

UFW

AFL-CIO

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Donation

DISASTER IN  
THE VINEYARDS

Dolores Huerta, UFW vice-president, and daughter at strike rally in San Luis, Arizona. Over 1,500 farm workers attended. See story on page 2. (EL MALCRIADO photo)

UNSOLD GRAPES HIT  
7.2 MILLION MARK

Keene, Calif. — The state's table grape growers may be facing an economic disaster as recent government statistics indicate that millions of boxes of unsold grapes are piling up in cold storage warehouses.

According to figures released by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, there were almost 7.2 million lugs of unsold grapes in cold storage on October 15 in comparison to only 4.1 million on the same date a year ago. (A lug is a 23-pound box of grapes.)

Agricultural observers say that the large quantity of non-purchased fruit may be a result of the César Chávez-led boycott of table grapes harvested by workers not under United Farm Worker contract.

Chávez' UFW is currently boycotting California table grapes in an effort to regain contracts lost when the Teamsters union (IBT) signed agreements with the state's growers. AFL-CIO President George Meany later called that a "shameful attempt at union-busting."

The UFW won union contracts with most of the vineyard owners in this state in 1970 after a long and bitter strike and boycott. However, most growers decided to try to eliminate the militant and progressive UFW, signing what Chavez has described as "sweetheart" agreements with the Teamsters when the former's contracts expired in 1973.

## SURPRISING LEAP

The seven million-plus figure of grapes in cold storage, representing 82,581.96 tons, shows a surprising leap of three million lugs (in storage) over a two-week period and an increase of almost 200% over the same date in 1973 and 1972.

Jack Pandol, a Delano vineyard owner, claims, however, that the high storage figures simply reflect an increase in the grape crop and an earlier harvest season.

Informed sources, on the other hand, say the grape yield is actually smaller than last year's and the grape acreage is approximately the same, which may cast doubt on Pandol's logic.

Furthermore, although the harvest began earlier than usual, the grape market itself has been remarkably low for the past several months.

During the first week of August this year, for example, only 84 carlots of California table grapes were unloaded for Eastern markets, in contrast to 140 carlots for the same period in 1973. (One carlot represents approximately 28,750 pounds of grapes.)

Another spokesman for the faltering grape industry, Bruce Obing, general manager of the California Table Grape Commission, also attempted to explain away the high storage figure, claiming

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# LEMONS ROTTING IN SAN LUIS ORCHARDS

San Luis, Arizona — Welcome to Yuma, where you'll find warm sunny skies and comfortable motels like the Damotel which advertises "shotguns and dogs welcome."

The Damotel has armed security and guards with rifles and attack dogs. There are 25 lawmen including cowboy sheriffs, narcs, cops and highway patrol on standby for quick arrests.

This is the real picture as more than 1,000 striking UFW limoneros, in their 11th week of "huelga", take up battle stations

in the orchards, the courts, and on the border.

More than 30 strikers, men, women, and children, entered an orchard Nov. 6 to respond when scabs hit them with lemons. One boy was hit in the face.

After chasing out over 50 scabs and illegals, 21 were arrested for trespassing while two scabs faced possible charges of felonious assault and inciting a riot.

Five other strikers were arrested the day before and six more on Thursday. The latter six were charged immediately

with felonies for causing "riot and riot" and bail was set at \$1,100 each.

So far, of 36 persons charged, the women and picket captains have been released on their promises to appear for trial.

During the scramble, 50-year-old Salvador Medina was punched and kicked in the ribs by a scab picker. He was refused treatment in jail two times and finally was permitted to leave when they saw him coughing up blood.

Getting into the hospital, the first thing Medina heard was,

"Don't use the county facilities on these people," the orders given by Dr. Bisc, head of the hospital. After the union promised to pay for the x-rays, he was admitted and upon examination, doctors discovered he had pneumonia in one lung where the kick worsened his condition.

In another incident, immediate action was taken by strikers when Francisco Sandoval, 35, was struck and gashed on the head with a club by a SunCo Foreman, Tony Reyes, Nov. 1 at Somerton.

More than 500 strikers picketed all day in front of the Somerton Courthouse until Judge Herman Frauenfelder finally signed Sandoval's complaint so Reyes would be arrested.

In Yuma, strikers restrained their anger when picketers were taken into custody for merely saying "huelga."

A city ordinance prohibits any picketer outside the downtown motels to say anything until 7 a.m. By that time, the scabs are already in the orchards, picking.

More than 350 strikers, meanwhile, patrol the border, according to a striker just back from the tents. One border runs east along the desert towards Sonoita and the other follows the Colorado River 30 miles north to Algodones.

Many San Luis, Sonora residents respect and support the lemon strike but numerous nationals attempt to cross after traveling from as far as Los Mochis or the state of Michoacan.

A Mexican radio station, called "Note Ocho" serves the scabs

and growers with a constant flow of propaganda, calling for everyone to go ahead and break the strike and to have no fear of the UFW.

Though growers say they have enough pickers, "coyotes" and labor contractors flock to the border with trucks and shotguns to make their nightly pick-ups.

## "Mojados" hit in packs

The UFW Night Patrol says Sunday evenings as many as 170 "mojados" try to cross and those who fail the first time will try again and again, hitting the tent line in packs of 30 at one time.

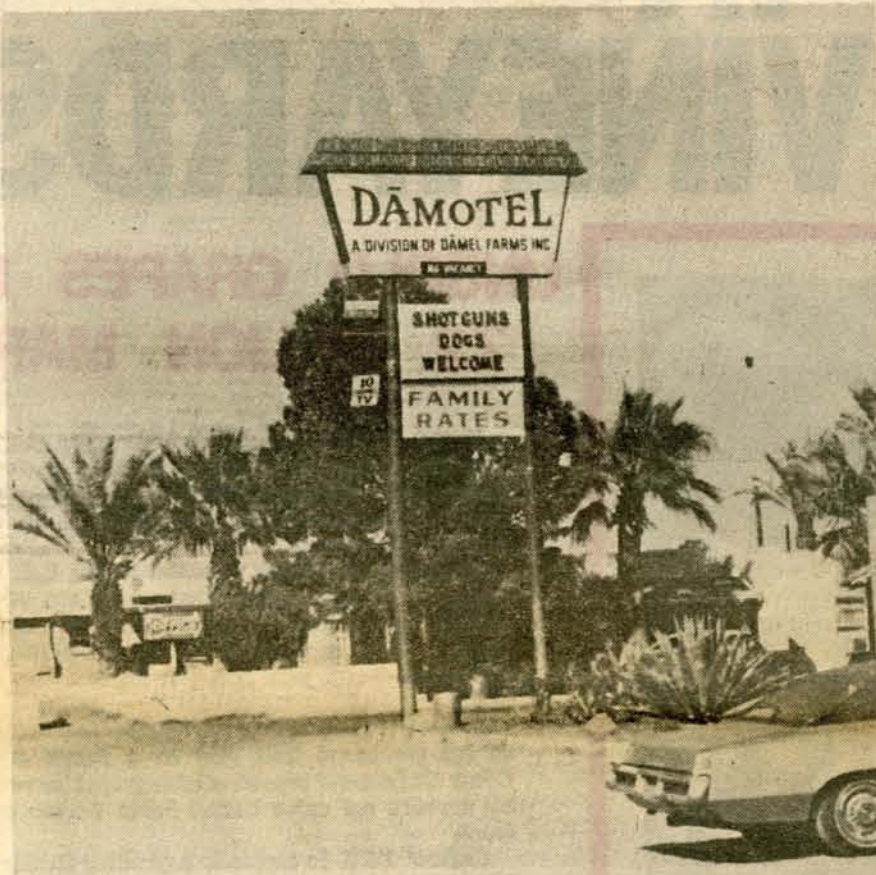
Allowed only 25 pickets at each orchard, a daily UFW convoy made up of two buses and 30 cars hits prescribed points in the orchards where scabs are found.

Packinghouse foremen brandished rifles and one bus driver cocked his shotgun, resting it on top of a car pointed at strikers during a UFW visit.

After work, company buses and scab cars try to evade the junctions where UFW pickets stand along highway 95, forcing scabs to pass through on the way home.

Before many were jailed, a mother who is a lemon striker, Juanita Ramirez, said "Our children will be assured of getting out. We can confide in the union lawyers and hopefully we can create the courage to enter."

Evidently the strikers arrested were listening. Abajo los esquirols y Que Viva La Huelga de Los Limoneros!!!



(Michael Flamm photo)

## Farm Workers Acquitted In Victory Over Sheriff Yancy

Yuma, Arizona — The three-day mass trial of 54 United Farm Worker (AFL-CIO) union members charged with contempt of court and unlawful assembly ended Oct. 23 with the jury handing down an acquittal.

The trial, held in the County Civic Auditorium due to the large number of defendants, stemmed from arrests made Sept. 25, when nearly 300 lemon strikers picketed an orchard.

The arrests were made by Yuma County Sheriff Charles "Bud" Yancy, who declared the picketers were an unlawful assembly and cited the strikers with violating an injunction which limits the number of pickets at an orchard to 25.

Mike Smith, the county prosecuting attorney, maintained throughout the trial that the gathering was a "mob scene" and that Sheriff Yancy had no choice but to arrest the UFW members.

Smith also attempted to show that the mass picketing was planned and a willful violation of the injunction. He said the defendant refused to leave the scene when told to do so by Sheriff Yancy.

Smith peppered his closing statement with racial slurs against the defendants' culture, racial heritage and nationality.

Almost all of the UFW members on trial were Mexican immigrants and Smith attempted to turn the jury against them by saying that the strikers were not even United States citizens and that it was hard to call the Mexican culture a culture.

Meyerson, in his closing statement, called Smith a "man full of hatred" for a people of a different culture, race and nationality. He advised the jurors that they should not allow this hatred to color their judgment but should treat the defendants as they would other citizens, for even though they were immigrants they still had the same rights as any natural-born American.

The jury retired on this note and deliberated for almost an hour, returning a verdict of not guilty. The defendants remained unemotional while presiding Judge William R. Steen read all 54 verdicts.

At the end of trial the defendants finally showed their grati-

tude and relief when they went to shake Meyerson's and Rutkowski's hands. They also watched Smith walk away mumbling that he "assumed justice had been done."

## Jobless Rate Rises Again

Washington, D.C. — Statistics showing this country's unemployment rate, rose last month to 6% from 5.8% in September "grossly understate the gravity of this recession," according to the AFL-CIO President George Meany.

Although figures released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that 5.5 million eligible Americans were without jobs, the BLS failed to take into account massive layoffs announced during the second half of October.

Last month's unemployment rise hit Black males between 25 and 54 the hardest, especially those working in factories, noted the BLS.

## Poor Wages in Yuma Pickers Return Home in Disgust

Bakersfield, Calif. — More than 10 workers were taken to Yuma, Arizona by two labor contractors, Ruben Basar and Casimiro "Cookle" Galleta, but they returned home disgusted and disillusioned.

In Yuma they found the wage set at only \$1.60 per hour despite deductions of \$5 for room plus \$1.25 per person each day.

One of the 10, Emilio Pedro Ramirez, said that during a seven day work week, they would work three days "by contract" for \$18 per bin. The rest of the week they were paid by the hour.

Paid by the bin, Ramirez would have only \$10 at the end of the day. By the hour a day's pay was less, \$6.65 before buying any food.

"I got only \$13 to feed a family of eight," added Roberto Garcia upon first arriving at the Damotel, one of the three Yuma motels where Yuma Citrus Company is housing their scabs.

Ramirez said the motel is surrounded by company security men armed with shotguns. Attack dogs

also are used in the area where UFW picketers stand.

"They would wake us up every morning at 5 a.m. and we would have to stand and wait out in the cold until a pick-up would arrive and then pick up the others at the rest of the motels.

"Then the bus would take us out to the orchards. There was practically a foreman to every picker and each of them carried either a rifle or a pistol."

Garcia mentioned too that every picker carried three metal rings with which to measure each lemon on the tree before it's picked.

Garcia's father was living at Camp Aleman, a former concentration camp known for harboring scabs and illegals, according to UFW limoneros.

If workers complained about the wages or the food, Ramirez said, the foreman would always call the migras.

On many occasions, they did have papers but were arrested anyway.



# CALIFORNIA JUDGE GAGS UFW SUITS

Indio, Calif. — United Farm Worker attorneys lambasted a recent court order granted by Superior Court Judge Fredrick Metheny to the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, which UFW attorneys describe as a "flagrant violation of basic constitutional rights."

According to the UFW legal staff, the order issued Oct. 30, deprives farm workers the right to sue to redress their grievances, their right to counsel, their first amendment rights and it deprives the public of its right to know about issues of public importance.

## Specifically:

- prevents the UFW from suing the Teamsters and their officers.
- prevents the UFW from filing suits alleging violations of The California Labor Code.
- prevents the UFW from filing suits alleging conspiracy between the Teamsters and the growers.
- prevents the UFW from telling the press about its suits.
- prevents the UFW from serving suits already filed.
- prevents the UFW from going to federal courts on issues which rural courts refuse to hear.

The UFW has a hearing before Judge Metheny, Nov. 13 to show cause why an injunction should not be served.

Jerry Cohen, chief UFW counsel, says the order is obviously

unconstitutional and that no labor lawyer he has talked to has ever heard of such an order.

Cohen claims the reason the Teamsters have gotten this order from Metheny is because they have so much to hide.

The UFW is presently involved in a lawsuit in San Francisco challenging the "sweetheart" contract between the Teamsters and the lettuce growers. The case hearing is currently at a point where the Teamsters and growers have to present their records for the last five years.

According to Cohen these records would prove the collusion Teamsters. They would also show how they both suppress wages and discriminate racially against farm workers.

Metheny's court order would prevent the continuation of this court hearing and the revelations of the Teamster-grower records.

## Battles continue

The court order would also prevent the union from filing suits against Teamster ranches who fire a worker for talking and leafleting in favor of the UFW.

Such a legal battle is now in progress in Salinas, California in the case of Francisco Nava who was fired from Salinas Marketing for leafleting.

More important the order would prevent the UFW from suing Teamsters or growers who violate the California labor code.

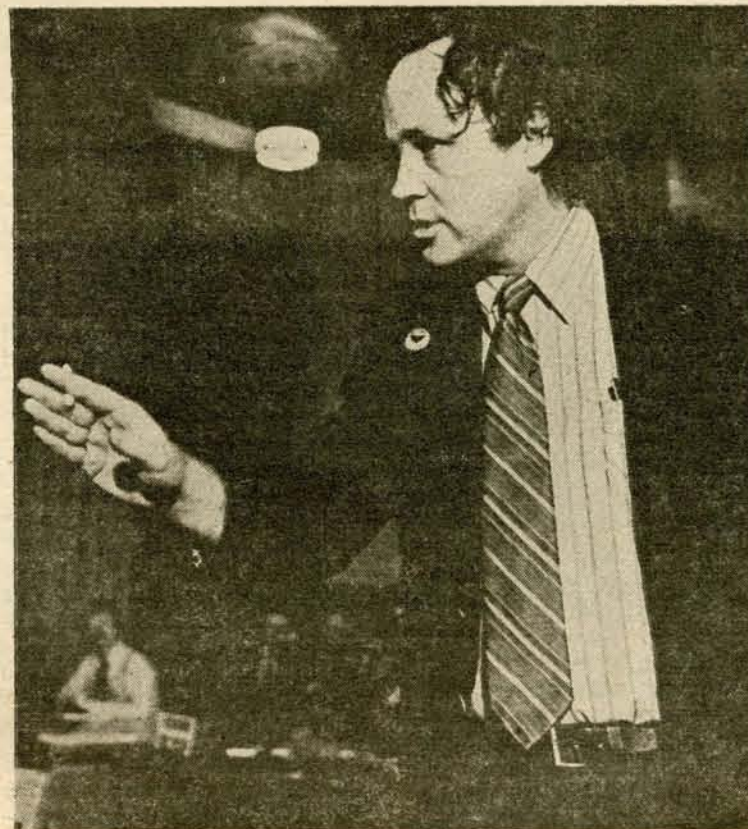
The labor code section 923 guarantees workers the basic right to associate and to organize into unions of their own choice and this is the basic section under which the UFW is challenging the sweetheart contracts.

## Morally, ethically, legally

Recently Ted "Speedy" Gonsalves, a former Teamster official, pleaded "nolo contendere" (no contest) to a charge of soliciting illegal payments from Salinas lettuce growers. The court order would prevent the UFW from alleging a conspiracy relating to this affair even though Gonsalves was to be sentenced Nov. 11 in San Jose federal court.

Cohen says the UFW legal staff has no alternative but to violate the court order.

"They are morally, ethically and legally obligated to do so," Cohen added, "They represent the union and the farm workers. They cannot abandon suits already filed nor can they refuse to sue when workers of the UFW demand that rights be vindicated."



Jerry Cohen, chief UFW legal counsel, claims the Teamsters have a lot to hide. In addition, Cohen says the UFW is obligated to sue when it's members' rights are violated. (Glen Percy photo)

# REQUIEM FOR A TEAMSTER LOCAL

Riverside, Calif. — Workers at Anaconda Copper Co. ended a 30 year reign of Teamster representation when they booted out IBT Local 235 in an Union Decertification (UD) election.

The workers voted 109 to 21 in the election held June 7, which removes the security clause from a contract, changing a closed shop to an open shop and giving workers the right to stop paying dues to the Teamsters.

The UD election, a little used labor relations device, was a result of growing "frustration and hatred" by the workers over the way the Teamsters handled grievances.

As early as February of this year shop stewards were noticing that the Teamsters were not passing on grievances to the company but instead were falsely reporting that the company was refusing to act on them.

The steward organized the workers and later got the Anaconda employees to sign a petition asking that a Representation Decertification election be

held. The regulations stipulate, however, that such an election could not be held until 30 days before a contract expires.

## Teamsters pack

The workers at Anaconda had until January until their contract expired, and they "just waited out, as soon as they could," according to one on them. This prompted one of the workers to investigate the National Labor Relations Board statute books and he then discovered the UD election process.

He found that a UD election could be held at any time and the workers immediately petitioned the NLRB to hold a certified election. The election results, of course were in favor of sending the Teamsters packing and workers were no longer required to pay dues.

The company, despite the election, continued collecting dues for the Teamsters and the workers filed charges with the NLRB, alleging company-union collusion.

The workers staged a walk-out and for a week 122 pickets stopped all production at the plant. Finally, the company backed down and the workers dropped the collusion charges and agreed to return to work.

The company later admitted no guilt but agreed to honor, yet, another petition ordering it to halt collecting dues.

In August, the workers sent representatives to the Teamsters and asked to be officially disclaimed as IBT members. The union immediately complied, ending 30 years of representation at the Anaconda plant.

## Anaconda rebellion

Looking back on the ouster of the Teamsters, one worker Raul Patino said, "We were dissatisfied and we did something about it. Very few knew it could be done. . . It was very easy."

The Anaconda workers seem to have started a rebellion among the Teamster rank-and-file and other workers represented by



Fitzsimmons on the run. (Bob Fitch photo)

Local 235 are showing an interest in the UD election process.

On Sept. 26, an NLRB-supervised election was held for new union representation after Aluminum Workers International Local 318 presented 110 authorization cards signed by Anaconda workers. The workers voted 135 to 3 for the new union.

Since the election the Aluminum Workers union has negotiated an entirely new contract with the company, and the workers were scheduled to vote Nov. 17 on ratification.

One Anaconda worker said, "There was a lot of interest in our election from guys at Alpha Beta (warehouses), with 2,700 workers, and at Stang Steel. It's bound to cause trouble for the Teamster local."

## Metheny Voids UFW Gag Order

Indio, Calif. — An overflow courtroom crowd of farm workers Nov. 14 heard a battery of legal scholars persuade Superior Court Judge Fredrick Metheny to throw out a Teamster-inspired gag order against the UFW's right to seek redress in the courts.

High-powered Teamsters lawyers from Washington asked Judge Metheny Oct. 30 to issue an injunction prohibiting the UFW from filing any more suits against the Teamsters. The judge issued a temporary restraining order (TRO) to halt such UFW suits and ordered the union to show cause why the order should not be made permanent.

The show cause hearing on Wednesday, Nov. 14 drew more than 100 farm workers who packed Indio's largest courtroom. Two union lawyers, three attorneys from the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and 38 other attorneys of record from law schools and the legal community throughout the state supported the union's case.

"The most outrageous order ever issued in the U.S.," as one union legal source put it, was thrown out on the basis of its violation of farm workers' constitutional rights. The constitutional arguments presented by the

(Continued on page 19)



# Ex-Teamster Pleads 'No Contest' In Bribe Case

Keene, Calif.—Two Salinas Valley growers escaped convictions this month on charges of paying a \$10,000 bribe to Teamsters for disrupting UFW organizing. They won acquittal from a San Jose Federal District Court jury by claiming that Teamsters physically forced them to pay.

In the same case, one-time Teamster strike-breaker Theodore J. Gonsalves pleaded no contest to six counts of conspiracy and demanding a bribe in connection with IBT Local 748's harassment of UFW pickets in the 1970 Salinas Valley farm strike. Federal Judge Robert Peckham said Gonsalves' plea is the same as a guilty plea.

Sentencing was delayed pending a medical report on his kidney ailment which Gonsalves cited as the reason for his no contest plea.

The two Salinas Valley growers also were tried on the charges. But James R. Martin, 50, vice-president of Cel-A-Pak, and Thomas Hitchcock, 46, general manager of Let-Us-Pack, won acquittal from a federal jury in San Francisco Nov. 1 by claiming they paid money to Gonsalves only under physical threats of being killed.

The jury heard testimony during the trial that the Modesto

local of the Teamsters sent a nine-car caravan to Salinas Valley during the UFW strike.

Teamster official William Graml of Burlingame testified earlier that Gonsalves used a tactic called "caravanning" in the strike, driving a parade of vehicles between UFW pickets and workers in the fields. Graml said Gonsalves did not have Teamster sanction for his Salinas activities.

The ailing, 52-year-old Gonsalves has since been ousted from the union after his local charged that he misused Teamster funds.

In a surprise appearance before Judge Peckham last September, Gonsalves pleaded no contest to six misdemeanor violations of the Taft-Hartley Act: one count of conspiracy, one count of requesting and demanding a bribe, and four counts of receiving a bribe. He told the judge he was pleading no contest because of his health.

The judge replied he had no affidavit on Gonsalves' condition and ordered a medical examination report before sentencing today. Judge Peckham told Gonsalves, "I don't want you under any illusion that because you have been suffering this condition for some time you are automatically guaranteed probation. You have no assurance

that you are not going to go to prison. It has been our experience that people with health problems convalesce very well in federal prisons and hospitals."

The judge said Gonsalves faces one year in prison and a \$1,000 fine on each of the six counts.

Hitchcock won acquittal on one charge of conspiring with Martin to offer the bribe to Gonsalves. Martin won acquittals on four charges of actually making four \$2,500 payments to Gonsalves.

The jury was unable to reach agreement on one charge of conspiracy and one charge of agreeing to pay the bribe that Martin also faced.

The mistrial on these two counts leaves open the possibility of retrial of Martin, but his attorney is seeking dismissal of the two counts.

UFW Chief Counsel Jerry Cohen, who followed the trial proceedings, commented, "I think the growers ought to be retried. After all, the State of California was willing to go to great lengths to retry Huey Newton (Black Panthers). Shouldn't businessmen get the same treatment? And I think the State ought to investigate the growers' claim of physical extortion. We hadn't heard that before. But there will be a retrial only if political pressure is put on the government."

Hitchcock, a lettuce wholesaler and packer, told the federal jury that Gonsalves originally came to the growers to talk about the anti-UFW activity.

"He just did us a favor," testified Hitchcock, claiming there was not supposed to be payments for the Teamster action. He admitted making payments for "expenses."

Hitchcock testified that he was intimidated by Gonsalves and other Teamsters when they came to see him about the "expenses." He said they made a physical threat to kill him. He testified he made a \$1,700 payment under the threat.

Martin took the same line, conceding he paid for restaurant bills when the Teamsters put him under pressure.

But a former aide to Gonsalves, Fred Dutton, testified that Martin agreed to pay \$50 a day per man to the Teamsters. Dutton testified for the prosecution under a grant of immunity.

Earlier, he testified he delivered \$10,000 from Martin to Gonsalves. And Wayne B. Hoss, former manager of the Townehouse Hotel in Salinas, testified a \$2,000 bill was charged to Gonsalves during the summer of 1970.



Children & Illegals scabbing during this year's tomato strikes in northern California. (EL MALCRIADO photo)

## Assembly Committee Hears Evidence on Illegals

Sacramento, Calif.—An eyewitness report from an attorney to the Assembly Committee on Farm Labor Violence last month charged that growers used illegal aliens and children as strike-breakers against the United Farm Workers union in Yolo County last September.

The report from Sacramento consulting attorney Lorenzo Patino to the committee chaired by Assemblyman Richard Alatorre (D-East Los Angeles) said "a serious lack of enforcement" of the law permitted the strike-breaking activity during the Yolo tomato harvest. During the strike, the UFW had charged the growers were using illegals to break their picket lines.

The report cited the presence of illegal aliens and child laborers as a cause of frustration to the strikers. Patino noted one incident when strike-breakers were informed by pickets that the Border Patrol had been called.

"I observed 11 strike-breakers abandon their tomato

harvesters, hurry to their cars and drive away."

Patino said, "The serious lack of enforcement that exists today deprives U.S. citizens and resident aliens of jobs they are entitled to have... (and) means illegals can be used to effect a labor dispute between employers and a labor union with a subsequent advantage to the employers."

Patino also reported he personally observed minor children working in the harvest. "Many of the children appeared to be under 13 years of age," Patino said. "It appears it will be impossible for the State Division of Labor Law Enforcement to adequately enforce California law without a dramatic staff increase."

The report also called for enactment of Assembly Bill 3244 that provides stiffer penalties for employers hiring children. The bill, sponsored by Assembly Speaker Leo McCarthy, was vetoed this year by Gov. Reagan.

## Chavez Denounces Dissolution of Farm Labor Committee

Keene, Calif.—UFW President Cesar Chavez said Nov. 13 he is "sorely disappointed" with Assembly Speaker Leo McCarthy's abolition of the Assembly Select Committee on Farm Labor Violence.

McCarthy announced Nov. 12 he is dissolving the farm labor unit chaired by Assemblyman Richard Alatorre (D-LA). He said the work of Alatorre's committee would be incorporated into the framework of an existing standing committee.

"Violence in California fields has lessened since Chairman Alatorre's hearings into the 1973 grape strikes," Chavez said.

"Two farm workers were murdered and hundreds of our members—many of them women and children—were beaten and abused in violent confrontations with imported goons and sheriff's deputies last year.

"The select committee served a very constructive purpose in mitigating the violence and investigating its causes," Chavez said. "For the first time farm workers had a legislative committee established to protect their rights. Now we have nothing."

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## Coachella Farm Workers Demand Higher Wages, Union Recognition

Coachella, Calif.—Lemon workers at Corona Foothills ranch staged a one-day walkout Oct. 21 demanding \$3 more per bin and stood firm against an eviction ultimatum.

Renee Romero of the Coachella UFW Field Office reported 46 workers at Corona ranch confronted the foreman with their demands Monday morning, then left the lemon groves.

Led by Melesio Sanchez, a UFW tomato striker, 25 of the workers drove to the Field Office seeking support for their walkout. "We told them, 'We will back you up,'" Ms. Romero said.

The Corona foreman returned Monday afternoon with an offer to increase the bin rate by 80 cents, although the workers demanded \$3.

The foreman threatened the workers with eviction and said he would call the police to enforce the eviction. The workers rejected the ultimatum, and refused to return to work.

Tuesday morning, the owners of the 500-acre ranch came to the groves and met the workers' demands for increasing the bin rate from \$12 to \$15. The workers accepted and returned to work.

Ms. Romero reported that the 46 persons who walked out were 100% supporters of the union. They said if the UFW would send organizers to ranches in the area, the union would get unanimous support. Bob Thompson, head of the Field Offices, brought a supply of union authorization cards to Coachella for the Field Office to use in support of future demands by workers in the area.

Ms. Romero said Sanchez, who helped Al Rojas organize the tomato strike in Northern California this year, will try to get the union represented at the Corona Foothills ranch at Hundred Palms, two miles outside this city.

Twenty-five new workers were due to be hired at Corona. Sanchez was seeking union members to fill these slots, Ms. Romero said.

The workers' position at Corona Foothills ranch was verified Tuesday, Oct. 22 in a visit to the lemon groves by the Church of Society committee, a delegation of United Methodist Church clergy from Los Angeles and San Diego. Ms. Romero said the workers explained their support for the UFW to the committee.



No Braceros nor Oil Says Mexico

# PRESIDENTS ATTEMPT SWAP MEET

Nogales, Arizona — President Ford and President Luis Echeverria of Mexico came to this picturesque desert town, Oct 21, to what many observers thought would be a session of oil and bracero swapping.

Inside sources speculated that Ford would ask the Mexican president for a reduced price on Mexico's newly discovered oil resources in return for renewal of the infamous bracero program which would allow 300,000 Mexican immigrants to come and work in the United States.

Echeverria, however, told Ford that the United States would receive no special consideration when buying oil from Mexico. He added that "Mexico would sell its oil to whoever wants to buy it at current world prices on the world market."

The Mexican leader also said that Mexico's oil reserves will not be used to force down the international prices of oil, but will be sold to all comers — for cash, at the prices decreed by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

Since the discovery of the oil reserves Mexico has indicated that it would like to join the anti-imperialist OPEC. The U.S. is, of course, hoping that its southern neighbor will not join OPEC which has caused American oilmen a barrel of headaches.

On the other hand, Echeverria got a good view of his counterpart's position on the question of re-instituting the bracero program of post WWII days.

Mexico has been asking for a treaty that would allow 300,000 braceros to enter the U.S. every

year for temporary work, mostly in agriculture.

Obtensibly, the program would help stem the flow of "illegals," which enter the U.S. from Mexico since last year the U.S. immigration department expelled 600,000 illegal Mexican aliens.

Of course, the Mexican government also has its eye on the inflow of American dollars the program would create.

## UFW opposes swap

American labor leaders, however, are strongly opposed to the program because, they say, the Mexicans would be taking jobs away from U.S. workers and would also serve as strikebreakers. Unions, like the United Farm Workers, AFL-CIO, say that such a program would thwart all efforts at organizing farm workers.

Another obstacle in front of the bracero program is the high unemployment rate in the U.S., which is expected to rise to 6.5 per cent or as high as 7 per cent by 1975. In view of this, Congress, according to some Washington observers would never ratify a bracero treaty.

Mr. Ford, however, promised the Mexican president that he would set a commission to study the immigrant-worker issue.

"This revitalized commission will give us both answers to analyze the problem," Mr. Ford said.

Both countries have set up commissions in the past to study the problem but they have never come up with a solution acceptable to both countries and to American labor organizations.



President Ford and President Echeverria of Mexico review the Mexican Presidential Guard after meeting at the Nogales Mexico-American border crossing, amid a crowd of 50,000. (EL MALCRIADO photo)

Echeverria added a conciliatory note when he said that Mexico would rekindle its efforts to increase employment opportunities to keep more Mexicans at home.

## Future deals

Three days after the meeting Echeverria began making announcements to the Mexican people, saying that the Mexican government no longer expects or wants a bracero treaty with the U.S.

In a series of speeches given in Mexican rural towns, Echeverria explained that Mexico had realized that there is almost no chance of it ever getting a satisfactory treaty.

He explained that the Mexican government would instead concentrate in efforts on improving the job situation in Mexico.

On the surface it appears that both countries left the meeting empty-handed but many observers in Washington and else-

where feel that the meeting served to lay the ground-work for future deals and compromises.

## Bite the bait

These observers feel that the bait of oil for the U.S. and American dollars for Mexico is too tantalizing for both presidents to just leave the meeting table without some plots in the backs of their minds.

# UFW BORDER PATROL

San Luis, Arizona — The United Farm Workers union is guarding a 125 mile stretch of border in southwestern Arizona in an effort to halt the flow of illegal aliens which they say the United States Border Patrol has failed to stem.

Union officials say that the UFW "border patrol" was established because illegals are being used by area citrus growers to break the current lemon strike here.

The UFW strikers have set up army hospital tents every 300

yards along the border which they use to keep a constant watch on illegals attempting to cross the border.

Automobile "night patrols" are sent out from the tents to cruise the area between camps making sure that illegals are not sneaking across at night.

In addition, a light plane has been hired by the strikers to watch for illegals crossing during the day. The plane keeps in constant radio contact with strikers on the ground, who try

to intercept any aliens reported by the pilot.

When illegals are caught by the strikers they are rounded-up and taken to a gathering point where they wait until more than 50 have been gathered.

After a sufficient number have been rounded-up they are told about the strike and persuaded to return to Mexico. They are then escorted to the border crossing where they are asked not to return if they plan to work in the lemon groves.

"We are suffering for them..."

An unidentified lemon picker on strike explained the UFW "border patrol" when he said:

"I know all these people want is to work. But we can't let them break our strike, in the end we will benefit and they too will benefit. We are suffering for them, they should suffer a little for us."

Oscar Mondragon, a UFW coordinator, in explaining the UFW patrol said:

"We're doing it because the Border Patrol is not doing its job. Many times we call the Border Patrol, and they do not

go to the fields where we know the illegals are hiding."

He added that it was essential to the strike that the illegals be stopped from crossing the border and working as strikebreakers.

Many Mexicans, however, are stubborn about trying to cross to the U.S. and work in the lemon groves, despite the UFW's persuasions about not breaking the strike.

It is relatively easy to cross the San Luis border, which consists of a cyclone fence about fifteen feet high topped with barbed wire. This turns to a four foot high fence of four strands of wire just outside the town, however, and is very easy for anyone to cross at this point.

The hard core strike breakers hire taxi-cab drivers to take them from downtown San Luis, Mexico to areas where the fence is easy to jump or crawl through.

## LABOR VIOLENCE COMMITTEE (Cont'd. from page 4)

Chavez cited extensive hearings conducted in Kern, Fresno and Riverside counties by the select committee last year. The farm labor leader also noted select committee staff acted as observers throughout the UFW strikes against tomato growers in Yolo, Solano and San Joaquin counties this fall.

Many illegals arrive at these crossing points as early as 11 p.m. and cross over at the first chance they get. They then sleep somewhere in the desert or else walk to the lemon orchards where they await the dawn.

But these crossings are not many, according to UFW organizers; in fact they say the growers are having a hard time trying to get people to come across.

In the past the lemon growers have had as many as 2,000 persons picking lemons but since the strike started and along with it the UFW border patrol there are only about 500 lemon pickers working.

The use of illegals as strikebreakers has always been an effective weapon the growers have used against farm worker organizing but this time they've met more than their match in the UFW "border patrol."

"Where the growers and the Teamsters know they are being watched and that public attention is being focused on their conduct, violence has lessened and farm worker rights have been observed. I am sorely disappointed Speaker McCarthy has decided to end the select committee's function," Chavez said.



# FRONT LINE



"Strikes and the boycott are the Union's front line of defense."  
— Cesar Chavez, June, 1974

## In St. Louis

### Police Crack Down on UFW Organizers

St. Louis, Missouri— A police crackdown on UFW boycott activities here resulted in 30 arrests of union staffers and supporters during the first three weeks of October.

This city's boycott committee, led by Richard Cook, has protested the alleged police harassment in the courtrooms of the Federal Building but has met with little tangible success.

In the most recent of arrests, eight persons were "apprehended" while talking to customers inside and outside one of this city's Ontario supermarkets about the boycott of grapes, lettuce and Gallo wines.

On the same day, October 19, eight more supporters were arrested at two other Ontario locations. All 16 persons were soon released from police custody.

#### POLICE HARASS

Boycotters in the "Gateway to the West" are seeking a restraining order forbidding the police to harass pickets. The boycott committee sought the court order before the most recent arrests and after 14 persons had already been detained in the city jail.

Nevertheless, Federal District Court Judge Meredith denied the restraining order and the UFW is now appealing Meredith's action before a federal panel of judges.

In many of the earlier arrest cases, the police often released the pickets without charging them with any crime.

According to Cook, "It is ironic that a retailer can get a restraining order simply by alleging some ridiculous charge against the UFW, but our staff members and supporters are arrested just for asking other consumers not to buy grapes, lettuce and Gallo wine."

"Furthermore, they are even denied a hearing to protect themselves against further harassment and arrest."

Cook, formerly of Arizona where he was active with the

UFW, has also served the union when he later organized in New Jersey and Florida before arriving here a year ago to head up the St. Louis boycott campaign.

Cook and the UFW staff here have organized members of the religious community, labor support and community aid. Many of these people are part of the ongoing picketing and arrests at Ontario, Target, National and Tomboy stores.

### Connecticut UFW Aims for Grapeless State

Hartford, Connecticut—Motts Shop-Rite Stores is the new target of an all-out effort to rid this state of all non-UFW grapes.

Motts, a non-union, 19-store chain, is one of the few remaining major concerns not honoring the UFW boycott. Eight chains, accounting for over 50% of the retail grocery market, no longer carry California grapes not harvested by UFW workers.

Union supporters now picket 10 Motts stores weekly and expect to reach agreement with management in a short period of time.

Currently, supporters are building towards a mass demonstration at Motts largest store on November 26.

In addition, because Motts is non-union, labor support here has peaked. Several unions plan to participate in the November 26 rally and the Amalgamated Meat Cutters, in particular, are expected to join in large numbers.

Sponsors of the action include the State AFL-CIO Labor Council, this state's Council of Churches and the Archdiocese of Hartford.

### 1,400 Boycott Supporters Gather in Uptown Chicago

Chicago, Illinois—Under the banner "Don't Buy Lettuce, Grapes or Urban Renewal," this city's UFW boycott committee joined with a local Community Control Organization last month to kick-off the winter boycott of non-UFW grapes and lettuce and the fight for neighborhood self-determination.

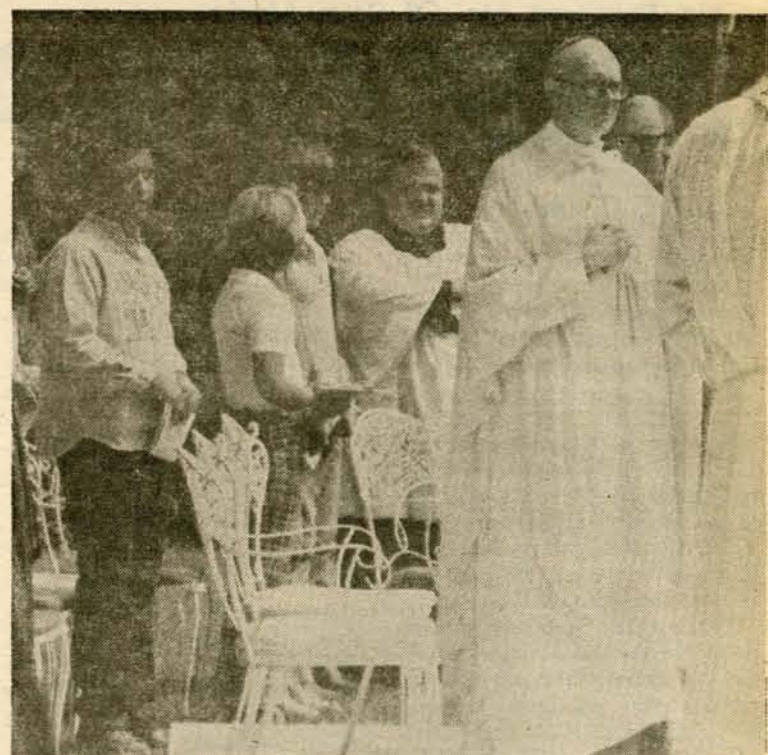
Over 1,400 people gathered in an Uptown neighborhood theater to hear Marcos Muñoz, Chicago boycott director, Jose "Chacha" Jimenez, now running for alderman, Slim Coleman of Community Control and Alderman Dick Simpson speak to the issues uniting farm workers and urban dwellers.

Each speaker addressed the similarity of migrant life in the rural areas and city life, where residents must also migrate because of constant "urban renewal" projects.

In addition, the Teatro del Barrio, a local performing group, portrayed the life of the farm workers and the struggle for decent wages, work and living conditions.

Following the rally, the crowd marched on National Stores and encouraged the management to honor the grape and lettuce boycott.

According to Andrea O'Malley of the local committee, boycott organizers also plan a 10-day shopping center blitz next month. Each organizer and supporter will recruit at least 10 people to picket local centers and malls in



Cesar Chavez, John Kennedy, Jr. and sons of Eunice and Sargent Shriver listen, along with 2,500 people, to Archbishop William Baum conduct mass at fund raiser in Maryland. (Ted Overman photo)

### Michigan UFW Completes 55-Mile Hike

Kalamazoo, Michigan—Seventy weary but spirited UFW supporters finished a three-day, 55-mile Walk for Justice from this city to Grand Rapids last November 10.

Over 200 people greeted the hikers upon their arrival at St.

Francis Xavier Church where Richard Chavez, national executive board member and New York boycott director, spoke of the hardships farm workers face and thanked the marchers for their determination.

Owen Bleber, of the United Auto Workers Region 1-D, also addressed the rally where he reiterated the unity between his union and the UFW.

The Walk for Justice took the marchers through small farming communities where residents showed their endorsement of the UFW struggle. Many people left their homes to wave and cheer the walk on while on many trees and homes in the area, the hikers saw signs in favor of the union.

In addition, a local restaurant owner invited all the walkers in for free cokes.

Each marcher was sponsored by several people who couldn't join the week-end's activities. The boycott committee here raised nearly \$800 from the sponsors' donations.

UFW organizers here hoped to publicize the hungry winter months for farm workers. This message reached the surrounding community both through the march and through excellent local media coverage.

#### FAST CONTINUES

In addition to the Walk, six boycotters here and in Grand Rapids are still fasting. Father Joachim Lally; David Martinez, Grand Rapids boycott director; Klaus Zalinskis, Jim Trites, Ken Valdez and John Oleck have subsisted only on juices for approximately two months.

Also, a debate is scheduled with a Teamsters union representative on November 25 at 7 p.m. The Teamsters union will pay for the rent of the Grand Rapids Armory with a capacity for 1,900 people.

### Maryland Transportation Clerks Continue Farm Worker Support

Baltimore, Maryland—Transportation clerks here reaffirmed their support of the United Farm Workers last month and called for a renewed effort to stop the sales of West Coast grapes and head lettuce.

The following resolution was passed at the most recent meeting of the State Legislative Committee of the Brotherhood of Railway, Airline and Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employees:

Whereas, the Farm Workers of America continue in a struggle against the Teamsters and Growers for adequate representation and wages for their workers, and

Whereas, The Farm Workers' jobs continue to be held by illegals entering this country in an effort to break the Farm Workers Union, and

Whereas, The Growers-Employers have cut both the wage rates and fringe benefits won by the United Farm Workers, Be it therefore

Resolved, That the State Legislative Committee of Maryland here assembled this date of October 26, 1974, call for a United Labor Campaign to bring Justice and Human Dignity to the Farm Workers, and Be it further

Resolved, That we continue our Boycott of Lettuce and Grapes not carrying the United Farm Workers label.



## 22 Arrested

# OHIO UFW CHARGES CONSPIRACY

Dayton, Ohio— Police arrested 22 UFW pickets for disorderly conduct November 2 after they mounted "a spirited picket line" outside one of the Fisher-Fazio Supermarkets, long a target of this state's boycott campaign.

Charges were later dismissed when Montgomery County sheriffs found they had no tangible evidence for prosecution.

Among those picketing were the Reverend Wayne C. Hartmire, head of the Los Angeles-based National Farm Worker Ministry, Eliseo Medina, member of the UFW National executive board; and David Koehler, Ohio boycott director.

That Saturday's picket action was a finale for a five-day Midwest organizing seminar led by Fred Ross, Sr. UFW contingent from Michigan and Missouri attended, as well as union staffers from six of this state's cities.

Koehler reported that shortly after the pickets arrived at the Fisher-Fazio store, a sheriff's deputy informed Medina and Koehler the pickets were trespassing and would be arrested if they did not disperse.

The UFW group waited for five minutes, assured by legal counsel that they had the right to demonstrate. Then two Dayton po-

lice paddy wagons, a canine unit and about 20 officers in eight patrol cars converged upon the scene.

### CAME AFTER US

"As some of us were getting into our cars to leave, they came after us," Koehler said.

An auxiliary officer in plain clothes, Sheriff's Deputy Max Emerick, approached a van full of UFW supporters and drew his gun, smashing a van window with a nightstick he pulled from his sleeve.

Sheriff Bernard L. Keiter announced Emerick's suspension from the force two days later, saying, however, the suspension was in effect a month before the picketing incident. Emerick disputed Keiter's report and told newsmen here he was suspended because of the fracas.

Medina, who recently completed a 14-day fast while attempting to persuade Fisher-Fazio to discontinue non-UFW products, identified Emerick as the officer who pulled a gun, smashed the van window and behaved as if he were drunk.

In addition, Medina sent a telegram to this state's attorney general, William J. Brown, protesting "the reckless, high-

handed, illegal behavior" of officers while making the arrests. Protests also were sent to the FBI and U. S. Attorney General William Saxbe. Medina charged that Emerick was disorderly and drunk, and used abusive conduct in making arrests.

### CONSPIRACY CHARGE

The Ohio Boycott has charged that Fisher-Fazio conspired with the Sheriff's Department to harass the UFW supporters. "We're not afraid of going to court, we were within our rights all the way," he said.

Sgt. Joseph Howard directed the arrests after the Fisher-Fazio store manager claimed the pickets disturbed the peace.

The arrests were made at approximately 7:30 pm and the pickets were released from custody at 3 am the following morning. During the wait, Rev. Hartmire and the other UFW supporters mounted a candlelight vigil outside the jail.

Staffer Mike Savage of St. Louis was among those arrested, but the rest of the St. Louis contingent missed the picket action. They were making preparations to return to St. Louis for a trial on similar charges

stemming from arrests on a picket line there several weeks ago.

The pickets were to have gone to trial November 7. However, the Sheriff's Department set up a meeting where they proposed to drop the charges if the union would not sue for false arrest.

The UFW and Attorney John Ensley modified that proposal. The Sheriff's Department finally agreed to drop all charges and sign a statement declaring it recognizes the UFW's right to

picket. The arrested persons agreed not to block traffic, block doors or forcibly keep anyone from entering Fisher-Fazio. (The pickets have never done those things.)

Twelve members of St. Leonard's Seminary, the Antioch contingent, and the Interfaith Committee attended the court proceedings and then joined those arrested and other UFW staffers and supporters at a picket line at Fisher-Fazio immediately following the negotiations.

## Fast of Hope Gains Support

Cleveland, Ohio—Over 25 people have participated in the Fast of Hope organized by the UFW boycott committee here.

The fast, begun by Ohio boycott director Eliseo Medina on September 24, is primarily directed at the Fisher-Fazio chain stores. Fisher-Fazio refuses to remove boycotted items from its stock.

Medina fasted for two weeks, subsisting only on water. Since then, different individuals have taken turns fasting, including Lucille Houston, vice-mayor of Cleveland Heights.

Boycott organizers here plan to continue the fast until Fisher-Fazio management agrees to honor the boycott. Houston will fast every Saturday until then.

Each day, picketers march in front of the Severance Center store along with those fasting. Many local organizations, including the UAW, have lent support to the struggle.

This city's committee works in many other ways to build the boycott. For example, at the urging of UFW supporters, H. J. Heinz Company agreed to not use iceberg lettuce in a new salad made especially for the Cleveland market.

According to Medina, "... it is very appropriate that a salad made especially for our city will not contain head lettuce because of the fact that the workers who harvest the lettuce are struggling for union recognition."



WE SHALL NOT BE MOVED is sung by Bay Area UFW supporters during protest at an Oakland Safeway. Police later arrested the twelve for disturbing the peace, unlawful entry of a building and refusal to disperse. Demonstrators had surrounded the table grape display.

(Michael Hill Photo)

## False Arrest In Yazoo City

Yazoo City, Mississippi—Three UFW supporters were arrested and taken to police headquarters here following picketing activities at a Sunflower Store.

Police claimed they had warrants for the trio, however, later investigation showed no warrants had been issued.

One person was arrested as he left the Sunflower parking lot while the other two were met by local police on the way home.

According to Rick Abraham, this state's boycott coordinator,

the police car pulled in front of the UFW car and almost ran it off the road.

Those arrested, all Black, were subsequently released and no charges were filed.

Rudy Shields, a community leader and strong UFW supporter led several carloads of sympathizers back to Sunflower where picketing continued into the night. There have been no more incidents.

Local boycott organizers feel the arrests were made to discourage the community from picketing and aiding the UFW.

## East Bay Boycotters Hit Safeway Snake

Oakland, Calif. — Police arrested 12 persons here when UFW supporters picketed a local Safeway store and surrounded the grape displays last October 26.

Over 200 demonstrators marched in front of the Rockridge Center Safeway to remind consumers of that chain's promotion of the sale of scab grapes, lettuce and Gallo wines.

The protesters, who marched over half a mile to the Safeway location, distributed leaflets to passersby and explained the importance of the consumer boycott in winning the long struggle against California agribusiness.

Part-way through the demonstration, twelve boycotters entered the supermarket building and encircled the large grape counter. However, the boycotters did not prevent shoppers from picking up the grapes (only one shopper actually bought grapes during this period).

### Show the Community

According to UFW organizers Ellen Goodman and Bob Purcell, the action of the boycott committee was "a planned act of civil disobedience to show the community that the fight for farm workers' rights is an ongoing struggle."

Local Safeway manager Walt Dye, then summoned this city's police after the UFW delegation entered the store and began singing. Police charged those ar-

rested with disturbing the peace, refusing to disperse and unauthorized entry of a building. They were subsequently released on their own recognizance ("O.R.")

Safeway is well-known for its anti-union policies. Throughout the life of the UFW, Safeway has been one of the few major concerns to never honor the Union boycotts. Safeway is presently pushing grapes, selling them for 89¢ for three pounds. In addition, non-union lettuce and Gallo wines are also stocked.

Those arrested during the demonstration include: Art Carter, official of the Contra Costa central Labor Council; Father Bill O'Donnell, St. Joseph the Workman Church in Berkeley; Sister Leticia, San Francisco boycott volunteer; Father Barry Bloom, Episcopal priest in Oakland; Sister Victoria, Oakland Dominican parish; Father Michael Hunt, Berkely Newman Center; Ed Monk, member Printing Specialties Union Executive Committee in this area; Fred Ross, Bay Area boycott director; Doreen Caponia, Alameda supporter; Carol Marsh, Oakland Boycott Committee; John Willoughby, T.A. at UC Berkeley; and Brian Lavelle, North Oakland Supporter.

Arraignment for the twelve is set for December 2.

The American Federation of Teachers lent support to the rally with representatives from Richmond, Hayward and Oakland.



# Kansas City Boycotters Leaflet Future Farmers

Kansas City, Mo. — The UFW Boycott — KC volunteer support committee conducted a mass leafleting Oct. 15-16 at the Future Farmers of America national convention attended by 16,000 high school students and addressed by President Gerald Ford.

The KC committee also sponsored an all-day showing of the movie "Why We Boycott" in a downtown hotel near the convention center. About 7,000 leaflets were distributed and the film was shown about 10 times.

Members of UFW Boycott offices in Wichita, Kansas and Omaha, Nebraska joined the Kansas City leafleting demonstration.

Several FFA members who attended the movie expressed support for the UFW afterward. These included two vocational agriculture teachers: Hilario Maes of Santa Cruz, N.M. and Stan Bucher of Elizabethtown, Pa.

The leafleting project, or-

ganized by the 20-member KC committee headed by Ms. Jane Peckham, also drew new volunteers for UFW work. Pat Sullivan of Lawrence, Kansas attended the KC demonstration and offered to organize a boycott office in the University of Kansas community. Ms. Jennifer Rutz of Kansas City volunteered to be full-time boycott coordinator in the city.

Organizations that supported the UFW leaflet demonstration included the Greater Kansas City Central Labor Council and affiliated unions, the Mexican-American Organization For Progress, Westside Model Cities headquarters in the Chicano community, the Johnson County Christians in Action, the Metropolitan Inter-Church Agency, Swope Park Methodist Church, St. Paul's School of Theology, War Resister's League, Catholic Worker House, and students from University of Missouri-KC, Avila College in KC, and University of Kansas in Lawrence.



Pittsburgh religious leaders formed an interfaith drive to support the struggling UFW. Shown above are Rev. Warner Brown, Rev. J. Howard Wright and Father Edward Bryce. (El Malcriado photo)

## VERMONT LABOR PLEDGES UFW SUPPORT

Burlington, Vermont — The State Labor Council, AFL-CIO, here joined a multitude of state councils throughout the country when it passed a resolution in support of the United Farm Workers at its 19th Convention.

The American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, (AFSCME) Local # 1343, a staunch supporter of the UFW, presented the following resolution for adoption by the Labor Council:

Whereas, our brothers and sisters of the United Farm Workers, AFL-CIO, are now engaged in a life-and-death struggle against overwhelming odds in their battle to maintain their union as the freely-chosen representative of the farm workers of California and Arizona, and

Whereas, the outcome of this struggle will decide the fate of both these courageous union members and their leaders as well as the future of thousands of farm workers who toil in the fields of these states, and many other states of our nation, and

Whereas, the successful advance of the United Farm Workers, AFL-CIO has brought to farm workers' families not only higher wages, but some control over conditions of their work, including freedom from exploitation by labor contractors, health care through their own medical clinics and contract protection against poisonous pesticides, and

Whereas, Agribusiness, in an all-out assault, is using not only harassment by local officials to spread fear among the farm workers, but is also attempting to push through state and federal legislation banning strikes and boycotts, and conspiring to destroy established jurisdictional lines of the farm worker without their consent, and

Whereas, the national AFL-CIO has endorsed the consumer boycott of non-UFW lettuce and grapes, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Vermont State Labor Council, AFL-CIO pledge its support of the United Farm Workers under the leadership of CESAR CHAVEZ in their struggle to bring dignity and security to the farm workers, and be it further

Resolved, that all affiliated Union Locals of the Vermont State Labor Council be encouraged to lend moral, financial and other assistance to the United Farm Workers, and be it further

Resolved, that all affiliated Union Locals of the Vermont State Labor Council urge their members to participate in and help the boycott of farm products declared unfair by the United Farm Workers, and be it further

Resolved, WE SALUTE THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE BROUGHT ABOUT UNDER THE HEROIC LEADERSHIP OF CESAR CHAVEZ.

## UFW Backers Arrested in Colorado Gallo Boycott

Denver, Colorado — Police arrested three UFW pickets here at Parti Tyme Liquors in another attempt to squash the Chavez-led boycott of Gallo wines.

State boycott coordinator Jerry Ryan, striker Jesus Valderrama, and boycott organizer Michele Hobart were charged with disturbing the peace as the trio protested store owner Al Ramirez' refusal to honor the Gallo boycott.

(Bail of \$50 apiece was later posted by Father Lara of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church.)

Ramirez first threatened the picketers by declaring, "I could

have you removed at any time I please," insinuating that Ramirez and the police see eye-to-eye on picketing.

Not long after his threat, Ramirez called the police who responded quickly and were heard by a Parti Tyme customer to say, "It's as good a night as any for an arrest, isn't it?"

As soon as Ramirez signed the complaint form, arresting officer Ryan (no relation to Jerry Ryan) declared, "put down your signs, you're under arrest."

In response to a query about who was being bothered, Officer Ryan replied, "You are bothering me." He then explained the prob-

lem to arriving officers by saying "They are boycotting Gallo wines."

The following day, over 70 people surrounded the store to continue the picketing and protest the arrests. Probably due to the presence of numerous television cameras and reporters, the police did not interfere.

Ramirez finally capitulated and now displays two signs advocating the Gallo boycott in his store.

The arraignment for the boycotters was attended by 60 people who also marched and formed a picket line at the courthouse. (The trial date is set for January 13.)

## Pittsburgh Religious Committee Set Up

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania — Local religious leaders recently formed an Interfaith Committee to aid the UFW in its struggle for contracts in California and Arizona.

The committee, composed of members of all major denominations, announced its endorsement of the boycott of California grapes, lettuce and Gallo wines.

Father Edward Bryce, of the Catholic Diocesan Office for Justice and Peace, stated, "We would like religious people here to share the view that justice is at stake."

Seconding the sentiments of Father Bryce was the Reverend J. Howard Wright of the United Methodist Conference staff.

Rev. Wright said, "We want to increase the sensitivity of members of religious congregations" and "the Chavez movement is a revitalization of the labor movement that has a lot of spiritual vitality."

Interfaith Committee representatives, at a press conference last month, chastized the Teamsters Union for "working together with the growers."

In addition, the committee sent letters to Governor Shapp and the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board in which it urged a halt to the sale of Gallo wines.

## UFW Gains Clergy Support In San Diego

San Diego, Calif. — Boycott organizers here recently completed several days of training with Fred Ross, Sr. in order to prepare for the upcoming months of organizing.

Following the training session, an interfaith committee in support of the UFW met and laid plans for several organizing projects.

For example, the 65 committee members will soon begin a drive to send food to the Farm Workers Service Center in San Ysidro, 15 miles south of here.

In addition, the interfaith members plan to raise \$1,000 to buy Boycott Grapes and Lettuce advertisements on the city's buses.

According to boycott director Scott Washburn, several UFW staffers and supporters will also conduct a fast on December 20. They will meet downtown and march to Balboa Park's cultural center where they will abstain from food for 24 hours.

## High School Students Picket A & P

Towson, Maryland — High school students began a drive on local A & P markets in order to build support for the UFW boycott of grapes and lettuce in this city 10 miles north of Baltimore.

Towson Catholic High School's Christian Service Association (CSA), sponsored by faculty member Robert Hoderny, began picketing at the Dulaney Valley A & P on October 28. In addition, Hoderny fasted for four days "to further demonstrate... the seriousness with which we take this commitment."

The CSA intends to promote the view of Albert Camus (a French philosopher) that "This is a world in which children suffer, but we can lessen the number of suffering children. And if you do not do this, then who will do this?"

Hoderny pointed out, in a letter to local A & P management, that 150 stores in the New England area agreed to remove scab produce from their shelves. The members of the CSA pledged to continue picketing until Dulaney Valley A & P follows suit.



# BOYCOTT REACHES NEW HEIGHTS IN NORTHEAST

Boston, Massachusetts — New England, once the epicenter of the American revolution, now is a primary area of support in the United Farm Workers, AFL-CIO, struggle for union recognition.

A geographically small but politically active area, New England includes Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island and Massachusetts. It is the scene of an intense boycott campaign which drove table grapes out of 65% of the retail market.

And the sales of Gallo wines, once particularly popular in a

region heavily populated by students, are down by at least 25%, according to observers.

Thirty-five boycott committees form the backbone of the New England boycott through consistent publicity of the UFW strikes and untiring visits to stores which carry non-UFW grapes, lettuce or Gallo wine.

Due to the organizers' persistence 17 chains now honor the grape boycott. The five major concerns Stop and Shop, First National, A & P, Star Markets and Purity Supreme, represent a stunning total of 724 stores,

Typical of the New England boycott fervor is the July 15 agreement victory with A & P Supermarkets. The area's two divisions removed grapes from their stock after one of the longest grocery battles in the six states (beginning in January of 1973).

## INJUNCTION SOUGHT

During that 18-month period, police arrested 25 women at Division Headquarters, rednecks attacked pickets in front of various A & P's and, as a last resort, the supermarket management sought an injunction against the picketing.

However, when A & P realized it would be two months before a court hearing, management decided it was willing to negotiate.

As part of the attempted injunction proceedings, A & P submitted evidence to show it lost about \$50,000 a week at 30 eastern Massachusetts stores due to the boycott and picketing. (The owners also spent that much money in preparing for the court battle).

Since the agreements with A & P and other chains, only one, Star Markets, attempted to renege from honoring the boycott. However, after only two weeks of renewed picketing, Star management again decided to discontinue the green fruit.

Another point of contention and negotiation in New England is the boycott of all Gallo wines. While boycott and support committee members picketed liquor stores nearly every day, a running debate appeared in the Harvard

Crimson newspaper over the true nature of the UFW struggle.

Cesar Chavez, UFW president, touched off the Gallo campaign during a visit August 3. He led 250 persons on a picket line at a local liquor store. Since then, in the greater Boston metropolitan nine chains including Kappy's Liquors, the largest, agreed to honor the UFW proposals.

Fueling the controversy over Gallo itself are the high-handed tactics used against many liquor store owners by the Pappas Company, the region's Gallo distributor.

According to interviews with several store owners, Pappas allows only a small price mark-up and demands almost immediate payment. Once an owner relies on Pappas, say many in the Boston area, the rules and demands increase.

## HITLER-LIKE

Ronnie Clarizia, part owner of the Dana Hill Liquor Center, accused Pappas Co. of using "Hitler-like" tactics to keep Gallo on the Dana Hill shelves.

Clarizia charged Pappas offered Teamster "protection" if he would distribute anti-UFW and anti-boycott literature, as ordered.

Jack Pappas, distribution head, denied the charges.

Despite this, three of the other four stores near Harvard Square removed Gallo from stock and made no plans to reorder.

Harvard Provision Co. is now the only liquor concern in that area still refusing to honor the boycott. Boston area UFW sup-

porters picketed Harvard "Pro" several times but reached no agreement with the management.

## 1974 HIGHLIGHTS

The New England boycott, led by UFW organizer Nick Jones, put in a full year of activities to gain increased consumer support.

Last January 1, for example, the first annual New Year's Eve fund-raiser brought in more than \$4,000 for the UFW.

Three months later, 2,000 supporters marched to Boston's Government Center in a 'Stop the Grapes' demonstration and heard Richard Chavez, among others, push for an even stronger boycott.

A large contingent of rank-and-file Teamsters also joined the march.

Seven hundred people rallied at 7 a.m. on May 30 at the Chelsea Market (New England Produce Center) to urge produce buyers not to purchase grapes. May 30 was the first day of the year when grapes were available in the area.

When Cesar Chavez toured New England, over 2,500 supporters paid \$5 each to join a mass union rally. The Haitian Folk Choir and singer Phil Ochs performed. Speakers from community groups and labor, such as the United Mine Workers, Amalgamated Clothing Workers and the National Hospital Workers endorsed the boycott and the strikes on the West Coast.

Organizers also plan another demonstration at the Chelsea Market this November 26 from 6 to 9 a.m.

## SUPPORT WORK

Bolstering the official UFW boycott committees are support committees composed of volunteers in many cities. The Providence, Worcester and Portland support committees staged successful programs during Chavez' tour and raised substantial cash for the strike fund.

The boycott committees meet about 10 times each month to plan work for their areas. (In Greater Boston, there are 12 such groups.) Each committee organizes picket lines, sends delegations to stores, checks on stores already honoring the boycott and raises money through fund-raisers.

The effect of the committees' work can be seen not only by the drop in the grape retail market but also in the decline of carlot (2,750 pounds) unloads. In the 10-week period between August 9 and October 11 New England grape shipments were down 94 carlots.

With the work of the UFW in New England enjoying enormous success, organizers and committees vowed to keep the boycott going until farm workers win contracts which provide the kind of work and living conditions every person is entitled to.



2,000 march in Boston last spring in support of UFW (right); Chavez leads 250-person liquor store picket line last August. (El Malcriado photos)



# Teamsters, And The Mafia

The International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT), long regarded as the largest and richest labor union in the United States, has been tainted by recent exposures linking the IBT with the National Crime Syndicate, better known as the Mafia.

Publications and writers, ranging from the conservative Reader's Digest and the prestigious Los Angeles Times to leftist author Lowell Bergman of San Francisco, published articles showing unquestionable ties between the IBT and the Mafia—and to top it off, the Teamster leadership has not denied these stories, or at least to anybody's satisfaction.

Now there are ominous rumblings that a power struggle is about to erupt within the Western Conference of Teamsters, the western section of that Mafia-linked union.

## FOUR WEEK SHAKE UP

In a space of four weeks, for example, Secretary-Treasurer David Castro of the Salinas-based Local 1773 was shot in the stomach; about 30 Teamster officials, most of them Chicanos, were fired from the union; high official Bill Graml reportedly was transferred from the farm worker project to the warehouse division; and henchman Ralph Cotner took over Teamster farm worker organizing.

The Teamsters, with a reputation for strong-arm tactics and Machiavellian dealings, have done little to change their image and the Castro incident is no exception.

The shooting, for example, remains shrouded in secrecy and intrigue a full month after Castro said he was shot one night near Salinas on a country road. He claims he drove some 100 miles to a Bay Area Hospital to request treatment.

Since then, Teamster, police and hospital officials have said nothing.

The silence, however, may reveal as much as it is supposed to hide and apparently the Teamsters are trying to conceal a power struggle which would stop at nothing, including bloodshed and violence, to achieve its goals.

## FARM WORKERS' DUES

What is at stake, moreover, is the spoils of the farm worker project which allegedly represents some \$126,000 a month in dues alone. In Teamster eyes, that might be something worth enough to warrant shooting another person.

This violence, however, is not unusual, as Cesar Chavez, President of the United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO, said, "It's not surprising to hear of the David Castro shooting; since the local was conceived in violence, it is only logical that it should end in violence."

The Teamsters, moreover, claim that Ralph Cotner will now head the farm workers organizing project. The appointment, if true, is ominous indeed, not unlike replacing Ivan the Terrible with Attila the Hun.

Cotner, for instance, headed the anti-UFW drive in Coachella in 1973 and was the man accountable for the violence that resulted in hundreds of UFW members beaten up and several homes of union activists burned down by IBT-inspired terrorism.

Does the Cotner appointment mean a return to the Teamster violence of 1973?

While, we hope not, we are of course realistic enough to understand that the higher echelons of the Teamsters are filled with men of extreme avarice, racism and a general lack of concern for the problems of poor and working people . . . not to mention their intrigue with the Mafia.

The IBT national leadership and the henchmen of the Western Conference of Teamsters are not long for their lofty positions of power and it is just a matter of time before workers kick them out of the labor movement and into the trash bins of history.

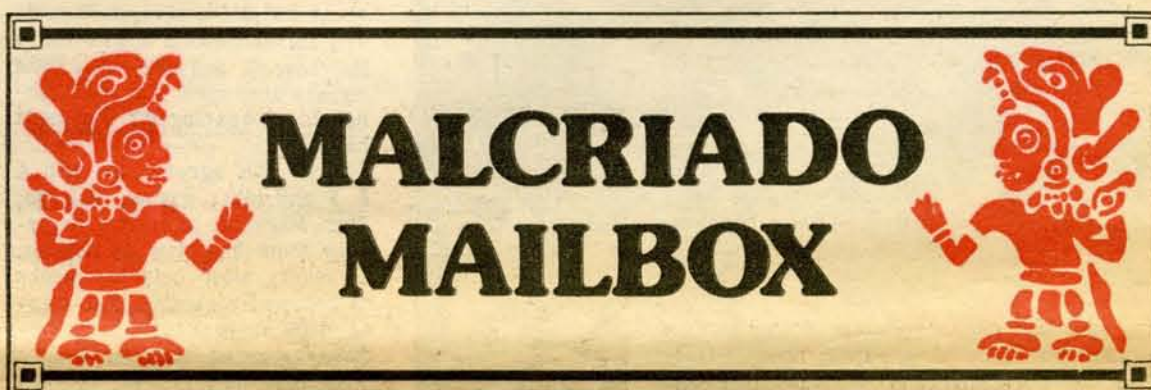


**EL MALCRIADO**

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*Chavez and a grower.*

## Asks for Meeting

"The situation is explosive to the point that it could envelop the entire lemon growing industry. Once that happens there is the natural possibility that the long, drawn out dispute could lead to an international boycott of lemons and lemon products similar to the table grape boycott. I am certain, however, if the moderate demands of the workers were made known to the grove owners directly, a resolution of the dispute could occur almost immediately.

"May I hear from you at the above address and telephone number.

Sincerely Yours  
Cesar E. Chavez  
President

## Likes The Devil

Mr. Chavez:

I am receipt of your letter dated 24 October 1974. Contrary to its contents I am well aware of your reign of terror in the Yuma/San Luis area.

In the first place, Chavez I do not know what concern it is of yours. What do you expect to gain by your intimidations—your threats—that if I do not give

into demands I will possibly have a "long drawn out dispute (which) could lead to an international boycott of lemons and lemon products similar to the table grape boycott." You would like that—wouldn't you?

For your edification, Chavez, if "the suffering of the workers and the losses to the owner is needless" then I would suggest you take your unethical tactics to a country where your are appreciated. I am a worker, Chavez, I have worked since I was 12 years old in order to purchase this land. And, I am the owner. If you let my lemons rot on the trees you are taking the food out of the mouths of my family.

I do not know where you came from nor why you are here. My family has been in this country for six generations. We have worked to make it a beautiful nation with the tools God gave us—not to destroy it by hatred nor force. We do not need you—we do not want you. I am appalled that you have the audacity to ask to meet with me individually. I would sooner meet with the devil.

Jeanne P. Strahl

I do not know how you received my address. However, any further attempts to reach me through my place of business will be met with legally.



# The Facts Behind the Myth IS CHAVEZ DEAD?



(Glen Pearcy photo)

By Wayne C. Hartmire

It has become popular in recent months to write articles about the survival chances of Cesar Chavez' United Farm Workers. On September 15, 1974, the prestigious New York Times Sunday Magazine ran a pessimistic and shoddily-researched article entitled "Is Chavez Beaten?" by Winthrop Griffith.

Jerry Cohen, United Farm Workers legal counsel, has a simple analysis of the article: "Winthrop Griffith and a lot of observer-type folks like him are not writing about Cesar and the farm workers at all. They are writing about themselves; they are simply announcing that the 60's tired them out and they want a rest from the conscience-probing struggles laid on them by the farm workers and other poor people."

Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers are not worn out even though they have more reason than most. They do not intend to stop their organizing efforts until they have built one democratic union for all farm workers in our nation.

Their amazing persistence is related in part to the fact that they have experienced in their own lives the oppression of growers and labor contractors; while some sympathizers may casually observe that the Teamsters can "take care of" farm workers adequately, the farm workers themselves—including the leadership of UFW—know the practical, enslaving meaning of the grower-Teamster decision to allow labor contractors (crew leaders) to control hiring and firing in the fields.

Farm workers know firsthand the dangers of heavy machinery and pesticides—dangers which the Teamsters have effectively ignored in their contracts. Farm workers know the importance of a strong seniority and job security clause in their contracts; and farm workers are the daily victims of the ineffectual seniority and job security clauses in the Teamster contracts.

## The Spirit of Liberation

UFW persistence is also related to the powerful spirit of self-determination and self-affirmation that has developed among farm workers in the last decade. Out of the strike and boycott struggle farm workers who were afraid have lost their fear. Farm workers who felt hopeless now have hope.

Farm workers who had no sense of their own power won collective bargaining, elected their own ranch committees, enforced their own contracts, chose their own leaders and wrote their own constitution.

The UFW, by hard work and sacrifice, released among farm workers the spirit of liberation and there is no way—short of genocide—to snuff it out.

UFW persistence is also related to the realistic expectations which come from a ground level, poor peoples' view of life. Cesar and Helen Chavez made a life-long commitment when, in 1962, they moved their family to Delano and began to organize a farm workers' union.

The leaders of the UFW are farm workers by trade; they know the growers from close-up. They know about their money, their power, their allies and their hard-nosed determination to destroy all indigenous farm worker organizing efforts by any means necessary.

Cesar Chavez thought it would be ten years before UFW won any contracts. (The first one came in 1966.) While some folks in our affluent society expect all triumphs to come in a semester or two, the UFW girded their loins for a lifetime struggle.

What is happening to them in a way of progress mixed with serious setbacks is what they expected. They have no intention of quitting. As Cesar has said again and again: "Time is our greatest ally; time is for the poor what money is for the rich."

Winthrop Griffith may be tired of social struggles but that does not give him license to write his own weariness into the farm workers movement.

Knowing very little about the farm workers and less about their struggle for a union of their own he has apparently concluded that farm workers who joined the UFW in the 60's are now willing to compromise their deepest aspirations by accepting the top-down paternalism of a large, alien union (the Teamsters).



(EL MALCRIADO photo)

Other writers see statistics like 50,000 Teamster members and 10,000 UFW members and conclude that farm workers have transferred their loyalties from UFW to the Teamsters. Farm workers have not transferred their loyalty. They never voted for the Teamsters.

Their employers chose the Teamsters for their own selfish reasons and imposed that union on the workers. The huge grape strike of 1973 was the farm workers' angry protest against the Teamster-grower deal.

As this article is being written 1,000 lemon pickers are on Strike near Yuma, Arizona under the leadership of the UFW. One hundred Apple workers who are "protected" by a Teamster contract walked out of the fields near Watsonville, California on September 23 because their employer was deducting \$15.00 per week for housing even though they were making their own cardboard shelters.

Gallo workers went on strike in June of 1973 to protest the Teamster-Gallo contracts; the company fired the strikers, evicted them from their homes and went to Mexico to find hungry people

to break the strike. This summer the Gallo strike-breakers walked out of the fields to protest Teamster non-enforcement of the contract.

When Frank Fitzsimmons, General President of the Teamster Union, came to Salinas on June 6, 1974, "Teamster" lettuce workers walked out of the fields and picketed his luncheon meeting with Teamster "officials" and growers (there were no farm workers on the inside of the Hyatt House restaurant).

All across California and Arizona—in grapes, tomatoes, mushrooms, citrus, melons, vegetables farm workers have gone on strike in the summer of 1974 to protest specific injustices and to demand a chance to vote for the union of their choice.

## The UFW Boycott is Alive and Well

When Cesar Chavez came to Salinas on July 11, 1974, 3,500 "Teamster" lettuce workers came to the UFW rally carrying banners of the companies where they worked.

Cesar Chavez has recently returned from a tour of the major cities of Europe. Labor unions in England, Scandinavia and Europe have agreed to join the boycott of grapes and head lettuce.

Pope Paul received Cesar in an official audience on Wednesday, September 25, 1974 and made the following statement: "I know of your work and I thank you for it. Your efforts with the farm workers are very important and you must continue working in this field."

The Papal audience is symbolic of growing Catholic support for the UFW struggle. On November 16, 1973, the Catholic Bishops of the U.S. voted unanimously to endorse the boycott of grapes and head lettuce until such time as the Teamsters and growers agree to elections for the workers.

With the impetus of that statement combined with the leadership of such Catholic labor experts as Bishop Joseph Donnelly of Hartford and Msgr. George Higgins of the U.S. Catholic Conference, Catholic support for the UFW boycott has multiplied ten-fold among bishops, priests, nuns and lay persons.

The National Council of Churches and most of the mainline Protestant denominations are strongly supporting UFW. The Synagogue Council of America has recently established a special project to organize Jewish support for the UFW boycott of grapes non-UFW lettuce and Gallo wines.

The AFL-CIO in every state and metropolitan area is organizing boycott support committees as they did in the first grape boycott and in the successful Farah boycott.

George Meany has led the way in support for Cesar Chavez and the UFW: "Make no mistake about it. We are here today to rally public support to the United Farm Workers and the boycott of table grapes and head lettuce. But we in the AFL-CIO are not cheerleaders. We do not stand on the sidelines and root. This fight is our fight. We are involved and we are going to stay involved until the sour grapes of oppression taste sweet again." (Washington, D.C., September 9, 1974)

The UFW boycott is alive and well thanks to the determination of the farm workers themselves, the support of the churches and the AFL-CIO and the efforts of thousands of consumers.

Gallo sales are down 7-10%. Gallo says that the boycott is not effecting them; yet they have doubled their public relations budget (from \$6 million to \$13 million) in order to combat the boycott.

Gallo representatives are crisscrossing the nation to meet with church leaders and others to "explain" their position on the boycott. They are

(Continued on p. 16)



# CHAVEZ LAUNCHES EUROPEAN

Special To EL MALCRIADO  
By Jacques Levy

London, England—Cesar Chavez launched a 23-day European Boycott organizing drive from here Sept. 16 amid indications the Teamsters and growers will try to dump scab products in Europe.

Chavez organized boycott plans in meetings with top labor and church leaders in England, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Italy, Switzerland, West Germany, Berlin, Belgium and France. European newspaper and television reporters covered the Chavez visit extensively.

The United Farm Workers president won his most powerful support during the trip from the Vatican in Rome where Pope Paul VI met Chavez in private audience and urged continued support from American Catholic bishops for the UFW.

Throughout the trip, Chavez told the story of the American farm workers' struggle. He warned that as the grape and lettuce boycott tightens in the U.S. and Canada, growers will again turn to Europe as a dumping ground for their products—just as they did in 1969 and 1970 during the international table grape boycott.

An estimated 14 percent of the boycotted crops are shipped to Europe, which is the third largest market for the produce.

Chavez won support and initiated plans for European boycotts against grapes and lettuce with two international labor organizations, the International Federation of Plantation, Agricultural and Allied Workers (IFPAAW) to which UFW is affiliated and the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU).



In addition, Chavez received pledges of help from Dr. Philip Potter, general secretary of the World Council of Churches; Kaare Stoylen, the Bishop of Norway; Dr. Poser, a director for Aid for Underdeveloped Countries in the Protestant Church in Germany; Prases Wilhelm Woste, secretary of the Catholic Bishops Conference in Germany; and Wilfried Hoyois, president of the Reform Church of Belgium.

In Stockholm, the city council endorsed the boycott, and Chavez met privately with Fon Olaf Persson, Stockholm's finance minister, a position equivalent to mayor. Copenhagen's Mayor Urban Hansen had a private breakfast with Chavez and publicly endorsed the boycott. The American flag was flown at the Copenhagen City Hall in honor of Chavez's visit.

West German President Gustav Heinemann, who retired earlier this year, and his wife met with Chavez for more than an hour and then issued a strong statement that "the appeal of the American farm workers for the solidarity of the European trade unions and churches merit all support.

In Norway, Chavez spoke to the national Congress of Norwegian Public Employees Union (MKF), the country's second largest union. The MKF voted to endorse the boycott and asked the International Federation of Public Employees to do the same. The largest Norwegian union, the Metal Workers which represents airport workers among others, has refused to handle the struck California products.

Eight members of the Norwegian Parliament met with Chavez for about an hour in the Parliament building, expressed support for the boycott and planned legislative action to protect consumers from pesticide poisons on the grapes and lettuce.

Chavez was accompanied on his trip by his wife, Helen, his son-in-law and assistant Richard Ybarra; and journalist Jacques Levy.



Cesar takes the opportunity to speak to one of the farm workers in a French vineyard. (Jacques Levy photo)

He landed in London at 8:30 p.m. September '6 and was met by Harold Lewis, assistant Secretary general of the International Transport Workers Federation, and the BBC reporter who insisted on an immediate TV interview for broadcast across the British nation that night.

The next morning Chavez met with Transport Workers rank and file leaders at Covent Gardens, the main produce market in London. Later, Jack Jones, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers Union (TGWU), sponsored a press conference for Chavez which was attended by all the members of the TGWU executive board.

Jones told the press the TGWU had broken relations with the Teamsters in the U.S. because of its actions against UFW. "The problem is to get the Teamsters in line with the rest of the trade unions in the world," he said.

## "LET THEM ROT!"

"We've got to boycott all grapes from California. Let them rot!" Jones said. "We will do what we can in our various ways. We want your union to succeed and for justice to be done."

Jones said there were many ways to make it too expensive for growers to sell their grapes in England. "We as an executive committee are anxious that the message be brought to our members," he said. "I'm quite sure they will find a way to respond in the best trade union spirit."

While in England, Chavez learned from U.S. Labor Attache Harry H. Pollak that the American embassy in London is promoting the sale of California grapes. Pollak argued that since it is embassy policy to promote American products, it could only remain neutral in the labor controversy.

Chavez also found out that Coachella grower K.K. Larson and his wife recently visited Europe to persuade union leaders not to embargo California grapes. Friendly European labor leaders later notified UFW supporters that the Teamsters were sending representatives to Europe to try to counter the effects of the Chavez visit.

At mid-trip, word was suddenly received from Msgr. George Higgins, secretary to the U.S. Catholic Bishops Conference, that a private audience with the Pope would be held if Chavez could reach Rome by 10 a.m. the next day. The message was relayed to Chavez about 4:30 p.m. Sept. 24 in Stockholm.



At first, no flights could be found that would reach Rome on time. With minutes to spare, a flight was found to London where a Nigerian plane was leaving for Rome.

Attending the private audience with Cesar Chavez and the members of his party were Bishop Joseph Donnelly, chairman of the U.S. Bishops' Committee on Agriculture, and Msgr. Higgins.

During the audience, Pope Paul read a prepared statement in English praising the work of Cesar Chavez. In turn, the labor leader presented the Pope with UFW flag. It was the first series of private audiences given by the Pope in more than three months, and preceded by two days the convocation of the synod of bishops.

Chavez spoke the next day to a meeting of the Pontifical Commission on Justice and Peace. More than 200 leaders representing the major religious orders for men and women heard the UFW leader.

Archbishop Geovanni Benelli, substitute secretary of the state to Pope Paul VI, arrived at the meeting unexpectedly and the audience gasped.

His appearance, church leaders said later, was unprecedented at such a gathering, and even more surprising on the day before the start of the synod. They said the archbishop was one of the most powerful men in the Vatican.

As the meeting ended, Archbishop Benelli read another strong statement in English which he then released to the press.

"We are all indeed grateful to Mr. Chavez for the lesson which he brings to our attention. It is a very important lesson: to know how to be conscious of the terrible responsibility that is incumbent on us who bear the name 'Christian.' His entire life is an illustration of this principle," the statement said.

"What attracts our attention in a particular way is the commitment that is manifested; the commitment to work for the good of one's brothers and sisters, to be of service to them in the name of Christ, and to render this service with the full measure of all the energy one possesses."

The Archbishop also praised the work of the Bishops' Ad Hoc Committee on Farm Labor, Cardinals Manning and Medeiros, Bishops Donnelly, Donohoe and O'Rourke and Monsignors Higgins and Mahoney.

The day after the Pontifical Commission meeting, Chavez met more than 70 American bishops in Assisi and brought them up to date on the struggle. He received a warm reception, and following the luncheon, a number of bishops sang De Colores for their guests.

From Italy, Chavez went to Switzerland where nearly one full day was spent at World Council (Continued on P. 17)



# BOYCOTT CAMPAIGN

Stockholm, Sweden—The European Boycott organizing drive led by UFW President Cesar Chavez shocked labor leaders into reality about the kind of American Democracy still handed out to U.S. farm workers.

Chavez sought meetings with European farm worker union leaders and farm workers themselves, who won hard-fought union rights in Europe more than 50 years ago. They expressed surprise to learn that America in 1974 still denies those rights.

Here in Stockholm, the UFW documentary "Why We Boycott" drew heart-felt response from Borje Svensson, president of the Swedish farm workers union.

"This film reminds me of what happened at the turn of the century in Sweden when migrant workers were trying to organize," he said.

"We see a lot of people are sacrificing themselves for the sake of the farm workers, and that's what happened in Sweden. If they hadn't, we wouldn't have a union today. We feel the utmost sympathy for our brother organization in the U.S. We regret we can't do much to help," Svensson added sadly, explaining his union is poor, too.

"We appreciate sympathy," Chavez answered simply.

## EUROPE SHOCKED

Offering encouragement, Svensson said, "We hope and believe the farm workers in the U.S. will be relieved."

Chavez answered, "The history of the world teaches us that once people want freedom, nothing can stop them. The outcome of this struggle can have tremendous influence on the country."

"We have the potential to be the largest union in the U.S.," Chavez added. "It will reverse politics in rural America. The men, women and children who produce the food at least will be able to eat what they produce."

The Teamster and police brutality documented in "Why We Boycott" surprised and shocked those in Europe.

Time and again people commented they never realized that farm workers today still faced conditions similar to those at the beginning of the century.

As one labor leader said, "We were taught America was the home of democracy. But today we must re-examine that."

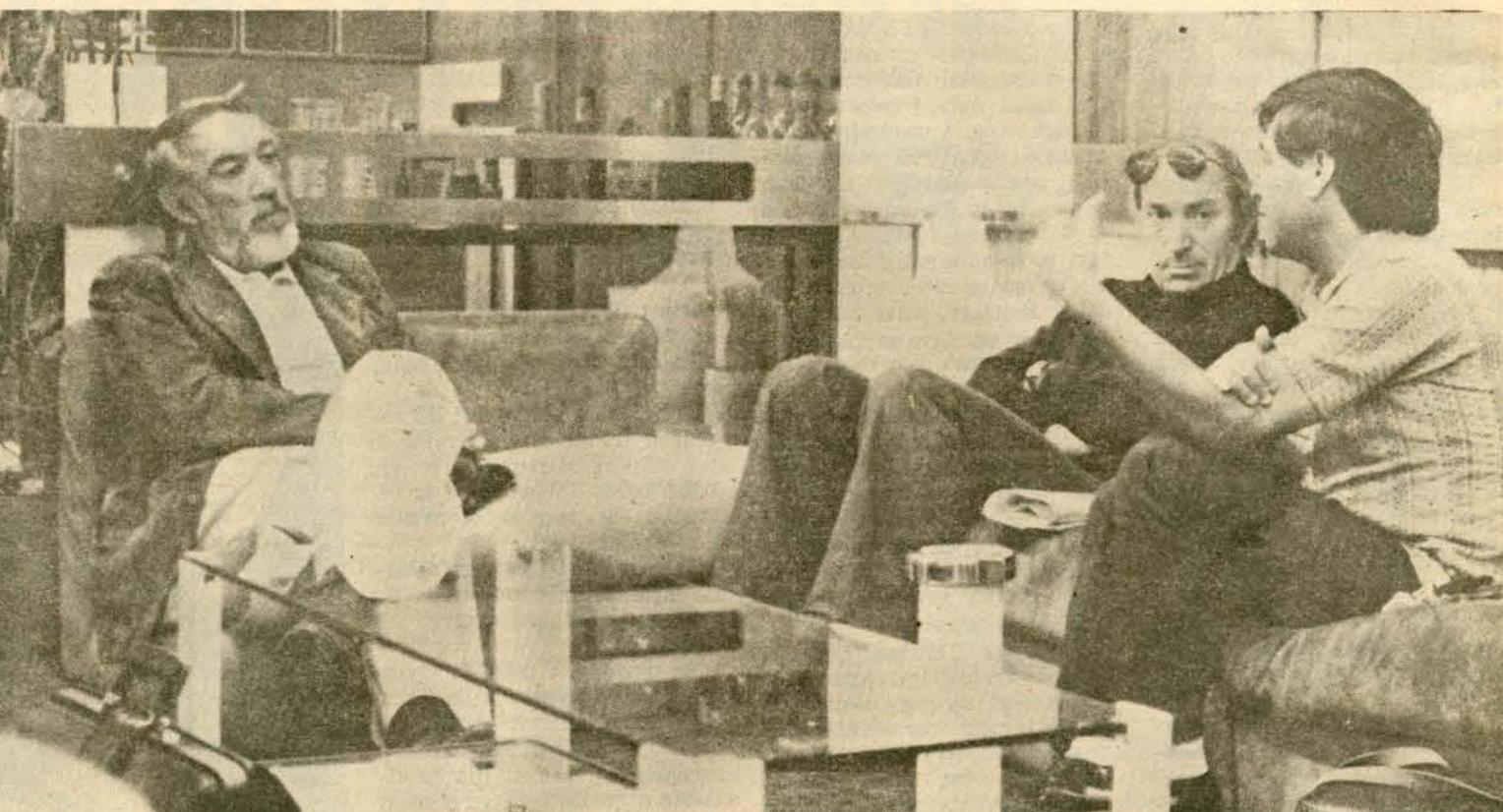
Chavez answered, "Democracy is expensive, and the poor can't afford it."

"Can the rich afford democracy?" he was asked.

"They own it," was the answer.

In Geneva, Chavez was told by Dr. Philip Potter, head of World Council of Churches (WCC), that the battle in the California fields is an inspiration to many other movements across the world.

The WCC director of church participation in development, C. I. Itty, asked to be kept informed of the U.S. farm workers' struggle. "There are a number of groups in the world in similar



Antonio Quintela ( Anthony Quinn ), noted actor, and a friend intently listen to the UFW leader while at the Rome airport. (Jacques Levy photo)

struggles," he said, and information is needed "so other groups can learn how to countervail the existing powers."

Chavez said after his European talks that he felt he had confirmed that farm workers are exploited throughout the world, and that there is much organizing work to be done.

Once the battle is won in California, he vowed, the UFW will help its counterparts in other parts of the world to achieve a measure of dignity and justice.

Among the farm union leaders Chavez met was Reginald N. Bottini, general secretary of the National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers, one of the oldest farm workers' union in the world. Chavez also met Venezuelan and Malaysian farm worker leaders in Geneva.

## STOP THE CAR

Finally at the end of his trip, Chavez was driving from Brussels to Paris on Sunday, Oct. 13, still hoping to meet some farm workers themselves.

"Stop the car," Chavez ordered as he spotted some workers in the vineyards of the Champagne region near Reims.

Still wearing the same clothes and UAW wind jacket that he wears in the States, Chavez introduced himself simply as a California farm worker.

He showed them how wine grapes are pulled from the vines in California. The French workers were using small clip-pers, a much slower method of harvesting.

Chavez' emotions were touched when the French vineyard workers told him that child labor is as extensive in France as in U.S. fields, that the workers were getting about \$1 an hour, and that they were unorganized.

## POPE PAUL LAUDS UFW LEADER

Our welcome goes this morning to César Chávez whom we are happy to receive as a loyal son of the Catholic Church and as a distinguished leader and representative of the Mexican-American community in the United States.

We wish to tell you of the real joy that is ours to be informed of the fidelity of the people of your culture and origin, our beloved sons and daughters, to the Church of Christ and to know of their generous endeavor to foster adherence to their glorious Catholic spirit. We know, in particular, of your sustained effort to apply the principles of Christian social teaching, and that in striving to do so you have faithfully worked together with the Bishops of your country and with the support of their authoritative representatives, the members of the United States Catholic Bishops' Ad Hoc Committee on Farm Labor.

We pray that this laudable spirit of cooperation will continue and that, through the all-powerful assistance of the Lord, harmony and understanding will be promoted with liberty and justice for all.

In the spirit of our own predecessors in this See of Peter we renew the full measure of our solicitude for the human and Christian condition of labor and for the genuine good of all those who lend support to this lofty vocation.

Our special affectionate greetings go to the Mexican-American community in the United States, which, in harmony with other esteemed ethnic groups, makes up the fabric of the nation, while furnishing its particular and important contribution rooted in Christian principles.

We willingly invoke the blessings of authentic Christian living in justice, peace and love upon our sons and daughters whom we see represented here, and upon all the members of the larger communities in which they live and work.



# "Technological Change Will Replace Labor..."

Davis, Calif.—A machine using gamma radiation waves to select ripe lettuce heads is one of the latest advances in farm mechanization developed at University of California at Davis (UCD).

The lettuce harvester project once again calls attention to the issue of agricultural mechanization and its effects on campesinos.

Davis is one of three U.C. campuses (the others are at Berkeley and Riverside) where scientists have conducted research to help agri-business mechanize farm labor.

The lettuce harvester will be able to pick two to four heads per second and when operational threatens to displace even more farm workers from their jobs.

Dr. Roger Garret, who is involved in developing the lettuce harvester, admits it won't reduce the price the consumer pays for lettuce.

He said, "Because the harvesting costs are so incidental now—about four cents out of an average lettuce price of 39 cents—the retail price of lettuce wouldn't be significantly influenced even if harvesting costs could be eliminated all together."

The main cost of lettuce comes in its handling once it leaves the fields, he explained.

UC technologists previously developed a tomato harvester, grape harvester, melon harvester, lettuce planter, a complete handling system for asparagus, a pear packing machine, and many more types of farm machinery.

Sources associated with the Davis agricultural complex believe the university's development of lettuce, grape, and strawberry harvester in a direct response to United Farm Worker (UFW) organizing efforts in these crops.

One student told EL MALCRIADO, "Obviously you can draw a direct parallel that any time the union gets together for a certain crop, a marketing order or the Western Growers Association, or somebody else like that, comes up to the university and says 'we need a lettuce harvester, we need a grape harvester. We're having labor problems, a labor shortage, solve our problems for us. Give us a harvester and we won't have these problems.'"

One informant stated that UCD spent \$20 million to develop the tomato harvester, then it sold the rights to a manufacturer, giving up its patent rights for many years of usage. All the university received back on the deal was \$3 million of its \$20 million investment.

Professor Michael O'Brien, from the agricultural engineering department, strongly denied that the university was working on a new tomato harvesting machine capable of being run by one man.

However, students informed EL MALCRIADO that he is working on a means of electronically determining the ripeness of tomatoes before they get to the inspection station. Conceivably, the same technology could be used on a harvester to pick the tomatoes and which could be run by one person.

In other agricultural projects at UCD, the vidi culture (grapes) department is working with a chemical called DEPC which makes it possible to make sweet white wines without filtering the yeast out. Makers of premium wines prefer to filter the wine. E&J Gallo Winery wants to use the chemical because it is cheaper, but the Food and Drug Administration has warned that DEPC may be a cancer producing agent.

The weed science department is taking herbicides developed by private companies and attempting to find new applications for them. Large chemical companies find it too expensive (e.g. spending money on environmental impact studies) to develop a pesticide for only one crop, such as tomatoes.

The university works on converting the herbicide to other crops and when successful will eliminate the need to employ hoers on the field.

O'Brien maintains that UC research is aimed "at trying to cut off peak labor requirements. What needs to get done is increase the number of months a person can work."

O'Brien said the union's battle against mechanization "is not going to stop the surge for knowledge."

He stated the union is trying to keep its members in "slavery" and that it should re-orientate campesinos to other occupational areas. His sentiments echo the feelings of many persons running the agricultural education complex at UCD.

Davis Agricultural Economist Desmond Jolly felt "technological change will continue which will replace labor, it's difficult to stop that."

But he said research is not being carried out where it is vitally needed. Not enough research and technology is directed towards assisting small production units (farms) which are being displaced by big agri-business, just as campesinos are being displaced.

He felt more research is needed on setting up small farms and maintains they are as capable as big ranches of keeping up current levels of production in the minor crops.

## Congress Adopts Anti-Contractor Bill

Washington, D.C. — President Ford vetoed a new farm labor contractor law Oct. 23, but indicated he will sign a revised bill into law by December, according to UFW congressional lobbyist Reverend Jim Vizzard.

The President vetoed the bill because of an unrelated Civil Service amendment attached to the legislation. Sending the labor contractor bill back to Congress, the President said he gives it "warm and hearty" support and will sign it into law if the unrelated rider is killed.

Rev. Vizzard said he expects the Senate will take up the bill when it reconvenes and Congress will send it back to the President for signing by Dec. 1. The law goes into effect six months from the date of enactment.

The bill is called the "Farm Labor Contractor Registration

Act Amendments of 1974" and amends the Farm Labor Contractor Registration Act of 1963.

A strong provision of the new bill gives individual farm workers the right to sue labor contractors in federal court without cost when the labor contractor law is violated.

This new civil relief for individual workers allows a federal district court judge to order legal action without payment of fees, costs or security by the complaining worker. If he wins the suit, the farm worker may receive up to three times the cash amount of actual damages plus reinstatement on the job and attorneys fees.

Other new or revised provisions of the bill cover the following areas:

—No contractor can knowingly hire an illegal alien.

—Jail time is added to the penalty provisions of the new law.

—All contractors within one state will be covered by the new law.

—Payroll powers will remain in the contractors hands, despite overwhelming testimony about payroll abuses, such as unitemized deductions.

—Subpoena powers are given to the Secretary of Labor in the new law to beef up his investigatory powers in cases of alleged violations by contractors.

—Insurance covering any injuries or deaths suffered by farm workers transported by a contractor is equal the amounts set by the Interstate Commerce Commission and the state in which an accident occurs.

The new bill is a result of 18 months of work by Rev. Vizzard who was sent to Washing-

ton by UFW President Cesar Chavez with the instructions to "Get Congress to do something about labor contractors."

Since then, Senator Edward Kennedy (Dem. Mass.) introduced a labor contractor bill with strong restrictions on strikebreaking that was supported by the UFW.

The Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare then held hearings on its own version of the bill last February in Fresno and last April in Washington. UFW officials and farm workers testified at both hearings, as did growers, labor contractors and Teamsters.

The testimony given by growers and contractors at the Senate hearings in Fresno and Washington showed their strong opposition to provisions against strike-breaking in the new law.

Guinn Sinclair, president of the National Farm Labor Contractors Assn. in Fresno, testified; "I don't think the contractor should be the one to decide if there is a labor dispute... why should a contractor be the judge when our courts have issued conflicting opinions?"

Sinclair was referring to two anti-strikebreaking provisions in the bill which:

—Prohibited contractors from recruiting workers during a strike where "the effects of such recruitment is to interfere with such strike... on behalf of the employer."

—Required contractors to inform workers that they would be working at place where there was a "strike, slow down, or labor-management dispute..."

The Congress decided to bow to the united opposition of growers and contractors against the strike-breaking provisions in the bill.

Before presenting the bill to the President, the Congress struck out the first provisions and significantly changed the wording of the second to read, "a strike BY THE EMPLOYEES at the contracted place of employment."

Though a significant gain was made by farm workers with the new civil relief provision in the bill, UFW attorneys believe that the only solution to the contractor systems' problems is to abolish it outright.



**In New Jersey**

# CONTRACTOR INDICTED UNDER ANTISLAVERY LAW

Cedarville, New Jersey — A farm labor contractor in New Jersey was indicted in September under an antislavery law that dates back to 1865.

Marcos Portatatin, the crew leader, was charged in four counts with illegally holding four Puerto Rican migrant workers in "involuntary servitude" for over three months on the vegetable farm belonging to Rosario Sorbello and Sons.

The four workers, who range in age from 17 to early 20's, are Wilfredo Rivera, Jose Garcia, Efrain Sanchez and Severino Kanos.

Two other counts in the dramatic nine-count indictment include obstruction of Justice, as Portatatin tried to force two of the four workers to give false testimony before the grand jury investigating allegations against him.

The indictment charges, among other things, that Portatatin assaulted and threatened with force two employees of the nearby Camden Regional Legal Services office who had gone to the camp to discuss a wage claim.

But Portatatin's most blatant act—and perhaps the reason his abuses came to light and the indictments were handed down—was that he attacked a state assemblyman.

New Jersey legislator Byron Baer was on an inspection tour of migrant camps in southern New Jersey when, along with Newark Star Ledger reporter Charles Finely, he attempted to walk onto the Sorbello camps July 16.

Portatatin and others chased them with pieces of lumber and Baer received a fractured left arm. A sponsor of several bills to improve farm labor camp conditions, Baer told reporters, "Those people made me run for my life." In their haste to escape, they slammed their car into a gate leading onto the highway.

## First slavery citation

This indictment marks the first time the anti-slavery law has been cited in New Jersey. It was enacted after the Civil War as part of a series of laws designed to implement the Thirteenth Amendment, which prohibits "slavery (or) involuntary servitude."

A source close to the district attorney's office told the Guardian the heavy and dramatic indictment is being used to get Portatatin to implicate his boss, Sorbello.

The aim, according to the source, is to make an example of Sorbello to get the growers to eliminate some of their most abusive practices. The case represents the first time the federal courts have intervened in a case involving a labor contractor.

The vegetables and fruits that appear early every morning in the metropolitan areas of Philadelphia, Newark and New York City were picked the day before under barbarous contract-labor conditions only a few hours' drive away.

Here in southern New Jersey the climate is ideal, permitting three crops per year and a farm labor season that runs from March to November. Hired for what is supposed to be a guaranteed minimum wage of \$2.15 per hour but actually working at piece rate, the laborers pick bell peppers, cucumbers, onions, lettuce, apples and peaches.

The farm vary in size from the Seabrook farm, employing about 1,000 workers during the season, to the Sunny Slopes and Pepitone farms with 80 or 90 each and Pizzo with about 40 people during the high season.

When two Puerto Rican legal workers, Doug Jones and Ramon Narvaez, visited the Sorbello

farm on May 15 to deal with a wage claim, Portatatin invited Jones into his house, where the crew leader pulled out a knife and apparently tried to kill Jones. Jones and Narvaez ran for the highway and escaped.

The Camden Regional Legal Services in Bridge-ton called the Newark district attorney's office and complained, "The conditions are like slavery there. We couldn't even talk with the workers, let alone the knife attack."

"The DA's office just laughed at the term slavery," said lawyer Michael Berger. But when Assemblyman Baer got his arm broken two months after the knife incident, the indictment charging slavery was quickly handed down.

Conditions on the Sorbello farms are not much different from those on others such farms, and Portatatin acts with the full knowledge of his



(EL MALCRIADO photo)

boss. Abuses on the Sorbello farm, as on others, include the following:

—Portatatin does not allow his workers to buy directly from the mobile store that tours the area. Instead, said Gridley Hall, a lawyer at the legal services office, the crew leader takes the workers' orders and charges them more than twice the actual price of the goods.

"A \$2 shirt, for example, will cost the worker \$5 through Portatatin," said Hall. The labor contractor also charges the workers \$2 for a ride into town to get a haircut and each trip nets Portatatin \$8 to \$10.

—Portatatin told the four contract workers—who are now in protective custody in Puerto Rico—that the legal services office is against Puerto Rican people and would put them in jail.

Rivera, Garcia, Sanchez and Kanos, like other youths who have been brought directly to U.S. farms from rural areas in Puerto Rico, are alone, speak only Spanish and tend to believe their crew leaders.

—Berger told the Guardian a 16-year-old Puerto Rican farm worker collected almost none of the \$80 he was owed at the end of a 10-day work period recently.

The crew leader deducted as "expenses" for August 4 to 14 such items as \$28.50 for meals, \$17.55 for soda and \$22.50 for beer.

The total, \$89.35, was more than the youth had earned. "A 16-year-old did not drink that much beer and did not incur all those expenses," said

Berger, adding that the false expense tally was not an uncommon practice.

—Another common practice is for the crew leader to "hold" the workers' money until the end of the season. But before that, the workers may be intimidated off the farm or fired outright with the crew leader keeping the entire earnings. "Whether the worker is making the state minimum wage or working piece rate, he is screwed," said Berger. "I recently interviewed two workers who had each worked four days. One of them had about \$3 to show for it; the other had just 67 cents."

Many of the Puerto Rican contract workers headed for southern New Jersey sign a contract in their country with the growers' Glassboro Service Association.

The contract is "approved" by the Puerto Rican Labor Department and the workers are then flown directly to Glassboro and driven out to the farms. "But none of the meager contract rights are enforced," said Berger. "The Bureau of Migrant Labor says the conditions are 'good enough for Puerto Ricans.'"

"How can we go home. . .?"

"The worker is in a bind. If he complains about not being paid enough, about the dirty sheets, no toilets or hot water, the farmer can say, 'Hey, you! Out!' and the worker has to go."

The difficulty in using governmental legal offices to gain rights for the workers was pointed out by lawyer Gridley Hall. The Wage and Hour Bureau of the Labor Department says that if an employer retaliates against a worker who complains, the worker has the right to be reinstated.

"But the Bureau takes up to a year to act," said Hall, "and by that time the worker and the crew leader are often back in Puerto Rico. Or the grower can always claim he didn't like the way the worker picked his apples."

An example of the instability of the workforce was provided by three Filipino workers who talked to the Guardian in Cedarville, where they had come to pick lettuce.

They had driven from California in the spring to pick lettuce in Goshen, New York from June until September 15. Then they drove down to Cedarville, where they had been waiting for a week "for the lettuce to form," said Angel Miguel, Jr., 36.

Along with 15 other workers (including two families with children) they had to buy their own food and live without salary until the crop was ready to harvest.

"We get paid according to how much we pick," said working foreman Johnnie Gurat, 31. He had come with his brother, Fernando, 20. They did not know the state law required them to receive a minimum wage of \$2.15 an hour or that they were eligible for food stamps and other benefits while they were waiting for work.

"They pay our gas to come out here," said the older Gurat, "but they don't pay it going home. We are going back to California after this harvest but if we had to go alone, we could not pay for the gas. If we don't make money here (there is always a chance the crop will be a poor one and that the workers will not earn enough), how can we go home, especially if we are 3,000 miles away?"

By Renee Blakkan

Excerpted from the Guardian by El Malcriado



# HOLLYWOOD COMMITTEE PLANS UFW MEDIA BLITZ

Los Angeles - Cesar Chavez and other UFW leaders met with Hollywood professionals in October to plan a public counter-attack through the media against "our most vulnerable target," E&J Gallo Wineries.

Chavez and the union's executive board met Oct. 16 in the Beverly Hills home of Stanley K. Sheinbaum with the newly organized Artists Support Committee For The Farm Workers, a group of nearly 60 actors, actresses, film makers, movie and television producers and directors plus advertising and public relations experts.

The go-ahead was given for a triple-threat plan that includes a big-time benefit concert for the farm workers, a series of spot commercials to refute Gallo propaganda, and a film documentary about the Teamster-grower treachery against the UFW.

After meeting with Chavez, the artists committee held a house meeting a week later at the Sheinbaum's to start planning the details. Organized by UFW staffer Susan Rogers, the meeting was attended by nearly 40 Hollywood personalities who heard the union's chief attorney, Jerry Cohen, outline the strategy.

"We want to go after Gallo publicly," said Cohen. "We need to break one grower, then five or six will follow his lead. We have to break the psychology of the growers, free them from their peer group pressure, get them to break away from Gallo."

"This is the time for a counter-propaganda campaign," Cohen

told the Hollywood pros. "The timing is critical. We have the workers support but we don't have the vehicle of free ballot elections. So in the meantime, the boycott is one of our most important weapons."

Ms. Rogers explained to EL MALCRIADO that "the whole purpose of this publicity campaign is to use the media better than Gallo does with its \$13 million PR budget, to show Gallo and the public that the UFW has prestigious friends, powerful friends who can debunk the 'elegant and tasteful' image of Gallo's advertising."

The Hollywood pros agreed unanimously at their Oct. 25 meeting to send a letter to the Hollywood producers of Gallo's TV ads expressing the opposition of the Artists Support Committee to Gallo's propaganda.

Sheinbaum chaired the meeting, emphasizing "Our ultimate objective is to mount a television campaign against Gallo." The Hollywood ACLU leader added that to finance the media campaign, a benefit concert was in the discussion stage.

He introduced Michael Wadleigh, the producer of the Woodstock concert and movie. Wadleigh said he got "a good initial response" from potential performers for the farm workers' benefit concert.

Ms. Rogers said that after she talked with Chavez last Spring about the project, she got a lot of ideas for organizing from

Franklin Greer of Public Media Center in San Francisco and from television actress Leslie Parrish, who has organized artist support committee for farm workers in past years.

Other members of the new Artists Support Committee include:

Hal Ashby, director of "The Last Detail"; actor Warren Beatty, agent Jeff Berg, actress Candice Bergen, Alan and Marilyn Berman, the writers of "The Way We Were"; TV actor Peter Bonner, actor Roscoe Lee Browne;

Yvonne Braithwaite Burke, Congresswoman, actress Dyan Cannon, writer Robert Cohen, Geoff and Aileen Cowan, advertising law experts; Gordon Davidson, director of the Mark Taper Forum; Joan Didion, author of books and screen plays; John Dunne, author of "Delano";

Actress Jane Fonda; actor Will Geer, actress Lee Grant, Richard Halsey, film editor for director Paul Mazursky; actress Goldie Hawn, actress Helena Kallianiotis, actress Sally Kirkland, actress Diane Ladd, Jennings Lang, Universal Studios executive;

Norman Lear, producer of "All In The Family" and "Sanford And Son"; actor Jack Lemmon; lawyer Michael Levett; producer Eddy Lewis, Paul Mazursky, director of "Blume in Love" and "Harry And Tonto"; producer Mike Medavoy, producer Marcia Nasatir, director-producer Mike Nichols, actor Jack Nicholson, Jon Parks, who managed the Beach Boys;



Leslie Parrish, television actress and member of Artists Support Committee For The Farm Workers. (EL MALCRIADO photo)

Playwright David Rintels, producer Richard Roth, Mark Rydell, director of "The Cowboys"; Paul Schrade, Carolyn Miller, Marion Segal, Stanley Sheinbaum, Dereck Sherer, an economist who worked for Ralph Nader; Paul Solomon, who casts for the Merv Griffin show;

Television actress Susan Strasberg, David Swaney, in public relations; Al Tafuya, head of the Spanish actors group Nosotros; Robert Towne, a writer for "The Last Detail," "The Fortune" and other movies; Dennis Weaver, television actor and president of Screen Actors Guild;

Paula Weinstein, agent for Jane Fonda; Mimi West, Otis Young, an actor in "The Last Detail"; and UFW staffers Jim Cassell, Glen Percy and Ms. Rogers.

Jim Drake, director of the Los Angeles boycott and Chavez' administrative aide, attended the artists' meetings to provide input. He revealed that Dalton Trumbo, producer of "Johnny Got His Gun" and a member of the Hollywood group that was blacklisted during the McCarthy era, also is supporting the UFW media campaign.

## CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH THE UNITED FARMWORKERS

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

GIVE THEM A CHANCE

**CHRISTMAS CARDS**  
by Jose "Chepe" Alonso

These two brilliant, multi-colored cards will bring joy to all your friends at Christmas time. Twelve striking farmworker stamps are included with each dozen.

One dozen assorted cards, \$2.00

**"VINEYARD MARCH"**  
by Richard Correll

This bold, black on white woodcut poster recreates the long march which leads from oppression to dignity.

18x22 inches, \$2.00

Quantity	Item	Price Ea.	Total
	Doz. Cards	2.00	
	Poster	2.00	
Subtotal			
Calif. Residents: 6% sales tax			
add 10% for shipping			
Contribution			
TOTAL			

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# IS CHAVEZ DEAD?

(Continued from page 11)

merchandising new wine products under names like "Madria, Madria Sangria" and Joseph Steuben<sup>23</sup>.

Head lettuce prices during the summer have been at \$2.00 per carton and less, well below production cost.

Table grape sales are down in most major cities in the U.S. and Canada while California-Arizona table grapes are piling up in the growers' cold storage facilities (as of 9/30/74 there were over 4 million boxes of table grapes in cold storage in California — nearly double the amount in cold storage at that date during the non-boycott years of '70, '71, '72).

When the growers feel the pressure of the boycott enough they will find a way to ease the Teamsters out and begin, again, to deal with the only union that has seriously organized from workers and depends on farm worker loyalty for its strength the UFW.

Those who have convinced themselves that the UFW is beaten have unconsciously accepted the prevailing American notion of what is powerful and what is not.

The Teamsters and the big growers have wealth and influence; they have hired the best public relations firms; they have mastered the art of getting things done by muscle, deceit and corruption; they can afford to mail their propaganda to every clergyman, politician, labor leader, etc.

They will threaten those who need to be threatened and sweet-talk those who are susceptible to sweet-talk. It is as American as Richard Nixon and apple pie and there is no doubting that it is powerful.

**"Abuse from their enemies, misunderstanding from their friends,"**

The United Farm Workers rely on another kind of power. They have accepted responsibility for building their own union. They are willing to go on strike, to be jailed, to be beaten, to travel to strange, far-off cities to work on the boycott, to live on room and board and \$5.00 per week, to accept abuse from their enemies and misunderstanding from their friends in order to win their struggle.

Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers represent the power of sacrifice and selfgiving and persistent love. By their own example and their own hard work they are building a coalition of people from all walks of life who love justice and who will give of themselves to the farm workers' movement without thought of pay or reward.

It is the kind of spirit-power, people-power that the growers and the Teamsters will never understand and will never defeat.

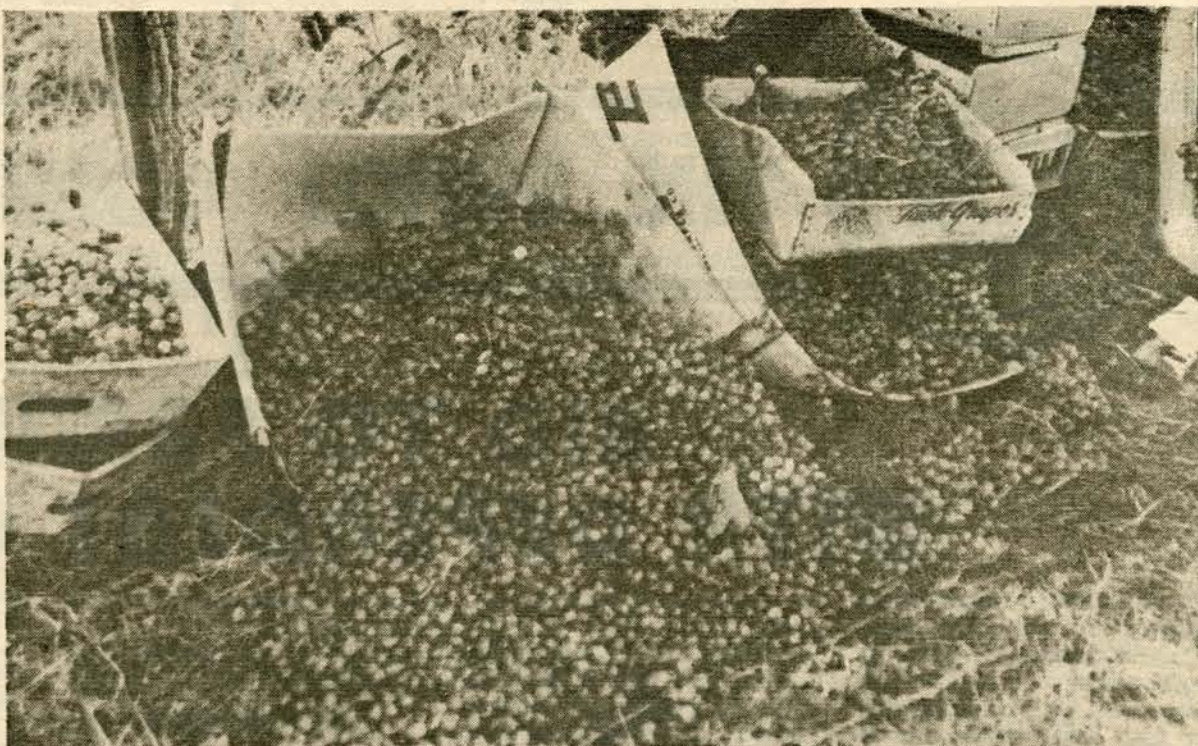
Please consider, today, the request of the United Farm Workers that you "fast a little" for the sake of men, women and children who have gone hungry for a long time. Please make the boycott of grapes, head lettuce and Gallo wines a matter of conscience for you and your family.

It is important to farm workers and it is important to everyone who loves justice. The more of us who join this fast, the sooner the day of victory will come. Si, se puede! (Yes, it can be done!)

## PICKERS RETURN (Continued from page 2)

He pointed out that many are coming from El Paso and at the time Yuma Citrus Co. was sending a bus there.

Ramirez said 15 boys came from Pueblo, Colorado, and he estimated only 120 worker were employed at Yuma Citrus Co. when he left at the end of October.



Many grape growers are forced to dump their product as the market steadily declines. Shown above are rotting grapes and overflowing boxes left unattended. (Cris Sanchez photo)

## EUROPEAN BOYCOTT CAMPAIGN

(Continued from page 12)

of Churches headquarters. Dr. Potter, head of WCC, held a luncheon for Chavez and pledged the organization's full support. WCC members will be assigned to track down boycotted agricultural products throughout Europe.

In Geneva, Chavez was pledged strong support from several general secretaries of international trade organizations including Tom Bevin of IFPAW and Dan Gallin of the International Union of Food, Drink and Allied Workers Association. Earlier, an equally strong endorsement was given by John Lofblad of the International Federation of Building and Woodworkers when he addressed the MKF congress in Oslo.

A UFW support rally was held in Berlin where more than 300 persons came to hear Chavez and see the film "Why We Boycott."

In Germany, too, Chavez met with the Executive Board of the DGB, the German equivalent of the AFL-CIO, in Dusseldorf, and with the Hamburg DGB officials. Similar meetings were held in Denmark, while in Belgium, Chavez met with leaders of the World Confederation of Labor and the ICFTU. Both groups pledged help and support.

## COLD STORAGE

(Continued from page 1)

the statistics do not reflect the diversion to wine and raisin markets.

The USDA figures, in fact, reflect exactly that, the wine industry is attractive to many grape growers because of its higher profits; Glumarra Vineyards, as a case in point, now converts much of its grape crop into wine rather than selling it for table consumption, and with good reason.

It is much cheaper to cultivate wine grapes than table grapes simply because less care is necessary, hence less workpower and hour.

In addition, Gallo Wine (also a target of the ongoing UFW boycott) now grows wine grapes and is not buying very many grapes from other companies this year, a substantial change in past practice.

Previously, grape growers could count on the wineries to buy up great amounts of their excess table grapes. Growers now must either sell their product on the retail market, turn the grapes into raisins, or simply dump them.

Of course, growers are still selling some grapes, but César Chávez, UFW president, recently stated, "There are more grapes backed up in cold storage

today than at any other time in history because the growers can't find markets for them."

UFW officials, in addition, claim that the table grape boycott, which is organized in approximately 60 cities in the U.S., Canada and Europe, is steadily growing as both an increasing number of stores agree not to stock the seemingly unpopular product and consumers continue to leave grapes off their grocery lists.

The grape industry, while surely not on its deathbed, is apparently suffering the calamity of over-production at a time when more and more people are no longer buying the fruit.



**LIKE SCAB GRAPES SQUEEZED IN A VISE—October's cold storage figures for grapes indicate the growers have already been beaten, according to UFW President Cesar Chavez.**

(Dell Davis Photo)





# THE RANCH COMMITTEE



## AID TO FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN

Keene, Calif. - Until farm workers are covered by unemployment insurance - and that day is coming - the jobless farm worker and his family can apply for cash help from a program called "Aid to Families With Dependent Children" (AFDC).

This government program is for children and their parents (or whoever takes care of the child) if they are poor.

For a family to qualify, the child must be without support because of the death, absence, incapacity, or unemployment of one or both parents. If the father is working, the family can still receive AFDC if he works less than 23 hours a week or less than 100 hours a month.

### What's needy?

The family must be "needy" to qualify. Being needy is determined by how much the family needs, how much income it has and how much property it owns. If a family has less income and property and than it needs then it is "needy".

The family's dependent child must be unmarried and, if between the ages of 16 and 18, must regularly attend school or a training program, or be employed to help support the family unless he or she is disabled. A child may be eligible up to age 21 if regularly attend-

ing school or a training program.

A family can apply for AFDC if it has only lived in the state or in the country for one day. There is no residency requirement. Also, there is no requirement for citizenship to qualify.

Generally, the eligible family cannot own real property (real estate) with an assessed value of more than \$5,000 (less amount owed on it), household furnishings worth more than \$1,500, or other personal property worth more than \$1,600.

Employable parents must be available for and seeking work, or be training for work. This means registering and cooperating with "EDD" (Employment Development Department). You do not have to accept a job "made available by a labor dispute".

AFDC is financial aid (and services, if wanted) for needy families with children until the family can again become self-supporting.

The county welfare department determines the monthly amount of money needed by the family for food, housing, utilities, clothing and other necessities. The aid payment (grant) is determined by subtracting the total monthly family income (if any) from the amount needed. The limit to the amount of money a family can

receive depends upon the size of the family.

Medi-Cal and Food Stamps also are available to the AFDC family.

### How to apply

The family can apply to the county welfare department in person or by phone or letter. Every person has the right to apply. The date of application is the date the verbal request is made, or if by letter, when the letter is received by the county.

A welfare form called the WR-1 is a one-page application form which a person signs when requesting aid.

The county welfare department must "process" a claim within 30 days of the application. A multi-page form called the WR-2 also is required for AFDC. Help with this form is given by Campesino Centers. When the form is returned to the welfare department in person an official will ask about the information and perhaps for documents to verify it. A Campesino Center worker will go to the welfare department to help.

When immediate need exists, aid payments can be made immediately. Immediate need is when the family doesn't have enough money for food, clothing, shelter, medical care or other "non-deferrable" needs during

the period of evaluation for AFDC.

There are at least six basic rights to which welfare recipients are entitled. These are:

Basic American rights. The California welfare regulations state: "Assistance is to be administered in a manner which is consistent with and will help achieve basic program purposes; which respects individual rights under the United States Constitution, State and Federal laws and which does not violate individual privacy or personal dignity."

### Welfare rights

The right to receive welfare. Welfare is not a "handout" of charity but a government program established by law.

The right to fair treatment, according to welfare regulations. In administering welfare programs, the county welfare departments must adhere to laws, regulations and guidelines dictated by State and Federal governments.

The right to information from the welfare department. Recipients have a right to inspect their case records at the welfare department.

The right to representation. Welfare recipients have the right to designate an "authorized representative" to help get infor-

mation from the welfare department or to serve as an "advocate" in protecting a recipient's rights. It is extremely important for a Campesino Center worker to go with the applicant or recipient to the welfare department. The Campesino Center worker serves as a witness to the treatment the recipient receives and acts as an advocate in talking to department officials.

The right to appeal actions by the welfare department. A request for a hearing can be made whenever there is a disagreement with any action of the department. Any person can be designated to represent the applicant or recipient in the hearing request. If the welfare department says that aid is going to be cut-off, call or go to the nearest Campesino Center. If a hearing is requested within ten days of the cut-off, aid will be given back until the hearing, and decision by welfare officials.

For more information write  
EL MALCRIADO  
P.O. Box 62  
Keene, Calif. 93531



## MEANY ASSAILS HARSH WELFARE RULES

Washington - AFL-CIO President George Meany denounced regulations proposed by the Labor Dept. to govern its work incentive (WIN) program as "unreasonable and harsh" toward unemployed mothers of dependent children and called on the department to withdraw them.

In a letter to Labor Sec. Peter Brennan, Meany pointed out that the proposed rules would require more than a million recipients of aid to families with dependent children (AFDC) to engage in an ill-defined "job-search activity" that would be prescribed by the states with no federal standards or protection.

Since 5.3 million workers are already seeking jobs that do not exist, Meany declared, to subject mothers of dependent children to a hopeless job search is "a waste of time, money and fuel."

"Under existing law, approximately 1.3 million welfare recipients are already available for work or training under the WIN program," Meany pointed out. "They are not in work or training because no jobs have been created for them and there are far too little funds to train them. In fact, only 13 percent of WIN registrants have been able to find work - work which generally pays so little that most are still on welfare. The new regulations will only worsen this situation."

Other objections cited by Meany included:

\* The regulations would punish children while ostensibly "disciplining" mothers, whose aid would be cut off if they were judged not to be engaged in a proper job search.

\* They contain no assurance of necessary supportive services, such as care of the child-

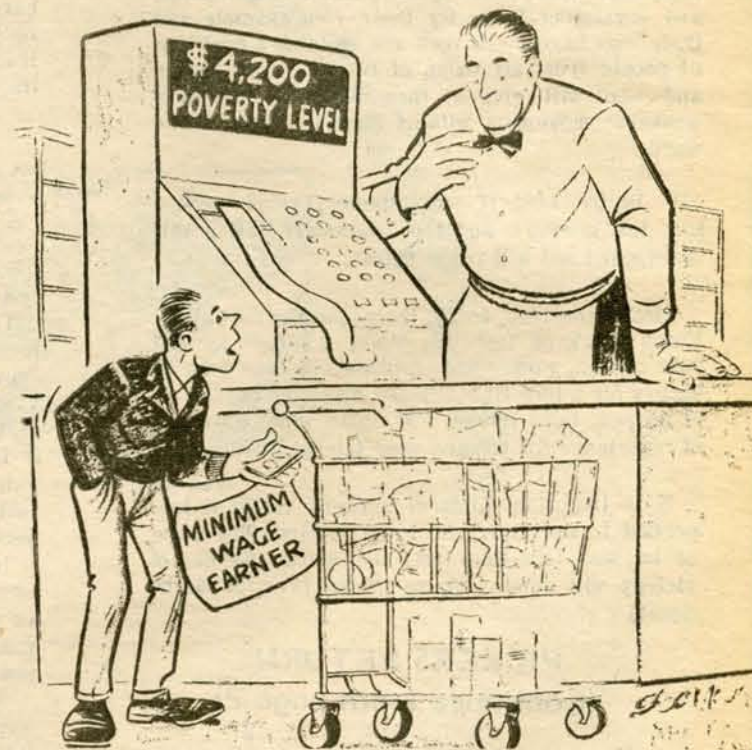
ren while the mother is fruitlessly job-hunting.

\* Appropriations for day-care services, already in short supply, are to be cut by 30 percent at the very time the regulations would take effect.

\* The proposed regulations on "deregistration," which Meany called "a new term for cutting payments to families already receiving, on the average, less than half of a poverty income," would eliminate the role presently played by welfare officials and caseworkers, allowing the WIN sponsor unilaterally to deregister any aid recipients without consulting the welfare worker who presumably understands the family's problems.

Meany concluded:

"These regulations should be withdrawn. They are clearly designed to force AFDC mothers off welfare rolls, not to find



them decent jobs. What is needed are creative and quick actions to put those forced out of jobs back to work, not harsh regu-

lations that harass some of the most vulnerable persons in the country - disadvantaged mothers and their children." (10/17/74)





# LEGAL • BRIEFS



## Exhausting All Legal Means...

Keene, Calif.—The tumultuous farm workers' struggle in the Sixties and Seventies began in the dusty agricultural fields and spread to the stately chambers of court rooms throughout the state.

These legal battles are described accurately in the Winter 1972-73 edition of *El Grito*, A Journal of Contemporary Chicano Thought, which is published in Berkeley, Calif. Sr. Salvador Enrique Alvarez wrote the historical review, called "The Legal and Legislative Struggle of the Farm Workers, 1965-72."

The variety of legal challenges laid down by the UFW Legal Department in that time makes ridiculous the Teamsters' claim last month that UFW lawsuits are "repetitive and frivolous."

Teamster-grower attempts to muffle the farm workers' voice in the public arena go back to 1966 when the agribusiness cartel of Bud Antle, Inc., filed a \$1 million suit against EL MALCRIADO for saying the Antle-Teamster contract of 1961 put the farm workers in "more slavery than ever."

The libel suit was later thrown out of Superior Court in Bakersfield in January, 1967.

Alvarez' historical review points out that in March of 1967 a San Francisco boycotter and a picket captain were attacked by four Teamster union members in front of the Purity Market in the Mission District.

Three Teamsters were arrested and convicted in April, when Judge Joseph Kennedy said, "... while the labor movement is definitely indispensable to this country, these labor people did not act in a civilized manner, and we cannot condone this uncivilized violence."

Recalling that the Union established a Legal Department with Jerry Cohen as Chief Counsel in late 1967, Alvarez says, "The progressive thrust of this legal struggle has been such that the United Farm Workers union, led by Cesar Chavez, has been able to develop institutions long sought by farm workers all over the world. . . In the past, due to legal maneuverings, final resolutions have been slow in coming, as in the case of the Salinas anti-picketing injunctions which were in court for two years."

### PLEA FOR NON-VIOLENCE

Alvarez's history records that it was the July 27, 1969 collective bargaining agreement between the Teamsters and Salinas-Watsonville district growers and shippers that finally touched off the UFW-Teamster legal battles.

"On July 28, Cesar Chavez contended that the announced agreement between grower-shippers and Teamsters was illegal and that a suit to prevent its consummation would be filed. . . It was a class action suit in behalf of all UFWOC members, contending that the Teamsters did not, could not, and would not represent them."

A \$51 million suit was filed July 30, 1970, in Santa Maria Superior Court against the Western Conference of Teamsters seeking an injunction "barring Teamsters from allegedly allowing or using employers to dominate or use employees for the sake of organizing union activities."

Then the UFW's farm strike of 1970 exploded Aug. 24 twenty-two struck growers obtained a restraining order the following day to prohibit picketing as a violation of the state's jurisdictional strike act.

"By Aug. 26, the arrest and citation total in the three-day-old Salinas strike stood at 28 as Cesar Chavez issued a plea for non-violence and criticized the Teamsters for the beating of his attorney," Alvarez recalls.

Monterey County Sheriff's deputies arrested six women and 19 men on charges of contempt of court for picketing lettuce fields owned by Bud Antle Co. on Sept. 2.

The UFW Legal Department handled many court tests during that strike, including the job of getting Cesar Chavez out of jail for violating the anti-picketing injunction.

"On Dec. 23, Cesar Chavez walked down the front steps of the Monterey jail to freedom after 20 days in a cell.



Cesar Chavez and Jerry Cohen at legal hearings. (El Malcriado photo)

He was released on an order by the California Supreme Court . . ."

The state high court ruled on April 15, 1971 that the UFW could boycott lettuce growers as long as the activity remained peaceful and truthful.

Alvarez recalls, "Bud Antle contended that the UFW's boycott was an illegal extension of the jurisdiction dispute found to exist between the UFW and the Teamsters. Antle had a contract covering its field workers with Teamsters local 890 since 1961. UFW claimed state courts had no jurisdiction over secondary boycott activities. It also disputed the trial court's ruling that its Salinas Valley strike was a jurisdictional dispute with the Teamsters."

Following the Teamster-UFW history, Alvarez notes that in October, 1971 a superior court dismissed a suit by three UFW members against three growers. The three claimed they were discharged because of their union membership. The court told the men to process their grievances through the Teamsters Union.

Finally, on March 14, 1972, the District Court of Appeals took up Monterey County Superior Judge Anthony Brazil's 27 anti-picketing injunctions that grew out of the 1970 farm strike. "On March 28, Injunctions barring United Farm Workers from picketing against Salinas Valley growers with Teamster contracts was upheld by the District Court of Appeals," Alvarez recorded.

"The court ruled that the strike was in fact a battle between the Teamster and Cesar Chavez' farm union over the right to represent farm workers, and Valley growers were legally entitled to protection from being caught in that dispute." UFW attorneys appealed this decision to the Supreme Court on May 8, 1972.

Over seven months later, the California Supreme Court in a landmark decision ruled the UFW pickets were legal.

"In its 6 to 1 decision, the high court found that the agricultural employers had entered an exclusive five-year 'union shop' agreement for their field workers without trying to determine whether the workers supported the Teamsters. . . From a practical point of view, an employer's grant of exclusive bargaining status to a nonrepresentative union must be considered the ultimate form of favoritism, completely substituting the employer's choice of unions for his employee's desires," concludes Alvarez's 1965-72 history of UFW's legal battles with the Teamsters and growers.

### GAG ORDER

### RESCINDED

(Continued from page 3)

union were bolstered by legal professors from law schools at Stanford University, the University of California at Berkeley and the University of California at Los Angeles.

The union announced before show cause hearing that it would violate what it considered an illegal order (see earlier story, page 3). Tuesday before the hearing, the union filed two lawsuits in violation of the order. Thirty-four attorneys joined in filing these suits, including ACLU lawyers.

One of the suits filed in San Mateo Superior Court against the 1973 Teamster-Franzia contract which was signed without a union election among the workers. The suit seeks \$50 million in damage and asks that the contract be set aside, according to Tom Dazell of the UFW Legal Dept. in Salinas.

The other suit filed Nov. 12 in Los Angeles Federal District Court alleges civil rights of farm workers were violated during the UFW strike in the Coachella Valley last year. Dan Lavery of the Southern California ACLU sponsored the Coachella suit on behalf of the union.

These two suits were barred by Metheny's TRO but became legal when the judge denied the Teamster request for a permanent injunction to enjoin the UFW from filing any more suits.

Teamster attorneys argued the case in Indio included Robert Higgins and Ira Mintzer from Charles Colson's law firm in Washington, D.C. which handles IBT legal matters.

Colson is the ex-White House aide who once wrote memos to the Justice Department asking it to take action against the UFW.

UFW Chief Legal Counsel Jerry Cohen denounced the Teamster suit as an attempt to cover up Teamster-grower collusion because they have "so damn much to hide." ACLU attorneys Lavery, Mark Rosenbaum and Joe Jakes joined Cohen and UFW lawyer Sandy Nathan in the courtroom fireworks. They effectively rebutted the arguments of Teamster lawyers, who also included Gary Scherotter of Indio and Paul Crost of the Western Conference of Teamsters.



# TEAMSTER POWER STRUGGLE ERUPTS

Keene, Calif.--A Teamster power struggle erupted in Farm Worker Local 1973 this month while at the same time grape growers showed signs they may give up on the IBT as a weapon to fight the UFW boycott.

Informed sources said the Teamsters are breaking up Local 1973 by moving it to Delano-Arvin to try to enforce grape contracts while dispersing vegetable contracts among other Teamster locals in specific geographical areas. (Local 1973 was chartered last year to head a nationwide Teamster organizing drive among farm workers.)

Various theories about Teamster intentions hit the headlines after about 30 organizers and staff persons were fired from the Salinas and Central Valley offices of Local 1973.

One of the fired Teamsters, area supervisor Cono Macias of Sanger, went to the press to complain that Local 1973 was turning "anti-Mexican" under its newly named boss, Ralph Cotner.

Macias said the fired Teamsters want to file a "class action suit" against the union. He was in Delano Nov. 8 when a group of picketers assembled outside Local 1973's office there.

The 25 picketers held signs that read "Cotner Go Home" and "We Want Macias." Staffers inside the Teamster office claimed "Those are Chavistas outside." The picketers did not belong to the UFW.

## Personal Vendetta

Among those fired by the Teamsters reportedly are L. T. Kennedy of Milpitas, who headed the social services operation at the local's Salinas headquarters; Sid Luscatoff, medical insurance plan administrator; Tony Mendez, an organizer from Delano; Pete Maturino, organizer from Gonzales; Beverly Freitas, a medical plan worker from San Juan Bautista; and Central Valley organizers Antonio Mendez, Ruben Pinales, Irene Perales, Alfredo Garza, Alex Valdez and Manuel Pinedo.

The Teamsters named three overseers in the wake of the firings which are reported to be Roy Monsano in Fresno,

Sonny Pasqua in Delano and James Butler in Arvin-Lamont.

Sources in Delano said Butler's appointment was especially significant, citing that he has been a strong agitator against the UFW in New York, Detroit and Coachella.

Other sources pointed out that the local's new boss, Cotner, directed the Teamsters during the 1973 UFW strike there. Cotner was blamed publicly by a Teamster organizer for sparking the violence that occurred in Coachella. "He has a personal vendetta against farm workers," the organizer, Ray Griego, told the Riverside Press-Enterprise.

## Politics Upstairs

The Delanogrowers, meanwhile, reactivated the South Central Farmers' Committee, with Dan Curly directing the public relations operations from offices at Lawrence Vineyards.

Curly said the committee is going to launch "a concerted, aggressive informational campaign" to tell consumers in East Coast markets that the grapes from California are picked by union members--Teamster Union members. He said the 25 to 30 growers who are supporting the committee's drive felt it should "start in Delano, where the trouble began."

Curly denied that Tony Mendez or any one-time Teamsters were involved in the committee's campaign but reliable sources said Mendez was hired at Lawrence Vineyards after the IBT fired him.

In another move by the growers, the Bakersfield Californian reported Nov. 3 that wine grape growers in Kern, Tulare and King counties are organizing a Wine Grape Growers Council of California.

The report named Gordon Fisher of Bakersfield as helping to organize "the forum for growers in dealing with common problems in the growing and marketing of grapes for wine."

Macias reported in a telephone interview that he thinks the Teamsters will dismantle Local 1973, making Salinas a trade area and limiting Local 1973 to the Delano-Arvin area.

Macias said he was the first of the Teamsters to be fired because of char-

ges he had formed "my own political group" and blamed the firings on "politics upstairs" in connection with the 1976 Teamster Convention.

In a statement published by the LA Times, Fresno Bee and the wire services, Macias commented on the fate of Local 1973:

"They are going to disband, that's what I think. They are afraid of it; it's grown too much, it will get bigger and they are afraid of its power. They fear the power of the workers."

George Baker, the Fresno Bee farm labor reporter, said "I'm sure they're going to break up the local. I've heard they're going to disperse the vegetable contracts to various locals and move Local 1973 to Delano."

"This would be a way for the Teamsters to save face," said Baker. "Obviously a new local in Delano would not have a power structure that could be very effective."

Another reporter, commenting on the firings of Teamster service people like Kennedy, said "The Teamsters seem to be wiping out what little groundwork was laid for contract enforcement and social services."

## "Greed For Dues \$"

A UFW source in Delano speculated on rumors the Teamsters are trying to ease out of their grape contracts. "They might get out on the basis of how they came in; if it was to stop the UFW, then they haven't been able to get rid of our boycott or slow us down. I think the growers are going back to their old methods because the Teamsters can't stop us."

Whatever the rumors, the facts were that during the week of Nov. 3-9, the fired Teamsters held a series of meetings at the McCarthy Motel in Delano while the chiefs of various Teamster locals held secret confabs in Burlingame, homebase for William Graml, architect of Local 1973.

UFW legal counsel Jerry Cohen said it looked like a power fight among the locals over "greed for dues money" and attempts to dilute the power of farm workers in the local.

"The farm workers are not going to get a voice at the 1976 Teamster Convention, you can bet on that," said Cohen.

The references to a fight over the '76 convention jibe with the following report from writer Lester Velie in "The Mafia Tightens Its Grip on the Teamsters" which appeared in the August 1974 edition of Readers Digest:

"Today, the underworld holds the power of balance that may determine who will be elected Teamster president in 1976: Hoffa or the incumbent, Fitzsimmons."

"As Hoffa spelled it out to us, Fitzsimmons builds support within the union by returning to the regional Teamster barons the power Hoffa had taken from them. Teamster organizing money, some \$7 million yearly, is going to Fitzsimmons men only. And he is banishing Hoffa loyalists to areas where they can't influence delegates to the 1976 Teamster Convention."

## Reorganization

While Macias claimed that Graml was banished to the warehousemen's division, local Teamster officials held to the line that the firings were due to economic cutbacks.

M. E. Anderson, director of the Western Conference of Teamsters, told the LA Times the union dropped plans for an organizing drive throughout the state in favor of servicing the workers already under contract. He said the reorganization of Local 1973 is an effort to strengthen and build up the local.

And Teamster press spokesman Jim Hansen denied to the Times any plans to dismantle Local 1973. He said it is possible some farm workers under Teamster contracts in other areas, such as Arizona, may be served by the locals in those areas.

Teamster farm workers in Salinas, meanwhile, held a series of meetings on union contract proposals at the offices of Salinas Local 890, instead of Local 1973's Spanish-styled building on Hitchcock Road, giving some credence to claims the Farm Workers Local is being divided up among other locals.

## 54 Injured in Labor Contractor Bus Accident

Delano, Calif. -- A speeding, overloaded farm labor bus careened out of control on a down hill grade and rolled over three times Nov. 13, injuring 54 of the 65 workers aboard.

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) in Porterville reported the farm workers were packed into a Marko Zaninovich, Inc. bus that has a capacity of 32.

"Apparently they were going too fast," said CHP Sgt. Joe Lopez, noting the cause of the accident still is under investigation.

He said the driver, Ali Saad Zamzami, 52, of Delano, was properly licensed and that a CHP safety check of the badly damaged bus found "only a few defects, not too many."

One of the Arab grape pickers who was aboard the bus said he heard a tire blow out just before the crash. A left rear tire was missing from the wrecked bus when EL MAL-CRIADO found it at the Zaninovich ranch outside Delano. The bus

was stuck away in a shed until the CHP safety officer arrived to inspect it.

It was the second bad bus crash in the past year involving Arab farm workers. The UFW legal department presented declarations about common safety faults in farm labor buses to the CHP after the first crash near Caratan last October but nothing was done about it, according to union sources.

Wednesday's crash occurred just west of Road 184 on Avenue 24 as the grape pickers were en route from a Richgrove vineyard to Farm Labor Camp No. 3 at Road 160. Union members were told 65 workers were aboard the 16-seat bus.

Three of the workers suffered broken bones in the crash. They are Esmial Saiban, Ahmed Ali Shohatee and Zamzami Nagl. About 20 workers were admitted to Delano Community Hospital and six to Tulare District Hospital. At least 25 others were treated and released.



This Marko Zaninovich, Inc. bus was found by UFW photographer Cris Sanchez at the Zaninovich ranch Nov. 14 a day after it crashed on Avenue 24 near Delano. A left rear tire is missing, attesting to reports of a blow-out just before the bus rolled over three times injuring 54 farm workers.