worker struggle itself as well as for the entire US labor movement, this convention is in fact a historic occasion. For those three days the delegates maintained a work pace that astounded visiting labor, church, and political leaders as well as the press. But to anyone who knows the farmworkers, the discipline with which they approached their monumental tasks was but a reflection of the discipline which they have learned in years of past struggle in the fields.

"This is an historic occasion," said Maria Elena Serna, delegate from the Stockton Field Office, "and never in my wildest dreams eight years ago when we started the strike did I ever think something like this would happen.

"The whole thing is such an education for us, to go through this process of putting on paper what we have learned and how we will run our union." Both in terms of the farm worker struggle itself as well as for the entire US labor movement, this convention is in fact a historic occasion. For 50 hours over a three-day period, delegates dedicated themselves to the task of summing up the experiences of 11 years of farm worker organizing and 11 years of difficult struggle against agribusiness and government.

The seriousness of the work was reflected in the determination and dedication of the delegates. Even during the long and tedious hours of checking credentials and seating delegates, attention was focused entirely on that task.
The Unions philosophy and its policies have been worked out based on the material needs of all labor, the specific needs of farmworkers, and the democratic rights of all people. At a time when the Union has about 10 contracts compared to the nearly 300 it held before the growers and teamsters closed ranks against farm workers, its members have recoupled the strength of their union, greater today than ever before, and reeducated themselves to the hard struggle of building their movement.

In the convention the fruits of that work were clearly visible in the political awareness and commitment of the members, in their self-reliance and responsibility, and in the development of new leadership from the ranks, the strikes, the boycott. As the emphasis shifts now to the major cities across the United States and Canada from the valley to the metropolis, the Union has gathered new strength and emerged from this convention as strong as the 60,000 committed workers represented by the delegations.
The van was forced into the ditch and sunk in the water. Reyma Olivas drowned. Wendy smashed her head into the windshield, suffered internal injuries and lies in a semi-conscious state at Charity Hospital in New Orleans.

Carlos Valle 27, his wife Esther 26, and their children were in the back seats of their 1962 Dodge Van, when the accident occurred. Their friends Barry Pitts, the driver, and Wendy Snow were in the front seat. The victims were driving east about 200 miles west of New Orleans on their way to the Miami boycott, when a semi-trailer truck driven by Dewie A. Michael, 45, of the Delta Steel Company of Houston, rammed into their van from behind.

New Orleans, Louisiana--More blood spilled on the grapes at 1:30 am September 15, when a large semi-trailer truck barreled into a boycotters' van from behind leaving one person dead, one in a semi-conscious state and one paralyzed from the chest down.

Carlos Valle, Union President of the United Farm Workers; his wife Esther, their children and Barry Pitts. Funeral services for Reyma Olivas took place in Delano, September 18, attended by Carlos Valle, Union President Cesar Chavez, other Union officials and 100 Union members and supporters. A rosary was said the night before at Guadalupe Church.

The Valle family had been among the 500 striker-boycotters who had left Delano in a caravan earlier in the month and had been assigned to the Miami boycott. Carlos Valle is back in New Orleans with his wife, Esther. Let- ters of condolences and solidarity may be mailed to: Carlos and Esther Valle, Ward E 707, 1535 Tulane Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana 70112.

Reyma Olivas was included among the martyrs of the California boycott. Today a special memorial session was held in the union hall, September 23, at the Convention. An amendment to a resolution honoring the martyrs, stated that the first day center established by the Union will be named in her honor.

Further investigation and any legal action that may stem from the accident is being handled by David Dennis, a New Orleans attorney.

Who Were the Delegates?

The delegates to the first Constitutional Convention of the UFW came from Ranches, Field Offices and Administrative units. The number of delegates was 319, farm workers and organizers from six states--Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Texas, Washington -- represented 194,747 members, while boycott delegates totaling 29 represented 195 Union members.

In procedural business and hand votes, each delegate had one vote, but for Union elections roll call votes were taken and these were based on per capita figures, the number of members who work on a Ranch or Office.

So, for example, a delegate for the boycott in Miami cast 2 votes whereas one delegate from Inter Harvest cast 587 votes.

Of 352 delegates there were approximately 30 women that is, about 14.5%. About 85 per cent of the delegates were Mexican or of Mexican descent, 6 per cent were Anglo-American, with smaller representation of Asians, Portuguese, Filipinos, and one Arab delegate.

The scope and nature of the resolutions in many ways captured the spirit and intent of the farm workers convention. The commitment of this large multinational union to support the struggles of other workers and oppressed peoples came forward in resolutions backing unification attempts by wood cutters in the South and Farm workers in El Paso, Texas.

Delegates Urge Action on Current Issues

Other resolutions expressed strong solidarity with the people of the Philippines in their struggle against the Marcos dictatorship, and in a particularly moving set of support with the Chilean people in their struggle against the present established military dictatorship.

Following the passage of this resolution, the farmworkers moved to dedicate a minute of silence in honor of slain President Salvador Allende.

All of these resolutions were passed unanimously. The members gave close attention to internal aspects of their unions struggle as well. Homage was paid to the first group of workers who walked out of the Delano fields back in 1965, and a to the martyrs of La Cañada: Nogal Dal- fullah, Juan de la Cruz, Romulo Avalos, Reyma Olivas Pablo Agayani, Rodriguez-Tor, San, Freeman, Sai Santos, and Tomas Zapata.

The AFL-CIO was thanked for its all-around support and its mobilization of workers behind the UFW, and a crus- tical resolution; called on the government to pass legislation guaranteeing the right of farm workers to a secret ballot e-lection.

Other resolutions had been handed over to the Resolutions Committee which met on Sunday to prepare an 8-hour straight session. While de- bates, speeches, cheers, and applause filled the large area a group of about 35 delegates chaired by Gilbert Padilla sat behind curtains analyzing re- solutions one at a time to de- termine which ones should reach the floor. An attempt to resolve the conflict between the feudal Texas agrarian society and the UFW was met with the threat of a walkout by the Texas delegates.

Despite the long hours and apparent exhaustion of many people, they voted to make the National Ex- ecutive Board responsible for deciding the issues, and recom- mending their determination to formulate policy themselves through a collective-bargaining process.

Resolutions were as varied as the expression of solidarity with oppressed South African workers, setting a policy of translating all meet- ings and discussions into as many languages as required by members present, as well as, unanimous and bolisterous condemnation of Safeway A&P for their refusal to stop selling scab grapes and let- tuce.

Who Were the Delegates?
Preamble
We, the Farm Workers of America...

We, the Farm Workers of America, have tilled the soil, sown the seeds, and harvested the crops. We have provided food in abundance for the people of the United States and the world but we have not had sufficient food for our own consumption.

While industrial workers, living and working in one place, have joined together and grown strong, we have been isolated, scattered and hindered from uniting our forces.

While other workers have overcome economic injustice, we have inherited the exploitation, the suffering, the poverty of our fathers and their fathers before them.

But despite our isolation, our sufferings, failings, beatings and killings, we remain undaunted and determined to build our Union as a bulwark against future exploitation.

The right to join a Union is universally recognized, but it is a right which those who own the fields have ruthlessly denied us. And as Pope Leo XIII said, "To exercise pressure upon the indigent and destitute and to make one's profit out of the need of another condemned by all laws human and divine."

We devoutly believe in the dignity of tilling the soil and tending the crops and reject the notion that farm labor is but a way station to a job in the factory and life in the city.

And just as work on the land is arduous, so is the task of building a Union. We pledge to struggle as long as it takes to reach our goals.

Above all, we believe that all men must act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood and that our Union shall guarantee that all are treated equal in dignity and rights.

Our Constitution and this Convention reflect this crisis. We are here today seated in the convention floor representing the first of our Union as a bulwark against future exploitation.

Delegates study closely the articles of the constitution.

Executive Board Report

'The Miracle We Call Our Union'

The Constitution and By-Laws, Rules and Procedures, Order of Business and all of the Constitution plans presented to the Convention delegates were prepared by the Executive Board with the assistance of our attorney Frank Denison and the Director's Administrative Assistant José Gómez, who did a major share of the convention work.

Presented September 21, 1973

As you know, before we were chartered as an independent Union by the Executive Council of the AFL-CIO on February 13, 1972, we operated under an Organizing Committee charter. Before our affiliation and merger with the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO, we had begun our movement as an independent organization, the National Farm Workers Association.

The Constitution before you represents the first of our Union since our AFL-CIO charter. To prepare the document, we studied and examined the constitutions of 82 national and international unions. Benefitting from the experience of other farm unions in the rules and conduct of their bodies, we took from their constitutions what was applicable to our Union and incorporated these in our Constitution.

However, as our Union at this time in history is in an unique situation with tremendous power enemies conspiring to deny us our very existence as an organization, there are many parts of this constitution that had to be drafted and are original and could apply only to our Union.

We are still in the organizational stages of a labor union having as our primary goal the need to gain justice for farm workers throughout the nation. Yet, we have to administer the collective bargaining agreements that have been won, a difficult job because we are attempting to establish human relations in the past. At the same time, we are being subjected to the flight of survival from powerful enemies.

Our Constitution and this Convention reflect this crisis. We have here today seated on our convention floor organizing committees, ranch communities and delegates from the boycott cities where our strikes have been transferred and which will now become a major emphasis to win our Union.

Our Constitution and this Convention reflect this crisis. We have here today seated on our convention floor organizing committees, ranch communities and delegates from the boycott cities where our strikes have been transferred and which will now become a major emphasis to win our Union.

One important section of our by-laws yet to be written in detail are the duties and responsibilities of the ranch committees. Because the last few months have been so hectic with strikes and boycott activities, we were unable to meet with the ranch communities to get their ideas on the rules that we need for conduct of the ranch communities.

In the course of the next few months, the Board will meet with the Ranch Committees so that those by-laws can be discussed, written and ratified by the ranch communities. We are fortunate that we have experience in the area of contract enforcement so that our task is easier.

The Board attempted to anticipate what our future situation will be two years from now when the next convention meets and parts of the constitution speak to this.

While this constitution is needed to run our Union, we have created the miracle we call our Union without one in the past.

What is more important than an instrument of rules is the spirit of brotherhood, cooperation and sacrifice that has been with us since our inception, and has brought dignity to farm worker families throughout California, Arizona, Texas and Florida. Because our Union is the only aspiration and hope farm workers have, it is our hope that the organizing committees, the ranch communities, the boycott committees, many of which are composed of people other than farm workers, can continue working together to keep the hope of farm workers alive. It is also our hope that we, as a Union, will continue our work after this our first constitutional convention stronger than we were before we convened.

To quote Tolstoy from War and Peace, "If evil men can conspire to do evil, then good men working together can conspire to do good." VIVA LA CAUSA!!!
Constitution - Document of Struggle

Why did the delegates to the convention work so hard on adopting the constitution for the union? The Union's constitution is not an abstract document, written out of the thin air. It is based on the experiences of farm workers and the farm worker's union have had over many years of struggle, many years of fighting to organize.

Jessie de la Cruz, delegate from Bakersfield and member of the Constitution Committee, pointed out, "This constitution was put together from everything we have gone through. We've always had meetings with people, meetings without delegates or anything like that. Through the years, they have been put together, and that's where the Constitution came from."

A SOCIAL MOVEMENT
For Jessie de la Cruz, the constitution reveals the union to be a social movement concerned with the democratic rights and responsibilities of all people, particularly workers.

For the delegates, the constitution commits the union to "to protect the moral and legal right of agricultural workers to use of their labor, to determine the conditions of their work."

But it also commits the union "to work and cooperate with the community to carry this in this direction is a great responsibility on us."

Due to the internal democracy of the union. These mechanisms are based on the right of the workers to have a say in the running of the union. These mechanisms are "implicit guidelines."

The constitution puts matters of discipline in the hands of the workers. Farm workers themselves are the judges of the workers, with the right to appeal to the community. The constitution states the goal of the union is to advance their collective bargaining rights, and to guarantee them a safe job and a living wage. The constitution is at the heart of the farm worker movement. The constitution provides for the protection of rights and obligations to become necessary to ensure the Union's ability to operate effectively and democratically.

A NEW STAGE
Now, however, as the union grows in size, spreading across the country, and as the opposition intensifies, uniform guidelines are needed to establish mechanisms to protect the workers' rights. These mechanisms are based on the equality before the law, and the right to participate in the democratic process. The Constitution will be the writing of the union itself. The work is mostly educational, the workers are spread out all over the country, and many are continually travelling from one place to another. The establishment of a system of clearly defined rights and responsibilities as well as conditions of membership is aimed at reducing problems.

The constitution also addresses itself to the problem of financing the union and its services. The structure has been changed drastically so that workers pay a percentage of their wages rather than a fixed amount. This means they pay more when they are working, and less when they are not working.

A SOCIAL MOVEMENT
For Jessie de la Cruz, the constitution reveals the union to be a social movement concerned with the democratic rights and responsibilities of all people, particularly workers.

For the delegates, the constitution commits the union to "to protect the moral and legal right of agricultural workers to use of their labor, to determine the conditions of their work."

But it also commits the union "to work and cooperate with the community to carry this in this direction is a great responsibility on us."

Due to the internal democracy of the union. These mechanisms are based on the right of the workers to have a say in the running of the union. These mechanisms are "implicit guidelines."

The constitution puts matters of discipline in the hands of the workers. Farm workers themselves are the judges of the workers, with the right to appeal to the community. The constitution states the goal of the union is to advance their collective bargaining rights, and to guarantee them a safe job and a living wage. The constitution is at the heart of the farm worker movement. The constitution provides for the protection of rights and obligations to become necessary to ensure the Union's ability to operate effectively and democratically.

A NEW STAGE
Now, however, as the union grows in size, spreading across the country, and as the opposition intensifies, uniform guidelines are needed to establish mechanisms to protect the workers' rights. These mechanisms are based on the equality before the law, and the right to participate in the democratic process. The Constitution will be the writing of the union itself. The work is mostly educational, the workers are spread out all over the country, and many are continually travelling from one place to another. The establishment of a system of clearly defined rights and responsibilities as well as conditions of membership is aimed at reducing problems.

The constitution also addresses itself to the problem of financing the union and its services. The structure has been changed drastically so that workers pay a percentage of their wages rather than a fixed amount. This means they pay more when they are working, and less when they are not working.

A SOCIAL MOVEMENT
For Jessie de la Cruz, the constitution reveals the union to be a social movement concerned with the democratic rights and responsibilities of all people, particularly workers.

For the delegates, the constitution commits the union to "to protect the moral and legal right of agricultural workers to use of their labor, to determine the conditions of their work."

But it also commits the union "to work and cooperate with the community to carry this in this direction is a great responsibility on us."

Due to the internal democracy of the union. These mechanisms are based on the right of the workers to have a say in the running of the union. These mechanisms are "implicit guidelines."

The constitution puts matters of discipline in the hands of the workers. Farm workers themselves are the judges of the workers, with the right to appeal to the community. The constitution states the goal of the union is to advance their collective bargaining rights, and to guarantee them a safe job and a living wage. The constitution is at the heart of the farm worker movement. The constitution provides for the protection of rights and obligations to become necessary to ensure the Union's ability to operate effectively and democratically.

A NEW STAGE
Now, however, as the union grows in size, spreading across the country, and as the opposition intensifies, uniform guidelines are needed to establish mechanisms to protect the workers' rights. These mechanisms are based on the equality before the law, and the right to participate in the democratic process. The Constitution will be the writing of the union itself. The work is mostly educational, the workers are spread out all over the country, and many are continually travelling from one place to another. The establishment of a system of clearly defined rights and responsibilities as well as conditions of membership is aimed at reducing problems.

The constitution also addresses itself to the problem of financing the union and its services. The structure has been changed drastically so that workers pay a percentage of their wages rather than a fixed amount. This means they pay more when they are working, and less when they are not working.

A SOCIAL MOVEMENT
For Jessie de la Cruz, the constitution reveals the union to be a social movement concerned with the democratic rights and responsibilities of all people, particularly workers.

For the delegates, the constitution commits the union to "to protect the moral and legal right of agricultural workers to use of their labor, to determine the conditions of their work."

But it also commits the union "to work and cooperate with the community to carry this in this direction is a great responsibility on us."

Due to the internal democracy of the union. These mechanisms are based on the right of the workers to have a say in the running of the union. These mechanisms are "implicit guidelines."

The constitution puts matters of discipline in the hands of the workers. Farm workers themselves are the judges of the workers, with the right to appeal to the community. The constitution states the goal of the union is to advance their collective bargaining rights, and to guarantee them a safe job and a living wage. The constitution is at the heart of the farm worker movement. The constitution provides for the protection of rights and obligations to become necessary to ensure the Union's ability to operate effectively and democratically.

A NEW STAGE
Now, however, as the union grows in size, spreading across the country, and as the opposition intensifies, uniform guidelines are needed to establish mechanisms to protect the workers' rights. These mechanisms are based on the equality before the law, and the right to participate in the democratic process. The Constitution will be the writing of the union itself. The work is mostly educational, the workers are spread out all over the country, and many are continually travelling from one place to another. The establishment of a system of clearly defined rights and responsibilities as well as conditions of membership is aimed at reducing problems.
"You cannot stop people who will not be stopped."

Text of Resolutions

Farm Workers Make Policy

CHILE

The tragic events in Chile have not escaped the attention of the farm workers. We note the violent overthrow of a constitutional government, whose basic was the working people of Chile and whose program encouraged Chile farm workers to organize. We know that the large landlords in Chile, like those in California, favor the repression of working people's organizations.

At this point, with the aspirations and needs of U.S. farm workers in mind, we feel that a two-fold call is in order:

(1) That Congress support the resolutions by Senator Edward Kennedy and Representative Donald Frazier urging the military junta to honor the Declaration of Human Rights, respecting the safety of political prisoners, especially farm workers and trade union members, and guaranteeing their right to legal protection and to justice.

(2) That the U.S. government withhold diplomatic recognition from the representative military junta, and that it immediately withdraw economic aid to this junta.

BE IT RESOLVED that the United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO, go on record opposing any form of compulsory arbitration.

WOODCUTTERS

RESOLVED: That because the struggle of the California Pulpwood Cutters Association for a non-coercive, non-compulsory, democratic right to-day care center be named after Romulo Zapata be granted seats as it is imperatively important in a non-compulsory, democratic right to vote in the near future conventions.

ARBITRATION

WHEREAS: From the beginning of the U.S. labor movement, the enemies of labor have tried to outlaw strikes and boycotts, and impose compulsory arbitration on labor; and

WHEREAS: Labor has consistently opposed compulsory arbitration as a violation of the no "involuntary arbitration" section of the U.S. Constitution and as an employer means of destroying and weakening unions, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the First Constitutional Convention of the United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO go on record opposing any form of compulsory arbitration.

THE MARTYRS

BE IT RESOLVED at this convention (Constitutional) of the United Farm Workers, AFL-CIO, that the martyrs Naig Gadihuk, Juan de la Cruz, Romulo Zapata, Reyna Olivas, Pablo Aguirres, Rodolfo Torres, Ben Callejo, Pio Menendez, and Tomás Tema be granted seats as delegates in symbolic recognition assigning them seats and badges in memory of their sacrifice in the struggle to obtain the rights of farm workers and that they continue to be recognized at future conventions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the resolutions (by Senator Edward Kennedy and Representative Donald Frazier) be and are hereby readopted and restated as a reaffirmation of the manifesto of the United Farm Workers of America protest the Marcos dictatorship, and continue the struggle of the oppressed people of the Philippines in their quest for social justice and national self-determination against the Marcos dictatorship.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United Farm Workers of America in its protests at the current undemocratic refusal to let the Filipino workers to organize their own workers, to determine their own policies, and to run their own affairs.

RECALC

Over 176,000 votes in Arizona signal broken conventions. The office of Attorney General, by registering over 103,000 signatures — more than the 105,000 necessary for a recall election. Last Thursday, Walter B. Boyles, the Arizona Secretary of State, and Attorney General Gary Nelson refused to honor these petitions.

They invalidated over 25,000 signatures called by the United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO. It is understood that the UFW is unable to recall the Governor Jack Williams.

SOUTH AFRICA

BE IT RESOLVED that the United Farm Workers of America fully support the struggle of the oppressed South African workers.

In our struggle for freedom and democracy, we ask that our brothers and sisters be given the same opportunity to organize and to work to better their conditions of life. To this end, the UFW will continue to support the U.S. government in its efforts to support the struggle of the oppressed South African workers.
LEONARD WOODCOCK: United Auto Workers: "The rich and the privileged of the earth have never willingly taken their boots off the back of those that they oppress and exploit. Your fight has to be the fight of all labor. We stand with you until victory. Viva la Causa!"

JIMMY HERMAN—Longshoremen’s Union: "Collective bargaining has worked for agriculture workers in Hawaii, and it can be done here under the banner of the UFWU. We will stop those boxes of grapes on the docks! Growers must come to the realization that they must come to collective bargaining or they might as well put concrete over the whole damn thing. Our union is here because we have no choice but to be here. Every union in the nation has the fundamental duty to be here at your side in this struggle."

PAUL HALL—Seafarer’s Union, Representing George Meany: "What you’re really fighting for is your children and your next generation. You’ve got to whip this boss the way you’ve whipped him before. The boss is using you and your children to become wealthy. The boss is using politicians like Ronald Reagan to take away your God-given right to have a union. In all labor history we have never seen such a shameful example of conspiracy. Any hope of destroying you has passed in the night. You are out in the main arena of the United States."

JOHN HENNING, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, California Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO: "You won the impossible victory when you brought the growers to the bargaining table and contract. You caught the social conscience of America. We will fight until you win the final victory. Conflict will not be wished away by dreamers... or cursed away. We will not support legislation outlawing boycotts, consumer boycotts or eligibility requirements of 100 working days at one ranch for voting.

BILL SOLTERO, Arizona Laborer’s Union: "We want a world where we can all live with justice, with enough to eat! We want our sons and daughters to have the opportunity to go to school and become professors if they want to. Here in this country, which has more than half of the world’s capital and less than 6% of the population, we have been treated like animals, starting with the black slaves who were brought over in chains from Africa, and later, the Chinese, the Mexicans and Filipinos. There are 65 million unorganized workers in this country. Why did the Teamsters pick on this baby of the AFL-CIO? There’s bound to be a conspiracy with Nixon, the Teamsters and the damned growers, to destroy this union! Those wretches have to be shown that Cesar Chavez and the Farmworkers Union has the force to win..."
Have a Duty to Organize...

SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY

"This convention marks a moment of rebirth, a moment of renewal, a moment of rededication. It marks the rebirth of this union, it marks the renewal of the spirit of non-violence, it marks the rededication to the goal of bringing a new day of hope and justice to the farm workers of our land. That day will come. It will come for the farm workers, and it will come for America. For this nation cannot call itself just while 5 million migrant and seasonal farm workers and their families rise with each dawn to fight for survival....

...If America is to fulfill its promise then it must not permit anyone—whether grower or contractor or Teamster—to dictate to farm workers who is entitled to represent them.

This union is young when measured against the history of the American labor movement, but it already has a tragically long list of martyrs who have died beneath its flag.... Their deaths will not be forgotten. But for those who are named tomorrow, there are a hundred times as many who go unnamed. The migrant children who die of diseases that exist only among the poor, the women who die in childbirth because they cannot obtain adequate medical care, the men who die before their time. They too are the martyrs of this movement. They, too, deserve to be remembered. They, too, deserve to be mourned.

For they are the reasons why this union must not die. They are the reasons why this union must go forward. They are the reasons why this union must meet the challenge now before it.

One can only hope that the leaders of American agriculture will recognize that time is on the side of this union. For the values of this union are the values of America, the values of social justice, of fair play, of equality. Those who oppose you, oppose the nations values and it is only a matter of time before their opposition is overcome....

...I come here today to honor your courage, to honor your cause. Your struggle is the struggle for human dignity and freedom that fired the imaginations of the men who founded this nation and that brought generations of immigrants to these shores. Your struggle is the struggle of America to reclaim its promise. It is a struggle that must be won if we are to reach our 200th anniversary with pride in what we have brought forth in this land.

You stand for the best of America. You stand for the ideals of our past and the hope of our future. I have come to stand with you before and I shall come again to stand with you and I shall keep coming until the victory is yours. For I am proud to stand with Cesar Chavez and I am proud to stand with the Farm Workers, Viva la Huelga! Viva la Causa!

BISHOP DONELLY: "Not only does a worker have a right to join a union, he has a duty. Working people today have a duty to organize... No worker standing alone can help with the problems facing labor but a union can.... The bitter struggle through which this union has travelled will make it a stronger union... There will be no turning back until Justice prevails in California agriculture.

MONSIGNOR GEORGE G. HIGGINS

October 5, 1973

REVEREND STERLING CARY

Viva la Huelga!
Viva la Causa!

REVEREND WAYNE (Chris) HARTMIRE
Migrant Ministry

"It's an honor to learn from you about life and theology. O'nechella cost the growers six million -- their profit should have been up three million. They lost that and they lost three million besides. This year death has been with us as never before. You cannot stop people who will not be stopped. You cannot stop the spirit of love in the people. The movement is a spiritually potent force in our country. We can do anything if we work with people, and people are everywhere we go."

MONSIGNOR GEORGE G. HIGGINS

October 5, 1973

EL MALCRIADO
SANTA MARIA VALLEY NEWS

by Marie Cain

FARM WORKERS IN COURT

SANTA MARIA, California—Charges of a misde­meanor assault and battery against Rudy Pili, a Team­ster organizer and Jeffs Ortiz, a picketer for the United Farm Workers, were dropped by the San Luis Obispo County dis­trict attorney this week. According to Union sources, Pill attacked Ortiz with a knife on a UPF picket line in July while the Union struck Security Farms Farm owned by the Minami family of Guadalupe and Santa Maria.

At the time of the incident both Pilli and Ortiz were charged with felonious assault and battery and bail was set at $10,000. Pilli was released within a few hours on his own recognizance and the charges were reduced to a misdemeanor. Ortiz was held for bail.

His statement followed by two weeks the deaths in the San Joaquin Valley of Nagi Dalifullah and Juan de la Cruz.

Later Grant was confronted by a group of campesinos from Santa Maria who asked him how many persons had to die before the growers would believe we want our own union. Grant replied, "Okay, you've had your say now and campesinos and the San Luis Obispo group saw Farm Bureau people bring in a box of scab grapes to their meet­

ing. The box was left in the foyer of the building to be eaten after coffee time.

Ponce later dumped the scab grapes in a trash basket as a symbol of pro­test.

Ponce, Sharon Card and Ka­thoff have organized a commu­nity center at their home in San Luis Obispo which brings together many causes and per­sons. From these persons they recruit people to boycott Safeway each Saturday.

Allan Grant: "People not willing to die for Union."

California State Farm Bu­reau members met at Cali­fornia Polytechnic State Uni­versity in San Luis Obispo in late August and were met by newly-organized United Farm Workers supporters from San Luis Obispo led by Josef Ponce, Sharon Card and Peter Katoff.

During an open press con­ference following a meeting with the state director of the Farm Bureau, said he did not believe people were willing to die for a union.

School board stalls on hiring practices

SANTA MARIA, California—Affirmative action employ­ment hiring in relation to the ethnic makeup of the pop­ulation, is stalled by the Santa­ Maria Elementary School Board.

The board appointed a ci­
tizen's committee last spring to develop a plan for district-wide employment. The committee presented a 25-page plan to the board which out­lined employment goals and recruiting practices.

Board Chairman Richard Dixon expressed his disappor­tion of such a detailed plan and submitted a one-page plan of his own.

The citizen's committee, composed of Chicano, Anglo, Blacks and Asians told the board at a recent meeting that their recommendation of timeframes and goals stands.

"Because it represents what the community wants,"

Strong feeling has been ex­pressed by committee mem­bers as well as other members of the community concerning the board's actions in pre­vious matters in which recom­mendations of committee members were ignored.

Racism comes out publicly

SANTA MARIA, California—Racism surfaced publicly in Santa Maria recently.

In one incident, the Santa Maria Times, recently ran an ad stating, "Reward—$100 for information leading to con­viction of Mexican-American person who hit brown Mustang in windshield with beer bottle and assaulted driver at Walker Park Sunday, September 24.

Chicano and Anglo commu­nity leaders joined in a letter of protest to the Times stating, "This advertisement is an open affront to the Mexican-American people of our community. It belittles the person and a stereotype of Mexican-Americans as lawless and rowdy people. It prejudices persons solely on the basis of race, without any factual inquiry."

Among signers of the letter were community workers, tea­chers, ministers, doctors and union people.

The ad incident was follow­ed by another in which an a­mendment to rules governing the Santa Maria Elks' Lodge that would have allowed non­white membership, failed to pass at a recent election.

The vote follows a national Elks election in July when it was decided to change the white-only ruling of the or­ganization but allow each lodge to make its own decision.

The Santa Maria group, which includes business men, city officials, lawyers and judges, educators and ran­chers had promised the com­munity group several changes in the club's discrimination policy, that if the local group could vote on it, "we will surely change the rule."

In the past Clarence Minetti, Guadalupe rancher and former school board member, emphasized the local club's hands were tied by national policy.
Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Cleveland, Ohio

WILL NOT RETURN UNTIL...

THE GOONS, the injunctions, the 6,000 arrests, the beatings, and the two killings of our brothers Nagi and Juan de la Cruz are the reasons we are here telling the people we are poor farmworkers in the search of justice. We are the one's who pick the fruits and vegetables that get to their table and we want to keep picking them for all people in this world. We want to do it knowing that our children, too, have plenty of food to eat, a good education, a good roof over their heads, and good medical treatment. We want the growers to treat us like human beings while working the land. We don't want to be exploited anymore.

All this fine treatment and fine people of America convinces us that we will win our struggle very soon. We are not going back until justice for all farmworkers and their families is in sight. Boycott grapes and lettuce!

Juan Salazar
653 E. 109 Street
Cleveland, Ohio

Migrant Ministry from aiding and abetting Chavez and his militant social movement has not yet been found!

Earl Butler
Florida Farm Bureau Director of Information

On a tour of farmworker's housing in Delano and this is what Al found: "In all we counted some 14 houses in the city of Delano which could be considered below standard. Even these 14 had plumbing and some had air conditioners."

From Citrus World magazine:

Anita Bryant, singing spokes­woman for Florida orange juice, recently visited Rev. Billy Graham and wife Ruth, "The Grasahs are at home now stop a mountain overlooking a beautiful valley. We were greatly pleased to learn that Dr. Graham is a Florida citrus grower with grapefruit groves in the Vero Beach area."

From Council of California Farm Workers Newsletter:

Council president Lester Heringer states: "Nobody needs a balanced and beneficial environment more than California and agriculture, and I can't think of any industry which has done more to improve the state's environmental quality.\" Heringer went on to add that agriculture is not as concerned about the added cost of substitute pesticides as it is about the increased danger to workers and the environment from repeated application."

From Florida Agriculture magazine:

Scottie Butler, Florida Farm Bureau general counsel, paid out union a surprising, but unintended, compliment when he noted that complaints about working conditions filed by farm workers could be a serious problem for Florida growers. "With the activities of Chavez and the United Farmworkers Union, you can almost bet that complaints from employees will be filed," Butler said.

From Florida Agriculture magazine:

An article entitled, "The Church of Cesar," features a picture of Cesar Chavez with the following caption taken from Matthew 7:15, "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves."

That same article notes with dismay that "an effective way to deter either the Roman Catholic Church or the Christian Migrant Ministry from aiding and abetting Chavez and his militant social movement has not yet been found!"
DENVER, Colorado — Denver Union friends, religious and union leaders rallied today to welcome California strikers on their overnight stay here and continue on to Eastern Boycott cities.

During a brief rally, Richard Longoria, Denver Boycott Director, introduced the Denver labor leaders instrument in providing meals and accommodations for the strikers; Jay Dee Patrick, Region 16 Director, AFL-CIO; Cletus Ludden, President, Denver Area Labor Federation; Herrick Ruth, President, Colorado Labor Council; Tim Flores, Assistant to President, Colorado Labor Council; and Bill Payne, Editor, "Labor Advocate".

Patrick welcomed the strikers, commenting, "with the dedication you've already shown, you're sure to win. We support you all the way!"

Mrs. VI Wagner, Secretary-Treasurer of the Denver Area Labor Council, coordinated the efforts of several AFL-CIO Union members and UFW supporters who helped prepare and serve the dinner. Upon arrival at Denver's AFL-CIO Labor Center, the boycotters received a delicious ham dinner including potato and fruit salads, beans, rolls, cakes, pies, cookies, coffee, milk and punch.

The next morning a Labor Day mass was held outdoors at the Marycrest Convent with the following Colorado clergy participating: Bishop George Evans, Denver; Fr. Don Durnan, Catholic Community Services; Fr. Jose Lara, Our Lady of Guadalupe; Fr. Patrick Sullivan and Fr. Marty Marquez, St. Joseph's; Fr. Bill Sitzman, Colorado Springs; Fr. James Monihan, Our Lady of Grace; Fr. Thomas Dowd, St. Augustine's, Brighton, Colorado.

A black and white eagle flag draped the speaker's podium in memory of slain strikers Naji Dahilallah and Juan de la Cruz.

UFW boycott organizer Marcos Mufloz spoke about the strikers' stop in Ludlow, Colorado, site of the mine workers massacre. Mufloz told about the similarity of the workers' struggle for better conditions in both the mines and UFW struggle today for better conditions in the fields. A black and white eagle flag was left in Ludlow in memory to Naji and Juan.

Mrs. Juanita Herrera, a Denver boycotter for over two years during the first grape boycott thanked the Denver supporters for their welcome to the city. She and her family are on their way to the Washington, D.C., Boycott.

Marshall Cans, Union organizer destined for the boycott in Canada, introduced the new Denver boycotters: Jesus and Sebastina Valderrama and children (Lupe, Maria, Gustavo); Luis and Consuelo Garcia and children (Jose Luis, Francisco, Margarita, Adriana); the Garcia's fifth baby, due in about 10 days will be Denver's newest boycotter; and Koro Korukawa.

by Elaine Graves

---

U.S. CATHOLIC CONFERENCE SUPPORTS FARMWORKERS

The Committee on Social Development and World Peace of the United States Catholic Conference, made up of some twenty-one Bishops, priests, religious and lay leaders from all parts of the country, met August 21-22 in Washington, D.C. to formulate policy on a number of current social problems, including the farm labor dispute in California.

The committee, after hearing a detailed report from Bishop Joseph Donnelly, chairman of the Bishops' Committee on Farm Labor, and from Monsignor George G. Higgins, consultant to the latter committee, strongly reaffirmed its support of the farm workers' cause and expressed deep concern about the recent outbreak of violence in Kern County and in the San Joaquin Valley which has resulted, tragically, in the death of two of your members.

The committee has relayed its concern about this matter to Secretary Richardson of the Justice Department and has urged the Department to do everything within its power not only to apprehend the guilty parties but to prevent future acts of violence in connection with the farm labor dispute.

"Be assured of our prayerful best wishes for the success of your efforts. In this regard, the committee is persuaded that the time is ripe for an overall settlement of the farm labor dispute and feels very strongly that such a settlement would be in the best interest of all concerned."

Most Rev. John J. Dougherty Chairman

---

No. 6

UFW boycott organizer Marcos Mufloz spoke about the similarity of the workers' struggle for better conditions in both the mines and UFW struggle today for better conditions in the fields.

---

A new injunction attempts to block UFW picketing at the Hunts Point Terminal Market in New York.

The New York State Supreme Court granted an injunction sought by 8 firms August 20 limiting the number of pickets to two and ordering them to remain at least 10 feet from the loading platform.

Calling the picketing "destructive and disorderly", the following firms sought the injunction: M. Singer's Sons Corp.; Prevor-Mayrsohn International, Inc.; Samuel Klein & Sons, Inc.; Fratisco Corp.;Craig-Ani Produce Co.,Inc.; Kielman & Hochberg, Inc.; E. Armita, Inc.; and M. Trombetta & Sons, Inc.