Mass Farm Worker Rally!

Seventh Anniversary of the Delano Grape Strike

DELANO, California -- More than 2,500 farm workers gathered for a massive rally September 16 celebrating Mexican Independence Day and the seventh anniversary of the beginning of the Grape Strike in the Delano area.

The rally began with a flag procession and march accompanied by a drum and bugle corps from Mexicali, Mexico and a color guard. Among the farm workers marching were the Union officers, ranch committee members and delegations representing the different departments of the Union.

After an invocation by Father Ed Fronske of Delano in which he emphasized "we are not alone" and "we shall overcome with our spirit and solidarity", speeches were given commerating the winning of independence by Mexico on September 16, 1910.

A guest of honor, Samuel Rodriguez, head of the CTA (Mexico’s National Labor Federation) in Mexicali, delivered a message of solidarity and brotherhood from Mexican working people. Also speaking were Epifanio Camacho, in Spanish, Richard Chavez, in English, and Saeed Al-Alas, in Arabic.

Also addressing themselves to the people were Ray Olivas, ranch committee president at Roberts Farms (Paso Ranch), Epifanio Camacho, ranch committee president at Jasmine Vineyards, Woodrow Hampton, ranch committee president at Roberts Farms (McFarland), and Andy Imuran, Union vice-president.

The highlight of the evening came when Union Director Cesar Chavez was introduced and greeted with cheers of "Viva Cesar" and "Sr Se Puede." During his speech Chavez spoke about our Union being made up of people of different races, nationalities and religions. He talked of the tremendous progress La Causa has made in the last few years.

Cesar honored the sisters and brothers who are presently on strike against White River Farms. He hit at the corrupt labor contractor system which permits growers to get cheap professional strikebreakers.

Cesar called on farm workers to destroy Proposition 22 which he said "is the most filthy attempt to destroy our Union I have ever seen." Excerpts from Chavez's speech and other coverage of the rally are on pages 6 and 7.

In the next issue of EL MALCRIADO full coverage of farm worker rallies in Salinas, Fresno and other areas.
"We are poor; we are humble and our only choice is to strike in those ranches where we are not treated with the respect we deserve as working men and women: where our rights as free and sovereign men and women are not recognized. We do not want the paternalism of the grower. We do not want charity at the price of our dignity. We want to be equal with all the working men and women in the nation. We want a just wage, better working conditions, a decent future for our children. To those who oppose us, be they growers, contractors, scabs, police, politicians, or speculators, we say that we are going to continue struggling until we win or die. WE SHALL OVERCOME!"

César Chávez

**BOYCOTT GAINS SUPPORT**

**USDA Caught Promoting Lettuce**

LA PAZ, California -- Union Director César Chávez recently condemned the U.S. Department of Agriculture's promotion of lettuce as the "food of the month" for August in a series of tapes in Spanish which it sent to radio stations across the country.

In a letter to the USDA, César told Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz he had "become nothing more than an agent of the growers." Chávez hit at "the use of power and influence of the USDA in a deliberate effort to crush the United Farm Workers and our non-violent boycott of non-Union lettuce." He called the department's action "an offense against both the farm workers and the many good people who support them."

The Union found about the USDA's tapes through the Latin American Committee of the Archdiocese of Chicago, which normally uses the tapes in its broadcasts. The committee sent a copy of its letter refusing the lettuce tapes to the Union.

**Cardinals Support Boycott**

NEW YORK, City, New York -- During a Labor Day Mass, Cardinal Terrence Cooke declared his support for the Lettuce Boycott.

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Cardinal Patrick O'Hare, archbishop of Washington, made national headlines when he endorsed the Lettuce Boycott during a speech before a Labor Day Mass.

He praised Union Director César Chávez as "one of the most dedicated labor leaders in the history of the United States, a man fully committed, as a matter of religious conviction, to the philosophy of non-violence and the principle of labor-management cooperation."

**Priests' Senate Endorse Boycott**

MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin -- The Priests Senate of the Milwaukee Archdiocese approved a resolution August 25 in support of the Lettuce Boycott presented by Father Robert J. Rodgers of St. James Parish in Kenosha.

The resolution quoted an excerpt from the declaration César Chávez made when he ended his recent 24-day fast in Arizona: "What an irony that the people who supply the food for our tables don't have enough to feed their own families."

The Senate statement reminded Catholics that the social encyclicals of Pope Leo XIII of nearly a century ago state clearly that all laborers have a right to form unions and that both employers and employees are required to bargain in good faith. The encyclicals also state that in certain circumstances strikes and boycotts are acceptable means of promoting the just interests of workers.

**Labor Day Mass: Boycott Lettuce!**

LA PAZ, California -- Boycott Central here reports that more than 176,357 persons have signed the pledge to eat lettuce that is not clearly marked with the black eagle of the United Farm Workers.

The honor of being among the top five boycott cities in the signing of pledge cards for this issue of EL MALCRIADO goes to the following cities:

1. Boston 37,285
2. Chicago 20,209
3. New York 19,477
4. Philadelphia 10,547
5. Denver 9,899

**Arizona Congressman Eats Lettuce**

TUCSON, Arizona -- Congressman Morris Udall (D.- Arizona) is supposedly a liberal and a "fair-minded" Arizona Representative in the U.S. Congress. But when it comes to farm workers he is on the side of the big growers and the Farm Bureau.

The following incident took place September 3 in a small Chicoan restaurant on Tuscon's eastside. A crew of Recall William workers went in for a meal after a hard day's work registering people to vote and getting them to sign Recall petitions. They made it very clear that no lettuce was wanted on any of their food and when it was still brought out they put it in a pile in the middle of the table and placed a boycott button on top.

In the midst of all this they spotted Congressman Morris Udall eating at a table near them. He was politely asked not to eat the lettuce. In response he took a piece of lettuce, waved it at them and ate it. ¡Abajo con Udall!
SALINAS, California -- On September 14, after 13 days of strike action, the 1,500 Inter Harvest workers in California and Arizona won a new Union Contract calling for increases in wages and other benefits that will total more than $4 million during the three years of the contract.

The new contract sets wage increases for workers in all of the company's 42 job categories. For a summary of the wage increases in some of the major categories see the diagram on this page.

The piece-rate wage for lettuce cutting went from 40 1/2 cents per carton to $4.45 in 1974. The wage per carton is divided among five persons: two lettuce cutters, a closer and a loader.

The Union contract also exempts the benefits of paid vacations to the majority of the workers. In the old contract, only 10% of the workers had paid vacations because to qualify for the benefit a worker had to amass 2,000 hours worked. Under the new contract the lettuce cutters, the salad workers and the broccoli workers only need 1,000 hours to qualify. And for the rest of the labor force, only 300 are needed in order to be eligible for paid vacations.

This means that paid vacations have been extended to 75% of the Inter Harvest workers. The contract requires that the company pay each worker qualifying for vacation pay 2 percent of his or her annual income.

The contract establishes the 8-hour day as the normal working day. For each hour worked overtime the company must pay an additional premium of 1/2 an hour, irrigators excepted.

The collective bargaining agreement also contains a new clause which represents a major defeat for a few of the company's supervisors who have tried to destroy the Union. The clause, entitled "Harmonious Working Relations" states: "Any claim by the Union that an action on the job by any nonbargaining unit employee is disrupting harmonious working relations may be taken up as a grievance, and such nonbargaining unit employee will be subject to discipline by the company for violations of this section."

The new contract establishes Sunday as a "day of rest" and the company will pay 50 cents more an hour for working on Sundays. The company also agreed to provide the workers with bus transportation from one area to another.

Under the contract, the workers who live in company camps will pay less for meals: $4.00 per day instead of $4.25. The workers will also enjoy many other benefits that were already in the old contract and which are found in all of our Union contracts:

The Robert F. Kennedy Medical Plan; Union security; job security; health and safety; leaves of absence, etc.

After a contract was signed the sisters and brothers of Inter Harvest expressed their gratitude to farm workers throughout California and Arizona for their solidarity and support during the strike. [Viva La Causa]

1st SE PúRUE

HOURLY WAGES UNDER THE NEW CONTRACT WITH INTER HARVEST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job Category</th>
<th>Past Contract:</th>
<th>EFFECTIVE ON SEPT. 14, '74</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Labor</td>
<td>$2.07</td>
<td>$2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thining &amp; Hosing</td>
<td>$2.07</td>
<td>$2.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irrigator</td>
<td>$2.07</td>
<td>$2.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tractor Driver</td>
<td>$2.70</td>
<td>$2.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working Foreman*</td>
<td>$3.10</td>
<td>$3.32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Are guaranteed at least $150.00 a week and will be paid $12.00 a day expenses when required to travel outside Salinas area.

Sisters and brothers:

The signing of a new Union contract with the company Inter Harvest represents an historic victory not only for ourselves, but also for farmworkers everywhere.

We thank the workers of Freshpick, D'Arrigo, Mel Finerman and other companies for the militant solidarity they displayed in joining us on the picket lines and helping us with food and other needs. We thank all of the workers, who despite the fact that they have not yet won their own Union contracts, gave us their full cooperation and solidarity. We know many of you were harassed and lost your jobs because you refused to break our strike. We thank the Union organizers who helped us negotiate with the company.

Together we have once again shown that farm workers are united and that our movement is advancing every day. We are ready to continue the struggle so that one day all farm workers will have the protection and the benefits of their own Union, the one and only United Farm Workers, UNIDOS VENCEREMOS.

SI SE PÚRUE, Inter Harvest Workers

Fidel Valdez: "The strike was necessary in order to persuade the company to negotiate."

Carlos Valencia: "With one telephone call we can organize a picket line."

They fed 600 strikers a day. Left photo: Marfa Ana Labau Socorro Eya (left); Anita de la Rusa Lara; Aurelio Lara; Refugia de Ballesteros; Marfa Paz Ochoa; Marfa; Jose Bernal; Marfa; Maria de la Rosa Lara; Aurelio Lara; Refugia de Ballesteros; Marfa Paz Ochoa... Left photo: (front) Ezequiel Saldana; Gonzalez; Salvador Mendoza; Anaberta Gutierrez; Eustolia Ortez; Cardenas; Jose Luis Cardenas.

INTERHARVEST SIGNS!

SALINAS, California. We hope that all farmworkers will be organized."

José Illanen: "Farm workers refused to break our strike."

Armando Ruiz: "With one telephone call we can organize a picket line."

Carlos Valencia: "With one telephone call we can organize a picket line."
PROPOSITION 22:
FRAUD, FRAUD, FRAUD

SACRAMENTO, California -- Secretary of State Edmund G. Brown, Jr. filed suit September 14 in Sacramento Superior Court to remove the anti-farm worker initiative, Proposition 22, from the November general election ballot.

He said more than 63,000 signatures on petitions to qualify the measure for the ballot "were obtained as a result of fraudulent and misleading representations made to signers."

Brown called it the "worst case of election fraud to ever be uncovered in California." An intense investigation launched earlier this month by Brown in 12 counties after the offices of the National Farm Worker Ministry, the United Farm Workers and Secretary of State received an avalanche of calls regarding the manner in which petitions were being circulated.

The calls were apparently triggered by a July 2 article in the Los Angeles Times by David Lesser that included admissions by Blanchard & Associates' agents that deceit and misrepresentation were used to obtain signatures for Proposition 22.

On September 7 Union Director Cesar Chavez called for immediate action to remove Proposition 22 from the November 7 ballot. "We are sickened and horrified that the slick public relations firm Allan Blanchard & Associates, that mastered this fraud on the people of California defrauded the poor in the cities of our state to keep farm workers powerless and poor," according to the vice-president and legislative representative, told EL MALCRIOADO.

Union volunteers in Los Angeles as everywhere else in the state of California have done much to help expose the frauds and lies that put Proposition 22 on the ballot.

On September 7 the workers from Christian Brothers in Reedley are among the many farm workers who are going door-to-door in the fight against Proposition 22.

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**FLORIDA:**

**Union Sues Government**

MIAMI, Florida -- The United Farm Workers filed a lawsuit September 8 at the U.S. District Court in Miami against Richard Kleinoditis, U.S. Attorney General Raymond M. Farrell, Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization; James D. Hodgson, Secretary of Labor and William D. Newcomb, Regional Wage Administrator, Region 4, U.S. Department of Labor, seeking a temporary and permanent injunction to keep them from issuing certification for the importation of foreign workers to harvest the 1972 sugar crop.

According to Eliejo Medina, director of organizing for the United in Florida, "We filed the suit in behalf of the thousands of farmers who remain unemployed each season due to negligence and gross violations of certification procedures on the part of the sugar growers and the government."

In the lawsuit, the United charges that the Regional Director of the U.S. Department of Labor has failed to prove, as required by law, that the use of foreign workers does not depress wages in the sugar cane industry.

"There has been, and continues to be, persistent and blatant violation of these procedures in order to ensure the continued supply of offshore labor to the huge sugar companies of Florida at the expense of American workers who are denied the opportunity to a job at decent wages," the Union declared.

The result is that last season there were approximately 40,000 unemployed farm workers in the State of Florida with countless others working for depressed wages due to the surplus of labor.

The companies' work orders for domestic workers, which must be filed with the local Farm Labor Office before foreign workers can be certified, are submitted only to satisfy the regulations, but workers who do apply are discouraged from taking the job by company recruiters and finally harrassed until they quit in disgust.

**STRUGGLES OF LA CAUSA**

**Imperial Valley: Inter Harvest Workers**

CALIFORNIA, California -- The Inter Harvest workers in the Imperial Valley did much to win the new contract with the company. Miguel Lopez, president of the Inter Harvest Committee in the Imperial Valley, and Gilberto Rodriguez, a volunteer Union organizer, directed strike operations here.

According to Calexico Union Field Office Director Angel Quintero, "Serving the strike the company supervisors went armed with rifles. When we complained to the sheriff's office, we were told this was legal because it is dove hunting season in the Imperial Valley."

Plan Kennedy Paga $116,000 en Agosto

L A R A , California -- Maria Salazar, administrator of the Robert F. Kennedy Farm Workers Medical Plan, reported that the medical plan paid out a total of $116,000 in August. "We filed the suit in behalf of the thousands of farm workers who remain unemployed each season due to negligence and gross violations of certification procedures on the part of the sugar growers and the government."

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**Salute to the Valencia Family**

It is an honor for EL MALCRIOADO to send Gabriel and Elisa Valencia and their family our warmest greetings of solidarity. They recently returned to the Santa Maria Valley after working for almost two years on the lettuce boycott in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. They are now working on the campaign against Proposition 22 both in Los Angeles and Santa Maria. This family of dedicated workers are setting a great example of what it is to sacrifice oneself for others.
POPLAR, California -- Confrontations with White River Farms reached a crescendo this past week at the Rural Oil Company, owners of the ranch, hired well-known super-scalos and labor contractors Bill Taber, Joe Mendoza, Benjamin Ojeda in a concerted effort to bring scale across the Union picket line.

On September 9, over 300 Union members from all over the Delano area - particularly workers from Jasmine Ranch, Tennessee and Roberts Kerland, joined the White River Farms brothers to form a solid picket line at the crucial entrance to the White River vineyards.

Earl Brown, one of the more ruthless scalos, moved two women picketers in his pickup truck in crossing the picket line. The women were taken by ambulance to the Tulare County Red Cross Center. All the while agn Tulare County Sheriffs were forcing new re -cord for partisan behavior. Tulare's tax -supported 'growers army' on Tuesday out numbered picketers two to one, with 35 Union strikers to 72 county sheriffs.

Airplanes constitute another arm of the White River Farms - Tulare County arm. (Pickers) have been subjected to the dangerous harassment of swooping airplanes - one over-enthusiastic pilot came down so low that his wheel caught a telephone wire and he found himself unimpared- with his nose in the vines. The court of Tulare County have slapped innumerable injunctions against the Union during the past two weeks, creating a legal morass which the sheriffs gleefully exploit.

On Wednesday, a picketer was arrested for standing 39 feet away from a fellow picketer, as the most recent injunction stated strikers must stand 40 feet apart.

And Thursday, September 14, a campesino was arrested for walking across the street for handing another campesino a glass of water - ostensibly for violating the injunction stating not more than three pickets on that side of the street.

In all, over 27 people have been arrested on such fabricated charges during the three-week strike.

Bill Taber's modest beginnings was a job driving tractors at White River Farms - formerly the Schenley Ranch - back in the late fifties. He worked his way up the gravy train to company agent. Eventually his career blossomed into that of a labor contractor.

Pablo Espinosa, one of the White River strike is only one side of a double-edged sword. Taber is also the top coordinator for activities on behalf of company interests to trick and betray farmworkers, the very people who made him wealthy. Not only does he scale against farmworker strikes, but he is also conspiring with the growers to bring mechanization into the fields and to kid farmworkers of their jobs.

Bill Taber is distinguishing himself as a scab against farmworkers. But we're not afraid of anybody and we'll go to the end."

Workers Picket Sheriff

The Tulare County Sheriff Dept. found a picket line around their Visalia office this Thursday as Union workers protested their collusion in the strikebreaking at White River Farms.

Out on the picket line, Hermengildo Lored, Ranch Committee member of White River Farms, observed that "the law protects the rich growers. The campesinos have no protection. But we're not afraid of any body, and we'll go to the end."

Another striker, Hope Hodgegir, reported that sheriff ordered her not to say Huelga as it was a violation of the law. When she protested, he told her "Oh, OK, you can, but do it quietly." Hope observed, "They throw us down as though we were criminals."

As the evidence of injustices piles against them, Company officials are struggling to keep their public relations screen vague and unclear. Andy Congemi, White River Farms vice-president in a prepared statement, crooned to the press that the "dramas" between the company and the Union "is not related to basic economic issues."

Mr. Congemi neglected to add that the White River Farms management is planning to convert their operations into a fully automated farm, with the machine-harvest of grapes. Such a move would displace all the workers at White River Farms - a fact that the White River Farms public relations "experts" are having a hard time dealing with.

The struggle at White River seems to have no end in sight. But Dolores Huerta, Union vice-president, summed up the workers feelings last week, when she said, "standing fast, holding strong- we know that if we do that, we'll get a lot of help, and we'll win this strike."
You the farm workers and only the farm workers are the ones who can change the system in which you live.

We are proud and happy that we celebrate today the seventh anniversary of the Grape Strike. It was the strike that made possible the only successful union for farm workers, the United Farm Workers, the first and only one in the history of the United States and in the history of many parts of the world. The growers thought it was not possible to organize the people, but we told them, "If we can, it can be done." We want this strike, we picket and we boycott.

Today we are gathered as a reminder of the history of our sisters and brothers who came from Spain, the 24th of September, Mexican Independence Day. We are happy and proud that our dream has been so fortunate in having among its membership people of different nationalities, races and religions. Here we are Puerto Ricans, Arabs, Filipinos, Mexicans, Blacks, Whites and other workers who have given so much to the cause.

... movement that does not care for its children and its older people is not really a movement. On October 1 of this year, the construction of the first retirement community for farm workers will start in Delano. It will house senior farm workers, mostly Filipinos, who struggled with us during the Grape Strike. The retirement community will be located at the "taco acres" and we hope it will not be too far away.

We committed to the people who are retiring from their long years of labor, in making it possible for our country to live the rest of their years in dignity and peace. It is our obligation, the obligation of all workers to work for the good of all, for our older farm workers and brothers.

We are planning a program of child care centers in the areas where we have Union contracts, child care centers developed and directed by Union members, so that our children will be cared for while their mothers work. The children will receive the best in nutrition and education, not only so that their mothers can work, but also so that they will learn early in life that it is a disgrace to be a serf.

... The strike against Inter-Harvest has ended. And for the first time we have a Union contract that establishes paid vacations for the majority of the workers. The growers declare we are not fighting for the wage of workers, but we are fighting for the rights of workers. We are afraid of something because they cannot buy us off. The growers are afraid because we ask for what is ours, they fear organized workers because it is going to cost them a little more. We are now organizing in Utah, in Florida we have signed a contract with Coca Cola company covering almost 1,000 workers. We are organizing in Texas, Washington, Oregon, Colorado, and Arizona.

... In a few days your ranch committee will receive ballots for a referendum vote by secret ballot in which we are asking you to decide certain things. First, whether or not we give the Executive Board the authority to write a proposed constitution for the movement. Second, whether or not we give the Executive Board authority to call a founding convention next year and to see a date and place for the convention.

... The law enforcement authorities, in Topeka County, especially Sheriff G.E. Hensley, are an army of cops at the picket line. But we will not be frightened by either cops or guns. We will continue our work because we have the right to strike.

We are always trying to destroy our unions, even in the plans of stragglers in machines to take our job away.

They have been able to get the New Farmer, ballot, using fraud and lies, the dishonest piece of legislation designed to destroy our Union, the so-called farm labor initiative, Proposition 12. We must protest and defeat this proposition. We must unite in total solidarity to defeat Proposition 12 before it destroys us.

... We need your support, your commitment. We ask that you have informed by reading El MALCRAIOO because it is the only way in which we can keep you informed about what is happening in the movement. Read El MALCRAIOO, study it, and share what you learn with other farm workers so we can help keep everyone informed, not only Union members but all farm workers.

... We are a family, brothers and sisters, remember that farm workers and only farm workers are the ones who can change the system in which you live. We must unite, the South of the country is no different than the North. We must unite all of these reactionary groups are forming a coalition to fight us.
GREENFIELD, California--The Brown & Hill strikers continue to make life hard for the labor contractors and scabs who are trying to break the strike.

According to strikers, during the past few weeks, one of the more notorious scabs, Cuca Barajas, has been bringing in illegals and passing them off as her relatives.

Teresa Amezcua, one of the strikers and a distributor for EL MALCRIADO, reported that "On July 8 we all followed her home in order to prove once and for all that the scab Cuca Barajas brings into the fields are not her relatives and that they were brought into this country illegally. She was shocked by our presence and since then the police escort her home every day."

Teresa also said Cuca Barajas has tried to provoke violence on the picket line. "But knowing her," she said, "we ignored her."

"But she was so mad she tried to hit someone, but the police intervened. However, since she and the police are both the same kind of people they did nothing to her," declared Teresa.

Teresa said, "She then tried to run me down with her car but was not able to get me. She also tried to hit Daniel Rocha, but missed. The highway patrol was watching all of this and it was only until a sheriff's deputy ran to his own patrol car that the highway patrol followed her. But the highway patrol let her go."

Teresa Amezcua and Daniel Rocha said they would file a complaint against both Cuca Barajas and the highway patrol.

According to the strikers, Cuca Barajas was member of the Union at the time the contract was signed in 1970, but was a checker, who knew how much each worker picks. But she tried to steal from her sisters and brothers.

Once she asked the company to pay her 18-year-old son a total of $380 for one week's work. "But older pickers, and good tomato pickers at that, could pick at the very most was $180. And that was only for a very short time at the peak of the season. So obviously she was cheating by shortchanging the rest of the workers," said the strikers. "So now that she knows she can't get away with cheating anymore, she has turned into a super-scab and continues to exploit scabs and favoring the growers."

TUCSON, Arizona -- In only two months the hardworking staff here have registered over 17,000 voters and contributed over 27,000 signatures towards the Recall of Arizona Governor Jack Williams. And on September 13 twenty members of the Phoenix Recall staff traveled here to help with a final intensive five days of voter registration. The goal is to register an additional 8,000 voters for a grand total of 25,000 registered voters for the Tucson area.

Bob Corriel, director of the Recall office in Tucson, explained that both registration and Recall signatures have exceeded the original estimates. The Tucson area was originally expected to contribute only 25,000 signatures to the Recall petition, but has already exceeded that by 2,000.

ThePhoenix Recall staff has spent the past several weeks concentrating on local primary elections. Union-supported candidates who won their contests were Joe Eddie Lopez for County Supervisor from District Five; Manuel "Uto" Peña for State Senate from District 22; Selma Pine for County Recorder and "Bunch" Guerrero for State senate.

Teresa said, "She then tried to run me-"
JUSTICE FOR
MARIO
BARRERAS!

BLYTHE, California -- Seven Chicano students, who walked out of the local high school last April after one of them was mistreated by the principal, are among the 28 students who registered September 14 at their own school. The school, called the Escuela de la Raza Unida, is fully registered with the state and is qualified to grant its own diplomas to graduating students.

Alfredo Figueroa, director of the Union's Office here, and his wife Donna have played a large role in getting the Escuela started. It was one of their children who was abused by the principal, and all of their sixth- and seventh-grade children participated in the protest that followed. Alfredo was instrumental in negotiating the community's demands with the school board and, when those demands were met, Donna became the President of the Board of the Escuela.

Students at the Escuela feel strongly that the city schools are inadequate. "The other schools are not meeting the needs of Chicano students," said Ruperto Garmica, a high school student at the Escuela who described himself as a teacher to younger pupils. Ruperto cited lack of programs aimed toward Chicano culture and poor counseling as two major shortcomings of the public school system. The school refused to allow a celebration of the National Mexican holiday, Cinco de Mayo, and Ruperto says that he had to seek advice from an older brother as to what courses to take in high school when the school counselors proved totally inadequate.

Escuela students also cite the lack of Chicano and other minority teachers in the Blythe County School System. Out of 107 teachers, says Ruperto, only 5 are minority, of which 3 are Chicano.

The students say that whenever they have asked the administration for more minority teachers they were told that there were no applications for positions from minority teachers. They have since found out that they were being lied to.

Ramon Navarro, director of La Escuela de la Raza Unida (Blythe Freedom School), had in fact applied for positions in Blythe schools but were being turned away, they were understandably angry.

In this year Navarro has left the established school system and come back at and direct the Escuela. He has established a staff of parents and older students to help with the teaching, and recruited teachers from the local high school to teach at the Escuela after normal hours.

Navarro has set an enrollment limit for this semester at 50, and believes that that number for Chicano children will rise quickly when students and parents find out that the Escuela has been reorganized by the State and is definitely going to endure. All grades--Kindergarten through ninth--will receive instruction, and there are already nine high school students.

Navarro's own four school-aged children were active in the walkout last year in Blythe, so he felt he could hardly be just a spectator.

So far the Escuela has been supported entirely by donations of money and time from interested individuals. But an application for a grant has been made to the U.S. Department of Education and, with recognition by the State Department of Education and recently-announced support for the application by U.S. Senator Alan Cranston (D-California), Escuela supporters are hopeful for financial help from Washington.

So the Escuela de la Raza Unida of Blythe stands as a strong example to all those who are dissatisfied with their school situation but believe little or nothing can be done about it. If you can't change your school for the better--then start your own. Yes, it can be done!
Farah Strikers Determined To Win

EL PASO, Texas -- The struggle against Farah is now four months old, but the spirit of striking workers here and at the other five Farah plants remains high and determined.

EL MARCHAND visited striking workers in El Paso, and tried to break up picket lines. Herberto Barca and pickers Francisco Apodaca, Loraimne Ashley, Juan S. Aguilar and Francisco Soto. They explained that the main issue in the fight against Farah are wages and job security.

"We've been working here for eight and a half years," explained Francisco Apodaca. "And I was making only $2.80 an hour before striking. I started at $11.65 an hour, and haven't had a raise for the last year and a half. When I asked my supervisor about a raise, he told me to forget about it."

The strikers said that the present starting wage is $15.00-17.00 an hour--minimum wage or barely above.

But even more important than wages to the workers is the question of job security. "People work here for fifteen years and get fired for no reason at all," explained Francisco. Because there is no union-negotiated grievance procedure, workers' jobs are subject to the whims of their bosses.

In fact, the job security situation is so bad, say the workers, that no worker has ever retired from Farah with a retirement pay--they have instead been fired before putting in their thirty years.

And what a worker gets to heah somewhere working for Farah for thirty years without being found out! A thirty $20 a month in retirement pay, say the strikers.

The strike against Farah broke out on May 9 when over 3,000 workers walked off their jobs at Farah's six plants in Texas and New Mexico. The plant in Albuquerque was closed down and remains closed, but the company was successful in getting a court injunction limiting picketing activities in Texas.

The Amalgamated Clothing Workers has the support of the workers as their representatives and has been helping strikers in their struggle, which includes a nationwide boycott of Farah products, but so far the company has steadfastly refused to recognize the union and negotiate.

Nonetheless, the workers are determined to continue with the strike, and remain convinced that they will win in the end. Boycott Farah. [HAR PURDUE]

Empirors Strikers Win New Contract

SAN FRANCISCO, California -- After a month strike culminating with massive picket lines and sit-ins inside the giant department store, the workers of the Emporium, the majority women, have won a new three-year union contract.

They won union security rights, a better medical and dental plan, an annual wage-increase of 20 cents an hour, double pay for work on Sundays and paid birthday holidays.

The strike, one of the most militant in San Francisco in recent decades, won a great victory, demonstrating the rising feelings of solidarity and consciousness of workers throughout the Bay Area.

Union Contract for Amtrak Workers

CHICAGO, Illinois -- The Railway and Airline Clerks have reached an initial contract with Amtrak, the government-sponsored corporation which operates the nation's rail passenger service. The contract covers 250 employees, mostly in Chicago, who work as ticket sellers, reservations personnel, accounting department employees and other clerical jobs.

ILAC President Cyril Dennis said wage increases "are on a par with the highest pay scales in the railroad industry for comparable work" and that the pact contains an up-to-date vacation clause, sick leave rules, grievance procedures and other benefits.

Dennis said the satisfaction conclusion of the agreement "shows that free collective bargaining can and will work. "We look forward to continued good relations with Amtrak."

City Employees On Strike

CHARLESTON, West Virginia -- Charleston city employees have been on strike against Mayor John Humphreys since July 31.

Hollie Brown, president of the State, County and Municipal Employees Local 1546, explained the workers struck after several months of refusal by the mayor to recognize the union or to establish a grievance procedure. None of the strikers' demands are economic, and the workers have offered--but the mayor has refused to submit the dispute to federal mediation.

On strike are sanitation, sewer, street, cemetery, and parks and recreation workers.

Extermination of Brazilian Farm Workers

RIO GRANDE, Brazil (LNS) -- A fierce international land-grab sponsored by the Brazilian government to open up vast Amazon Basin private developers, foreign and domestic, is currently provoking mass killings and slavery of Indian farmworkers.

"The government apparently just marks a big square on the map and sells it to one of the big companies without knowing what is really in the area," said Dr. Mario Arruda de Costa, an anthropologist at the University of Goias. "Righ from the start there seemed to be a tacit understanding that if the Indians had to be sacrificed that was the way it had to be."

"How much did the companies have to pay to God to get our land?" a Tapura Indian asked when he learned that once again his people would be herded to a new location in rubber-interested swamp land.

The Bishop of Sao Felix de Araguaia, Dom Pedro Cascchaliga said the "occupation of the Indians to the swamp will decimate them," because the Tapura are primarily crop cultivators while the new aim, inundated with water much of the year, is suitable only for raising cattle.

The Indian's original land was taken over nine time ago by the Suiia Agrarian Pastoral Company, which brought up 1.7 million acres in their area. They were then forced to move again when another company took control of almost 100,000 acres along the Araguaia River.

And even if reserves of mass murder are exaggerated it is known that companies, faced with a monumental task in selling billions of acres to create pasture lands out of their newly acquired tracks, often press the indigenous populations into slavery.

VIETNAM BOMBING CONTINUES

Since May American air power has made 198 attacks on the dikes and other irrigation facilities in North Vietnam. (And more than 11,000 Chickens have been killed in this way, 20% of the total dead.)

All humans being with a sense of justice and morality condemn these criminal air attacks against the Vietnamese people.
Dear Father...

...I remember...
...when you worked very hard...
...for your money...
...which was never really yours at all!

...I remember that after the harvest was over, the grower would tell you...

...it is time for you to go...on your vacation???

Good-bye father...
Thanks for having raised me. Your son...

VOTE NO ON PROP. 22

"Read EL MALCRIADO, study it, and share what you learn with other farm workers so you can help us keep everyone informed, not only Union members, but all farm workers." — Cesar Chavez

By GUS ARRIOLA

GORDO

Would a Strike in a P.O. Cellar Be Called a LatticE Boycott?

GroAN

The truLy wise do not pose profoundities at Gesta TimeY

Those Who GroAN at Puns Are Jealous Because They Didn't Think of 'Em!

Small Wonders. Owls Are Facing Extinction!
Don't Buy Lettuce Unless It is Clearly Marked With the Black Aztec Eagle Label of the United Farm Workers.

Viva La Causa!!