity and liberation.

Rafael Torres, Nicasio Campos

and Jaun Rodriguez: "We came because this campaign is for the benefit of all farmworkers and our children. When we succeed, we'll know that it was worth coming."

Isidoro Nava: "Each Ranch Committee had a vote to decide whether or not we come to struggle in this campaign. Luckily those of us in favor of coming won overwhelmingly. Next week, more sisters and brothers will come."

Fidela Rivera: "I am a Ranch Committeewoman representing the sisters and brothers at CID in Coachella. It was a great honor to be elected to the Ranch Committee. It is a great responsibility. Whenever conflicts arise between the workers and the company, it is my job to speak for the workers. I came because it is our duty to defend our Union. Yes, I lose one day's pay when I come during the weekend, but it is a great satisfaction to serve my people."

Antonio Muñoz: "All farmworkers should struggle hard for La Causa. I am convinced that we all have the obligation to see to it that our right to Boycott is not taken away. That is why we came to Boycott the Republican Party. If we lose the Boycott, we lose everything."



Luis Ayala: "During our campaign against anti-farmworker SB 40, people would ask us many questions about La Causa. Now all they ask us is whether or not the campaign is in favor of Cesar Chavez. We say "yes" and they sign their names and addresses right away!"

David de la Fuente: "It is beautiful to see how people are opening their hearts to us everywhere, even though many are not farmworkers. Yes, it is great to come to Los Angeles to struggle for our rights."

Leopoldo Rodriguez: "Our Cause is just. It is for the good of our children and our future. I think our campaign will succeed because we are putting our hearts and souls completely into it."

Paulino Pacheco: "We have come to Los Angeles every weekend since the beginning of the campaign. We have done it because we believe in La Causa. We come with the desire to show the Republicans that farmworkers can no longer be fooled with lies. We want to show that we now have our movement and it will never die."

"The campaign here in Los Angeles is fantastic. First, we have Jessica Govea, who is an excellent organizer. I have always respected her abilities and it is a pleasure to work with her."

"Secondly, we have the spirit of the people. Life is very hard for farmworkers in the Santa Maria Valley. After two years of Strikes we are still being pressured by the Teamsters; yet, we don't mind losing a day's work to help with this campaign. Many times when we return the growers fire us for serving La Causa. But the people continue to struggle. As Cesar Chavez has said, our movement is like a fire on a dry plain that has touched the spirits of farmworkers all over the country."

Tomas Mejía: "My wife and I have always believed in La Causa. May God always help us to do as we are now doing, to bring justice to all farmworkers, just as I have seen it happen in my dreams."

Irene Mejía: "I am 77 years old and the reason this little old lady is here this weekend is that the growers took advantage of my labor when I was young. I urge all of you to continue the struggle because our children need La Causa. I am willing to die for our movement. Don't take one step back! Viva la Causa!"



Farmworkers Tomás and Irene Mejía.

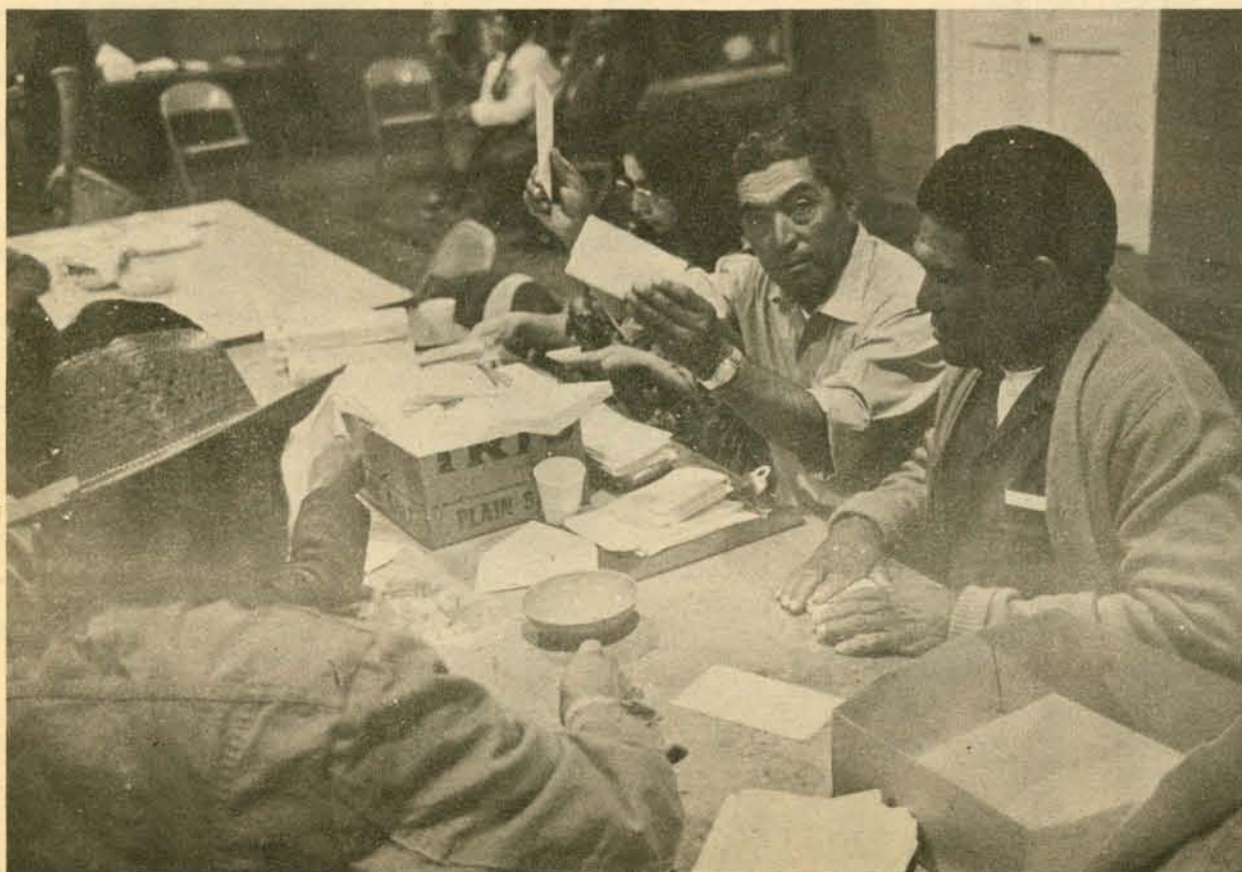
Jessica Govea: "What has made our campaign a great success is the work of the people. Our farmworker sisters and brothers have been coming every weekend from many different areas, including Selma, Calexico, Oxnard, Santa Maria, Lamont, Coachella, and San Luis in Arizona. At least 150 farmworkers come every weekend."

"There is nothing magical about our campaign. It is pure work, hard work. Everyone gets up at 6:00 a.m. and works until midnight. Our sacrifices have convinced people to Boycott the Republican Party and to help La Causa."

Also, here in Los Angeles there are about 20 persons who have dedicated themselves totally to work as Union volunteers. They are, for the most part, young people who were students and left school to work with us in La Causa. They ask for nothing in return. They have a place to sleep, a little food and five dollars a week. It is an honor to work with them because they work not only on weekends, but also during the week. And they work every day with the same dedication that farmworkers have for La Causa. They are sisters and brothers who could have made a lot of money pursuing their own careers, but they chose to work with us.

"Our letter campaign against the Republican Party is effective because the Republicans know that if people are willing to sign their names and addresses to letters, those letters are sincere. What gains victories is the strength and devotion of the people. For example, recently three farmworker youngsters from Santa Maria, ages 10, 11, and 12 years old, demonstrated in a great and beautiful way their dedication to La Causa. After working all day getting people to sign letters, they stayed up until 2:00 a.m. that morning writing letters to signed the next day."

"That is dedication. There is no other word for it. Dedication. You can see in the eyes of the older farmworkers, in the eyes of farmworker parents. It is belief in La Causa. It is the determination that there will be justice. If the campaign lasted three years, farmworkers would struggle for three years. That is our secret, to work, work, and work until the final victory."



The Boycott of the Republican Party Spreads....

...POLITICAL AND CIVIC GROUPS...

...LABOR UNIONS...

The United Auto Workers Join Boycott of Republican Party

Farmworkers are among the most oppressed, deprived workers in the nation. Month after month, they have had to meet crisis after crisis on the painful road toward Union recognition and collective bargaining.

Today, the farmworkers organization, now a fully chartered national Union, faces still another crisis, which could endanger its existence and sharply curtail its organizing successes. It is a political crisis created by the Republican Administration, deliberately and consciously designed to destroy the Farm Workers Union effectiveness by prohibiting the right to carry on a consumer boycott -- the most trusted, successful and non-violent technique open to farmworkers.

The Republican-dominated National Labor Relations Board has filed a petition in Federal District Court seeking an injunction to prohibit the Farm Workers' consumer boycott against nine wine companies in the Napa Valley of California. The use of the injunction--one of the most despised of anti-labor tactics--could be applied, if granted, to curb all other Boycotts by farmworkers. It could destroy the movement of farmworkers which has painstakingly and against enormous odds won a measure of protection and security from the powerful growers.

The irony of the current situation is that through all its history, beginning in 1935, the National Labor Relations Act, which guarantees the right of workers to organize, has specifically excluded farmworkers from its protection. They remained excluded when the Taft-Hartley Act was passed in 1948. The restrictions in that Act outlawing secondary Boycotts were applicable to labor organizations. But the Farm Workers Union never has been given the protection of the federal labor acts. Therefore, the farmworkers have equally not been subject to the Boycott restriction.

With the change in the political complexion of the NLRB to a Republican majority and the appointment of a Republican as General Counsel of the NLRB -- all the result of Nixon appointments -- politics are dictating a 180 degree turnabout. The law still excludes farmworkers from protection but the Nixon Board and the Nixon-appointed General Counsel now hold that the law nevertheless applies to them with regard to the restrictions on the use of the secondary Boycott. Republican politics say bluntly to the farmworker: Heads we win; tails you lose.

This latest attack on the farmworkers is obviously politically inspired. The UAW rightfully asks what contributions have been made to Republican coffers by the large growers to bring about so radical a change in legal posture by agents of the current Administration.

This attack on the farmworkers is both immoral and indefensible. It is designed to destroy a cause which has fired the imagination of Americans of good will and to destroy a cause which has fired the imagination of Americans of good will and compassion throughout the land.

In 1965, the UAW was the first Union in the nation to give its support, morally, financially and on the picketline, to the farmworkers in Delano in their struggle to build a Union. In the ensuing years, our Union continued to give its support to the farmworkers' organizing effort in California, Texas, Florida and other areas; and we have participated nationwide in the United States and Canada in the consumer Boycott demonstrations which so successfully brought re-

cognition and labor contracts to the Farm Workers Union.

The UAW decries the current blatant political maneuver by the Administration. We will join in every effort to thwart this Administration's political maneuver to deprive farmworkers of the one substitute they have--the consumer Boycott--for the right given most other workers to organize and engage in collective bargaining.

The UAW will mobilize the full resources of its local unions and its CAP Councils to provide support behind the Farm Workers Union drive to meet this political attack with a citizens' petition to Congressmen and Senators urging them in all fairness to stop this illegal NLRB action against the farmworkers. Because this NLRB action is Republican-inspired and Republican-directed, the farmworkers are focusing on Republican legislators. The UAW pledges to cooperate with them in support of their just cause.

For the Farm Workers Union this is a life and death struggle. The farmworkers' cause is the cause of all workers.

United Auto Workers International Executive Board--March 24, 1972

- St. Louis Labor Council
- Santa Clara County Labor Council
- AFL-CIO Civil Rights Committee
- AFL-CIO Community Service Committee
- Atlanta Labor Council
- Bexar County AFL-CIO (San Antonio)
- Building Trades Council of San Diego
- Teamsters Joint Council 40 (Pittsburgh)
- California Social Workers Organization in San Diego
- Dayton Labor Council
- Denver Labor Federation
- Georgia State AFL-CIO Federation
- Harris County AFL-CIO (Houston, Texas)
- Michigan State AFL-CIO
- San Diego-Imperial County Labor Council (California)
- Terent County AFL-CIO (Ft. Worth, Texas)
- Teamsters Local 283 in Atlanta
- Texas State AFL-CIO
- United Professors of California--Cal. State Los Angeles
- Kansas City Labor Council
- Massachusetts State AFL-CIO Federation
- Michigan State AFL-CIO Federation
- New Jersey State AFL-CIO Federation
- Teamsters Joint Council 73 (New Jersey)
- Dayton Labor Council
- King County Labor Council (Washington)
- Federation of Teachers (Washington)
- Washington State Labor Council
- Yakima County and EAST Klickitat Labor Council
- Service Employees International Union, AFL-CIO



...CHURCHES...

... As 210 Church Women United gathered in Pomona, California on March 20, 1972, we wish to protest the action of Peter Nash, general counsel of the National Labor Relations Board in petitioning for an injunction against the United Farm Workers. ... against the United Farm Workers. ...

Church Women United
Southern California - Southern Nevada

... We intend to discourage the 240,000 members of the United Methodist Church in Southern California, Arizona, Southern Nevada, and Hawaii from purchasing non-Union lettuce. We did the same thing during the grape Boycott, and will continue our support of the United Farm Workers until that time in the future when they are allowed to move from second-class to first-class citizenship, with equal justice and dignity before the law. ...

... Such an action would destroy the farmworkers' Union by taking away the only non-violent tool the farmworker has to organize the National Labor Relations Act be now inhibited and destroyed by its restrictions. ...

... If we are to build a better nation, we cannot have its leadership--the President and the agencies of government--fostering the continued discrimination against the poor and the oppressed for the benefit of any other segment of society. ...

Rt. Rev. C. Kilmer Myers, Bishop
Diocese of California (Episcopal)

Republican Urges His Party to Stop Attack on Farmworkers

I write as a life-long Republican to urge you, as a Republican, for fairness in stopping the illegal NLRB action against the farmworkers.

We have four children all of whom were raised to be Republicans, and all of whom are now Democrats. Part of the reason why that is happening is what has seemed to be at times the insensitivity of the Republican Party (and remember I speak as a Republican) to the concerns of the least and the last and the lost and an over-concern for those at the top of the economic bracket. ...

Rev. Carl W. Segerhammar, D. D.

Peter Nash's action appears to us to be part of a partisan political effort to stop the U.F.W. We wish to strongly protest this injustice. ...

The Rev. Warren Lee, Pres., Greater Los Angeles Chapter
Presbyterian Interracial Council
On behalf of its Executive Board

... It seems strange the NLRB has said for over thirty-five years that this act did not apply to agricultural workers, but suddenly when farmworkers begin to have some strength the punitive factors of the act are applied against them. This appears very discriminatory and designed to prevent the farmworkers from gaining the same place in society that other workers gained decades ago. ...

The Rev. Douglas L. Siden
North Coastal Area Minister
American Baptist Churches of the West

... Such an action would destroy the farmworkers' Union by taking away the only non-violent tool the farmworker has to organize the National Labor Relations Act be now inhibited and destroyed by its restrictions. ...

Sylvester Duran, Director
Dept. for the Spanish-Speaking
Diocese of Toledo, Ohio

Be it resolved that without an immediate clarification and a satisfactory explanation, we are determined to make our people aware of this gross injustice perpetrated on America's poorest workers.

Rev. James T. Keeley
President, Oakland Association of Priests

Rev. Richard J. Brett
Area Rep., National Federation of Priests Councils

Msgr. Francis A. Matrovich
Editor, The Catholic Voice

Rev. Paul R. Vassar
Associate Pastor, St. Leo Church, Oakland

Rev. John E. Maxwell
Pastor, St. Andrew Church, Oakland

Rev. William J. O'Donnell
Director, United Clergy for Farm Workers

Rev. Neeton Costa
Associate Pastor, St. Andrew Church, Oakland

Message to U.S. Bishops

... As a fellow bishop in the service of the people, and as chairman of PADRES, I plead with you to do what you can to urge the administration to call off this move. We have the right to expect our government to intercede on behalf of the poor and powerless, not against them. ... We need to take a stand for our people, NOW.

sincerely,
Bishop Patrick F. Flores, D.D.
Archdiocese of San Antonio

Boston Roman Catholic Archdiocesan Commission for Human Rights
Commission on the California Migrant Ministry
Commission for Mexican-American Affairs
Archdiocese of San Antonio
Diocese of Los Angeles (Episcopal)
Massachusetts Board of Rabbis
Massachusetts Council of Churches
National Federation of Priests' Councils
New Jersey Council of Churches
Orange County Presbytery
United Church of Christ of Ohio
United Church of Christ--Washington North Idaho Conference
Southern California University Pastors' Regional Task Force
Catholic Interracial Council, Seattle, Ore.
Northern California Council of Churches--Joint Strategy and Action Commission

Photo: Tejada-Flores/Fietinghoff

American Baptist Church of Massachusetts
American Friends Service Committee:
Atlanta, Georgia
Massachusetts
Northwest Region
San Antonio, Texas
St. Louis, Missouri
Pennsylvania
Association of Boston Urban Priests
Board of Christian Education of the United Presbyterian Church
Diocese of Southern Ohio
Division of Christian Life and Missions of the National Council of Churches
Division for the Spanish-Speaking U. S. Catholic Conference
Florida Migrant Ministry
Liberal Religious Youth of Massachusetts
National Conference of Christians and Jews
Pacific Southwest Synod of the Lutheran Church in America
Presbytery of Los Ranchos, Long Beach, Ca.
U.S. Catholic Conference
Union of American Hebrew Congregations
Universal Christian Movement
California Migrant Ministry
Catholic Diocese of San Diego -- Office of Ethnic Affairs
Diocesan Catholic Conference of Spanish Speaking
Interfaith Committee for Reconciliation and Justice
National Council of Churches
Presbyterian Interracial Council -- Greater Los Angeles Chapter
Presbytery of San Diego
Santa Clara County Council of Churches
United Methodist Board of Christian Social Concerns
United Ministry in Higher Education Task Force
Women's Division of United Methodist Board of Missions

Archbishop Fury, San Antonio, Texas
Archbishop Moore, Orthodox Catholic Archdiocese of Philadelphia
Bishop Cassata of Ft. Worth
Bishop Markevsky of Houston, Texas
Board of Rabbis of Greater Phila.
Rev. John Borg, Lady of the Lake Coll.
Bristol Ministerium of Bristol Pa.
Cardinal's Commission on Human Relations
Christian Association, U. of Penn.
Congregations of Center City
Rt. Rev. Robert DeWitt, Episcopal Diocese of Cincinnati
Conference for Church Renewal
Fr. Groppi of Milwaukee
Committee for Reconciliation of Justice
Metropolitan Christian Council of Phil.
Mission Strategy Council
New Mexico Inter-Church Agency
Diocese of San Diego, Office of Ethnic Aff.
Society of Friends, Philadelphia
Quaker House of Atlanta
St. Vincent de Paul Society, Atlanta, Ga.
Social Concern Committee, Phila.
Urban Ministry for Eastern Pa.

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Quaker House of Atlanta
St. Vincent de Paul Society, Atlanta, Ga.
Social Concern Committee, Phila.
Urban Ministry for Eastern Pa.

Archbishop Moore, Orthodox Catholic Archdiocese of Philadelphia
Bishop Cassata of Ft. Worth
Bishop Markevsky of Houston, Texas
Board of Rabbis of Greater Phila.
Rev. John Borg, Lady of the Lake Coll.
Bristol Ministerium of Bristol Pa.
Cardinal's Commission on Human Relations
Christian Association, U. of Penn.
Congregations of Center City
Rt. Rev. Robert DeWitt, Episcopal Diocese of Cincinnati
Conference for Church Renewal
Fr. Groppi of Milwaukee
Committee for Reconciliation of Justice
Metropolitan Christian Council of Phil.
Mission Strategy Council
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...The efforts of America's poorest working people to achieve the American Dream should be furthered by our government, not crushed under the restraint of an injunction. ...

Mayor Ralph J. Perik
Cleveland Ohio

Nothing better clarifies the position of the Republican Party and its leader, Richard Nixon, than its attempt to harass the United Farm Workers while it cozies up to ITT. ...

I think the American people should be made aware of this dramatic struggle carried out at tremendous odds by Cesar Chavez and his dedicated followers and should support them now as I do against the pressures of the Nixon Administration, acting as a mouthpiece for big business-agriculture.

If Cesar Chavez had \$400,000 to give to the Republican convention, this injunction would not be sought.

Senator George McGovern

Senator Edward M. Kennedy Joins La Causa in Condemning the Republican Party

I am disturbed by the recent actions of the National Labor Relations Board which represent a direct attack on the existence of the United Farm Workers, AFL-CIO. What is most distressing, apart from the questions of violations of existing Congressional law, is that the action represents the federal government's intercession on the part of corporate agriculture to deal a heavy blow at the one organization which has dedicated itself to improving the wages and living conditions of the nation's farmworkers. ...

When one views the recent spate of restrictive legislation filed by grower representatives in various states across the country and the combined activity of growers, shippers and chain stores to kill the Union, then it becomes particularly disturbing that the NLRB has reversed its long-held position in a way that lends support to those forces. ...

Now that the Union has made major strides forward in California, in Florida and in other states, we find the Administration's first act of intervention to be an effort to hamstring the Union.

... It is questionable whether the investigations conducted by the NLRB properly can be carried out since in large part they concern a Union whose overwhelming membership is comprised of agricultural workers. For that reason, Senator Williams and I have sent a letter to Comptroller General asking for his opinion of the propriety of expenditures of funds by the NLRB.

The letter to the Comptroller General follows:

"...Our concern is that the Board's use of funds for investigative purposes and its activities with regard to the United Farm Workers violates the provision attached to appropriations measures since 1946 providing that 'No part of the appropriation shall be available...or used in connection with investigations, hearings, directives, or orders concerning bargaining units composed of agricultural laborers....'

Therefore, it would seem that any action by the NLRB affecting a Union such as the United Farm Workers, whose membership is comprised of agricultural workers, would be prohibited under this provision.

We would appreciate your analysis of whether any funds were expended by the NLRB whose major impact is to affect agricultural laborers and the United Farm Workers, which clearly has been the major force within this nation in the past several years in protecting the rights of farmworkers."

The Coalition of Concerned Black Americans declares it unqualified support to the United Farm Workers in its struggle against inhuman labor and living conditions and political repressions on farms in Florida, Rhode Island, New York State, and throughout the U.S., where men, women and children are living under veritable slave conditions. ...

...We note the farmworkers have been excluded from NLRA provisions since 1935. Nevertheless, other provisions of the NLRA legislation are being used as a threat to enjoin against the Boycott. We strongly urge that you use the influence of your office to prevent this legalistic duplicity.

Coalition of Concerned Black Americans

In behalf of myself and overwhelming majority of the other 161 Congressmen who are members of the Democratic Study Group, we express our outrage at your action in issuing a complaint against the United Farm Workers Union to enjoin their Boycott.

Congressman Phillip Burton
Chairman, Democratic Study Group

Republicans Who Oppose Their Party's Anti-Farmworker Stand:

... It is our understanding that litigation is commencing which would deny to farmworkers the use of secondary Boycotts. In light of past denials of jurisdiction, this action appears to be extremely inequitable. We feel that it cannot be both ways and, as Members of Congress, we wish to express our deep concern regarding the undertaking of any such action.

Seymour Holpern (N. Y.)
William Mailliard (Calif.)
John Hienz III (Pa.)
Frank Horton (N. Y.)
Brad Morse (Mass.)
Donald Riegle (Mich.)
Charles Whalen (Ohio)
Fred Schwengel (Iowa)
State Rep. Michael Ross (Rep.-Washington)
State Sen. John Stender (Rep. - Washington)
Congressman Paul McCloskey (Rep.-Ca.)
Saul Stillman, Chairman, Cuyahogo County Republican Committee (Cleveland)

Coretta King
Governor John Gilligan, Ohio
Ohio Democratic Party Executive Board
Joe Bernal, State Senator of Texas
Frances Fanenthal, State Representative of Texas
Ft. Worth Council of Churches
Ft. Worth PASO
Rep. H.B. Gonzales (Dem.-Texas)
Harris County Democratic Committee
William L. Moreno, Mayor of Calexico, Ca.
Benton County Democratic Party (Wash.)
State Rep. Lauro Cruz (Dem.) of Texas
Cong. Robert Eckhardt (Dem.-Texas)
New Mexico State Democratic Convention
Albert Pena, Commissioner, Bexar County (Texas)
Cong. Edward R. Roybal (Dem.- Ca.)
Texas Women's Political Caucus
Al Villa, Councilman, City of Fresno
Washington State Democratic Council
Yakima County Democratic Party (Wash.)
Lincoln Peace Fellowship, Boston
Massachusetts Advisory Committee for the Commission on Human Rights
Massachusetts Committee to Abolish HUAC-HISC
Massachusetts Federation for Fair Housing and Equal Rights
Mass Pax
Medical Committee for Human Rights, Boston, Massachusetts
Women's National League for Peace and Freedom
Urban Coalition of Denver

...I strongly denounce this latest attempt to paralyze agricultural workers and call upon the American people to continue to fight with United Farm Workers for their right to organize effectively. I'm with you all the way.

Shirley Chisholm
Congresswoman (N.Y.)

...The administration's action is an insult to all La Raza law students. The La Raza people are no longer a silent community which accepts whatever actions the administration finds suitable to its purposes.

LA RAZA NATIONAL LAW STUDENTS ASSOCIATION, WASHINGTON, D.C.

...In effect, then, the Republican Party and the Nixon administration are utilizing a once-respected organ of Government to smash the organizing activities of our Nation's poorest, most exploited group. It is war by the administration against minorities. ...

Senator Joseph M. Montoya
Democrat, New Mexico

Once again the Nixon Administration has seen fit to take what the Congressional Black Caucus feels is a morally reprehensible and legally tenuous stance against the forces of justice. ... It is but one further indication of this administration's willingness to go to any end to effect the destruction of concerted activity of racial minorities and poor peoples in this country whenever that activity is aimed at improving their own lot.

Congressional Black Caucus

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council of Chicago records its opposition to efforts which will prevent the use of the Boycott;

William S. Singer
Alderman, 43rd Ward
Chicago City Council

Community Relations Conference of Southern California
Student Body Presidents of Texas Center for Urban Black Studies in Berkeley
Centro de Estudios in San Diego
Confederacion de la Raza Unida en San Jose
The Great Speckled Bird in Atlanta, Ga.
LULAC of Arizona
Martin Luther King Center for Study of Non-Violence
MECHA at San Diego State College
Operation Breadbasket of Atlanta, Georgia
Palomar Peace Action Council in San Diego
Poway Human Relations in San Diego
Southern Christian Leadership Council
Gloria Steinem
Women's Caucus, San Diego
Jovita Alvarez, Concilio de Aztlan, BQU
Asian Coalition of Seattle
Black Panther Party--Seattle, New Jersey
Black Student's Union, Patterson, N.J.
Raul Castro, Chairman
Concilio Campesino del Sudeste
Filipino Community Association of Seattle
Hoboken Self-Help (N.J.)
MECHA -- University of Washington, Washington State University, Shoreline
Community College, Western Washington State College
NAACP--New Jersey
PACO--New Jersey
Southwest Migrant Program Conference
Denver
Survival of the American Indians, Seattle
United Indians of All Tribes -- Seattle

... All Affirm Our Right to Boycott!

Farmworker Boycott of Republican Party Spreads

■ MORE THAN 1,000,000 LETTERS SENT TO SEN. DOLE

■ NATIONWIDE PROTEST ACTIONS AGAINST REPUBLICAN ANTI-FARMWORKER STAND

More than 6000 farmworkers and our supporters launched a Boycott of the Republican Party Mar. 16 protesting the party's use of the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) to make an illegal effort to destroy our Union. Together we picketed Republican offices in 150 cities to bring our case before the American people.

Over 1,000,000 letters have flooded the offices of Senator Robert J. Dole, National Chairman of the Republican Party, as well as Republican officials and candidates everywhere.

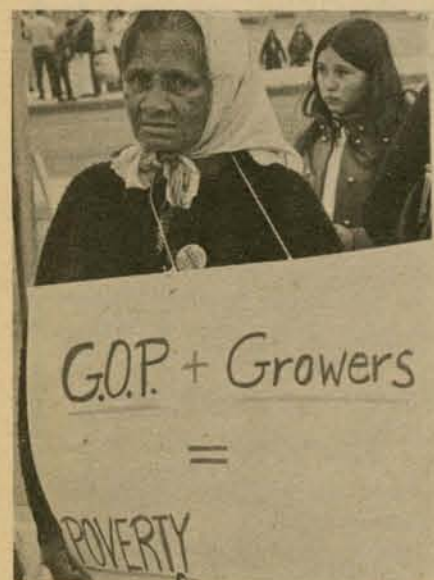
Another major target of our wrath has been Peter Nash, President Nixon's appointee as General Counsel of the NLRB, who initiated the injunction against our right to Boycott.

So many of our American sisters and brothers have been involved during the last two weeks that we can only give you the highlights of the Boycott actions against the Republican Party throughout the country.

ALBUQUERQUE-- Three TV stations and two newspapers covered our volunteer Boycott committee as they picketed the Republican headquarters. They also picketed Republican Congressman Manuel Lujan (New Mexico) who was in town to dedicate a bank. The New Mexico State Democratic Convention members passed a resolution supporting our right to Boycott.

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN-- To protest Republican Party action against our Union, two hundred supporters took over Republican Congressman Marvin Eoch's office for nearly two hours!

BALTIMORE-- A group of students marched through Baltimore to the City Hall where ten representatives of organized labor joined them in a rally to protest the NLRB action. Radio interviews preceded the march and TV coverage of the march/rally was reported as "excellent."



CHICAGO-- A large delegation of church and labor leaders, including mothers with their children invaded Sen. Charles H. Percy's (Rep.-Ill.) office demanding an explanation why the Republican Party is moving to destroy farmworkers. Sen. Percy, called off the Senate floor, spoke with the delegation by phone, stating he had expressed his "deep concern" about the NLRB position against farmworkers to Nash, and planned to talk to Sen. Dole next.

The Chicago City Council suspended its rules to pass an emergency resolution reaffirming support for the United Farm Workers, recommended opposition to the Republican Party's move, and urged Chicago citizens to write Senator Dole.

DENVER-- Publisher Valdez of the Chicano magazine La Luz was planning a dance with honored guests Romana Banuelos, U.S. Treasurer, Henry Ramirez, Director, Cabinet Committee on Opportunity for the Spanish-Speaking; Philip Sanchez, OEO Director; and Ron Zeigler, President Nixon's Press Secretary. Our Denver Boycotters and supporters promised to protest against these "honored guests" if they would not express public support for the farmworkers' position. Valdez received even more pressure when Tim Flores, Vice President of the regional AFL-CIO, in town for a conference, threatened to take his 350 delegates to picket the magazine's dance. The result: the "honored guests" did not appear. Instead, Boycott Organizer Richard Longoria and fellow Boycotters were the featured guests. They left the dance with many letters signed protesting the NLRB action.

FRESNO-- Over one-hundred and fifty pickets constantly raised the NLRB issue to President Nixon's representatives, Philip Sanchez, OEO director, and Robert Finch, special assistant to the president, during a recent dedication of a federal building in Fresno.

INDIANAPOLIS-- A car caravan of 100 Indiana supporters converged on Republican Governor Edgar D. Whitcomb's office only to be met by the governor's aides who claimed he wasn't in. While they waited, Gov. Whitcomb arrived at the Capitol and quickly agreed to contact Dole and Nash on the NLRB issue.

MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA-- Republican Lt. Gov. Ed Reinecke cancelled his plans to attend a dinner in his honor in Monterey when he learned our Carmel women supporters planned to attend while farmworkers picketed outside.

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE-- Pickets upset Republican appointee Peter Nash's speech on the NLRB to Vanderbilt University law school students.

NEW YORK CITY-- Our Boycotters and supporters staged a sit-in protest at Republican Senator Jacob K. Javits' office.

PHILADELPHIA-- Richard Chavez, Union Field Office Department Director, and Gilbert Padilla, Union Vice President, addressed the Committee on Political Education (COPE), AFL-CIO convention and raised \$450 for the NLRB campaign.

PORTLAND-- One Sunday Sen. Mark Hatfield (Rep.-Ore.) visited a black church in Portland. Twenty Boycotters and supporters with sandwich signs under their coats occupied the front pew, and when Sen. Hatfield began speaking, they opened their coats revealing their anti-Republican signs. Later during the service, the pastor mentioned the presence of the pickets and stated, "We support you one-hundred per cent. You can't eat automobiles," he commented, then turning to Hatfield, he added, "and you can't eat money."

PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND-- Senator Dole arrived at the Republican Women's Press Conference where eight of the 12 reporters were our Union people. When questioned on the NLRB issue, Sen. Dole stated, "... the problem is being resolved ... this is not a political problem." Then under the close surveillance of security guards, he joined the women at dinner accompanied by 70 of our pickets.

SAN DIEGO-- Our Union supporters picketed the U.S. National Bank, part of the business interests of C. Arnholt Smith, pro

SAN ANTONIO, TEX.

BISHOP PATRICK FLORES JOINS OUR PICKETLINES

Forty-five farmworker pickets greeted Mrs. Romana Banuelos, newly appointed U.S. Treasurer, upon her arrival in San Antonio, Texas recently to be guest speaker at the annual installation banquet of the Mexican Chamber of Commerce.

Mrs. Banuelos' official escort committee was so embarrassed by the pickets they did not want to be photographed with her. Consequently, she had to walk through the airport and board her limousine unescorted.

Later, during her first press conference, some of her escort committee, the Federally Employed Women representatives

interrogated her about farmworkers. The remainder of her press conferences were cancelled.

Bishop Patrick Flores of the Diocese of San Antonio had been invited to give the invocation that night at the banquet. He arrived and joined the throng of 400 pickets outside to read a protest statement. Then Bishop Flores went inside and read the same statement to the banquet guests and requested everyone to pray for the "farmworkers, the poor and the oppressed." The full text of his statement follows.

"...I join this picket line because I am a man who believes in God, and because of my beliefs, I must follow His dictates of justice and love..."

Mrs. Romana Banuelos, Treasurer of the United States, is speaking to the annual banquet of the Mexican Chamber of Commerce tonight here in San Antonio. I have been asked to lead the members of the Chamber, and their guests, in prayer by giving the invocation at this banquet. I will join them in prayer in a few minutes.

Even though I join this picketline in protest over the injustices done farmworkers in our country, I want to make it clear that, as a Bishop, I must be open to every group and interest. I will pray with any group that earnestly desires to pray.

Tonight, I will pray for justice. I will pray that the rights of the downtrodden farmworker in the United States will be supported by the national administration.

I join this picketline because I am a man who believes in God, and because of my beliefs, I must follow His dictates of justice and love. The picketline is an American expression of protest. Tonight, it protests the move by the Nixon Administration and its supporters to destroy the Union.

Mr. Peter Nash, President Nixon's appointee as General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board, has entered Federal Court in Fresno, California, and has asked the Court to permanently enjoin the farmworkers against their human right to boycott on behalf of the pleas for just wages and working conditions. The hearing is scheduled for April 6th.

It is tragically disappointing to millions of the citizens of this country, and to millions abroad, to see our government fight the poor rather than fighting for justice. The United States is supposed to have a government by and for the people, not a government against the people. And the people our government should most support are the poor, those who have so little power to represent their own interests.

For years, the farmworkers in Texas, California, Florida and elsewhere have been trying to organize and to make real their right to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." In the last year or so, they have had a measure of success in the lettuce and grape fields. Now, their own government enters the court against them.

The farmworkers are not protected by national labor legislation; they do not have the benefit of the National Labor Relations Act. But now the Nixon Administration is perversely using that same act to try to deny them the right to bargain. Such injustice by the government should be protested in the strongest terms, not only by Mexican-Americans, Anglos, Filipinos, Blacks and others working in the fields, but by all Americans who believe in equity and justice.

This callous action by the Nixon Administration must be halted, and it must be halted before April 6th.

A government which is supposed to represent the interests of the people must represent the interests of them all, not just the interests of the rich. Otherwise, it will cease to be a representative government and will incur the wrath of the Lord.

So, I picket... I picket to help stop this unjust move by the Nixon Administration. I picket for my people, for the poor, for the farmworker.

But I will go in to pray. I will pray for the farmworker. I will pray for the members of the Mexican Chamber of Commerce so that they will be inspired to believe that the unity of our people will help bring justice. I will pray that Mrs. Banuelos, the highest Mexican-American in our government will use her influence to act against this injustice.

Photo: Tejada-Flores/Fietinghoff

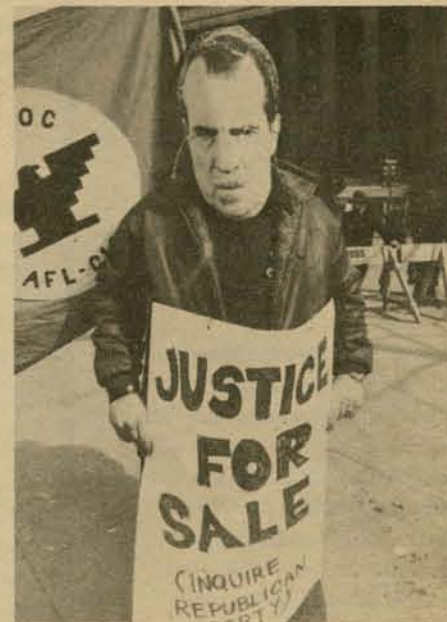
testing the Republican Party's corruption and its collaboration with agribusiness in the person of Smith. Also, the Republican Central Committee Headquarters is located in the same building as the bank.

SEATTLE-- Sixty people demonstrated on the Capitol steps and heard Secretary of State Ludlow Kramer's statement of support. He is running on Republican Governor Daniel J. Evans' ticket for reelection, and his support comes against Evans' wishes. Meanwhile Gov. Evans faces farmworkers and Boycotters picketing him throughout the state of Washington on his reelection campaign trail.

TEXAS-- Sixty pickets invaded a \$100-plate fund-raising dinner for Republican Senator John G. Tower in Austin. He was confronted by five picketers when they all entered the same elevator for a six-story ride.

TOLLESON, ARIZONA-- Over 200 farmworkers from Freshpict, Inter Harvest and Tenneco picketed U.S. Treasurer Romana Banuelos' visit to the Eighth Republican Headquarters which was heavily guarded by 25 riot police.

HOLLISTER, KING CITY, and SALINAS-- Farmworkers from these areas have been



reinforcing the Boycott against the Republican Party in San Jose and San Francisco during the weekends.

CALEXICO, FRESNO, LAMONT, OXNARD, POPLAR, SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, and SAN LUIS, ARIZONA-- Our farmworker sisters and brothers from these towns have been bolstering our picketlines and letter-writing marathons in the Los Angeles NLRB campaign during the weekends.

Sixth Anniversary of Our Union's First Recognition Agreement

- INTERVIEWS WITH SCHENLEY WORKERS • THE STRUGGLE TO ORGANIZE
- WORKING AND LIVING CONDITIONS BEFORE THE UNION
- UNION BENEFITS AND PROTECTIONS • THE STRIKE ASSESSMENT
- THE FUTURE OF LA CAUSA

Schenley Industries, Inc. became the first company to recognize our Union on April 6, 1966 after a three month Boycott of Schenley products. We were then the National Farm Workers Association. The recognition agreement was announced by Union Director Cesar Chavez from the steps of the State Capitol on April 10, 1966 where 10,000 farmworkers and supporters met after an historic 300-mile pilgrimage on foot from Delano to Sacramento. The Schenley Union Contract was signed on June 21, 1966.

EL MALCRIADO traveled to the Schenley fields to talk with the Union brothers who made this great victory for La Causa possible. We talked with Pablo Lopez, Daniel Sanchez, Luis Ramirez, Lorenzo Saludado and Luis Leon.

For EL MALCRIADO it was an honor to talk with them. Unfortunately we were not able to print all of the conversations we taped. We hope what our Union brothers at Schenley talked about will inspire all of us to follow their example.

The Schenley workers remember well the exploitation and discrimination they suffered before the Union, from their childhood days in Texas to their pre-Union times in the Delano area. Daniel Sanchez tells us, "The Mexican, Filipino, Black or Puerto Rican worker was hired only for pruning, picking, shoveling or hoeing, but never for driving tractors.

Farmworkers slaved for 12 to 13 years without a day's vacation. The foremen had complete control. The foreman would approach a worker saying: "You have one hour to prune 30 plants. If in that hour you don't hit the road. There's the white line." Those were times when a farmworker with a family of 13 had to settle for an hourly rate of \$1.15. If one of his kids died, he had to beg for the money to pay for the funeral. Those were the times when the phrase, "Here comes the old man!" left the workers trembling in fear.

"But the Union has improved our working and living conditions more than 100 percent," says Lorenzo Saludado and Luis Leon. "The work isn't as killing. Workers aren't harrassed and fired at will as they were before." "Workers no longer have to jump when the grower comes, nor take off their hats in homage to him," explains Daniel.

"La Causa did away with the company's henchmen who with less years of service and less work, enjoyed benefits that their fellow workers did not have. When the Union came, out went the crooked foremen, the despots and the labor contractors who earned up to \$35,000 a year by robbing the crews they hired."

But the benefits and protections of the Union did not come easily. They were won through the organizing efforts and struggles of the workers themselves. It was not easy at the beginning. When the Union first came, the majority of the workers knew nothing about it. The growers kept the workers in ignorance and fear.

Gradually, step by step the Union helped the sisters and brothers develop an understanding of La Causa. The Union gained more and more members through clandestine meetings; the workers grew in their solidarity and commitment of the Union.

Finally, one day the elected representatives of the workers piled into an old station wagon with Cesar Chavez and drove to Los Angeles to negotiate an agreement with the powerful owners of Schenley Industries, Inc.

"I will never forget," remembers Daniel, "how Cesar noticed we were very serious and quiet. He said: 'You haven't said a word since we started. If you are afraid we can turn back right now. But if you are real men we'll continue. What do you say?'"

"We replied, 'We are willing to go to the ends of the earth to have a Union.'" "We were sure that if we were fired for our pro-Union activities, the rest of the Schenley workers would go out with us."

"You should have seen how surprised the Schenley officials were when they saw a determined group of farmworkers in their offices, and among them, workers they never suspected worked for the Union. Some of them almost fainted!" laughs Daniel.

All of the Union brothers we talked to agreed farmworkers are still not where they should be, for the road to "social justice and liberation is a long, hard road with many obstacles. But we are on our way."

Today La Causa maintains a strong presence at the Schenley Ranch (White Rivers Farm) because the workers themselves are well-organized. They hold meetings, discuss and plan everything collectively.

During the years since the signing of the Union contract, they have maintained a voice in improving their working conditions, wages and benefits. Wages have increased about 90 per cent. "Before the Union, we were paid \$1.25 an hour and now the minimum hourly wage is \$2.40 and the maximum is \$2.80. That is a big improvement," says Pablo Lopez.

The Schenley workers named the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Medical Plan and the Farm Workers Credit Union among the most important of the benefits provided by their Union contract. The Credit Union provides loans at one per cent interest, savings accounts and other services. The Medical Plan provides year-round medical coverage for the entire family. Coverage includes doctor visits, maternity benefits, medicine, death benefits, etc.

"If one of our loved ones dies, for example," explains Daniel, "we don't have to go around begging for money to finance the burial."

At the ranch level, the workers themselves see that everything goes well. The Ranch Committee, elected by the workers, makes sure all members know the Union rules and regulations, and administers the Union contract. To this end, meetings are held continually.

The Schenley Ranch Committee has turned the Union contract's Grievance Procedure clause into a powerful weapon to defend the workers' rights. When a worker is unjustly treated in any way, he takes his grievance to the Ranch Committee which tries to resolve the grievance as soon as possible. The Ranch Committee then takes the grievance to the company supervisor. Almost all of the grievances are settled right in the field and only on rare occasions do grievances have to go to arbitration.

One such case involved an irrigator who was fired after water spilled out of the field he was irrigating. But when the case was taken to arbitration, the company changed its position, accusing the irrigator of being drunk on the job. Since the second charge had not been mentioned in the company's letter of dismissal, the company lost the case and had to pay the irrigator back wages for the four months he had been fired.

The company now realizes the workers know their Union contract well and defend it effectively. Company supervisors are careful to treat the workers well because they know the power of Union solidarity.

The brothers at Schenley stressed the importance of electing Union members to Ranch Committees who truly understand and know the Union. "It is very important that Ranch Committeemen be persons of unselfish and dedicated hearts, who have Strike experience and have struggled on Union picketlines. They should be willing to struggle for La Causa at any moment, even if it means going hungry."

The Union members at Schenley were the first to vote in favor of paying the Union's Strike Assessment of \$1.00 a week. According to Pablo Lopez, "We voted in the Strike Assessment after Union Vice-President Dolores Huerta explained to us how important it is for Union members to do everything possible to help their farmworker sisters and brothers who do not yet enjoy the benefits of a Union contract." And they have been paying the Strike Assessment for five years.

"Every worker at Schenley (White Rivers Farm) has contributed something so that other farmworkers can also win Union contracts and that is something we are proud of. Our Union will be even stronger when all of us are responsible for helping out in the struggles that lie ahead," explains Pablo.

When the recent attack by the Republican Party on our Union is mentioned, the Schenley workers are quick to affirm their belief that the Republican Party is conspiring with the growers to destroy us. But they are confident "La Causa will stop that conspiracy."

On the sixth anniversary of Schenley's recognition of our Union, the Schenley workers plan to celebrate by continuing to struggle hard for La Causa.

They conclude: "We will continue to struggle hard not only to better control our working conditions, but also to help liberate our farmworker sisters and brothers everywhere."



Photo: Harvey Richards

NOTE: The Schenley properties have since changed ownership to become the White Rivers Farm, but are still popularly known as the Schenley Ranch.

A SPECIAL MESSAGE TO FARMWORKERS!

*** Your savings are secure in the Farm Workers Credit Union**

*** Loans at only 1% interest on the unpaid balance per month**

• HISTORY OF THE CREDIT UNION MOVEMENT

In 1849 Germany suffered from widespread unemployment. People had to beg to support their families. Many people starved to death. The people in the countryside suffered just as much. There had been no rain for two years and the people had lost their crops. They had to borrow money from loan sharks and fell deeper and deeper into debt. They lost their cattle, their land, and even their homes and furniture.

Then, Friedrich Wilhelm Raiffeisen, the mayor of a little town in Southern Germany, called Flammersfeld, thought of a way to help his countrymen. He developed the idea of the credit union. He suggested poor people should put all their savings together and then loan money to each other at very low interest. Even though the people did not have much individually, when they combined their money, they had a lot.

That first credit union succeeded because the people believed in it and were willing to work hard to follow its principles. Our Credit Union also grew out of our poverty and suffering. The Farm Workers Credit Union was founded in 1963 by Union members. After much struggle and sacrifice, the Credit Union has expanded to include more than 2,000 members with over \$200,000 in assets. For the first time in its history, the Credit Union paid a dividend of 4.5 per cent for 1971 fiscal year.

• THE PRINCIPLES OF OUR CREDIT UNION

* La Causa is the common bond that holds the members together and makes them responsible for the Credit Union.

* Only people who are Credit Union members can save and borrow money from the fund (The fund is the combined amount of their savings).

* Loans are made only for good purposes, as determined by the Board of Directors.

* A man's character is his best security and is the basis of his credit.

• HOW DOES THE FARM WORKERS CREDIT UNION WORK?

The Farm Workers Credit Union is a simple plan. Because it is simple, it works well. A group of people (like ourselves) put their savings regularly in a general fund, and then they elect people to look after those savings.

When we need money, we borrow from the general fund and pay a small percentage of interest for the use of this money. This interest supplies the income or gain, which pays for the administrative costs. If the expenses are few, the remaining will provide a dividend -- our reward for saving.

It is easy to become a member. You pay a \$1.00 entrance fee, and you deposit \$5.00 in savings. You can save a small amount of money in your Credit Union every week or every pay day, year by year.

Whatever amount of money you deposit is yours. You can claim and withdraw it anytime you wish, but we prefer you borrow when you need money, that way your savings are stable.

The Farm Workers Credit Union charges only 1% interest per month on the unpaid balance on all loans. There are no late charges or insurance charges of any kind. Remember, if you were to borrow from a loan company or bank you might pay four or five times more in interests and other charges.

For more information write:



Farm Workers Credit Union
Dept. EM
P.O. Box 74
Keene, Ca. 93531

Idaho Ups Potato Tax

\$500,000 A YEAR TO FIGHT BOYCOTT

BOISE, Idaho -- The Idaho State Legislature approved and sent to the governor a bill which would impose an additional one-cent per hundredweight tax on potatoes to combat Boycotts.

The measure was passed after Union Director Cesar Chavez announced the beginning of an Idaho Potato Boycott. The bill passed the House 62-0 and the Senate 32-0.

The tax would increase from the present 2 1/4 cents per hundredweight to 3 1/4 cents and would raise an anti-Boycott war chest of \$500,000 a year. Sponsors of the bill said the war chest would provide funds for promotion and legal costs that may be incurred to fight the Boycott.

The bill includes provisions for a referendum whereby growers could nullify the tax increase, which would be effective July 1. Farmworkers were not mentioned in this bill.

State Representative Allan F. Larsen, a Republican from Blackfoot, Idaho, said the bill to raise the potato advertising tax was a "good bill" and added it was "urgently needed."

The announcement of an Idaho Potato Boycott elicited the following editorial response from the Caldwell News-Tribune: "We believe that the Idaho Potato Commission, should it decide to recognize the threat and act against it, must attack it head-on. Advertising that goes out on the subject should call attention to any Boycott threat, and do so without pulling any punches. The Idaho potato story could be told straightforwardly and simply. Idaho potato growers have nothing to be ashamed of, if anything, just the opposite. And the Commission publicity should say so."

However, recent investigations by the Union's Department of Organizing and Research indicates not all is well with the living and working conditions of Idaho farmworkers.

Average hourly wages are about \$1.85 with no fringe benefits, no job security, no control over the use of dangerous pesticides, and no adequate medical care.

Farmworkers' housing in Idaho is among the worst in the country. Camps are generally near collapse and very unsanitary. Recently, a group of farmworkers from Alamo, Idaho obtained legal help to tear down one of the camps.

The Parma Labor Camp offers housing consisting of 220 square feet for families with eight, nine or twelve people. There is no hot water in most of the rooms. Rental rate: \$36 a month (utilities not included).

Union organizers find dirty, torn mattresses, broken windows and doors in the camps. Bed bugs are so bad that children are plagued with sores.

The sewage system at the West Valley Labor Camp, consists of the puddles outside. When farmworkers look for housing in the towns they are met with high rents and racism.

The agribusiness interests in Idaho blame these working and living conditions on the "dirtiness of the people."

"It's an outrage when growers are willing to tax themselves, and eventually the public, to fight the Boycott, rather than to recognize their workers' Union," declared Union Director Cesar.

KEEP INFORMED

READ EL MALCRIADO!

Yakima Chief Ranch Owner George Gannon Called 'Self-interested liar'

January 3, 1972

Dear Friends:

A number of you have written about the George Gannon article in the New York Times (it has also appeared in the Philadelphia Bulletin and probably other papers as well). In the article, Gannon reports on his visit to La Paz to "negotiate" with the Union and on the stubborn response he met from Cesar Chavez. The article is entitled "The Man of La Paz."

First let me confess to a little discouragement at the number of inquiries I have received on the Gannon article. Cesar Chavez has given his life to the poor. He lives on subsistence, works 16-18 hours a day and has damaged his health in fasting and through years of work for the farmworkers; yet sincere people are thrown off guard by one article written by one grower who has never demonstrated anything about his integrity or compassion; all we know is that Gannon was clever enough to get an article into the New York Times. And why did the Times print such a snide little piece? Would they have printed an article by a Mississippi plantation owner smearing Dr. Martin Luther King? (Mr. Gannon is after all a large grower opposed to the farmworkers' Union.)

George Gannon is a self-interested liar who is trying to undermine public confidence in Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers. He failed to mention in his article that the Union won a secret ballot election at his Yakima Chief ranch in September of 1970 (results: for the Union 105 ... No Union 4) and that he had been stalling on bargaining for nearly a year prior to the meeting at La Paz. He also made some other statements that need correction.

When the Union was an organizing committee of the AFL-CIO, it observed the AFL-CIO's rules and regulations for organizing committees. Its workers and Executive Board were elected by farm workers. And now that the Union has a national charter from the AFL-CIO, it will soon hold its first convention as a full-fledged Union with farmworker delegates from all over the country.

The Union is covered by the 1959 Landrum-Griffin Act which requires financial reporting to the government and protects the rights of Union members. The Interharvest contract does provide for the Union hiring hall. The Union campaigned against legislation in the Northwest not because it provided protections for workers but because the legislation was designed by the farm Bureau to eliminate strikes and take away the power of the Boycott. Union dues are \$3.50 per month for every person working under contract. People in Texas, Oregon and other states who want to join the Union but who have no contracts pay \$15.00 per year per family.

Mr. Gannon implies that he and other growers are more concerned about the workers rights than is Cesar Chavez and the Union. The growers say they want to be sure that Union contracts don't abuse those worker rights. Unfortunately they demonstrate this concern only in words and only when it is convenient for public relations while Cesar and the Union have given their lives to building real power and real dignity for farmworkers and their families. Yes, the Union is stubborn and demanding about the hiring hall and about paying dues all year and the right of the Union to set dues and to discipline members. That is because the Union is serious about building a strong Union that will liberate farmworkers all over the country. The United Farm Workers are not engaged in charity for the poor. They sacrifice and they work hard and they expect farmworkers who have the benefits of a contract to pay dues and to contribute food and money for workers who are struggling to get organized. Cesar ex-

(Continued on page 13)

"COMMITTEE OF 22" ANTI-FARMWORKER GROUP MEETS

MABTON, Washington -- A new anti-farmworker group called the "Committee of 22," a group of foremen, labor contractors and right-wingers, held one of their first meetings at the Mary E. Fox School in Mabton, Washington.

Most of the 100 persons attending the meeting were pro-Union farmworkers who wanted to learn what the "Committee of 22" was doing. Only five persons of the original 22 members were present: Felipe Padilla, a welfare recipient from Toppenish; Frank Galaviz, a foreman at the Gamache Hop Ranch near Mabton; David Palomares, a labor contractor at Newhouse Farms (a big hop ranch); Irving Newhouse, a State Representative who pushed anti-farmworker legislation last year and again this year; and Alberto de Leon, a foreman at the Yakima Chief Ranch.

The meeting, originally scheduled at the Gannon Museum, began with de Leon presenting the group's constitution. Except for a few anti-Union Security clauses, the vague constitution contained provisions for the collection of dues without specifying the

amount. It provided for "honorary" members (like the growers perhaps?). No copies of the hand-written constitution were available to the audience.

After de Leon finished reading the constitution, Union member Jose Villanueva of Sunnyside criticized de Leon's "Committee of 22" dictatorial power.

"As far as I am concerned," he said, "We should all unite with our brother, Cesar Chavez to have a Union that really represents farmworkers." Jose's statement elicited the first applause since the beginning of the meeting.

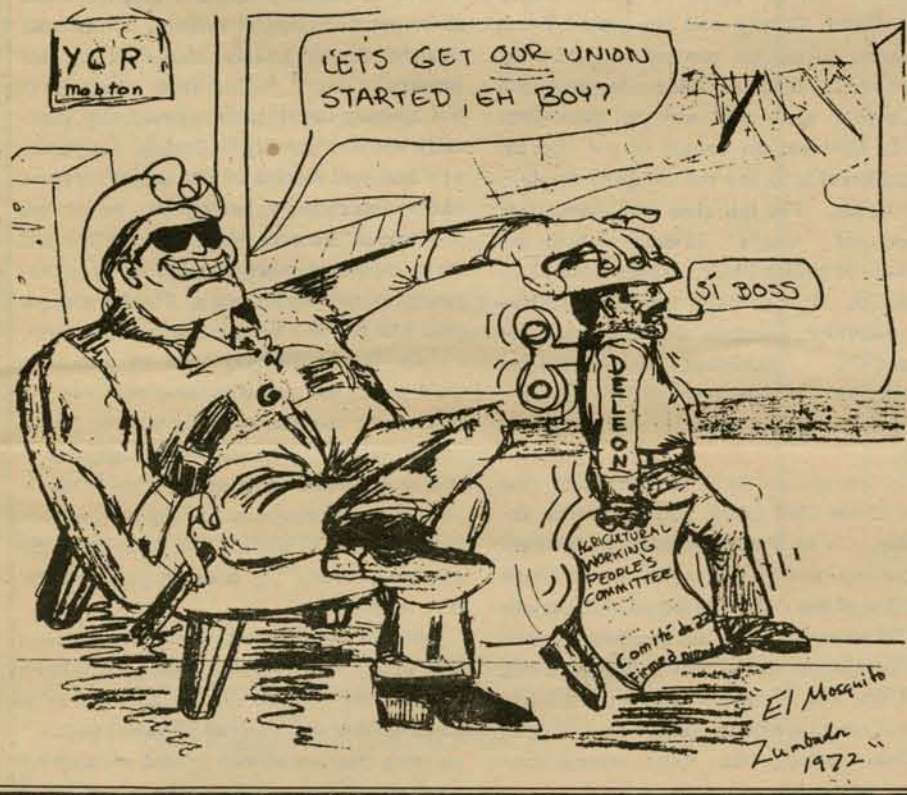
Another Union member, Mrs. Raul Flores, pointed her finger at de Leon saying, "You don't work. Each morning you drive by our house in your pickup to harrass us. But I never see you at work."

Again applause.

The statements against the "Committee of 22" and for the United Farm Workers increased in tempo until de Leon abruptly ended the meeting ten minutes later. No vote was taken on the adoption of the constitution.

One of the hardest questions asked de Leon was, "How will the Committee force the growers to sign contracts without the power of the United Farm Workers?" De Leon mumbled something about "working things out with the growers."

Other Union members tried to ask questions but they were ignored.



VICTORY FOR YAKIMA VALLEY FARMWORKERS Naff Agrees to Appoint Spanish-Speaking Registrars

YAKIMA, Washington -- For years Yakima County Auditor Eugene Naff refused to appoint sufficient Spanish-speaking voter

'liar' (Continued from page 12)

pects workers who are better off to serve other workers who are still unorganized; he expects farmworkers to go out on the Boycott, to travel to Sacramento to oppose repressive legislation, to work to enforce the contracts and to spread the Union word to other workers.

The life style and the seriousness of purpose embodied in the farmworkers movement is a challenge to us. It is also a challenge to farmworkers. The Union makes demands on workers. They expect men and women to stand up and take responsibility. They expect farmworkers to pay their way and to discipline those who don't. It may shock Mr. Gannon but more likely it worries him. The Union is deadly serious about organizing and that means that farmworkers on Mr. Gannon's huge hop ranch are going to have a Union some day no matter how many articles he writes.

Viva La Causa,

Wayne C. Hartmire, Jr.
Director, National Farm
Worker Ministry

registrars to serve the more than 30,000 Chicano residents in the Yakima Valley.

He claimed voter registration is an exceedingly complicated procedure that Chicanos, especially farmworkers, are not capable of doing.

Disgusted with Naff's discriminatory practices, nearly 70 farmworkers invaded his Yakima office on Mar. 30 demanding he register them. They spoke only Spanish so Naff might experience what farmworkers feel when their cultural backgrounds are not respected.

Trembling and angry, Naff complained he had been caught "cold turkey." He tried to register the farmworkers using an interpreter, but the brothers and sisters protested they were tired of interpreters. They demanded Naff appoint more Spanish-speaking registrars.

Naff, shaken by the solidarity of the people, appointed one of them immediately. He was in such a hurry he didn't bother to find out the new appointee was not even a registered voter. The new appointee promptly registered herself disproving Naff's claim that it is very difficult to become a voter registrar.

Naff also agreed to appoint at least two Spanish-speaking registrars for every town in the Yakima Valley. He promised to make these appointments in the towns rather than requiring farmworkers to come to his office.

This victory in the struggle for the right to vote is even more important in light of our present campaign to defend ourselves against the Republican Party's attack on our Union.

WASHINGTON

500 FARMWORKERS MARCH THROUGH SUNNYSIDE

• Governor Evans forced to speak to them
• A vote against 'Committee of 22'

SUNNYSIDE, Washington -- La Causa made one of its strongest showings in the Northwest when 500 farmworkers marched through downtown Sunnyside, Washington forcing the state governor to speak to them at a rally in the city part Mar. 25.

Farmworker delegations from Mabton, Granger, Prosser, Grandview, Wapato, Toppenish, Yakima, Zillah, Pasco and Othello gathered to protest the Republican Party's use of the NLRB to take away our Union's right to the Boycott, our only Non-violent weapon for justice.

The rally opened with a reading in Spanish of a statement by Bishop Patrick Flores of San Antonio (SEE PAGE 11) delivered Mar. 18 as he picketed with farmworkers and supporters against the Republican Party. The statement read by Union member Francisco Segundo was followed by a prayer and short talk by Father John Heenanah.

The sisters and brothers at the rally were expecting an appearance by Governor Daniel Evans, a Republican running for re-election. Gov. Evans was touring the Yakima Valley to discuss tax reform with dairymen, growers and other businessmen, but was confronted by Union pickets everywhere he went. In Sunnyside, he received an invitation to the rally to explain why the Republican Party was attacking our Union.

While the people waited for Evan's arrival, a teatro group performed exposing the crooked intentions of the so-called "Committee of 22," a group of foremen and labor contractors who claim to represent the wishes of farmworkers in the Yakima Valley.

After the performance, Union organizers Fred Ross, Roberto Trevino and Guadalupe Gamboa informed the group that Dan Alexander, one of the owners of the Yakima Chief Ranch, had sent a telegram to Cesar claiming the "Committee of 22" was receiving the support of an increasing number of number of farmworkers.

Everyone became so outraged by this information that they voted immediately to see whether or not Alexander's claim was true. The results: United Farm Workers, 500; "Committee of 22," 1. A vote of 500 to 1 also repudiated Pancho Palomares, who claims neither our Union nor the "Committee of 22" represents farmworkers. Most farmworkers consider Palomares a "very confused man."

An announcement followed that Gov. Evans refused to attend their rally because he was too busy meeting with 12 growers and state legislators at the Safari Restaurant in downtown Sunnyside.

The workers decided the rally would have to be taken to him. They marched en masse through the downtown area toward the Safari Restaurant chanting, "We want Evans! We want Evans! Viva La Causa!"

Farmworker car caravan: LAS MANANITAS SUNG AT YAKIMA CHIEF RANCH

YAKIMA, Washington -- A car caravan carrying nearly 70 farmworkers brought "las mananitas" * to the sisters and brothers who work for the Yakima Chief Ranch near Yakima, Washington on April 1.

The car caravan drove to the ranch's labor camp and the group of Union members walked from door to door singing "Solidaridad Pa' Siempre" ("Solidarity Forever"), "De Colores" (a song about rebirth and springtime) "Nosotros Venceremos" ("We Shall Overcome"), and "This Is Your Land."

For nearly an hour the sisters and brothers marched around the block on Edison Avenue between Sixth and Seventh Streets. With our people were Union supporters Ricardo Garcia, executive director of the Washington State Commission on Mexican-American Affairs, and Michael Fox, Seattle Legal Services Center attorney.

The governor felt the pressure and asked Union organizer Lupe and a delegation of farmworkers to come into the restaurant to negotiate.

The marchers were finally told Evans would meet with them in the park. With cheers and songs they marched back to the park.

In the first speech he had ever made to farmworkers, Evans tried to scold La Causa for making the National Labor Relations Board's attack on our Union "a partisan issue." He said the issue should be settled by the courts, not by "pressure tactics."

He forgot to mention Peter Nash, the General Counsel to the NLRB who formally initiated the move against the Union, was appointed by Republican President Nixon last August.

After his speech, the people presented Gov. Evans with over 800 letters in English and Spanish condemning the Republican Party's anti-farmworker position. Evans tried to make excuses in his rush to leave. He said people were waiting to meet with him in Prosser and the Tri-Cities. He was told loudly by everyone that they had also been waiting.

Someone shouted, "Do you support the Union?"

"I support the right of anyone to join a Union," he replied.

"But what about this Union?"

Evans answered he could not stay any longer since he was running far behind his schedule. He had spoken with our people for only four or five minutes.

Union organizer Fred accused the governor of "evading the whole issue of the political attack on the Union. This is an example of the political run-around."

"We had to march downtown to get him to talk to us. We are going to be more and more involved in politics from now on. The workers are very disappointed," he said. "They will show it at the polls."

Earlier in Yakima, about 20 farmworkers and supporters carrying Huelga flags and protest signs presented letters to the governor objecting to the NLRB action and the Republican Party's involvement. While in Toppenish, Executive Director Ricardo Garcia of the State Mexican-American Affairs Commission, an Evans appointee, led a group of 25 persons who questioned the governor about the NLRB case.

At first the Yakima Chief Ranch workers were afraid because the owners, George Gannon and Dan Alexander, have clearly stated they will not recognize the Union, despite the workers' desire for it. As the singing continued the fear disappeared and the singers talked to the workers about the Union's growth in the Yakima Valley and the campaign against the unjustness of the Republican Party.

By eliminating fear and ignorance, Union solidarity is uniting farmworkers' struggle for justice in the Yakima Valley.

* "Las mananitas" refers to the Mexican custom of singing early in the morning to loved ones on their birthdays and other special days.

ITT: \$400,000.00 GROWERS: HOW MUCH?

Last year the Justice Department initiated suits to block the proposed merger of the International Telephone and Telegraph Company (ITT) and the Hartford Insurance Company. This was logically seen as being a violation of existing anti-trust laws, especially since ITT is already one of America's largest conglomerates.

But in July the case was suddenly settled out of court, and under terms favorable to the company. The fact that ITT had recently pledged \$400,000 towards the cost of the Republican National Convention was explained away as a coincidence. And were it not for subsequent events the average person could perhaps have accepted this explanation.

In the settlement ITT agreed to divest itself of certain minor holdings, an action which caused a sharp initial drop in its stock value. Now in the weeks prior to the public disclosure of these terms, top company officials sold over eight million dollars worth of stock. The officials claim they were not acting on the basis of inside information, which is prohibited by law. It was just another coincidence.

Next, when Congress began investigations, information central to the whole matter was systematically destroyed by ITT security officials. The company said shredding the files of Mrs. Dita Beard, an ITT Lobbyist, was standard operating procedure.

Finally came Mrs. Beard's denial of a memo she wrote linking the anti-trust set-



tlement to the campaign pledge.

In our democracy the growers and corporations bargain for their rights with money. We farmworkers have only the power of determination, our solidarity in the struggle for social justice. So we're offering to contribute something to the Republican Convention too -- our presence there -- 25,000 strong.



From The Washington Post (Editorial -- March 4, 1972)

CESAR CHAVEZ IN FLORIDA

The news from Florida was good the other day: Cesar Chavez and his United Farm Workers pulled off another one of their occasional miracles. This time it was a three-year agreement with the Coca-Cola Foods Division on behalf of the migrant agricultural laborers the company employs in Florida. For full-time employees, this agreement means 25-cent-an-hour increases at hourly rates ranging from \$2.25 to \$3.70. It also calls for paid holidays and vacations, pensions and life and medical insurance. Increased piece rates for pickers and a smaller package of benefits for irregular employees are included in the contract.

The agreement is a breakthrough--the first of its kind in the Florida citrus industry. It is a great credit to Chavez's leadership and to the vision of his Union and though the record is mixed, much credit should go to the Coca-Cola Company as well. The company's willingness to negotiate with the Union and to make a contract with it has given Chavez a firm toehold where it is most needed-- among the most miserable of America's people.

A year and a half ago, in hearings before the Senate Subcommittee on Migratory Labor, it was estimated that the average migrant worked 78 days a year and was paid \$891 for his trouble. But that is only the tip of the iceberg of a story of almost unbelievable squalor, misery and degradation. Four doctors testified in disbelief and utter

horror at health conditions they had found in migrant camps: "rickets, a disorder thought to be nearly abolished in this country" . . . Malnutrition since birth has already impaired them physically, mentally and emotionally." Earlier researchers had told stories of how tenant farmers and sharecroppers, having been thrown out of work in the deep South by machines and farm subsidies, were rounded up by entrepreneurs who took them to Florida and got paid \$15 to \$50 a head for delivering them.

Life in the camps, hard by Florida's gold coast, was shown as unrelieved misery. There are latrines so filthy that the people prefer to use the woods; a single spigot providing foul water for 30 people; rancid standing water sometimes so deep that the migrant is wet to his hips as he slogs to the crowded, crumbling building provided for him to live.

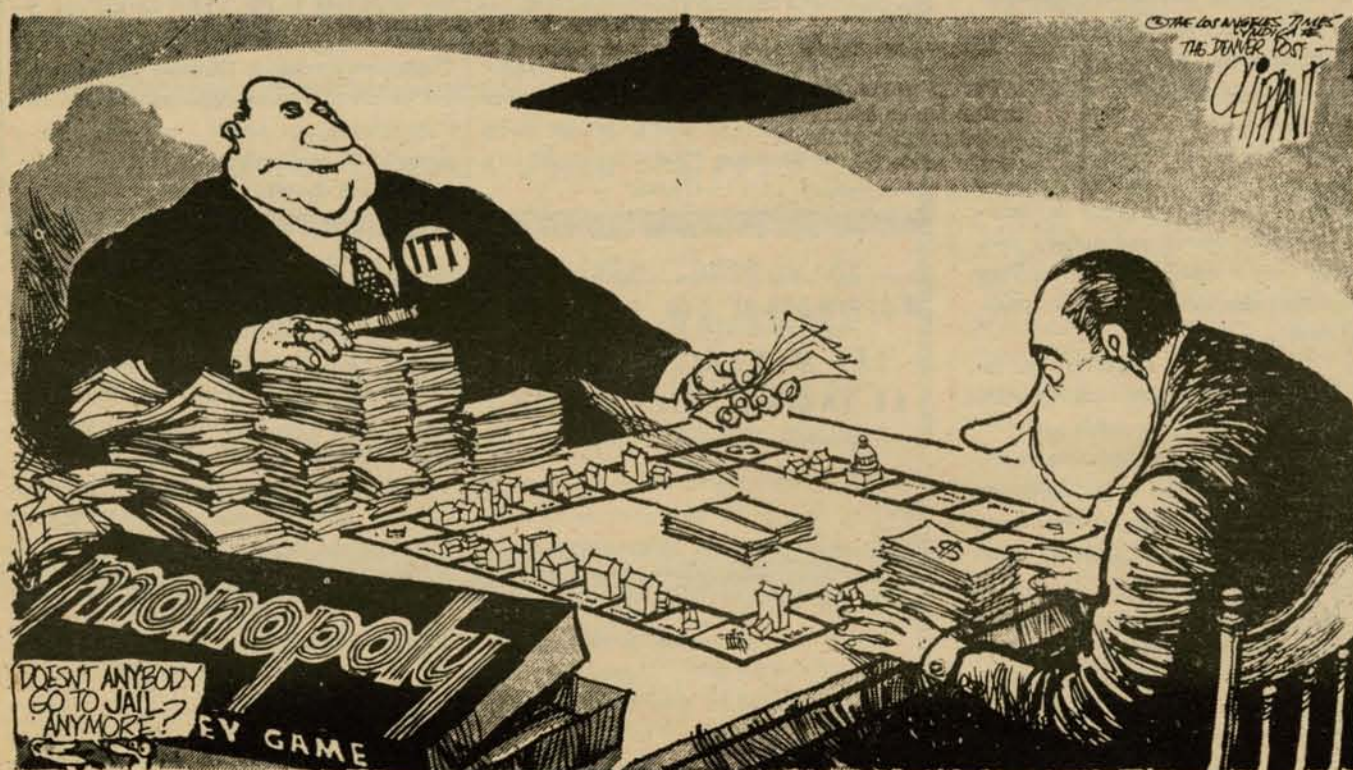
And, for the unfortunate blacks, Chicanos and whites caught in this web, there is no government to care for them. The local governments see them as "federal people" because they are moved around so much yet the federal government never gets a fix on them because local officials often refuse to implement food stamp and welfare programs for them. They are ineligible for social security and they don't have unemployment benefits. They are at the mercy of the companies that "employ" them and the gun-toting crew chiefs . . . barely distinguishable from old-time overseers . . . who are employed to keep them in line. The companies keep the books so the migrants rarely get out of debt and if that isn't enough, there is always the intimidation of the crew chief to fall back on. In recent years, the Florida migrants have been called, not inexactly, "the slaves we rent."

Thus, it is clear that the breakthrough came exactly where it was needed. But it is also clear that Chavez's fight will be uphill against incredible odds. The head of the Citrus Industrial Council has already voiced his skepticism about this agreement making a dent in the rest of the industry. It is tempting to call for congressional action, but the power is on the side of the growers and so are the votes.

It is sometimes said that until these migrants, the least of our people, can organize sufficient strength to gain political power, there is nothing the Congress can do. It is ironic that the first step has to be taken by one of the country's newest and most fragile unions while the rest of us look on in horror, not knowing what to do while the 13th Amendment to our Constitution is mocked by voracious greed, daily misery and unutterable human pain.



Photos: Tejada-Flores/Fietinghoff



'I'LL GIVE YOU \$400,000 FOR SAN DIEGO, HARTFORD INSURANCE AND CANTEN CORP.—
AND YOU CAN KEEP YOUR SHAKY ECONOMY INTACT!'

Millions Agree We Have The Right to Boycott!

Recent weeks have witnessed the organization of hundreds of thousands of people. Our campaign for the right to Boycott and to expose the actions of the National Labor Relations Board and the Republican Party is reaching record proportions.

At churches, markets and public places, from Manhattan sky-scrapers to the barrios of East Los Angeles, we hear, "Please write a letter to Senator Dole and ask him to stop the attempt to kill our Union."

Consciousness is growing. The bread is rising. In the past our people identified their misery with fate. Now we see ourselves capable of creating history.

Some of us cannot read or speak English. We simply came to the cities, handed leaflets to people and found that they responded. They wrote letters for us. They organized their friends for us. They called meetings at their homes and churches.

People of all political persuasions are answering our invitation. They know we are poor and the underdog. But we sense a strength that they also recognize. We represent an idea whose time has come.

It was not possible for us to accept the action of the National Labor Relations Board without a fight. We can easily see the link between the NLRB and the Republican Party. What brings us joy is that so many others see it as clearly as we do.

Each letter sent to Washington, D.C. represents the opinion of many voters. Our campaign has organized the mailing of over one million letters.

This massive response of the people of the United States has increased our faith in people. We want to thank each and every one of you personally. We know that will be impossible so we take the opportunity here. Our deepest gratitude and thanks for your participation in La Causa.

Say thanks to Kennedy Medical Plan

I received already the \$300.00 check for the Maternity Benefit of my wife last March 24, 1972.

I would like to express my sincerest thanks for your action and concern. VIVA LA CAUSA and more power to our Union!
Deogracias P. Tigulo
San Francisco, Calif.

Enclosed is a small contribution to La Causa. I recently received your publication EL MALCRIADO and frankly it moved me. I shall contact all my friends to send you funds. I also wrote a strong letter to Senator Dole. . . .

Again the best of fortune for your efforts to smash the Republican conspiracy to destroy your Union. I am taking the liberty of enclosing a list of friends to whom you should send the emergency copy of EL MALCRIADO. I am sure that they will respond to the justice of your cause.

Harold Rosen
Cleveland, Ohio

Herewith is a check for \$5.00 for the NEXT issue of your beautiful paper. Glad it's going again.

Rev. Frank G. Plaisted
California Migrant Ministry Commission
Pacific Grove, Calif.

Stop Republican Conspiracy

I am enclosing a copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of the Unitarian Universalist Association of the United States and Canada. Feel free to publish this resolution if you wish. The Unitarian Universalist Association with offices in Boston, Massachusetts, is the denominational body of all Unitarian and Universalist churches and fellowships in the United States and Canada.

Also--I enjoyed very much the Emergency Issue of EL MALCRIADO and congratulate you on it. I especially valued Mr. Hartmire's article on the farmworkers' Boycott.
Yours sincerely,
Howard Matson, minister
Unitarian Universalist Migrant Ministry
Berkeley, Calif.

Keep Struggling . . . Your only hope is to keep struggling.

You sisters and brothers have put up a terrific fight and victory is in sight. You have a dedicated leader. Being only a working stiff, I can't help too much but here is a small check with my wishes for complete success - and soon.

Sincerely and fraternally yours,
Marshall Grob
North Bend, Ore.

To Our Former Subscribers

Sisters and Brothers:

We know you have not heard from us in a long time. We are back and we believe EL MALCRIADO is better than ever.

You have read EL MALCRIADO in the past and have taken part in the history-making struggles we farmworkers have begun. And now we are inviting you to be organizers with us.

We will not be accepting regular subscriptions to EL MALCRIADO. We see the paper as an organizing tool for La Causa and want it to be distributed hand to hand.

We have two separate editions; one in English and one in Spanish. Are you willing to order one bundle every two weeks in Spanish or in English?

These bundles of 50 papers are \$5.00 postage paid. You can reorder every two weeks and change your request as needed. In accepting this task you will help our work greatly. If you sell all 50 you will get your \$5.00 back. We do not want the sale of our paper to be a profit-making venture but rather a voluntary work for La Causa.

We ask that your orders be prepaid so we can pay for the printing.

Please send
me _____ bundles of EL MALCRIADO in Spanish

and _____ bundles of EL MALCRIADO in English

(\$5.00 pre-paid for each bundle of 50 papers)

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Telephone _____ Zip _____

Mail to:
EL MALCRIADO
P.O. Box 62
Keene, California 93531

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- We'll take a good mechanic, even if he can't do diesel work.

We need you to keep La Causa going!

United Farm Workers, National Headquarters
in Tehachapi Mountains, near Bakersfield, California.

Room and Board provided, plus \$5.00 a week for personal expenses.

Apply:
APPLICATION -- Farm Workers
P.O. Box 62
Keene, California 93531 (805) 822-5571

ROBERT F. KENNEDY

FARM WORKERS MEDICAL PLAN:

\$1,000,000

In Benefits Paid

Photo: George Ballis



We have named our Medical Plan in memory of Senator Robert F. Kennedy because he gave our Cause his unfailing support and gave his life in the defense of the poor.

The Robert F. Kennedy Farm Workers Medical Plan has paid out over \$1,000,000 in benefits since it began in September of 1969. More than 22,000 individual claims have been processed. The Kennedy Plan is completely administered by farmworkers. The present and continued success of our medical Plan depends upon our vigilance and cooperative action.

This interview with the Director of the Kennedy Plan, Leroy Chatfield, is conducted to extend knowledge of the Plan, its progress and to explain how to obtain its benefits.

Q What are the advantages in farmworkers administering their own medical Plan?

A First, the Kennedy Plan is a cooperative Plan. There is no outside money involved. Our Plan is financed by the 10 cents an hour per worker that the growers must pay into it when they sign a Union contract. Second, its financial resources are devoted completely to the farmworker and do not go to an insurance company's profits. The benefits were selected and voted upon by the Union membership. The healthy provide support for the sick. Because the Union administers the Plan claims problems can be solved quickly and fairly.

Q Does a cooperative Plan put special responsibilities upon its members?

A Yes it does. A cooperative medical plan means any abuses of the program affect the farmworker directly and are not absorbed by an outside insurance company. That is, if doctors or hospitals abuse the program with overcharges, unnecessary services and other forms of cheating, Union members suffer the consequences. Members who discover such cheating have the responsibility of reporting it to the Union to protect the benefits for themselves and their children.

Q Does the Kennedy Plan have problems getting the growers to cooperate with the Plan?

A Some. Some growers fail to report certain members or are delinquent in paying the Plan for hours worked. For their own protection, workers must keep their check stubs as proof of hours worked under Union contract so they can obtain benefits if the grower fails to report hours and pay the 10 cents.

Q What benefits are available for workers and how many working hours are required to obtain them?

A First of all, the worker must be a Union member in who is working or has worked under a Union contract. A member must have worked 50 hours in the three months prior to the Month of Medical Care, or 100 hours in the six months prior, or 150 hours in the nine months prior to the Month of Medical Care. This qualifies him AND EACH MEMBER OF HIS IMMEDIATE FAMILY for:

- doctor's care at \$5.00 per visit;
- X-Ray and laboratory expenses to \$100.00 a year; and
- \$15.00 in medicine per quarter.

In addition, if the member worked a total of 250 hours in the three months prior to the Month of Medical Care, or 500 hours in the six months prior, or 750 hours in the nine months prior, he and his family are eligible for maternity benefits of \$300.00 a year per family, hospital benefits of \$400.00 a year and surgical benefits of \$200.00 a year.

Q Does the Kennedy Plan provide a death benefit?

A Yes. If a Union member works 50 hours during one year and joins the Union before age 51, he is eligible for \$1,000.00 in benefits for his survivors in case of his death. If he joins after age 51 and before age 61 benefits paid to his survivors are \$500.00. If he joins after age 61, benefits for his survivors are \$250.00.

Q What is the responsibility of the member in applying for benefits?

A Whether the application is sent by the member, by the doctor or by the hospital it must be complete with all required forms and information:

- the Pink Form (Claim);
- Green Form (Doctor's Certificate) or itemized hospital bill;
- For maternity or death benefits, copies of birth certificates or death certificates are also required.

Q Does the Kennedy Plan pay benefits outside the United States?

A Yes, but only maternity and death benefits, which are paid anywhere in the world. Medical benefits can only be paid in the United States.

Q What about Union members who live in the Delano area?

A All of their Kennedy Plan benefits (Doctor visits, X-Rays, laboratory tests, medicines, health check-ups, 24-hour emergency care, etc.) are provided at the Rodrigo Terronez Memorial Clinic located at the Forty Acres in Delano.

Maternity, hospital and surgical benefits are paid directly by the Kennedy Plan if the member has been referred by the clinic for such services.

Q Will the Kennedy Plan be able to provide more benefits?

A Yes, if the Union continues to grow stronger and win more contracts. Also, more benefits will be available from the Kennedy Plan if we protect our benefits from abuses and cheating by doctors, hospitals and selfish persons who want to destroy the Union.

When possible, the Kennedy Plan would like to expand its benefits to cover such services as eyeglasses, emergency ambulance service, hospital emergency room coverage, etc. But only the strength and the unity of La Causa will bring additional benefits for farmworkers and their children.



KENNEDY PLAN STAFF. Front row (left to right): Maria Salgado, Carmen Vasquez. Back row: Ann McGregor, Ruth Clark, Dave Engelken, Gary Brown, Ralph Magaña and Maria Rifo. The sisters and brothers of the Kennedy Plan work long and hard hours to provide us with the kind of services we want for ourselves and our children.

For more information write:



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Or contact your local Union office