

The official voice of the United Farmworkers

English

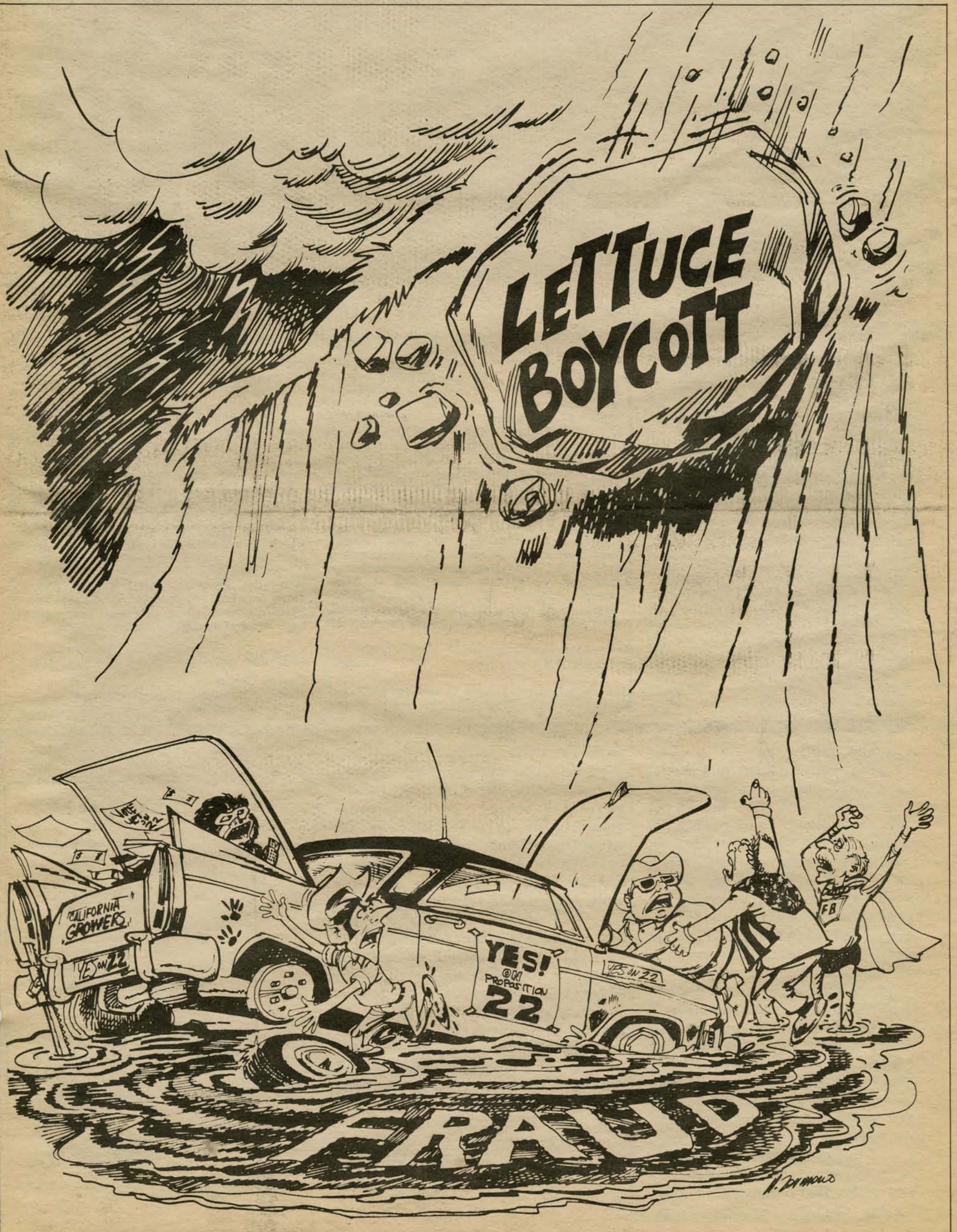
EL MALCRIADO

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Double Defeat For The Growers

In the November 7th elections, the farm workers movement won a great victory by defeating Proposition 22 by a large majority of votes.

What does this victory mean?

In the past we have fought and defeated the growers with strikes and boycotts. And now we have beat them in their own territory, in the area of political action: we trapped them in their own trap.

They pretended to offer farm workers "secret ballot" elections. They used fraud and deceit to fool people into voting for Proposition 22. They cried for a "secret ballot". They got it and lost by 1,236,608 votes.

The decisive victory in the elections projects the political strength of the United Farm Workers throughout the entire country.

Where does the power come from for a farm workers' movement made up of men and women of the oppressed minorities, many of whom are not citizens, do not speak English, of men and women who have to carry out their campaigns only after sacrificing days and even weeks of work and wages?

Our political power is not based on money as is the political power of our enemies. Our

political power is based on people, on our willingness to sacrifice, on our director César Chávez and other leaders of our movement and on the justice of our cause, which inspires the support of decent citizens across the nation.

The million dollars spent by the growers on the thousands of fraudulent billboards that polluted the roads and the cities were outdone by our hearts of our people. The result: a decisive NO to Proposition 22 and a clear Yes to the United Farm Workers as the one and only union for farm workers.

With their shameful campaign, the growers and their allies ambushed and defeated themselves. They spent a million dollars to outlaw strikes and boycotts and what they really did was to awaken in the citizens of the state an awareness of the justness of our cause.

Their dollars turned against them: they have given us the publicity we need to renew the lettuce boycott, on which we will now concentrate our efforts.

The victory in California was a victory for farm workers everywhere. It showed that SI, SE PUEDE, it can be done. We can build a union and rout the forces that oppose us if we are willing to struggle and sacrifice. WE WILL INTENSIFY OUR ORGANIZING EFFORTS. ¡ ON WITH THE LETTUCE BOYCOTT!



(This letter was written to a local paper in the Salinas Valley. -- EL MALCRIADO)

Dear Editor:

This is in regards to a bumper sticker which read "FWOC-U". As a UFWOC member I thought it very rude to transpose these initials in such a bad manner. I'd also like to bring up that during a boycott we were called "uneducated" by anti-union people. If they think they are so educated why are they transposing the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee initials in such a way. We might have our minds on boycotting and picketing for better causes but we don't transpose bumper stickers in a dirty way. These anti-union people who called us uneducated should take better look at themselves.

Nosotros Venceremos. Si Se Puede y Viva Nuestro Lider César Chávez! NO on Prop. 22!

Beatriz Valenzuela
Greenfield, Ca.

(The Union's formal name is now United Farm Workers or UFW. -- EL MALCRIADO)

On Tuesday, October 24, the General Board of the Pennsylvania Council of Churches passed the enclosed resolution.

This action was initiated by a request from the Migrant Ministry Committee to the Social Relations Committee, asking for a study of the lettuce boycott.

We heard testimony from a spokesman for the growers and a spokesman from the harvesters. We want all the readers of El Malcriado to know that we believe the cause of justice will best be served when farm workers can bargain for their rights and secure a contract over which they have some control. We declare our brotherhood and sisterhood with you in your efforts.

Hopefully, many Christians will now feel even more compelled to help you as you seek justice, by eating head lettuce only after contracts have been secured through collective bargaining.

Sincerely,

Paul D. Gehris
Special Assistant to Executive Director
for Social Relations

I celebrate with you the defeat of Proposition 22. You have proven to the people of California that no amount of money can equal the strength of people united for justice. Viva la Causa.

Sincerely

Debbie Tatto
Los AngelesCal.

Sisters and Brothers,

I want you to know how much we appreciate your help in defeating Proposition 22. The outpouring of support from people around the state was beautiful. Farm workers, the AFL-CIO California State Federation and affiliates, the Longshoremens and other unions, minority groups, students, political organizations and many others joined to smash Proposition 22.

The 22 campaign convinced us once again that when we have the people with us, no amount of money, deceit or coalitions of right-wing groups can defeat us.

There is still a long struggle ahead. Only a small percentage of farm workers enjoy the dignity of a union contract with better wages and working conditions, health insurance and job security. Poverty and powerlessness is the day to day reality for most farm

workers.

But the decisive victory on 22 reaffirms our right to non-violently boycott to bring those benefits to all farm workers. The majority of people in this state believe in justice for farm workers and it is time to bring that message home to the lettuce growers.

Our people are in the cities now organizing the Lettuce Boycott. It will take a lot of us working together to make our lettuce boycott effective. The growers will use every means at their disposal to try to stop us. Will you please contact the nearest boycott office and offer them your assistance? Whatever work you can do on behalf of farm workers will bring victory that much closer.

Si se puede!

BOYCOTT LETTUCE!

Cesar E. Chavez
Cesar E. Chavez

EL MALCRIADO

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On With The Lettuce Boycott



From November 13 to 16, the Union held a series of sessions in which the campaign against Proposition 22 was analyzed to see what tactics were the most effective, and plans were made for the massive continuation of the lettuce boycott.

It was concluded that the historic victory against Proposition 22 was the result of the enthusiasm and sacrifices of our people and the effective use of the following tactics:

The person-to-person distribution of leaflets with correct explanations of Proposition 22.

Honest and direct communication with the public through radio, television and the press.

The support and mobilization of the oppressed minorities of the state, the unions, the Churches, political organizations and other groups.

The human billboards.

The final election results were:
Of 7,871,152 votes, 3,316,772 voted yes and

4,554,380 voted NO. We won by a majority of 1,236,608 votes, 58% against 42%.

Out of the 58 counties in the state of California, we won in 35 and lost in 23. But 12 of the counties in which we won are the most populous in the state, having 80.4% of the voters, while the 23 counties in which the growers won have only 19.6% of the vote (see chart at right).

WITH RESPECT TO THE LETTUCE BOYCOTT the following was done during the conference:

- A close analysis of the history of the boycott.
- Strikers and Union volunteers were given new assignments as boycott organizers in the largest cities of the country (see p. 11).
- White River Farms strikers decided to go on the boycott and planned the next stage in the fight against White River Farms.
- New tactics were developed for the Lettuce Boycott.


We had never struggled against the growers in a political battle and we did not know what was going to happen. With this victory we learned we can take the growers on in any fight.


-- César Chávez


VOTING RESULTS ON PROPOSITION 22

County	Yes	No
Alameda	148,684	289,885
Alpine	286	251
Amador	2,793	3,205
Butte	24,128	22,541
Calaveras	3,064	3,081
Colusa	2,652	1,709
Contra Costa	107,779	137,216
Del Norte	2,484	2,471
El Dorado	8,514	10,933
Fresno	88,049	61,395
Glenn	4,428	2,726
Humboldt	15,772	27,227
Imperial	13,010	8,962
Inyo	2,745	3,798
Kern	66,130	48,691
Kings	9,958	7,511
Lake	6,338	4,745
Lassen	2,770	3,650
Los Angeles	1,061,483	1,590,149
Madera	9,217	4,744
Marin	38,388	59,134
Mariposa	1,731	1,565
Mendocino	9,697	10,819
Merced	16,527	12,980
Modoc	1,811	1,378
Mono	1,220	1,229
Monterey	45,042	33,479
Napa	19,583	17,716
Nevada	7,034	6,581
Orange	280,005	353,346
Placer	15,089	19,871
Plumas	2,323	3,323
Riverside	75,610	94,069
Sacramento	108,290	164,213
San Benito	4,413	2,221
San Bernardino	91,748	135,580
San Diego	239,901	325,630
San Francisco	86,823	184,108
San Joaquin	53,687	50,626
San Luis Obispo	24,394	23,353
San Mateo	86,538	151,176
Santa Barbara	45,889	70,461
Santa Clara	176,078	265,431
Santa Cruz	30,431	36,164
Shasta	14,277	19,576
Sierra	474	661
Siskiyou	6,397	6,535
Solano	25,057	30,400
Sonoma	49,427	51,281
Stanislaus	26,688	34,475
Sutter	8,900	6,397
Tehama	6,204	5,293
Trinity	1,407	1,798
Tulare	36,735	20,470
Tuolumne	4,594	5,483
Ventura	62,221	82,109
Yolo	16,519	24,866
Yuba	5,387	5,693

Dear Cesar, I support your Non-violent efforts to bring justice to migrant farm workers.

 I pledge not to eat lettuce. Unless it bears the United Farm Workers' Black Eagle label.

 I pledge to tell all my friends about the Lettuce Boycott.

 I pledge to raise the issue of the Lettuce Boycott wherever I see lettuce (conventions, fund raisers, church dinners, airplanes, restaurants, college cafeterias, hospitals, etc.)



Name _____
 Address _____ Zip _____
 City _____ State _____
 Phone _____ Date _____

WHITE RIVER FARMS STRIKERS SPEAK ON PROP. 22



Refugio Guajardo



Jésus Guajardo

Refugio Guajardo, President of the Ranch Committee at White River Farms: The victory against Prop. 22 was good for us because it would have kept us from having a strong union, it would have kept us from organizing and would keep us from striking during harvest time. That is why we are happy we defeated 22.

* * *

Jesús Guajardo, Vice-President of the Ranch Committee at White River Farms: For us it has been a pleasure to destroy Proposition 22. It means our Union can now go forward again. We had never been on a campaign like this one. Now we know how hard our sisters and brothers had worked for us. We had never really struggled before and now we are. Now we also want to carry the Union to our sisters and brothers who have never enjoyed the benefits we have had.

* * *

Miguel Garza, Ranch Committee Secretary at White River Farms: We defeated this initiative with help of citizens throughout the state of California. That means we have a lot of support with which we will win in the end.

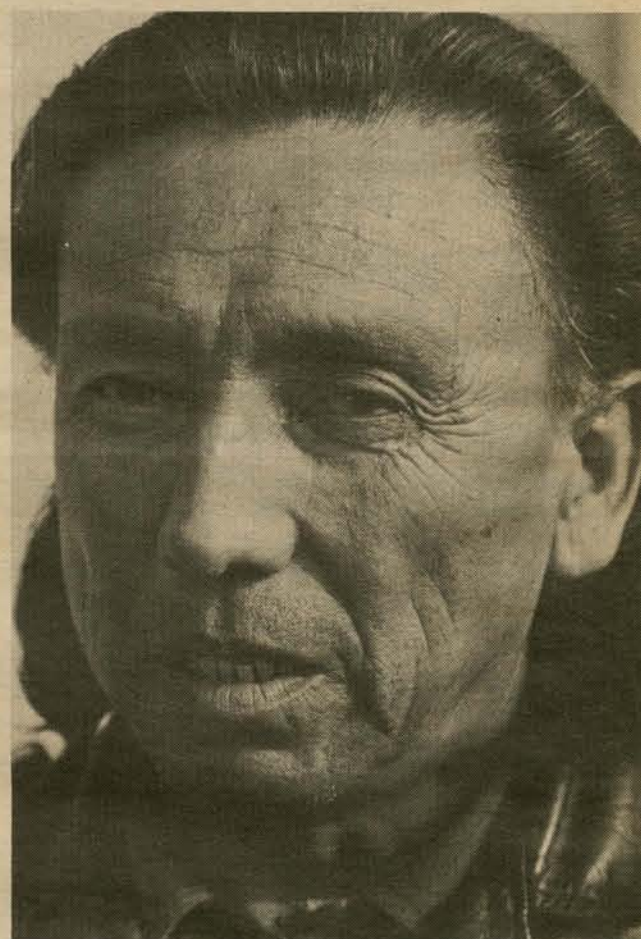
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Hermenegildo Angel Loredo, Treasurer of the Ranch Committee at White River Farms: Many scabs and labor contractors came to pick the crop. They gave us much to do. The scabs can't seem to understand the benefits to be gained with a Union. A Union is for winning better working conditions, better protections, and for treatment as human beings, but they don't understand.

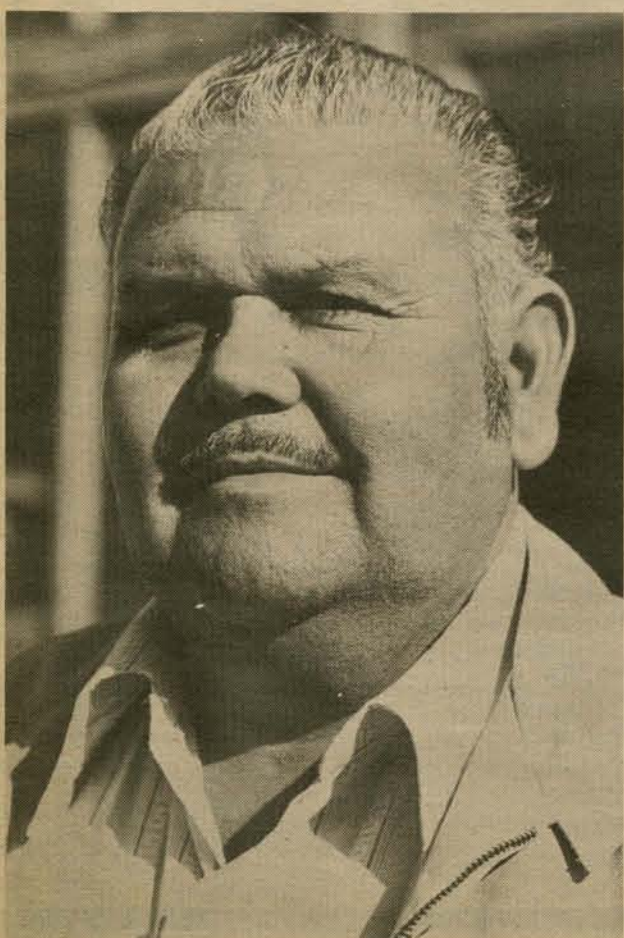
But we are giving the company a good fight. The company lost more than a million dollars trying to crush us. After the harvest we went to Los Angeles and other cities to fight Proposition 22, which the company was hoping would pass so it wouldn't have to sign a Union contract with us. But we won.

* * *

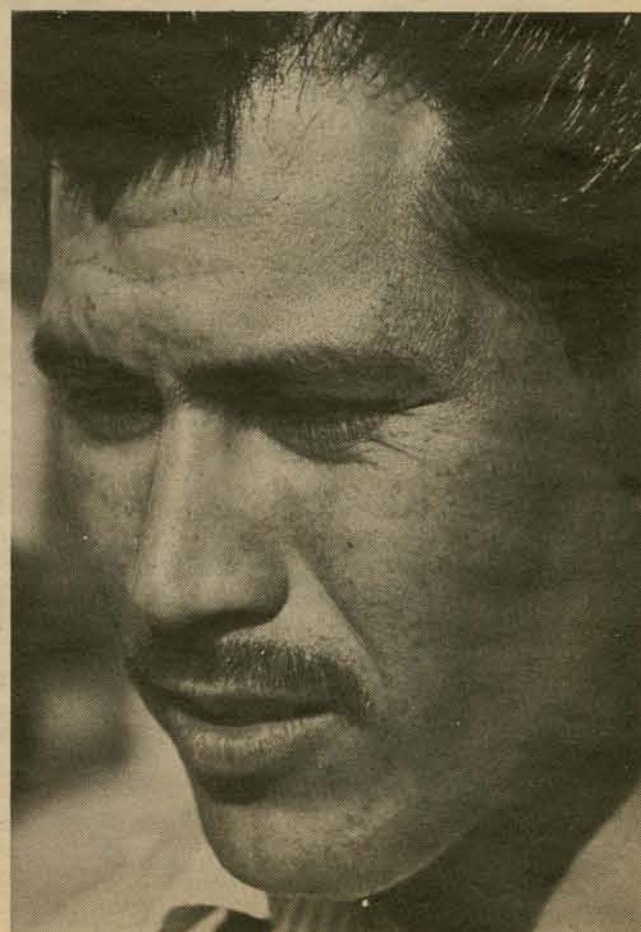
Pablo Lopez, Advisor to the Ranch Committee at White River Farms: For us the fight against Proposition 22 was a precedent, because we were under a contract and it had cost us nothing. Now we are learning what it takes to win a Union contract and the sacrifices we must make. We have learned a lot, but we cannot stay with our arms crossed, because that way nothing is gained.



Hermenegildo Angel Loredo



Miguel Garza



Pablo Lopez

OIL IN THE WINE

There's oil in the wine at White River Farms. The parent company of White River Farms, where our strikers have been struggling since August 28, is Buttes Gas & Oil Company. As the cartoon illustrates, this land-grabbing conglomerate has built a sprawling empire ranging from Abu Musa in the Arabian Gulf to Poplar and Delano on the White River.

Gas, oil, and minerals used to be its principal business. Buttes controls 34,000,000 gross acres with 628 oil wells and 111 gas wells throughout the United States and Canada, plus oil concessions in Tunisia, Ghana, Liberia, Malagasy, Indonesia, and Sharjah. Its operations embrace all of North America, especially Mexico, in searches for gold, uranium, nickel, platinum, gypsum, sulphur, and potash. Its partners in several joint ventures include Atlantic Richfield, Shell Oil, Kerr-McGee, and Ashland Oil.

While holding on to its 18 oil, gas, and mining companies, the Buttes octopus has reached its tentacles out to grasp a cattle ranch in Texas and eight agricultural subsidiaries in California. It now owns more than 25,000 acres of land in the San Joaquin Valley in vineyards, citrus, nut trees, cotton, and tomatoes.

Buttes expansion into agriculture has all taken place since 1968 and more is planned for the future. The agricultural coordinating arm of the corporation is Buttes Farmland Development Company.

White River Farms is by far the most valuable of all the holdings of Buttes Gas & Oil, representing nearly 30% of the income of the company last year. It is the center of our struggle.

Buttes purchased this 5,000-acre wine grape ranch when Schenley sold out in February of 1971. Schenley had been the very first company to recognize our union in April of 1966. Its 300 workers enjoyed the dignity of a union contract for six years until Buttes refused to re-negotiate in an attempt to break our union.

Guild Wineries and Distilleries is a cooperative owned by 750-1,000 growers, of which White



River Farms is the largest owner-member, representing 14% to 20% of Guild's total production. Guild owns eight wineries, (three purchased from Schenley, as well as Schenleys labels), and is the third largest wine company in the United States (after Gallo and Heublein's United Vintners).

Buttes Gas & Oil is a little oil company getting fat off foodstuffs. Its empire is far-reaching and its influence substantial. But it lacks the strength of the people. That is why we will win.

By Jim Horgan, Union Research Dept.

ARABS CONVICTED

Other Charges Dropped

TULARE COUNTY, California -- Charges against 125 of 173 United Farm Workers members and supporters arrested during the strike at White River Farms have been dropped by Tulare County District Attorney Jerry Sanders for lack of evidence after a trial in which fifteen Arab workers were convicted of violating a court injunction.



The Arabs were convicted as a result of the first mass arrest from the White River Farms strike. On Monday, September 25, Richard Chavez and Dolores Huerta led more than three hundred strikers and Union supporters in a prayer vigil on a road adjacent to the Poplar ranch of White River Farms to protest the massive use of illegal aliens by White River Farms to break the strike.

None of the Arab workers had been at the White River Farms picket line or participated in the prayer vigil, and were just arriving as the arrests began, according to sources in the Union's legal department. Many were arrested just as they were stepping from their cars.

Judge M. W. Del Re presided over the trial, and Union lawyer Steve Englehardt defended the Arab brothers. Jury selection took a full five days, as Englehardt and District Attorney Sanders each had almost 100 opportunities to excuse jurors, most of which were used.

Attorney Englehardt asked Judge Del Re to excuse a number of jurors who expressed prejudice against the Union, Chicanos or strikes, but the judge almost always refused.

Thus, as soon as the jury was selected, En-

glehardt challenged the trial immediately, saying that the Arab brothers could not possibly get a fair trial from the segment of the population which made up the jury. The average age of the jury called was 56, but the average age of the Arabs was 28. There were no Arabs on the jury, no farm workers, and no non-citizens of the United States. Englehardt said that this could hardly be called a "trial by peers", as is required by the Constitution, but Judge Del Re rejected his challenge.

District Attorney Sanders, who was required to show that the Arabs had been made aware of and understood the court order, and had wilfully violated it, called thirteen policemen as witnesses, many of whom had never seen the defendants. Eight of the Arab defendants testified through an interpreter that they neither heard of the court order and that they had not taken part in the prayer vigil.

But all fifteen were nonetheless convicted by the jury on Friday afternoon, October 27. Judge Del Re sentenced each defendant to a fine of one hundred dollars or five more days in jail. The case is currently being appealed to the Superior Court.

The remaining 33 people against whom charges have not been dropped are for the most part Union organizers and leaders.

There were additionally 50 people arrested in Kern County on September 25. Judge McNally of the Delano-McFarland District has postponed their trials until January.

The legal department reports also that "there is a definite pattern concerning the injunctions. We got two against White River--one to prevent them from using strike breakers uninformed of the existence of a strike, a second against White River, Bill Tabor and Butte Gas & Oil to try to prevent a recurrence of the Poplar office vigilante attacks. When these two injunctions came back up before the Superior Court for reconsideration, they were thrown out. When their (White River's) injunctions came back up, they were all retained and made worse."

(Information:

Tom Dalzell, Union Legal Dept.)

Farm Workers' Don't Patronize List

The Union urges all farm workers and supporters not to patronize wines and liquors bearing the labels of Guild Wineries and Distilleries until White River Farms signs a new Union contract with its workers:

TABLE AND DESSERT WINES

Winemasters Guild
Tavola
Roma
Famiglia Cribari
J. Pierrot
La Boheme
Cresta Blanca
Mendocino
Garrett
Alta
C.V.C.
Virginia Dare
Lodi
La Mesa (Safeway only)

SPECIALTY WINES

Ocean Spray Cranberry Rose
Vin Glogg(Parrott & Co.)

SPARKLING WINES

Winemasters' Guild
Tres Grand
Cook's Imperial
Roma Reserve
Cribari Reserve
Jeanne D'Arc
La Boheme
Ceremony
Versailles
Cresta Blanca
Saratoga
J. Pierrot

BRANDY

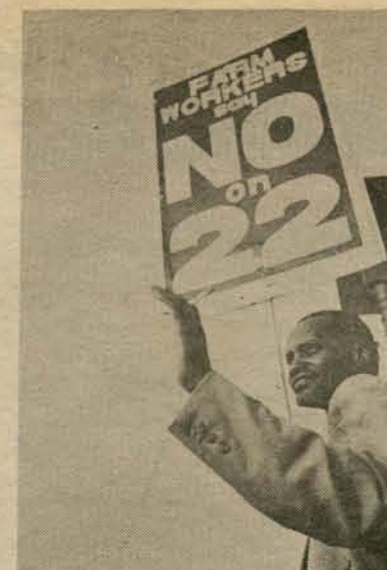
Ceremony
Guild Blue Ribbon
Roma
St. Mark
Citation
Old San Francisco
Parrott V. S.

beating proposition 22

1. Farm workers from all over California went to the state's largest cities to fight Proposition 22. In Los Angeles they camped on a lot provided by the United Auto Workers near Lincoln Park, el "Pueblo Campesino", many with their families. Every day they rose before dawn to get their assignments.



2. The Human Billboards. Originally used by farm worker-organizer Marcos Muñoz during the Grape Boycott in Boston, the strategy of human billboards had never before been used in a political campaign. The growers and their politicians spent millions of dollars on their political campaigns, but farm workers and their supporters had only their hands, their feet and their hearts.



3. Nine hours a day they stood with their billboards. Some days were cold and wet. Other days were so windy it took every ounce of strength to keep the billboards up. The smog was hard on the lungs, the fumes from the heavy traffic stung the eyes and the noise from thousands of cars, buses and trucks was endless. But the voters saw the sacrifice and they responded.



4. From 9:30 to 12:00, breakfast, rest and a meeting. Some repaired their billboards, others rested or got to know their sisters and brothers from other areas by sharing the experiences they had out in the streets.



5. At noon, back to the streets and freeway entrances. Hour after hour and sometimes without a break, the human billboards reminded motorists that it is the United Farm Workers and not the growers who defend the rights of farm workers.



6. In the evening everyone returned to Lincoln Park for supper and a final meeting, tired but happy. During the meeting the effectiveness of the campaign was discussed and plans were made for the following day. Friends like Ted Kennedy were often on hand to lend their support.



7. The meeting ended with music and singing before everyone went to bed early to prepare themselves for the next day. The voters responded to the campaign of the human billboards by overwhelmingly defeating the fraudulent Proposition 22.



... and in Northern California...



DEBATING FARM BUREAU STYLE, Ray Benning, President of Santa Clara Farm Bureau, debated United Farm Workers organizer Kit Bricca, in San Jose:

Benning: Why didn't you get your own initiative on the ballot?

Kit: Because we don't have a million dollars to throw around.

Benning: Why don't you use fraud, like we've done?

After that evenings' exchange, the Farm Bureau local chief-tan refused to debate opponents of Prop. 22, and sent his vice president instead. But eventually even the vp refused to face us under the grueling light of public scrutiny.

Cesar was on an LA street corner during the campaign

passing out leaflets as the traffic stopped for a red light. César routinely leaned down to say NO on 22 through the car window, but this time the occupants protested, saying "Oh no, we're voting YES, César Chávez says to vote YES." César tried vainly to convince them that HE was César Chávez, and he wanted them to vote no, but they drove off in disbelief.

San Jose Boycott Office:

A well-dressed woman entered the SJ Boycott Office during the campaign and asked for every kind of literature, button bumper sticker, t-shirt and poster that they had. She bought \$12.00 worth of Taller Gráfico items. It was only under the constant prodding of curious staff member Jim Lieber that she finally admitted her husband was an officer of the Farm bureau, and she was fed up with all of his propaganda. He was having a party that evening for all of his friends, and she wanted to wear all of the Union materials and show him once and for all how she felt.

What Prop. 22 Means Now

On November 7th California voters rejected Proposition 22, agribusiness' sweeping attempt at destroying the United Farm Workers. It seems clear that the initiative's defeat means more than a mere temporary disarmament of the growers in the political arena in California.

For one thing, as a result of the intense organizing effort that preceded the election, the lettuce boycott in California almost certainly has been strengthened. Thousands of Californians participated in canvassing, leafletting and phoning on behalf of the Union. Almost all of these people will be willing to help with the boycott. Also, it will be helpful that our strongest organizations and the bulk of our supporters are in greater Los Angeles and the Bay Area, the first and third largest lettuce marketing areas in the country.

Perhaps more significant, more than 4.5 million voters, fully 58 per cent of the electorate voted against the initiative. Probably, a no vote represented a person's first decision in support of the movement. Because the ice was broken at the polls, it won't be as difficult to convince people to support us at grocery stores and supermarkets.

Another important facet of the 22 campaign is that the growers undoubtedly have lost face with the public. The outrageous fraud committed by the initiative's proponents in order to place their measure on the ballot is now well-known. The grower's media spots and billboards which touted Proposition 22 as a means towards justice

for farm workers only served to advertize the absence of such justice in their fields.

Twenty-two's outcome also suggests that the Union is nearer to reaching a contract with Buttes Gas and Oil. It makes sense to assume that the corporation would not come to terms with Strikers at its subsidiary White River Farms until after the election. If 22 had passed, most of the workers would have been prevented from voting for a bargaining representative and all contractual relationships would have been repudiated, and Buttes has lost \$1.5 million by stalling.

Hopefully, its only a matter of time until the strike ends and the farm workers at White River regain their Union contract.

Finally, the victory over 22 demonstrates that the Union is a force to be reckoned with in the electoral arena. The dozen most populous counties in the state account for over 80 per cent of the vote. Despite diverse political complexions (San Francisco and Orange are among the counties), the proposition was trounced in all twelve.

The results are a testament to the value of solid community organizing. Our movement took the time, effort, and pain to educate around a complex issue. We faced the wealthiest, most powerful interests in the state, and the half-truths and paranoia on which they rely. The voters responded to us and acted with decency. We have ample reason to be optimistic.

by Jim Lieber



Elaine Brown, Black Panther Party candidate for Oakland City Councilwoman, held a press conference with farm worker José Rubio the morning after the defeat of Proposition 22. The Panthers, along with the Mills College chapters of the Black Students' Union and MECHA hosted farm workers to a victory party at Mills College, as well as providing sleeping and eating accommodations for everyone in college dormitories during the last week of the campaign.

LETTER FROM FLORIDA

EL MALCRIADO.

On Wednesday, 10/25/72, we sent about 60 people to U.S. Sugar and about 40 people to Talisman to apply for jobs. The growers have been placing big ads in newspapers saying they are ready to hire any Americans for cane work, and telling people to report at any of the eight mills for immediate employment.

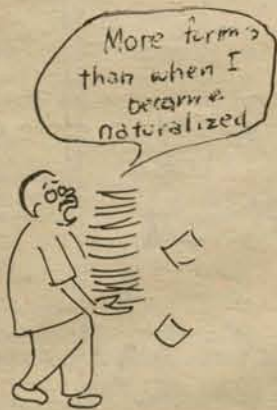
Our experience on Wednesday was just another indication of the growers' willingness to do anything to keep us out. At Talisman, armed guards



refused the workers entrance to the mill, telling them the employment reps were not in and that they did not know when they would return. At U.S. Sugar, people were made to stand around in the parking lot in the hot sun waiting to be interviewed. They were shuffled



from one room to the next inside, made to fill out a four page application form, and told they had to return Friday for physicals.



Most of the people had come from Immokalee, 80 miles away. They had wasted a whole day and the companies refused them any sort of compensation, and refused to pay for their transportation on Friday, or reimbursement for transportation on Wednesday. At Talisman, they were not even allowed on the property.

It is getting harder and harder for our people, because they are farm workers and they rely on each days' wages for survival.

Union organizers are continuing to be harassed. Four were arrested this week for "trespassing." They were visiting Jamaican brothers at a camp in Morehaven, Florida (Saunders' camp). The four, Roger Mitchell, Larry Jeffrey, Becky Hurst and Huey Tague had been invited by some of the Jamaican cane cutters to visit them at the camp. When they went there on October 28, they were told by a company supervisor that they would have to leave. The organizers said to the supervisor that they were within their rights to stay. The sheriff's deputies arrived on the scene shortly after, and told the organizers to leave. They did so. The sheriff's deputies followed them back to the Union house in Clewiston, Florida, demanded identification from all four, and threatened that he would be back to arrest them. On Tuesday, October 31 the sheriff's department arrested Roger Mitchell at the Miami Locks Camp of U.S. Sugar after he had finished attending a church service. Warrants were out for the arrests of the three others.

John Purnell, the Palm Beach POST reporter who has been covering the sugar problems, has been arrested twice.

So things are still hot here.

--Dorothy Johnson

Sugar Companies Continue Harrassment of Workers

PLANT CITY, Florida--Eliseo Medina, director of organizing for the United Farm Workers in Florida, has told the United States Senate Sub-Committee on Migratory Labor that the Florida sugar cane growers are continuing to resist hiring American workers and are paying what workers they do hire substandard wages.

Medina included photocopies of pay stubs with his letter to the Committee which recorded various workers' wages at \$1.00, 75.5¢ and 62.5¢ per hour.

More important, Medina says that the various companies, and especially the United States Sugar Corporation, have continually harassed American workers who seek employment, hoping instead to be permitted by the U.S. Department of Labor to import cheaper labor from Jamaica.

"American workers are made to fill out lengthy application forms, take physical exams, and undergo extensive interviews with company officials," Medina said. "American workers hired to cut seed cane by U.S. Sugar earlier this year were not required to fill out application forms or take physicals to get a job. This sudden change in company policy, and other blatant discriminatory actions, are clearly designed to keep American workers from securing employment at U.S. Sugar."

Medina released four affidavits to EL MALCRIADO, reprinted below, substantiating his charges.

Before

Affidavit of Evans Perdue:

I worked for U.S. Sugar Corporation cutting seed cane. I started about the first of September, 1972.

I was standing around the hole in Pahokee and asked George Baker, crew leader for U.S. Sugar, if I could work. He started me that morning.

George Baker had somebody to show me how to cut the cane because I had never done it before. Later, about the second day I was working, Baker came out and took my social security number and my name. I worked for him for about one month. I am 17 years old.

Evans Perdue

Affidavit of Reuben Morris:

About the third week in August 1972 a crew leader by the name of George Baker came to my resident and ask me did I wanted to cut seed "cane" for U.S. Sugar Corporation. My wages was eighteen dollars a day, and \$1.75 an hour. When he went to hire me I didn't have to filled out any form or take any physical, just only my name and Social Security No. I am a america citizen an I worked from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. for a period of two months.

The End.

REUBEN MORRIS

...and After

Affidavit of Homer and Jean Walker:

We have been trying to get a job cutting cane for U.S. Sugar Company. On October 25, 1972 at about 9:00 in the morning, we went to the U.S. Sugar office in Clewiston and filled out applications. We waited to get interviewed, but no company person ever called us. We were told to come back on Friday to take a physical, we think by a Mr. Morrison.

They said they weren't going to provide any transportation, so we couldn't get back until Tuesday, October 31, 1972. We got to the personel office about about 8:15 and found out they had lost the applications we had filled out before. We had to fill out new applications and asked some questions. Then he explained to us



Photo: José More

"Talisman Sugar Corporation, South Bay, Florida, October 25, 1972: UFW organizer Roberto Acuna confronts an armed guard at the Talisman gate. Roberto was among 45 other farm workers who had gone to Talisman to apply for work as cane cutters. This guard, and two others who also had shotguns and pistols, met the workers at the gate and refused them entrance onto company property. They told the workers that there were no jobs available."

--Dorothy Johnson

about the job of cutting cane; about the shin and hand guards. He talked about cane being the hardest and most dangerous job around. He talked a lot about how you could cut yourself or how the man next to you could damage you. He was very discouraging about the job.

He said we'd have to take a physical tomorrow (Wednesday). He said we'd have to be there at nine; no sooner, no later. He said even if we passed the physical, there would be no work available until Thursday.

We asked him if we could call in a liscenced physican to examine us today. I asked him why we would have to come all the way from Immokalee four days to get a job. Mr. Edwards said that they didn't have money to hire a doctor. We said we'd pay for the doctor, but he said a company doctor would have to examine us. Only a company doctor could tell us if we could cut cane, the only one who could know what physical defects to look for because cutting cane was the hardest and most dangerous job in the world.

*Jean Walker
Homer Walker*

Affidavit of Benny Smith:

On Saturday, Oct. 28 me and 4 other people went for an interview for a job as a tractor driver at United States Sugar Corporation. A U.S. Sugar official proceeded to tell us how hard the job was, and that the union (United Farm Workers) was no good. He also said that if we turned in our union cards, that he would give us all a good job in the mill at \$2.30 per hour. He said that if he caught us with a union card in his plant, that he would put us in jail.

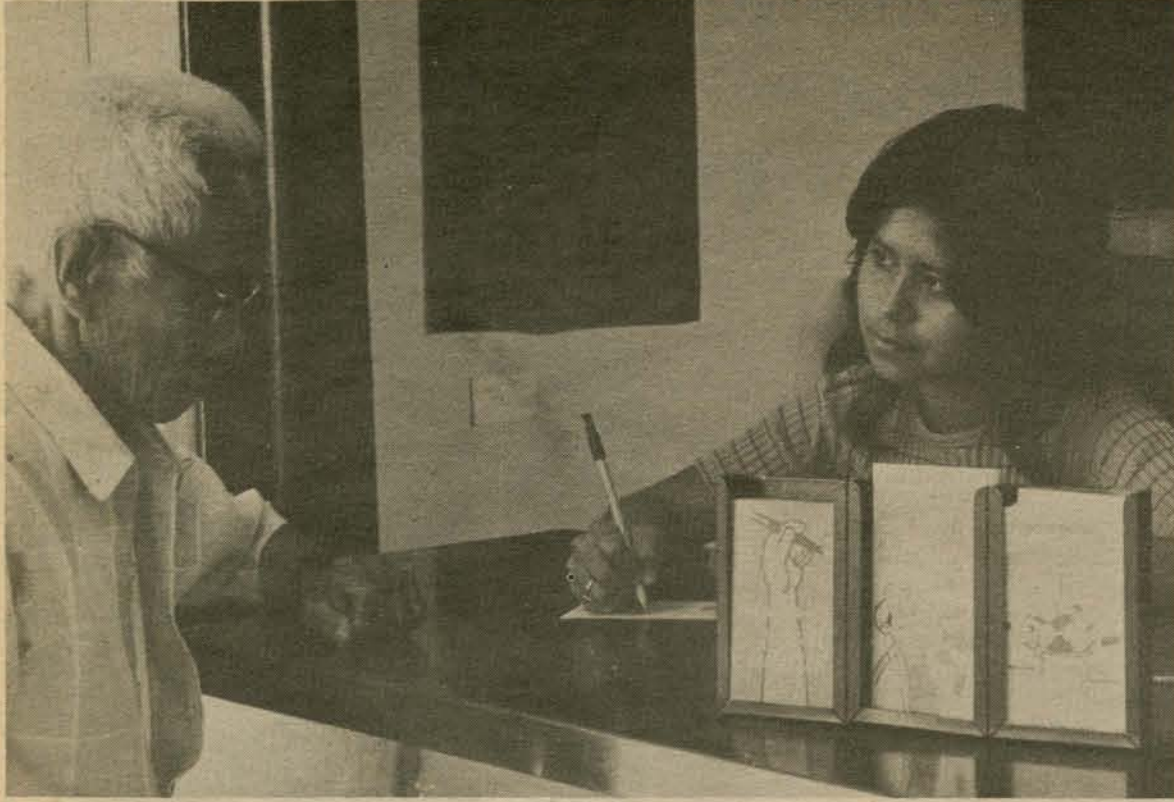
On Tuesday, the 31 of October, I went to the same office to be sent out to work. I didn't have my paper for a physical exam, so he said that I couldn't work today. He said that I would have to ge back the next day for a physical.

He told me that when I came the next day to bring my union card so he could tear up my card personally. He said that he wouldn't hire me if I didn't tear up my card.

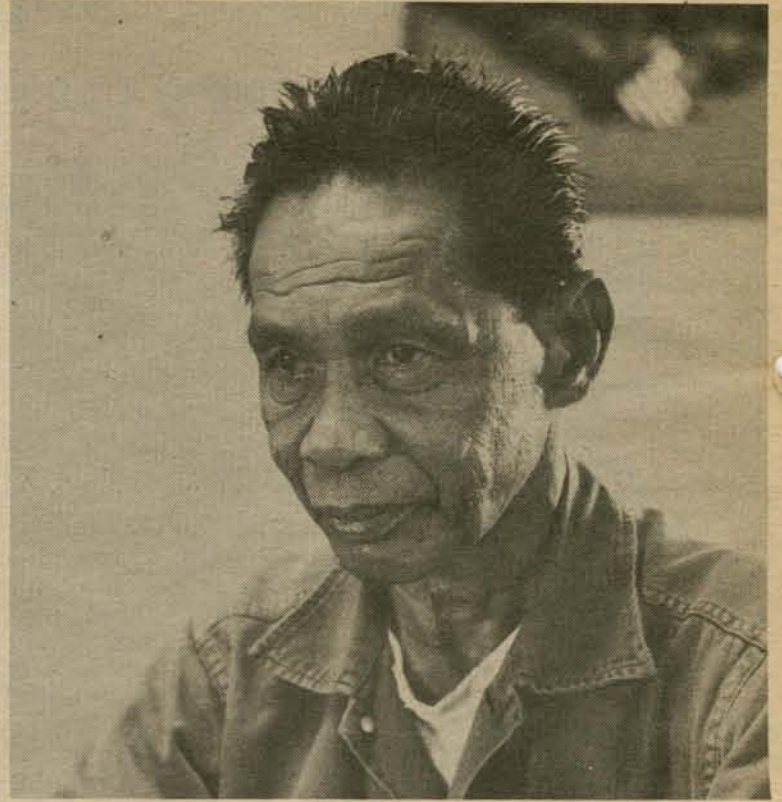
He told me to bring my suitcase if I'd bring my card so he could tear it up before I got a job.

Benny Smith

Credit Union Launches New Membership Drive



Susie Chavez attends Mariano Santiago, a retired farm worker, who comes regularly to the Credit Union office in Delano to make his savings deposits.



Candido Feliciano, Credit Union member, says: "I am depositing my money in the Credit Union to help the other farm workers and younger generations who'll need...and maybe, too, me when I need it."

New members are being accepted into the Farm Workers Credit Union so they can save in the Credit Union and benefit from their savings.

THE PURPOSE OF THE NEW CAMPAIGN AND THE OBJECTIVE OF THE FARM WORKERS CREDIT UNION.

No applications for loans are being accepted until further notice.

How does one become a member?

First of all, one must be a member of UFW in order to qualify for the benefits of the Credit Union. Next, one applies and deposits one share (\$5.00 plus \$1.00 entrance fee). This is done when one initially becomes a member. After that, one deposits accordingly.

To inform the workers of the importance of saving in their own credit union to join in the cooperative effort. This will give us a strong economic base on which to develop our first farm worker cooperative bank.

If farm workers save in the Credit Union instead of in the commercial banks, the day will soon come when we will have a bank that serves our own needs and not those of large financial interests.

Who administers the Credit Union?

A group of officers carefully elected by members of the Credit Union, by elections at an annual meeting of its members. These officers are also farm workers and while they are officers they cannot make loans in excess of what they have in their shares (deposits.)

What guarantees are there against theft or embezzlement?

The money is deposited by the Credit Union into a large commercial bank and is therefore covered and insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

How can one save?

If the member works under contract, he can authorize the company that he works for to deduct a certain amount from his check to be deposited in the Farm Workers Credit Union by the employer. This method is called Payroll Deduction. Also deposits can be made in person or by mail.

How is interest received?

According to the money the Credit Union makes. The Credit Union pays yearly dividends when the members vote to do so. The Credit Union is a cooperative.



Vadillo

In order to avoid this we need our own Farm Workers Credit Union.

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Kennedy Plan Pays \$2,000,000

PA PAZ, California -- Maria Saludado, an administrator of the Robert F. Kennedy Farm Workers Medical Plan, reported to EL MALCRIADO that the Kennedy Plan has paid out more than \$2 million in benefits since it began August of 1969.

Maria Saludado said the Kennedy Plan paid \$1,000,700.88 from January to September of this year (in only nine months) to farm worker families who are Union members and who worked enough hours under Union contracts to qualify for Kennedy Plan benefits.

Maria said the Plan has grown so fast because "people are learning who to fill out their applications for benefits from the Plan. Out of the 100 applications we receive each

day, between 60 and 70 are completely and correctly filled out and can be processed more rapidly."

She said there is more enthusiasm in learning how to apply for Kennedy Plan benefits because farm workers are receiving more and better benefits from the Plan.

During their campaign to fool the public into voting for Proposition 22, the growers and their allies like Reverend Michael Cross, (known among farm workers as the "scab priest") of Salinas, claimed the Kennedy Plan had given out only \$32,000 in benefits and that it really did not help farm workers. But the progress of the Kennedy Plan completely refutes their lies.

Support Farm Workers
VIVA LA CAUSA
James T. Hunter

White River Farms Strikers



PHOTOGRAPHS BY CHRIS SANCHEZ

Windy Day in L.A.

by Pat Bonner

The day was cold and windy though the sky was crystal blue.
We held tightly to our signs proclaiming "No On Twenty Two."
The wind was howling, trees were falling, signs would break in two.
But holding firm, we all insisted, "No On Twenty Two!"

Our captain, to avoid disaster, if our strength might fail
Said "Everybody hold your place, but lower down your sail."
So everyone pulled in their signs and flew them at half mast.
To hold firm in position 'til the hurricane had passed.

The wind was howling, the cars were whirring, Ruth heard not the call.
And, valiantly, she held her sign though it stood twelve feet tall.
And still she did not lose her grip, and still she did not fall.
And then a sudden burst of wind grabbed sign, and Ruth, and all.

And as we saw her fly away, aloft into the blue.
The last thing that we heard her say was "No On Twenty Two!"

Belfast Businessman Better Boycott!

LONDON (UPI)—The Belfast businessman shrank from 154 to 112 pounds in one year. His heartbeat was barely audible. His doctor said he was in the last stages of kidney failure.

But doctors at Belfast City Hospital soon discovered his trouble--LETTUCE.

It was all he was eating.

The doctors reported on what turned out to be a case of unwitting self-starvation in the British medical journal *The Lancet*.

The unidentified businessman saw an osteopath a year ago about stomach trouble, they said. The osteopath recommended a vegetable diet.

But the new diet was only about 900 calories a day, about only one-third of the amount a normal adult male requires.

The man began to feel worse and began cutting out more and more items in his diet until all that was left was lettuce.

It gave him a daily quota of two grams of protein, two of fat, nine of carbohydrate and 46 calories--barely enough for a baby rabbit.

The doctors said he developed kidney disease symptoms because he was "cannibalizing" his own body to stay alive.

Eight weeks on a normal diet and he gained 45 pounds. Now, said the doctors, he is in perfect health.

In Memory of Luis Rios

June 1911 - November 1972

On Friday, November 17, our brother Luis Rios, a member of the Union and of *Trabajadores Adelante*, died of a sudden heart attack while attending a meeting of *Trabajadores Adelante* at La Paz, California. At a special memorial service farm workers and Union volunteers joined in solidarity with his family, relatives and friends who were close to him.

Luis Rios will be remembered as a man who served his sisters and brothers until the moment of his death and, because of that, a man who died in peace.

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Hiring Illegals Challenged

by Marie Cain

SANTA MARIA, California--Hiring illegal aliens to work in agriculture, a common practice in the Southwest, is being tested in court in Santa Maria under a new section of the California State Labor Code.

A complaint for damages and an injunction for relief alleges some 200 "local farm worker fathers" were jobless or underemployed because of such practices during the fiscal year just ended, and that the illegal aliens in the Santa Maria area number about 400.

The suit is being filed by the local office of California Rural Legal Assistance against Anthony Bica, listed as a Santa Maria labor contractor, and his assistant Juan Silva.

Relief sought in the suit is a result of new labor code legislation made effective this year by action of the state legislature, according to Burt Fretz, director of the Santa Maria office of CRLA. The labor code section 2805 provides for both criminal and civil punishments for violators of the code.

Allegations in the suit indicate Bica's crews were raided by the U.S. Border Patrol four times since August 10 and that "no fewer" than 40 illegal aliens were apprehended.

Plaintiffs in the suit are Miguel Canas and his wife Leonar Alberti de Canas, "et al." Both Canases are listed as legally here from Honduras, and both had worked for Bica, the complaint said.

The defendants offered the couple jobs, which lasted from June 5 to Sept. 28, and then on several subsequent occasions, when they requested more work, they were denied renewed employment, according to the suit.

The suit says that Canas had asked for work and had been refused two days prior to an alleged border patrol raid on October 17 of one of Bica's work crews. Eight men from Mexico were caught in the raid and three others fled. Canas repeated his request for employment three days following this raid and was again refused, the suit alleges.

The suit further claims that at least two thirds of Bica's crews are comprised of Mexican men in the United States illegally.

In addition, the complaint cites statistics alleging that in 1971 there were 420,000 aliens stopped by the border patrol as they tried to enter the country, and that two times that many, or more than a million persons, evaded apprehension, and during any recent year form some 20 percent of the state-wide labor force.

The 200 local men without jobs or underemployed cost the area some \$256,000 in taxes for welfare and related benefits, and cost those workers some \$800,000 in lost wages, the complaint alleges.

Damages of \$5,000 are asked for each named plaintiff. The suit further states that it is based on law requiring that no illegal alien be employed, to the detriment of lawful resident workers, and that such acts could result in fines of \$200 to \$500 per offense.

A temporary restraining order commanding the defendants to desist from the alleged hiring practices and setting a hearing for Nov. 8 was issued by the Superior Court in Santa Maria.

**BOYCOTT!
NON-UNION
LETTUCE**

