

EL MALCRIADO

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STRIKE WAVE LOOMS IN SALINAS VALLEY



More than 3500 men, women, and children crowd a hot Salinas high school gym showing the Teamsters that they would rather support Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers union. Chavez was joined by 30 national Catholic leaders who blasted the collusion between the Teamsters and the growers.



Salinas, Calif.—More than 3500 cheering farm workers packed a local high school gym July 11 to hear UFW President Cesar Chavez describe the battle workers are presently waging to stop growers from deducting Teamster dues from their paychecks.

An estimated \$150,000 is taken from Salinas Valley farm working families each month in Teamster dues, money which the UFW says could build more farm worker clinics and service centers, instead of financing the Teamster's \$100,000 a month drive to destroy the popular-based Chavez Union.

Chavez was flanked at the meeting by over 30 national Catholic leaders who called the 1970 grower-Teamster agreements "a collusive steal of your contracts" and who promised renewed support of the head lettuce, table grape and Gallo wine boycott.

The women and men and children who work the vegetable fields of the Salinas Valley flocked to the general meeting to hear the "little giant," who in 1970 led 10,000 workers to contract victories in a massive general strike.

The July rally was the third mass farm worker rejection of Teamster leadership in 1974, and followed two months of active organizing on the Teamster ranches by the UFW.

(On February 18 eight thousand farm workers in the Imperial Valley shut down agribusiness with a work-stop to protest illegal Teamster dues and deductions. On June 6 some 3,000 field workers left their cutting knives and short handled hoes to protest the visit of Fitzsimmons who came to nearby Monterey to inaugurate Teamster Local 1973).

The tone of the meeting became somber, however, as Chavez relayed the tragic news of yet another farm labor "accident," 18 year old Armando Contreras had been crushed that very day by a Merrill Farms Teamster-driven lettuce truck, and lay in critical condition at the Salinas Memorial Hospital. The Merrill truck did not carry a back-up

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DEATH IN THE LOST HILLS—
THREE FARM WORKERS KILLED P. 5

ANGELINOS TAKE UP
BOYCOTT DRIVE P. 12



Cesar Chavez and Mr. Jim Bently, of Toronto, Canada, join campesinos in a Huelga applause during a UFW rally held in Lamont, Calif. on July 15, 1974. More than 500 farm workers participated.

Canadian Labor Leader Attends Lamont Rally

Lamont, Calif. — Black eagle flags fluttered in the streets of this small agricultural town, on July 15 when more than 500 marching workers joined Cesar Chavez in a show of solidarity.

The marchers walked through the streets of Lamont for over an hour asking their neighbors to leave their homes and join them. Many persons responded to the calls "Viva La Huelga" and "Si Se Puede" and fell in with the campesinos.

The march led to the park where mass was held and Chavez introduced Jim Bently, of the plumbers union in Toronto, Canada, and Francoise Thomaze, of Paris, France where she is a member of a non-violence socialist group called "Cesar Chavez."

Mr. Bently assured the campesinos that the Canadian people, not only in Toronto but in "all the length and breadth" of Canada were solidly behind them in their strike and boycott. He closed his speech with a hearty "Viva La Huelga" and the audience responded with a huelga applause.

Francoise Thomazo, the next speaker, told the audience that

"farm workers in the south of France are struggling just like you" and explained that their struggle was the same as the struggle of the French worker.

Chavez spoke of the problem of illegal strikebreakers and said the UFW would like to "ask them to go elsewhere and not to break the strike because it would just make things more difficult for us and for them in the end."

He continued by asking all grape workers, who are now working in non-union fields, that they could help the boycott by ruining the grapes they pick. This way the growers will find themselves with poor quality grapes and "it is easier to boycott poor quality grapes."

Cesar also asked the audience to encourage their fellow workers not to pay any Teamster dues, like they're doing in Delano, Salinas, Imperial Valley and Coachella. He said that once the Teamsters find themselves without any money they will leave.

Chavez finished his speech optimistically by saying "we are going to win this boycott a lot sooner than most people think."

New Yorkers Tackle Hills Store

New York, N.Y. — The New York boycott campaign is concentrating on the Hills supermarket chain which has never reached an agreement with the UFW.

Part of the campaign is aimed at Hugh Carey, running for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination, who is trying to project a "liberal" image to New York voters.

Carey's importance lies not only with the fact that he is a potential governor of the second most populous state in the nation, but also because his brother, Ed, is a major stockholder in Hills stores.

Hills has 106 stores in the state, 60 of them in New York City.

Ricardo Chavez, UFW executive board member, began a fast July 23 in front of a Hills store in the Huntington section of Long Island. A mass picket and religious service outside the store is planned sometime during the fast.

Meanwhile, the effects of the boycott may be taking effect on Hills. One store in Yonkers had to resort to giving away a head of lettuce with each bottle of salad dressing which was sold.

UFW sympathizers participated in a mass picket, June 29, which also drew three or four anti-union trouble makers carrying guns. Police kept the gun wielders away; no one was hurt but none of the gun toters were arrested.

Hills officials have tended to be sneaky. A delegation of clergymen visited one manager of a Long Island store, July 2. The manager, after meeting the delegation, excused himself, and without telling anyone called the police who arrived and expelled the visitors. No one was arrested.

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French Activist Visits UFW Headquarters

Keene, Calif. — Francoise Thomazo, a member of "Cesar Chavez," a non-violent research and action group in Paris, France, is visiting La Paz, the UFW headquarters here. F. Thomazo came to the United States to see first hand how the UFW is conducting its struggle for social justice.

She says that the group she belongs to is called "Cesar Chavez" because they feel that Chavez is "the most important non-violent leader in the world today".

F. Thomazo, who will be in La Paz for 10 days, in an interview said that the struggle of the American workers is the same as the struggle of the French workers.

She continued by saying, "I would like to tell the readers of EL MALCRIADO, that it is very important that when people struggle for the same ends and with the same means, it is very important that they know themselves and the meaning of their actions and help themselves in an international spirit."

es, not hiring enough bilingual census takers.

Manuel Ruiz, Civil Rights Commissioner, points out that the Census is important to the Spanish speaking in terms of representation, being able to obtain revenue sharing, housing, industry, affirmative action programs and "all other economic and social endeavors."

torious lies, Fitzsimmons, in an attempt to discredit Overdrive, claimed on national television that Editor - Publisher Mike Parkhurst had never been a truck driver.

The facts are that Parkhurst was an over-the-road trucker for several years, was an owner-operator, and still takes occasional trips by tractor-trailer.

Overdrive states, "There is no over-the-road tractor-trailer combination that Parkhurst can't drive. And if Fitzsimmons would get out of his marble tower or off the golf links long enough, Parkhurst would be glad to try to teach him how to drive a truck."

Civil Rights Commission Charges Discrimination in Census Count

Washington, D.C. — The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights found that the 1970 Census Bureau count of Spanish-speaking people was inadequate citing poor counting methods, the lack of Spanish language question forms, and for not asking the proper questions on the form.

In addition, says the report, the Census Bureau is "extremely deficient" in employment practices.

Truckers Journal Blasts Fitzsimmons' Corruption

Los Angeles, Calif. — Not all truckers are silently sitting back and allowing the Teamster's leadership run rampant in its campaign of cheating and corruption.

Overdrive magazine, the leading journal of professional truckers, has been a thorn to the side of Teamster President Frank Fitzsimmons and the Nixon administration.

The magazine, in the July issue, writes, "The previous history of the Fitzsimmons-Nixon love affair is a trail strewn with political intrigue and manipulation, moral bankruptcy and corruption, and influence-peddling at the highest level of government."

The magazine also caught Fitzsimmons in another of his no-

Growers Barred from Using Black Eagle

Visalia, Calif. — A preliminary injunction has prohibited four San Joaquin grape growers from using the UFW Black Eagle on their containers after misleading consumers since their contract with the union expired last summer.

The injunction, sought by the UFW, ordered the four Tulare County growers to either obliterate the union label from packing boxes or destroy the containers.

The injunction, issued by Superior Court Judge Fredrick Jacobus also gave UFW the right to search growers properties for any crates or containers still bearing the union symbol.

The Tulare County Sheriff's Department is supposed to force compliance of the injunction if the growers violate the order. This is the first time in the county the growers face prosecution for misleading labeling practices.

A similar injunction was issued in May barring three Kern County growers from using UFW labels on table grape shipments.

The Tulare County growers affected by the injunction are Elmco Vineyards, Poplar Grape Growers, St. Agnes Vineyards and Merzorian Bros. Farm Management Co. Named in the Kern suit were Pandol Bros. Inc., Tex-Cal Inc., and John Dulcich and Sons.

Teamsters Charged with Racism in Court Suit

Richmond, Calif. — Four workers have filed a \$500,000 class action suit against Teamsters Local 315 and Safeway Stores, Inc., charging discrimination in hiring, promotion, and firing.

The suit, centering around promotions to truck drivers, was filed by three Blacks and a Chicano on behalf of all minority workers at Safeway's distribution center in this San Francisco bay area city.

The suit alleges the Teamster local discriminates in recruiting members, refuses to refer minority workers to certain jobs, refuses to process grievances and makes discriminatory bargaining agreements.

Safeway was accused of using employment standards and tests to discriminate against minority workers in employment and assigning them to lower paying,

less desirable jobs, as well as reaching discriminatory bargaining agreements.

The suit was brought by Edward Martinez, Leon Davis, Curley Carrie, and Louis Robinson. Carrie and Robinson were promoted to truck drivers but were later demoted.

Martinez and Davis were promoted to truck drivers only after filing complaints with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. The four are among 500 minority employees at the Richmond distribution center.

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Mendota Meloneros Protest Grower's Low Wages

Coalinga, Calif. — More than 300 melon workers joined UFW strikers as they exited the fields of Pappas & Co., July 20, in protest over the grower's intolerable demands.

Workers overheard Pappas say to foremen, that he only wanted the melons that were 3/4 green, since many were overripe. Also the workers were filling a 28 square foot trailer when it was first told to them that it was 23-1/2 square feet.

The melon workers walked out after Pappas refused to increase the wage for the extra work and were soon welcomed by UFW picketers as they poured out from the fields.

As UFW picketers were greeting the workers, a water truck on the other side of the road on the property of Harris Farms Inc., abruptly appeared and sprayed a heavy shower of water 50 yards over UFW members.

Later UFW member Eduardo Calacas, 42, was arrested for trespassing after sheriffs first had offered him a ride from the entrance road to the picket line.

The 300 melon workers gladly joined UFW members as they

boarded UFW buses and returned to their labor camp.

Workers and UFW strikers arrived at the camp, owned by labor contractor Ernest Guillen, followed later by 15 county sheriffs.

Upon opening their lunches, one worker angrily showed to EL MALCRIADO, two flies in his burrito. Their meals cost \$2.00 each and they only get \$10.00 every four days for the prepared food.

One worker added that previously Teamsters had come onto the camp to sign up members, but only three signed. He added, "We know they don't have any guarantees."

Mendota strike organizer Manuel Chavez said that the workers are entitled to remain at the camp until they get their last checks.

The strike has been effective so far as more workers have walked out and seeing by the next day the Pappas melon packing shed completely dead. Early Sunday morning UFW strikers observed hundreds of workers waiting before the small Greyhound bus depot ready to leave towards Salinas.

Chavez Assails Use of "Illegals" in Mendota Rally

Mendota, Calif. — Cesar Chavez urged fellow farmworkers at a rally here to circulate petitions to tell legislators in Washington, D.C. to stop the large flow of "illegal aliens", who are depriving the farmworkers of their jobs.

The followers, only a few in number four years ago, are now a large UFW organizing group in Mendota, a campesino town that primarily harvests melons.

Chavez said, "Illegals are invading the country because the Nixon Administration is permitting it." He added that they come not only from Mexico, but

from Costa Rica, San Salvador, the Philippines and the Arab nations in the hundreds and thousands and take away our jobs.

Chavez pointed out that the growers who hire the "illegals," are closely tied to the Immigration Department, the Justice Department, and the Federal Government.

Chants of "huelga, huelga, huelga" came in an uproar when Chavez remarked in Spanish "that the only cure for this sickness of exploitation of the farmworkers by the growers, is a medicine called, 'HUELGA!'"

Pacific Farms Harvest Halted by 'Blitzkrieg'

Lamont, Calif. — Seventy workers quit and eighty others went out on strike when an early morning blitzkrieg by the United Farm Workers hit the Pacific Farms Labor camp on Wednesday July 3.

The walk out brought the harvesting and packing to a halt and marked the first melon strike in the Bakersfield area.

A call for help came from workers at the camp who asked the Lamont "Huelguistas" for support against the unfair labor practices and low wages at the Pacific Farms. Contractors have been switching the criteria for paying the workers, informing them only after their labor was completed.

The contractors established a practice of telling the workers that they would pay them according to the amount of melons they picked from the fields.

The contractors in reality would pay them according to

the amount of melons that were packed and shipped. This practice in essence left it up to the contractors not to pay the workers for a considerable portion of their labor.

Pacific Farms Incorporated filed a court injunction against the strikers resulting in a temporary restraining order limiting the number of picketers.

Kern County Superior Court Judge J. Kelly Steele restricted the Union to 12 pickets, 50 feet apart. UFW attorney Debbie Vollmer argued that the temporary restraining order was unconstitutional, but Steel told her, "I don't have to consider if this is constitutional, only if its reasonable."

Judge Steel's statement is the type of attitude the UFW faces in dealing with the Kern County Municipal Court System and indicates the support the growers receive from the judicial system.



Three generations of campesinos listen and look during speeches at UFW support rally held at the very crowded and uncomfortable Alisal High School gym at Stockton.

Mendota Melon Strike

300 Strike Pappas & Company

Mendota, Calif. — The UFW legal department has received reports that local melon growers are forming an armed vigilante group to break a strike by melon pickers which began July 19.

The strikers in this area, in western Fresno county in central California, are already facing continued police surveillance and harassment, and distorted news coverage by the local press.

30 UFW members from Calexico are assisting the local strikers in their struggle against the powerful growers.

The Fresno County Sheriffs Department is keeping a 24-hour watch over the strikers, continually utilizing patrol helicopters and using infiltrators to prowl around UFW buses at night.

The local newspaper, the Mendota-Firebaugh Journal, has also attacked the campesino struggle, featuring a front page editorial called "More than Fire" in its July 11 edition.

It stated that Cesar Chavez' credibility "went up in flames", blaming him and the UFW for a recent fire, and the paper also

claimed the union was taking "a path in violence", and creating a "reign of terror".

Strike information was further slanted as a Fresno radio station reported UFW strikers were armed and a Fresno television news show used film showing only three picketers to describe the strike situation.

Some UFW members feel that the growers are not as concerned now about the melon strike as they will be when the large tomato harvest begins in September.

"The Spark Can be Lit"

Keeler, Michigan-UFW-backed strawberry pickers, quickly settled a three-day strike at the John Falkner & Son Farms, 70 miles east of Chicago, near the east Michigan lakeside.

Workers first met with staff attorney, Richard Feferman from the Migrant Legal Assistance project (MMLA) on Wednesday evening, June 19 where they angrily posed the problems of child labor, low wages, and poor housing.

The Fair Labor Standards Act bars children under 12 from working, thus putting a deep cut into farmworker family incomes. And their \$1.50 wage, based on piece rate, is equal to buying only two pounds of pinto beans, plus they must pay \$5.00 a week for a 12' X 12' cabin with only one light and no toilet.

An elected four man committee asked Falkner to increase the piece rate from 76¢ to a \$1.00 per carrier of strawberries (8-10 quarts) and no rent.

Falkner replied, "If anyone wants more than 76¢, they can pack up their bags and go some place else."

On Thursday, the workers responded and did not work, making the walkout 100% effective.

UFW organizers, Sam Baca, George Delgado and Alex Lopez arrived at the fields early Friday morning at 6:00 AM and reassured local leaders that the strike was still effective although 60 pickers had returned to work, after Falkner spat out a 5¢ raise.

A show of relief and enthusiasm rose as soon as picketers grabbed the "black eagle flags" from the UFW supporters and circled the fields in cars, honking and shouting "Viva Chavez" and "Viva la huelga" and by 10:30 AM, all 60 workers had left, leaving the fields empty.

At 5:00 PM, workers confirmed their unanimous desire to strike and voted to bargain for a wage rate of a \$1.00 per carrier and no rent.

Falkner now had his back to the wall, with him knowing that his fruit would rot if not picked by Sunday. In addition, the temporary rental of a picking machine failed, since his plants were being ruined by the apparatus.

Working through Feferman, the attorney, instead of the four man committee, Falkner first proposed raising the wage to 90¢ and reducing the rent to \$3.00.

This was immediately rejected by the workers and finally reached a concession for 90¢ and no

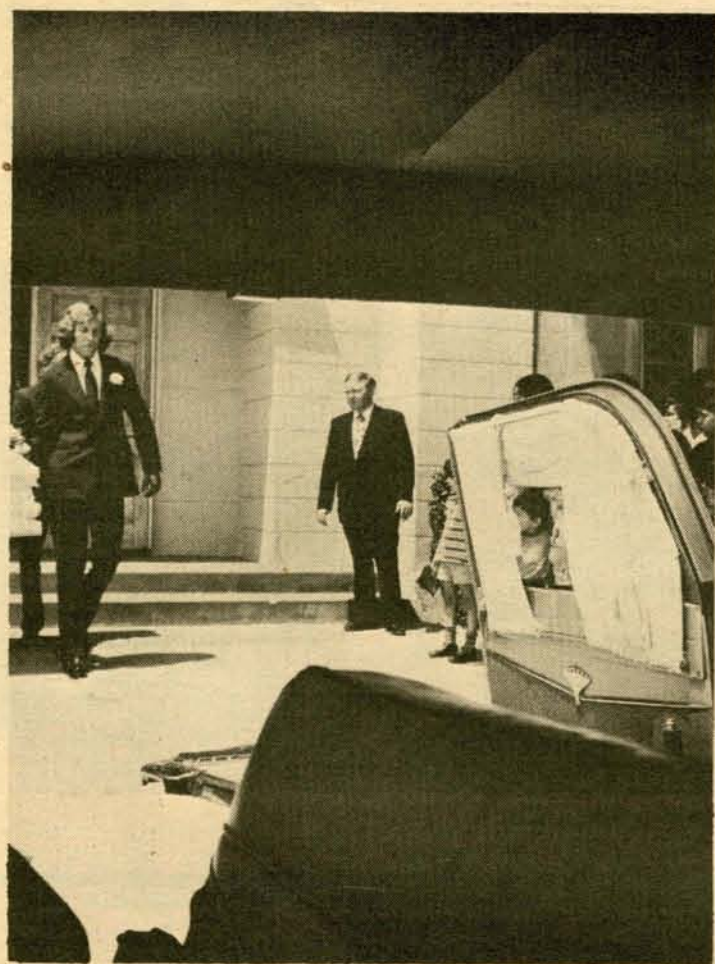
rent, plus Falkner agreed to recognize the negotiating committee as the legitimate group for bargaining and dealing.

Within a day and a half, UFW organizers, Baca, Delgado, and Lopez, had organized a statewide food drive and had raised over \$3,000 with contributions coming from the Archbishop from Lansing, along with two other parishes and as well as from different unions.

On Sunday, more than fifty UFW supporters arrived from all over the state to Keeler with campers, vans, and cars packed with food.

The climax came at a victory Mass, held by the Lansing Archbishop, where over 350 people attended and heard a congratulatory message from Cesar Chavez, pointing out that there is no victory without unity and ending with "Que viva la Causa y QUE VIVAN LOS FRESEROS TRIUNFANTES!!!"

According to Sam Baca, this marks the first victory for the Michigan farmworkers where already in other parts of the state, other farmworkers are talking about the success of the strike. Baca added that "the spark can be lit."



The body of three year old Barbarito Garza III is carried by pallbearers on the way to funeral service. The little boy was run over by a truck owned by Guimarra Farms while he was standing on a picket line.

In Critical Condition

Salinas Worker Crushed by Lettuce Truck

Salinas, Calif.—Eighteen-year-old Armando Contreras was critically injured on July 11 when he was crushed by a lettuce truck while working in the fields of Merrill Farms. The accident came just weeks after a 44-year-old farm worker was killed on a Bruce Church ranch when run over by a truck in similar circumstances.

Both Merrill Farms and Bruce Church are under Teamster Union contracts, and Salinas farm workers see the two tragedies as clear examples of Teamster-grower neglect. While farm workers on ranches under UFW contract are protected by warning systems on field equipment, neither Merrill nor Church had installed such systems at the time of the accidents.

From his hospital bed where he remains immobile with six cracked ribs and a broken shoulder, Contreras described his accident:

"When I went back with my boxes I didn't see the truck, since you have to carry them on one side and they block your vision. It happened all of a sudden. I didn't feel anything when it hit me until I couldn't breathe anymore. It was a terrible pain; the tire was on top of my chest. I could hear my bones begin to crack."

Contreras' mother-in-law, Concepción Lemus, was working in the fields when the tragic news of Armando's accident reached her:

"It feels terrible, especially when they came to tell us about it. You can imagine, we expected the very worst, explained Mrs. Lemus, looking tired and drawn from the ordeal. "We were working when they came to tell us

that my son had been run over, that he was crying and trembling and white as a sheet. They ran him over and what could we say...and a truck...I don't want to remember it anymore."

Contreras and his wife, Martha, have an 18-month-old son and are worried about how they will pay the bills. Contreras has been notified by the Teamsters that he does not qualify for the union's medical plan: "They told me if I didn't have the 80 completed hours I wouldn't receive a thing."

Disability, Contreras has been told, will pay \$133 every two weeks, making but a small dent in the family's monthly bills. "I owe rent (\$50), the car payment (\$90), the payments on furniture in Mexicali (\$160) and then there's food (\$50 a week). And then for our child we have to buy him special food which is so expensive....I just won't make it with what they are going to give me."

Mrs. Lemus is ready to fight the neglect and disregard demonstrated by the union and company: "If we don't get justice, we'll have to give them a fight." Yet Mrs. Lemus, like Armando's fellow workers (see interviews with Merrill workers) is mainly concerned with how to avoid such tragedies in the future.

"I wish that my sons could study instead of working in the fields," pleads Mrs. Lemus. "Because they leave and you never know if they are coming back. I have three sons and three daughters working to make a living. We are left with need. We all know why we work; not because we like it or because of greed...but because we have to work."

Three-Year Old Run Over on Picket Line

"I Touched His Hand... I Knew He Was Dead"

ARVIN, Ca.—A three year old boy was run over and killed by a truck last month as he clung to the hand of his young mother while on a picket line in this city in the San Joaquin Valley.

Barbarito Garza III, was killed by a truck driven by Lester Christy, 21, when the truck shot across South Derby Street, between two parked cars, and twelve feet off of the roadway striking the child.

The child was pronounced dead on arrival at Kern County General Hospital.

The mother, Linda Garza, 18, stated that she was holding her son by the hand when a white pickup truck, owned by Guimarra Vineyards, stuck her son pushing her to one side. "He came straight at us...he was going fast," she cried as she demonstrated how her child had been crushed while clinging to her hand.

The pair was standing approximately twelve feet from the roadway and witnesses at the scene stated that the truck had driven completely off the roadway.

The father, Barbarito Garza, Jr., 23, rushed over to his son and grabbed him by the wrist, "I touched his hand, and there was nothing, I knew he was dead."

The Garza family was across the street from Mazzie's participating in a wildcat strike which began the previous morning when 60 pieceworkers walked out over working conditions and a request for pay increases.

The father was employed at the packing house along with other members of his family.

Barbarito Garza, Jr., stated that earlier in the day workers on the picket line had been threatened with dismissal if they signed a petition stating their grievances and demands. According to Jim Ford, a workers spokesman, they were fired by Mazzie after they walked out.

Witnesses at the scene of the accident stated that the driver of the truck had dropped by twice before to speak to strikers on the picket line.

Nixonites Charged with Rigging '72 Elections

Washington, D.C. — A National Lawyers Guild "People's Law Suit" challenging the constitutionality and legality of the 1972 presidential election, was filed in a U.S. District Court here.

Eight thousand groups and individuals are listed as plaintiffs including the UFW.

President Nixon and members of his administration's clique have been named defendants, along with large corporations and the Teamsters Union.

They're charged with conspiring to cheat the American people of an honest and open presidential election, which the suit alleges was won through a long series of illegal actions.

The father drew a sketch showing that the truck had been previously parked on the property of Mazzie Farms packing house, facing the picket line across the street, between the two parked cars and twelve feet off the roadway striking the child.

Christy, driver of the truck was not held for questioning nor was he cited nor arrested.

Christy was previously employed by Mazzie's and is now

employed by Guimarra Vineyards, one of the major vineyards in the fertile San Joaquin Valley.

The Arvin police department assigned only one man to conduct the investigation.

The aunt of the slain child, in speaking about the wildcat strike, stated, "They say if we don't work harder they'll take the money out of our checks. So, they work you to death." But for Barbarito Garza III, 3 years old, death came before employment.

Coachella Growers

Larson Gains Draw in UFW Court Skirmish

Indio, Calif.—The court battle between the United Farm Workers of America (UFW) and K.K. Larson, a Coachella Valley grape grower, came to a draw early this month, when Superior Court Judge Fred Metheny issued a preliminary injunction against the UFW and placed certain restrictions on Larson.

Judge Metheny's court order prohibits the UFW from certain secondary boycott and picketing activities. The UFW has been boycotting Larson's grapes and picketing his fields.

The court order also prohibits him from requiring his employees or prospective employees from agreeing to join or not to join any labor organization.

The legal confrontation between the UFW and Larson began April 4th, when Larson ended four years of union affiliation with UFW and immediately after filed a lawsuit asking for a permanent injunction banning the UFW from picketing his fields and boycotting his grapes.

Larson in his lawsuit is invoking the California Jurisdictional Strike Act which prohibits a labor union from using economic sanctions against an employer when that union is engaged in a jurisdictional dispute with another union.

Larson's attorney, Charles Field of Riverside, contends that since the UFW and the Teamsters are in the midst of a jurisdictional dispute, as to who represents Larson's 106 workers, the grower should not be made to suffer.

The strike act does not apply, however, if it is shown that the

employer interferes in the efforts of either union in organizing the employers workers.

UFW attorney Sanford Nathan argues that Larson did interfere, on March 21, when he conducted a "phony" election in which he coerced his workers to vote against the UFW and in favor of the Teamsters.

Nathan, in arguing against the permanent injunction, also says that Larson has suffered no damages at the hands of the UFW and that there's nothing the "union could do this year that could affect Larson grapes".

Judge Metheny, in explaining his court order, said that the election had not been entirely "fair" since the UFW had not been given notice of it. (The election was conducted by Rev. Richard Humphrys, a Coachella priest who is biased against the UFW, and allowed a lack of voting privacy. The results were 60-28 against the UFW.)

The judge also conceded that the injunction placed on the UFW would have a minimal effect because Larson grapes have already been harvested.

Judge Metheny also emphasized that the preliminary court order should not be interpreted to indicate what his decision will be in full trial of Larson's suit against the UFW which he said should be soon.

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Death in the 'Lost Hills'

FARM WORKERS KILLED IN CAMPER ACCIDENT

Wasco, Calif. — It was an early damp Wednesday morning, July 3 at 6:00 AM, when a camper pick-up blew a tire, packed with 18 sleeping farmworkers, turned over twice, killing three and injuring the rest.

Dead were Alejandro Hernandez, 15, and grandson to Juan Hernandez, labor contractor and owner of the truck; also Riena Reyna, mother, 45, and her daughter, Sylvia, 14, both living at 427 W. Ash, Shafter, Calif.

In critical condition are Maria Sanchez, 26, Ricky Hernandez, 14, and Salvador Hernandez, 17. Noelia Peña Garcia, 21, and a UFW member also has visible injuries along with three others still hospitalized.

The workers were enroute on Highway 46, north of Bakersfield, to the Wes Hammond Ranch, according to one worker, to clean cotton (hoe weeds).

Sleeping During Crash

"We were all asleep when it happened", said Francisca Padilla, in barefeet at the hospital and still in her working clothes. The truck threw all of the workers on to the road. "We tried to get up but we kept falling down."

At the inquest held at noon, July 5, Juan Hernandez and his wife, Marguerita, the driver of the truck, refused to testify upon the advice of their attorney Roger

Randell, But Operations Specialist to the California Highway Patrol, Charles Moore, gave Hernandez a lot to worry about when he listed the deficiencies to his '73 Ford Camper.

After the accident, Moore found the truck to be lacking a fire extinguisher, a first-aid kit, an emergency signal device for the rear passengers, and to be minus a sign at the entrance stating the seating capacity.

All of the defects, said Moore, are in direct violation to the California Administrative Code, Title 13.

Moore said earlier, that on Feb. 14, 1974, he had inspected Hernandez's 1974 camper and stated that he must install these safety devices for the '73 camper as well. Since then, he had only added two escape-type windows to the '73, the one in the accident.

Investigating officers examined the left rear tire closely and found a nail imbedded 3/8 of an inch into the tread. The tire, said Moore, was completely smooth in the center, while the minimum tread for a farm labor vehicle on the no. 2 inside groove should be 2/32 of an inch, yet this tire had a tread 1/32 of an inch deep and in some places was completely smooth.

Moore admitted that the tire did not actually blow out but



The rash of farm work related accidents continue in California's San Joaquin Valley as three campesinos lost their lives near Bakersfield when this camper carrying 18 sleeping workers on their way to work blew a tire and turned over twice.



The 1973 Ford camper, belonging to labor contractor Juan Hernandez, which carried three campesinos to their deaths and injured 15 others was later found to be in violation of several safety regulations.

gradually "went down" due to the overweight of the truck.

At the inquest, Moore did not know where everyone was seated, but the workers said there were five in the front and 14 in the back. Only three persons are permitted in the cab with a maximum of 13 people allowed in the rear.

Highway Patrolman Daniel Ramirez added in supplementary report that Francisca Padilla was sitting on one of the two spare tires in the back, which is illegal since everyone should have proper seating and no harmful objects be left in the back.

Hernandez is said to have a bad record with the UFW, and the Lamont office has cited his

efforts in keeping the Roberts Farm open by supplying scab labor. At White River, last year Lupe Murguia, of the Delano office recalled him being the biggest scab during that strike.

This marks the seventh farm labor bus and truck accident since January 15, when 19 farmworkers perished in a mal-equipped bus in Blythe. A farm labor bus safety bill is still waiting to be passed in the California State Legislature.

Bill AB 2975 would require farm labor buses to be inspected each year, meet the same requirements as school buses, and implement a driver's training program approved by the California Highway Patrol.

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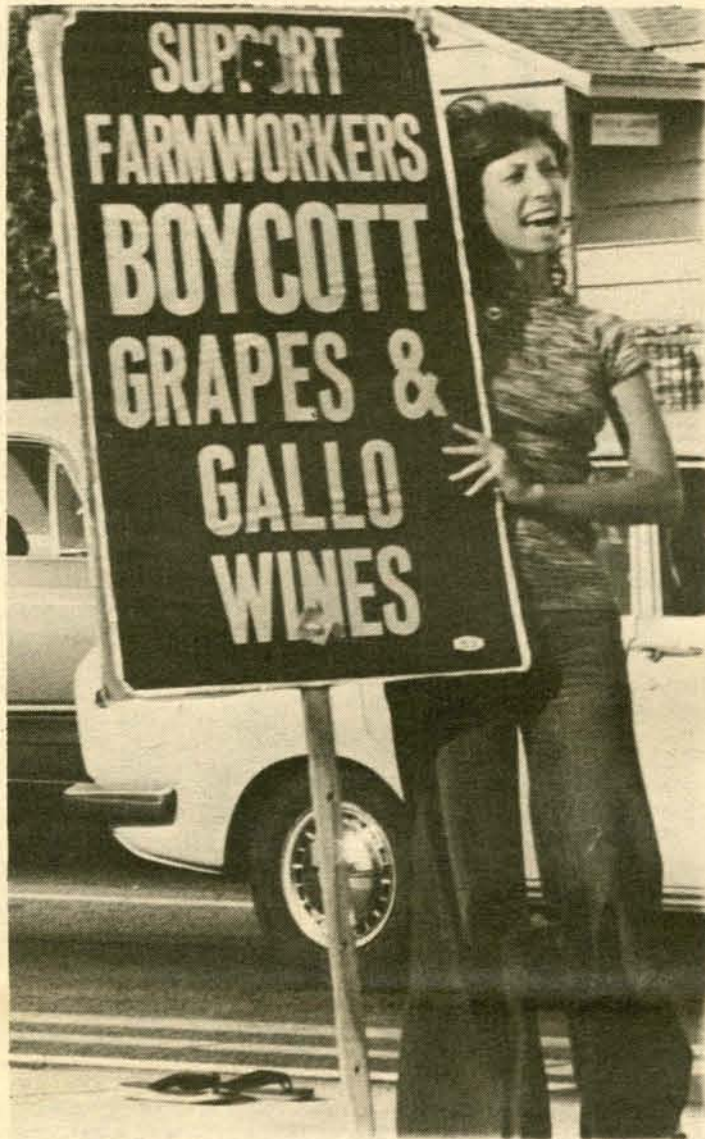
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Angelinos Backing UFW

L.A. Boycott in Full Swing



Walking, talking human billboard greets Los Angeles motorists who honk their horns in support of boycott appeal.

Los Angeles, Calif. — Activities are reaching a fever pitch as hundreds of Angelinos take to the sidewalks, parking lots and homes to organize the United Farm Workers (UFW) boycott against grapes, lettuce and Gallo wines.

The effects of the boycott can be seen by the difficulty faced by the growers in selling the boycotted products at a profit. For example, grapes are now selling at 39¢ a pound (retail) as compared to last year when they sold at 49-50¢ a pound.

A sympathetic Teamster truck driver told Winnie Arballo of the L.A. boycott that before the boycott, there were 40 trucks making deliveries in the area. According to the Teamster, 40 trucks were insufficient, but now, at least 19 trucks are idle on any given day.

Less emphasis was placed on organizing L.A. in previous boycotts but this metropolitan area of eight million people is now one of the leading boycott cities. This city is strategically important to the boycott since it is number two in the U.S. in grape, lettuce and Gallo wine consumption. L.A. is located close to the California fields; for example, and lies only 130 miles from the Coachella Valley. Because of this, L.A. is often used as the "dumping ground" for the growers.

While boycotted items bring a better price in New York, nonetheless, it is less expensive for the growers to ship their produce to Los Angeles, thereby maintaining profits. However, that situation is beginning to change.

L.A. is a widely multinational city, with many people who have had direct experiences with exploitation. As the boycott picks up more steam, Los Angeles will no longer be such a profitable salvation for the land barons.

The principle thrust of organizing is around "house meetings" where volunteers are recruited to picket, leaflet and demonstrate.

The boycott organizing committee has recruited nearly 500 part-time volunteers through the over 200 house meetings each week in the 65 areas of Los Angeles. These volunteers, along with 108 full-time organizers in L.A. and 10 in Orange, are building widespread community support for the boycott.

For example, in the Echo Park community (in north L.A.) recently, five picketers gathered over 600 signatures on a petition to boycott grapes, lettuce, and Gallo. These signatures, collected in less than six hours at one store, reflect the overall support for the boycott.

Although consumer response to the boycott is strong, many stores still continue to stock the boycotted items, even when confronted with petitions like the one in Echo Park. The managers' excuse for this attitude is the Food Employers Council, a group of chain and some small stores, adamantly refuses to recognize the boycott.

While supermarkets survive on the purchases of the consumers, "It is clear," according to Jim Drake, L.A. boycott coordinator, "that their position is not supported by the consumers."

The volunteers and organizers work on many areas of the boycott in addition to the house and community meetings. They picket between 75 and 100 stores on week-ends, a long-used and successful tactic of the union. It is mostly during the picketing that the organizers and volunteers gather signatures for the boycott petitions.

Another popular and successful activity is "billboarding," which consists of five to ten people standing with large union placards at busy intersections and freeway on and off ramps encouraging people to support the UFW boycott.

One of the newest and exciting methods is the advertising campaign financed by the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO. One hundred and forty ads were purchased to go on the backs of Rapid Transit District (RTD) buses in the city.

These RTD ads say "Stand Up for Farm Workers — Boycott Grapes, Boycott Lettuce." With over 6% of the buses in L.A. exhorting people to "Stand Up for Farm Workers", the boycott campaign should grow quickly.

The boycott has had "good signs of responsiveness from the people," says Jim Drake. Preparations are now being made to maintain the steady growth of the L.A. boycott and by August 1, the L.A. committee plans to have at least one large community meeting each night and soon after plans to have official boycott committees in each of the 65 L.A. areas.

East L.A.

Chicano Barrio Stores Drop Scab Products

Los Angeles, Calif. — Two independent grocery chains in East Los Angeles no longer carry lettuce, grapes, or Gallo wines after an intensive campaign led by 31 UFW organizers concentrated in this Chicano barrio. The Chains are Gateway with three stores and Jonson's at eight locations.

The "East Los" boycott crews have been instrumental in other successes like having scab grapes and lettuce removed from California State University Los Angeles, the largest educational institution in the area.

Conrado Terrazas made the appeal to the student body and faculty to endorse the boycott. He is the son of Mauricio Terraza, a member of the Teamsters union, but who has been a long time supporter of the UFW.

In addition to calling on "the (university) cafeteria to refrain from the purchase of non-UFW lettuce and grapes" the Academic Senate also voted its support for Assembly Bill 3370, the UFW backed measure in the California Assembly.

Similar action was taken by the Cal State University Student Board of Directors. Terrazas also addressed this body of the university and in both instances the vote to back the farm workers was unanimous.

The growing number of volunteers participating in the boycott activities is one indication of the surging community support in East Los Angeles.

The number of volunteers skyrocketed from 14 to 297 in a span of one month.

One hundred and twenty house meetings and 253 personal visits to persons interested in the boycott occurred in one two week period. As a result of this intensive activity 29 East Los Angeles stores removed all the grapes and Gallo wine from their shelves and five took off the lettuce.

Weekends are a busy time for East L.A. boycotters. Human billboards hit the streets Friday mornings between 6 and 9 a.m. and again from 3:30 to 6:30 in the afternoons.

Stores are leafleted Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The concentration during the week is on house meetings where the mobilization and education takes place for the intensive weekend activity when the public at large sees the increasing support behind the UFW boycott.

Store managers and owners on the East side are rapidly learning that it does not pay to keep grapes, lettuce or Gallo wines on the shelves. Some have tried to make a "deal" with the union.

They promise to cut down the shelf space allowed for grapes if demonstrators would only go away. But the boycotters reply that they will not stop their activity until all stores in the community are clean of scab products.

The organizers meet in the basement of La Soledad Church where they meet to discuss the fruits of their labor and lay plans for further intensifying their effort. On the wall of their meeting room there is a hand sewn banner reading: "Life is

like an onion: you peel it off a layer at a time. . . and sometimes you weep."

But the boycotters have very little time for weeping. Three of them are farm workers.

Bobby de la Cruz, former Gallo worker whose mother, Jessica, was the first woman field worker on the union's organizing staff, is among the most active of all boycotters in East Los Angeles. Paulino Pacheco and his wife, Victoria, are from Santa Maria and also very active on the boycott.

The local UFWA boycott staff is highly diversified but the strong emphasis is on people who come from the community in which they are working. Five of the six student organizers who are working on the boycott this summer are Dan Ramirez, Conrado Terrazas, Ramon Olivares, Andres Jimenez and Rosanne Moldonado.

They are joined by an elementary school teacher from East L.A., Ronnie Solarzano and by Sister Lucille Martinez from

East L.A., one of six Catholic nuns on the boycott in there this summer. The only seminarian on the East L.A. boycott staff is Richard Estrada, also from that community.

While for many, the East L.A. boycott is work among their long time neighbors, others have come from distant places to join them. Sister Bernice Snell from Portland, Oregon is one who has travelled far to the barrio boycott and so has Larry Black from St. Louis.

Outside of the rectory of the church where the boycotters meet daily there is a large sign attached to the wire fence. It is one of those printed by the L.A. County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, which calls on the public to boycott grapes and lettuce.

One out of every eight busses in the Los Angeles area carries one of them on its rear. Jim Drake, L.A. boycott director, said that about 80 percent of all people asked said that they had seen the labor message endorsing the grape and lettuce boycotts.

FRONT LINE



"Strikes and the boycott are the Union's front line of defense."

— Cesar Chavez, June, 1974

Boycott Takes to the Air... Two New Boycott Offices Open... Gallo Sales Drop in Denver

A series of 30 and 60 second "Boycott Gallo" radio commercials has been prepared by the Public Media Center of San Francisco. The tapes, distributed by the UFW, are now being aired by radio stations across the country.

The boycott commercials were aired last year for the first time....

Two new boycott offices are operating, one in Salt Lake City and the other in Honolulu. David Alcott is coordinator in Hawaii and Betty Ortiz in Salt Lake....

Organizing in the predominantly Chicano area of East Los Angeles has taken a different turn from many other cities. The 28 organizers in the Barrios each have the responsibility of organizing in an area covered by three parishes....

Mayor David Crombie recently proclaimed a "Farm Workers Week" in Toronto in "support of the farm workers in their struggle to obtain legitimate contracts with growers in California." The Labor Council of Metropolitan Toronto first approached city officials with the idea....

In Baltimore, three chains comprising 85 stores have agreed not to sell any more scab products and the latest UFW movie on the strikes in Coachella and Kern County has aired over a local T.V. station....

Pauline Cormier, now on the Pittsburg boycott staff, recently won a \$450 law suit against the Kearny, New Jersey police for false arrest. She was charged for not carrying identification and disturbing the peace as she picketed a Shop-Rite store. She won an acquittal later....

Gallo wine sales are down a third since the beginning of the year in Denver.... The Cath-

olic Diocese of Denver, the Colorado Council of Churches, and the local Democratic Party continue to support the Gallo boy-

cott rejecting the efforts of a Seattle based representative from the winery who was sent to change their position.

Church "Collection" Boosts N.M. Boycott

Albuquerque, N.M. — The Catholic leadership of New Mexico has strongly endorsed the UFW boycott and recently instituted a special "Second Collection" to raise money for the union.

The new and outgoing bishops of Santa Fe, Robert Sanchez and James Peter Diaz respectively, were joined by Neal Gonzalez (executive secretary-treasurer of the state AFL-CIO) and Louis Montenegro (president of the American Federation of Government Employees local in Albuquerque) at a press conference announcing their support.

The "Second Collection," covering most churches in the state, had raised \$4,000 in 21 of the 89 churches which had reported at press time.

Most parishes participated in the collection and many priests

read statements about the boycott to the congregations and some priests incorporated the farm worker issue into their sermons. Articles have also appeared in church bulletins.

Denver Boycott Director Richard Longoria boosted the boycott efforts when he visited the state and appeared on all three Albuquerque television stations.

The Central Labor Council of Albuquerque will set up a liaison committee to work with the UFW office. The committee is sending letters to Albuquerque locals, will pass out leaflets at factories, and will organize fund raising activities.

Los Padres, a group of Chicano priests, has set up a committee to help coordinate support activities at local parishes, and to distribute leaflets nationwide.

Iowa Democrats Pledge UFW Support

More than 3,000 delegates at the Iowa State Democratic Party Convention adopted a resolution supporting the United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO.

The Democrats went on record as "supporting the farmworker's right to choose their own union" and urged all citizens to boycott non-UFW iceberg lettuce and table grapes, and Gallo and Franzia wines.

The Democratic party's endorsement of the boycott will give great impetus in the effort to publicize the UFW fight a-

gainst the Teamster-grower alliance.

Pro-UFW delegates campaigned for the resolution by beginning at the precinct level, then canvassing at the district conventions, and finally arriving at the state convention. Strong support for the farmworkers was evident at every level, from regular party members to students, clergy, and labor delegates.

The UFW Iowa Support Committee, recently formed, is currently working to generate publicity for the boycotts as well as coordinating action programs throughout the state.

International Boycott Days to Commemorate Delano Strike

La Paz, Calif. — The Board of Directors of the United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO recently announced two international days of protest on September 14 and 15 to coincide with the ninth anniversary of the Delano grape strike.

The International Grape and Lettuce Boycott Days will be filled with massive demonstrations all over the world and will draw attention to the still struggling UFW.

The boycott days will be held to coincide with the peak of the grape shipments, which is

a crucial period for the growers.

On the 14th, demonstrations are to be held in all the boycott cities, while on the 15th, the work will be concentrated around the churches. The union anticipates many endorsements of the boycott to be made during services by the churches.

In addition to the U.S. and Canada, demonstrations will be held in Europe, Japan and Latin America.

For further information, see the next issue of EL MALCRIADO or call your local boycott office.

Reminiscent of '60s

Resurgence of Bay Area Boycott

Oakland, Calif. — Enthusiasm for the boycott against grapes, lettuce and Gallo wines in the San Francisco Bay Area is beginning to resemble the militant spirit of the boycott of the 1960's.

Bay Area residents, long-time supporters of unions and progressive politics, are now rejoining the struggle of the United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO (UFW) in its fight for the rights of farm workers.

Picket lines at the stores in the Bay Area are attracting increasing numbers of volunteers who join the 65 full-time organizers each week-end at over 50 supermarkets.

As is the case in many cities, the Bay Area boycott committees use the house meetings as a main way of recruiting volunteers. In the Oakland/Alameda County area, for example, at least 17 house meetings are held per week. Through these meetings, and other tactics, "we are hoping to form many more boycott committees here," says Fred Ross, Jr., coordinator of the Bay Area Boycott.

At these house meetings the boycott organizers explain the history of the agricultural movement, the history of the UFW and talk about the present situation. A great many people volunteer for picket duty and contribute money at the meetings.

At this point, there are six boycott committees: San Francisco, the Mid-Peninsula/Santa Clara County, Hayward, Oakland/North Alameda County, San Jose, and Marin County.

Each boycott area has formed "Guerilla Squads" which picket stores, pass out leaflets and put up posters. The squads also distribute bumper stickers at a surprising rate, the most popular one among Oakland residents being the "Nixon Eats Grapes" sticker.

In addition to community and student organizing, the committees have been doing work with organized labor. For example, a new group, the Alameda County Trade Union Committee to Support the Farm Workers has donated over \$1,000 to the cause.

One immediate goal of the San Francisco Boycott is to gain boycott endorsement from that county's Board of Supervisors with the vote coming before the Board on July 29th. In addition, a media campaign, through radio or advertisements is being set up.

On August 3, the Oakland Boycott will hold a mass demonstration and rally to coincide with the beginning of the Delano strike and on the 10th will be a mass picket of all Lucky's, Fry's, and Safeway stores in the East Bay.

Toronto Focuses on "Little Italy"

TORONTO, Canada — "No comprate la uva degli California" (Don't buy grapes from California) is the rallying cry being heard in this city's huge Italian Community known as "Little Italy," which is the third largest grape market in North America.

Over 450,000 Italians make their home in the concentrated downtown district, the largest Italian population found in any city outside of Italy.

The Toronto boycott staff, led by Marshall Ganz, a member of the UFW executive board, is embarking on a campaign directed primarily at the small fruit stands that line the streets of "Little Italy."

Miguel Contreras and Eduardo Morales, two strikers from California, assigned to coordinate the boycott in the area, said there are two phases in the campaign.

First is using mass leafleting to get the word of the boycott into the Italian speaking community and also spreading the word through the media. Several television and radio programs have been aired and Italian language newspapers have run articles telling the story of the farm workers.

The second part of the program involves visiting fruit markets and convincing them not to carry California grapes this summer. The Italian Pastoral Commission, an organization of over 100 priests, is helping to carry out the visits to the small stores.

Contreras said several other committees are assisting, which include leaders of community groups and union business representatives of Italian background. These representatives are from unions including the Steel Workers, Laborers, Garment Workers and Retail Union.

Dixie Boycott Chalking Up Victories

Atlanta, Georgia — The UFW continues to win victories in the South as two more store chains have quit selling non-union grapes.

Big Apple with 54 stores and Colonial stores with 70 markets have now cleared their shelves of the scab grapes. In addition, two hundred stores in the Mississippi-Georgia area are now cooperating with the boycott.

This follows the June announcement that two large chains, Mr. Quick and Sunflower, agreed to stop selling non-union grapes and lettuce in 150 stores in Arkansas, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana.

Akron UFW Protests Reagan Appearance

AKRON, Ohio — Thirty members of the Akron UFW boycott staff picketed a Republican fund raising dinner, attended by California Governor Ronald Reagan.

After Reagan arrived the demonstrators chanted and sang union songs until told by Akron police to quiet down or face arrest for disturbing the peace.

Although the press generally ignored the demonstration, the NBC affiliate television station in Cleveland did run a 30-second spot picking up on a "Reagan is Grapist" picket sign.

Three hundred people attended the June fund raiser, at the Akron Holiday Inn, paying \$125 a piece to get in.

NEGLIGENCE CITED IN FARM WORKER'S DEATH

Calexico, Calif. — Rafael Garcia Rodriguez, a farm worker from Heber, California, died a cruel and brutal death a month ago, in the Imperial County Jail, when county sheriffs denied him medical care.

Rodriguez was arrested on June 13, and days later he was

suffering from hallucinations, trembling and was too weak to stand.

He was thrown into a bare, dirty cell without bed, mattress or blankets but according to Captain Frank Fulmer, chief administrator of the jail, Rodriguez was placed in the cell for medical observation.

Other prisoners noticed Rodriguez was unable to eat while in the cell and they informed a guard but he replied, "let him starve." Rodriguez was not given any meals after that.

The water in his cell was shut off and he was forced to drink out of the toilet, which was full of excrement since it would not flush. He was covered with his own waste for two days, because he could not control himself.

Prisoners who passed by Rodriguez's cell daily, repeatedly told the guards that he was very sick, but the guards only laughed it off and one was heard saying, "I hope he dies."

A doctor never visited Rodriguez and the only medication he ever received was from a nurse, two days after he became seriously ill.

Rodriguez often tried to stand, but would fall, knocking himself against the toilet and walls. The coroner's report shows severe bruising of both legs and abrasions in the facial area.

Rodriguez died five days after being arrested. The autopsy report says that he died of pulmonary and cerebral edema.

The circumstances of this death were brought to the attention of UFW legal representatives by Union melon strikers who had been in jail with Rodriguez, for violation of picketing injunctions.

The Union, then carried out an investigation with the aid of Ron Albu, an attorney from California Indian Legal Service (CILS), who has been working on a suit attacking jail conditions in Imperial County.

What they found in their investigation is a gruesome story of criminal neglect and viciousness on the part of the Imperial Valley Sheriffs.

Rodriguez' family asked the Union to contact attorneys Annie Gutierrez of El Centro and Albert Moreno of San Diego who are currently working together to bring wrongful death action against the sheriff's department.

At a Board of Supervisors meeting last month, Albu threat-

ened to file contempt charges against members of the Board for failure to comply with federal court orders requiring improvement of jails. Albu also demanded suspension of those sheriffs who were present and allowed Rodriguez to die.

The district attorney responded by saying that he had requested the State Attorney General to conduct a criminal investigation that would lead to indictments of those responsible.

Dan Boone, UFW lawyer, insisted that the Attorney General's investigation would only be a minimal step and called for an outside investigation of the entire sheriff's department.

Cesar Enriquez of Casa de Amistad in Brawley, California, is organizing community support demanding the firing of the officers responsible for the death.

There will be an inquest on Rodriguez's death on July 8, 1974, at El Centro. The community is asking all interested persons to come and demonstrate and picket the courthouse.

"Meloneros" Swim Canal, Join Strikers

Eighty Huelguistas arrived early one morning, at the D'Arrigo cantaloupe fields east of Calexico, during the melon strike in Imperial Valley last month. No sooner had a picket line been set up when four meloneros left the fields, jumped into an irrigation canal, separating the pickets from the workers, and swam across to join the strikers.

Getting out of the canal, Roberto Tafuya stood in his wet clothes and said:

"Everyone has his own problems, and everyone solves them in his own way. I will not let the growers rob me. I have

gone out on strike many times with Chavez, in Bakersfield, Lamont, Firebaugh, Mendota, and Salinas, and I have gone to jail with him.

"The trip is that when we are together, we earn a living. We know that the strike is to unite our people. We are all equal. I like to make money, to buy cars and trucks; but the important thing is to live well. If there is something I can do for my people, I will do it.

"When the union of Chavez calls me, I come. When we are together, thousands of us, we are victorious. We should all work for one another, always. Arriba Chavez!"



Roberto Tafuya joins UFW Calexico strikers after leaving D'Arrigo cantaloupe farm by swimming a canal.



Four meloneros, in all, swam canal July 27 during an Imperial Valley strike. Front: Elias Rodriguez (L.), and Ruben Saabedra (R.). Rear: Alfredo Celayo (L.), and Roberto Tafuya (R.).

Oregon Growers Block Anti Child Labor Law

Portland, Oregon—Strawberry growers, in Washington and Oregon have blocked the enforcement of a federal law prohibiting employment of children under 12 years of age in agriculture.

The growers have obtained a temporary restraining order, in a federal court in Portland, against the law claiming that if the law is enforced they will face a loss of millions of dollars without the labor of children under twelve.

They also complained that they had not been aware of the law

since there had been no debate and now suddenly find themselves without a large portion of their labor force.

One spokesman for the grower said many of the young workers—who often start as early as age six—were encouraged by their families to work as "a lark and pick up a few extra dollars in the summer."

But Frank Pozzi, an attorney for several chicano organizations in Portland, says such contentions are "basically nonsense" explaining that most of the children are forced to work by econo-

mic necessity so that the family can survive.

Pozzi continues by saying that the children are used as a source of cheap labor by the growers and are paid as little as one dollar an hour. He adds that the children are not really needed for the harvest since there is an adequate supply of adult workers who need and can do the work.

The Chicano organizations, Pozzi represents, are filing "friends of the court" petitions in attempt to speed up legal procedures "so the growers cannot continue to use the children when, at last, we have a law against it."

In San Joaquin Valley

'Jesus' Children Scabbing At Giumarra

Arvin, Calif.—UFW officials reported on June 11 that picketers had found more than 25 Jesus children "scabbing" in the Giumarra Farms plum orchards south of Bakersfield.

When one picketer asked about a suspected church foundation, one Jesus youth replied, "I only know Tony and Sue."

That meant Tony and Susan Alamo of the Alamo Christian Foundation, most reputable for their Saturday night church program on television, but are also recognized by the UFW for breaking farm worker strikes.

The People's World, a West Coast weekly, revealed on Feb. 23 that the foundation has been soaking up enormous profits by organizing scab labor in the Bakersfield area, through the use of their own labor contractor, Rod Sweat.

The Alamos usually take all of the money earned by these lost children and pay them only a dollar per day.

More than 25 long-haired anglo boys, 16-18 yrs. old, were seen for two days scurrying up and down rows of plum trees, using poles to gather the fruit.

"I could not believe it," said Ester Gutierrez. "The boys had dust and sweat all over themselves and by 3:30 PM, they were still running, singing, and saying 'praise the lord' at the same time."

One campesino called out, "Hey, brother."

"I'm not your brother," one fired back. "I'm not even from your religion."

"You guys are crazy," shouted another huelgista. "You're working for the wrong guy." Totally astonished, they all stopped working and called the farm worker a devil.

A.C.L.U. attorney, Dan Lavery, said that no one has filed a suit against the foundation. "The Los Angeles District Attorney and Baxter Ward, of the L.A. County Board of Supervisors,

have both tabled their suits," says Lavery.

From a February 6th interview with the parents of some of the children, Lavery discovered that Daleridge Farms was using their labor between July and October of '73. Daleridge has orchards spread throughout the Shafter area, including Lost Hills and Wasco, in the San Joaquin Valley.

The interview disclosed that 100 youths were living in a condemned house, provided by the Alamos, that had only one toilet, one table, and no heating for the time during February.

All of them were eating food thrown out of markets such as Grand Central Market, in downtown L.A. and many of the children were suffering from intestinal disorders.

Lavery suggested since no one is filing any suits so far, it is important to let the public know about the Alamos, by exposing them in as many newspapers as possible.

CONGRESSIONAL PROBE EXPOSES CORRUPTION IN IMMIGRATION SERVICE

Washington, D.C. — The Department of Justice, in an investigation called "Operation Clean Sweep," has amassed evidence of prostitution, bribery, narcotics violations, slavery, conspiracy to murder and other charges against the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) operating in the southwest.

The evidence of corruption against U.S. immigration officials, compiled during the 16 month long investigation by the department which ended last September, was heard during a closed session congressional probe in June.

The Justice Department had been strongly criticized for failing to take action on evidence of criminal conduct on the part of a number of immigration officials.

Examples of Corruption

Two examples of corruption by border patrolmen brought attention to the operations of the INS and led to the investigation.

In early 1972 Frank Paul Castro, a border inspector at the Tijuana border crossing was convicted of accepting \$250,000 for delivering border crossing cards to be used by illegal aliens. His wife, Nena, was convicted of conspiracy and perjury.

Joseph M. Byre and Walter W. O'Donnell, two border inspectors at the Tijuana station, were accused of accepting \$50,000 in bribes for allowing 24 tons of marijuana into the states in the fall of 1972.

Another border inspector, Leroy Iddlespurger, was charged with offering to hire people to "bump off" witnesses who would testify against Byrnes and O'Donnell. He pleaded guilty to obstructing a court order and was granted probation.

Federal investigative agents, in a New York Times article, said that members of the Border Patrol, the enforcement arm of the INS, operate their own bracero programs, supplying "illegal" Mexican labor to big ranchers in return for hunting privileges, cash payments, and other rewards.

Patrol Aides Ranchers

A federal investigator, for example, described one "illegal" alien racket:

"It was time for one of the big Texas ranchers to harvest a crop. He hired a crew of illegal aliens, and notified the chief of that particular Border Patrol sector of his action. The chief patrol agent saw to it that the ranch was not raided during the harvest."

"When the crop was in, the rancher notified the sector chief, and before the Mexicans were paid, the patrol arrested them and sent them back across the border."

"The rancher got his crop out of the field, the chief patrol agent got year round hunting rights on the ranches, and the Mexicans were introduced to slavery and deportation."

Federal agents have stated some immigration officers cooperate with organizations which

engage in wholesale importation of persons not legally eligible to enter this country.

"For years," one agent said, "the top guys in the Southwest and the ones from Washington, when they are in the vicinity, have participated in sexual misconduct from one end of this border to the other."

He said the files of "Operation Clean Sweep" were filled with documented cases of immigration officials who exchanged entry documents for the sexual favors of Mexican women for themselves and their friends.

The agent said the files showed that the same officials repeatedly used their connections in Mexico to obtain women for visitors from Congress and other agencies of the government with authority over immigration matters.

For example, a former assistant attorney general was entertained at a Mexican house of prostitution through efforts of immigration officers, investigators said.

Reports indicate that immigration officers routinely beat Mexicans, often with leaded gloves, if the Mexicans refuse to be bossed around or do not answer the questions of the officers.

The list goes on and on of officers accused and convicted of smuggling, document falsification, etc. A former investigator for "Clean Sweep" stated, "My gut feeling is that crookedness was rampant... in fact, we felt from day one that Castro was just at the bottom of a tier system of corruption, just the ground level."

Corruption at Top

Those indicted, however, have been relatively minor officers, men in charge of offices, inspectors, etc., but corruption in the INS is believed to reach the highest levels of the administration.

President Nixon quietly accepted the resignation of Ray Farrell, INS director for 31 years, shortly after members of the INS civil service unions threatened to blow the case wide open if he did not investigate the immigration service.

It is believed that Farrell's resignation will not provide the changes needed to clean up the INS. Ed Loughran, INS deputy director and the suspected true power in the agency, is staying on.

Congressional neglect of the INS has added to its long history of corruption. The Senate's Judiciary Committee special subcommittee on immigration failed to hold full hearings on INS for almost ten years.

Congress relies mainly on Congressman John Rooney of New York, chairman of the house appropriations sub-committee in charge of Justice Department funding. Some INS investigators suspect that Rooney may have played a role in the questionable naturalization of Anthony Anastasia.

Anastasia is reported to be a "soldier" in the Gambino fam-



This outdoor labor camp in California's Fresno County is one of many temporary "homes" for the large number of "illegal" aliens used to break strikes in the San Joaquin Valley. The major reason the problem with the aliens continues is due to the neglect of the Immigration Service, whose corruption has been documented in Operation Clean Sweep, an investigation done by the U.S. Dept. of Justice.

ily of the Mafia, according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). He is also the nephew of the late "Tough Tony" Anastasia, one time Mafia boss of the Brooklyn docks.

The Washington Monthly, in April 1973, wrote, "The former INS director, Ray Farrell, was a crony of Rooney, accompanying him on junkets so frequently that some INS officials referred to him as 'Rooney's baggage boy'." "Rooney's idea of a tough appropriations hearing consists of an exchange of pleasantries and a few cursory questions."

"Rooney has intervened in several deportation and visa cases. His intervention in these cases is so effective that it is believed they are one of his most profitable vote getting activities."

Justice Dept. Cover Up

The Justice Department's investigation had wound down by September 1973 and charges of a Watergate-type cover up began popping up.

Recently, William Lawrence, council to a government subcommittee investigating the INS, charged the Justice Department with white washing the corruption committed by INS in the southwest. Lawrence stated, "After living with this investigation for nearly 15 months, I have concluded the Justice Department has swept under the rug evidence of illegalities on the part of high level immigration people in the southwest."

Well placed New York Times sources state that more than 20 cases of potential criminal prosecutions of regional officials in the southwest, as well as two at high levels, were abandoned.

However, Alfred Hantman surveying attorney for the Jus-

tice Department, claimed that there was no cover up but that the evidence was still being reviewed by government prosecutors.

Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers (UFW) union have long called for a thorough investigation of the INS's Border Patrol and its activities in relation to the illegal importation of aliens as well as its neglect in enforcing immigration laws. For years it has been known that top officers in INS have covered for each other, squelching investigations and keeping scandals quiet.

The UFW has long maintained that undocumented workers are used as strikebreakers, as well as adding to the unemployment problem in the nation.

Chavez has charged that as many as two thirds of all California farm workers are "illegals". In east Fresno County alone, close to 3,500 undocumented workers are believed residing there.

In April 1960 aliens were apprehended in California's San Joaquin Valley and the Border Patrol estimates that 250,000

aliens will be deported this summer.

Economic conditions in Mexico is one factor pushing people north in search of employment. As one "illegal" alien put it, "I cannot get work in Mexico, the gringos are mechanizing and getting everything."

Border Patrol neglect was clearly in evidence in Oxnard, Calif., last month where hundreds of strawberry pickers went on strike. Border Patrol officers demanded documents from the strikers but let the scabs go without any question.

There is a lot of money, favors, and corruption involving INS officials and Border patrolmen. At the same time, growers are taking advantage of a large, cheap, and unorganized labor pool of "illegal" workers who are allowed entry to the U.S. largely because of INS neglect.

There is a profit in a business which exploits "illegals"; and the "illegals" are a business commodity which brings profits in various ways to governmental officials, politicians, and corporate owners.



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The "Illegals" and the Growers

The abuse of "illegal" Mexican farm workers stands as one of the most vicious forms of exploitation that has ever been practiced by this country's agri-business cartels. It is a practice that must be stopped immediately.

The United States agricultural barons have had a history of importing impoverished workers from other countries, reaping tremendous profits, and then kicking the workers out when they are through with them, like so much trash.

The monopolists have brought in Chinese, Japanese and Filipino farm workers and now, Mexicanos. These poor and exploited people, of course, often have no choice but to immigrate in the hopes of alleviating the hunger that has accompanied the foreign occupation of their respective countries.

The situation for these immigrants was made even worse by the very fact that agricultural unions have not existed to protect them.

Privileged Sector Attacks UFW

Now, such a union exists. And it is the United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO (UFW) which has fought for over a decade to gain basic rights that farm workers should have had a hundred years ago.

But, this union is now under attack from the most powerful agribusiness cartels that the world has ever seen. It is under attack from the same companies that also exploit campesinos in Mexico.

The growers, unscrupulous men such as Salvador Giumarra, Hollis Roberts and Ernest Gallo, are part of a privileged sector of society that will resort to the most brutal measures to maintain their high positions and their vast riches.

The privileged "lords" have brought in police and sheriffs to beat up UFW members, have signed sweetheart contracts with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, the most corrupt

union in the U.S., and have manipulated the courts and district attorneys in obtaining unconstitutional court injunctions. And now, as "Operation Cleansweep" has revealed, these "lords" have bribed the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) in order to bring in thousands of "illegal" Mexican nationals to try and break the back of the UFW.

Aliens Should be Given Rights

The United Farm Workers of America is firmly opposed to the practice of bringing in "illegal" Mexicanos for cheap labor and to be used as strikebreakers.

The UFW believes that any Mexicano or worker from any other country has the right to immigrate to the U.S. to seek a better life for himself and for his family. But, at the same time, all immigrant workers must also be allowed full democratic and civil rights as granted by the constitution, including the right to collective bargaining.

Similarly, in true solidarity of working people, the United Farm Workers of America firmly stands opposed to the practice of workers crossing an international boundary to break a strike in another country.

The monopolists, unfortunately, have used Mexicano nationals and other immigrants as a reserve army of labor to impede unionization in the Southwestern United States and to hold down wages and fatten profits.

Border Patrol Helps Growers

Cesar Chavez and the UFW believe that Mexicanos should be allowed to immigrate to this country provided they are granted full rights and guarantees. But, by the same token, the UFW is strongly opposed to President Luis Echeverria reinstituting the much hated Bracero program to alleviate the inequities of Mexican society by exporting poverty and making farm workers pay for it.

There are those who decry the position of the UFW. But these people are unclear about the union's position, nor have they struggled for a decade to build a union, only to see it attacked by police, by the courts, by Teamster goon squads and, finally, by strikebreakers from another country.

The position of the United Farm Workers of America is undaunted — the "illegals" must either be granted full democratic rights, including the right to join a union of their own choosing, or they must go. Thus, for the sake of farm workers and for the future of their children, the UFW takes an unequivocal stand against the use of "illegals" to impede unionization in the agricultural fields of the Southwest.



UTU Leader Assails Fitzsimmons

From: J. Frank Young, Local Chairman Roseville Switchmen's Local UTU 1570, Roseville Calif. To: May 29, 1974 Mr. F.E. Fitzsimmons, Pres. Teamsters Union 25 Louisiana Avenue Washington, D. C. 20001

Dear Sir:

I read in the April 17th edition of the Sacramento Bee that you had taken the "unusual step of writing the leaders of all AFL-CIO affiliated unions to warn that participation in the boycott (UFW's nationwide boycott of California grapes and lettuce) would result in an end of all future cooperation by the Teamsters."

At the morning and evening session of our regular May meeting attending members voted unanimously for me to write you this letter with copies to our general Chairman, International president, Cesar Chavez and the Sacramento Bee. A consensus of members not attending the May Meeting also showed full agreement with the motion.

I don't recall any attempts by your union to organize the California farm workers prior to their organization under the leadership of Cesar Chavez. Your actions now, indicate to me a

slazy attempt on your part to capitalize on the hard fought waged by Cesar Chavez to help a group of workers who have been mercifully exploited for years.

I believe that your actions in attempting to steal members and contracts from the UFW is a travesty of organized labor and personally would not discount the theory that you may have moved in at the suggestion of the growers.

The Bee also noted that "The Teamsters traditionally honor the picket lines of other unions." Your union has never honored the picket lines of either the Switchmen's Union of North America nor the United Transportation Union in any of the strikes conducted in Roseville, California. I understand that some individual members of your union nearly lost their jobs because they individually honored our picket lines against your orders.

Your effrontery in threatening other labor leaders shows an unmitigated gall and your actions in the California grape and lettuce fields are an unfortunate blight on the entire labor movement.

J. Frank Young

STATEMENT OF EARNINGS AND DEDUCTIONS FOR PAYROLLERS RECORD COVERING PAY PERIOD: 7/1/74 AND INCLUDING DATE SHOWN BELOW	
RICARDO HINOJOSA	
DATE	July 6, 1974
TO	M. Reina
TOTAL WAGES	13702
FEDERAL SECURITY TAX	939
STATE INCOME TAX	7750
COYOTE	3000
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	3016
AMOUNT THIS CHECK	3016

The New El Malcriado

This issue of EL MALCRIADO represents a renewed effort by the United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO to publish a newspaper that truly exposes the misery and exploitation of this country's farm workers and that can simultaneously build the unity of the labor movement.

The new staff has high goals to achieve in the next year, but it is confident that it can produce a farm labor newspaper the likes of which have not been seen in the country's labor history.

EL MALCRIADO has a new editor, Carlos R. Calderon, who has been active in the Chicano Movement since 1968 and who brings considerable journalism experience with him. In addition, the new staff has been able to recruit some of the top talent from the Chicano and progressive Movements.

Our tasks are very much cut out for us and we will need the assistance and advice of all progressive peoples, if we are to gain justice and a decent life for farm workers and all working people.

We hope to publish a bi-monthly newspaper (twice a month) by no later than November and a weekly by no later than January 1975.

SISE PUEDE! VIVA LA CAUSA!
—The New Editors

Catholic Clergy Leader Assails Teamster Double-Cross

The priest who Cesar Chavez introduced in Salinas on July 11 as "a man who knows more about the labor movement than most labor leaders" and who was instrumental in negotiating grape and lettuce contracts...

"The first time I was in Salinas was in Aug. 1970 when the trouble with the Teamsters started. I was here for five weeks to try and negotiate a settlement as an outside mediator with the Teamsters.

"At that time we thought the situation was settled once and for all; the Teamsters agreed in the middle of the night to get out of the fields and stay out and give the jurisdiction back to where it belongs — with the United Farm Workers. We went home thinking everything was in good order from then on.

"Four years later the struggle still goes on. My only message tonight to the Teamsters is live up to the words they gave us in August of 1970 to get out of the fields and stay out.

"I know from experience that you could guess without my telling you that the Teamsters are very unhappy about the fact that people like these religious superiors are here tonight; very unhappy about the support of religious groups.

"All I can say to the Teamsters is that the only way they can relieve their unhappiness is to get out and then we'll love them just the way we love all other unions.

"The Teamsters are making a desperate effort to create the false impression throughout the United States (and they're making a special effort amongst the clergy of the United States) that this is a typical jurisdictional dispute and that it is the kind on confusion that the clergy has no business in getting involved.

"If it were a jurisdictional dispute I would never under any circumstances spend two minutes getting involved in it — I don't think it is the role of the clergy to get involved in ordinary jurisdictional disputes between two unions, the kind of dispute that goes on all the time. This is not a jurisdictional dispute!

"This is a straight collusive steal of your contracts.

"The Teamsters can cry all they want; they can make desperate efforts to persuade the public that we're getting involved in an area which we have no right to be involved in, but they're not going to succeed. We're going to stay in it until the Farm Workers get their jurisdiction back.

"I ought to report that while there may be an occasional difference of opinion in the Catholic community, the overwhelming majority of the American Bishops are supporting this struggle. I represent them from my office in Washington. I am here speaking for the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. We stand in support of the resolution that was adopted last November which was to support

the boycott of lettuce and grapes until such time as free elections are held.

"You have offered free elections, Cesar said, more than a

hundred times; there is a bill before the California Legislature which will provide for elections. Both the Teamsters and the growers are opposing this bill. So, as much as I hate to come back to Salinas, I'm afraid we'll have to be back again. Thanks for the invitation. Keep up the good work, we're all with you."



Monsignor George Higgins addresses the rally of Salinas lettuce workers at Alisal High School. Cesar Chavez, in the background, joins in applauding the forthright priest.

Teamster Rank-n-File Group

Adopts Pro-UFW Stand

To All Teamster Affiliates

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Teamsters For A More Effective Union, a group composed of IBT rank and filers and local officials, can not understand why our union is trying to destroy Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers.

We are loyal Teamster members and are speaking out against present IBT policy because our International is on the wrong route.

As union leaders, we have all raided other unions at one time or another in order to give workers a real choice as to which union they want to represent them.

But in the fields of California our union is not involved in a raid of a trucking firm, factory, or warehouse. Instead, our International is involved in the destruction of another entire International Union which had a membership of approximately 60,000 farmworkers prior to our union-busting activities.

Since when is there any kind of moral or trade union justification for demolishing an entire International Union? We all know that over the past few years President Fitzsimmons has been playing buddy-buddy with President Nixon. Yet where has this political romance taken our union?

Has Fitzsimmons used his political clout to help our southern

brothers and others in the "Right To Work" states so that Section 14(b) of Taft-Hartley finally gets repealed?

Has Fitzsimmons used his political clout to change the composition and decisions of the National Labor Relations Board which are murdering our local unions throughout this nation with anti-labor ruling after anti-labor ruling?

Has Fitzsimmons used his political clout to assist the rampant inflation that is wiping away every members' real standard of living?

Why did not Fitzsimmons use his political clout to assist the independent truck drivers during the gas shortage instead of shafting them? Our relations with the independents could have improved and our membership rolls increased.

The answer to all the above questions is that "Fitz" has done nothing. On the contrary, Fitzsimmons has decided to devote his energy and spend over \$100,000 a month to annihilate the United Farm Workers instead of taking care of the vital political and economic issues that directly affect our members.

Has not Fitzsimmons conspired with the growers to destroy Chavez, a man he calls an "impractical visionary"?

Teamsters For A More Effective Union believes that the only result of our raid of the

farmworkers union will be a long, drawn-out fight involving more \$100,000 a month expenditures, more wasted energy, more of the Fitzsimmons - Nixon romance, and more national labor troubles.

When we raid Chavez we automatically place our canneries, packing sheds and warehouses on the West coast in serious jeopardy of being raided. We all know that the United Farm Workers is going to fight for its own self-preservation.

In light of all these facts, Teamsters For A More Effective Union urges Fitzsimmons to terminate his present course on action and let the farmworkers vote. If we lose, let's get out of the farms and back to the road of organizing the unorganized.

The longer this battle endures, the longer our members will suffer from IBT inaction on the more important issues. Let's get on with the urgent business of strengthening our union.

We thank you for reading our views and apologize for not identifying ourselves individually. We do not like to write anonymous letters and we know you do not like to receive them. However, we all have families to support and we hope you will understand our predicament.

In Solidarity and Brotherhood, Teamsters For A More Effective Union

Cesar in L.A.

A WHIRLWIND HITS THE CITY OF THE ANGELS. . .

Los Angeles, Calif. — Farm worker leader Cesar Chavez staged a three-day whirlwind tour of this metropolitan area picking up unprecedented support from the labor movement and kicking off a bus-advertising campaign to publicize the UFW boycott of scab grapes and iceberg lettuce.

Chavez, in a tour unmatched strategic support when speaking before more than 600 union officials, including leaders from the Los Angeles and Orange Counties Federations of Labor, AFL-CIO.

In addition the UFW leader launched a three-month bus advertising campaign, sponsored

by the L.A. County Federation of Labor (LACFL), which features the use of Twilight Spectacular posters on more than 100 city buses.

The signs, which appear on the back of city buses, are estimated to reach 47% of the population twice a week or 5.2 million people weekly, according

to the A.C. Nielson Co., a public survey firm.

The campaign is the first of its kind in the U.S. and will assist the UFW boycott in the sprawling areas of Los Angeles, which is one of the top three grape markets in the country. Said Chavez, "This adds a new dimension to the boycott and undoubtedly will give tremendous impetus to the boycott nationwide."

The bus campaign is costing \$10,000 and is being financed by the Farm Workers Assistance Committee, a support group organized by the LACFL. The committee, however, also includes non-AFL-CIO affiliates such as the International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union (ILWU), the United Auto Workers (UAW), the United Electrical Workers (UE), and other unions.

Labor Backs UFW

Never before has the L.A. labor movement shown such concern and solidarity with the farm workers cause and the tour may be an indication that the ranks of organized labor are closing against the Teamster union-busting tactics.

Support from the LACFL is especially considered a key windfall, by UFW officials, since the labor federation contains more than 450 affiliates, 850 associated unions and labor councils, and has a union membership of more than 600,000 workers in this highly industrialized port city.

Alan Kistler, National Director of Organization of the AFL-CIO, best summed up organized labor's support of the UFW when he told a meeting of more than 60 union leaders, "Our pledge to you (the UFW) and your valiant members is that we will stay with you every inch of the way until justice has been obtained."

Individuals Offer Help

In addition, individual union officials offered their services and financial and political support in the UFW fight against the Teamster-grower conspiracy. George Smith, Secretary-Treasurer of the Allied Printing Trades Council, offered his printing services to the UFW; and Rudy Rubio, President of Local 13 of the ILWU, offered to obtain work for striking farm workers so that they can support their families.

Steve Robertson, a reporter for the Los Angeles Citizen,

the official organ of the LACFL, described the tour saying, "Chavez, president of the UFW, spent most of his time in skull sessions with union leadership, developing methods of how organized labor in Los Angeles can aid his union...."

"A leader known for his quiet strength, he delivered stinging attacks against the Teamsters, the growers and the U.S. Department of Immigration, saying all three were preventing true collective bargaining and union democracy by the most corrupt means available to them."

The tour, according to observers, was a step forward in forging links between agricultural workers and industrial and skilled workers in the city and can only help in building the unity of the labor movement. As Chavez said, "The unity of the labor movement is essential since it is the labor unions which are preserving democracy here in the U.S. and it is the unions which are preventing full fascism from developing here in this country."

Barbara Nardella, Secretary of the LACFL and Secretary of the Farm Workers Assistance Committee, succinctly summarized the tour by saying, "I am very excited about getting Cesar Chavez down here to build support for the UFW and to build the unity of the labor movement."

Pledges of Support

Chavez received over \$2,000 in contributions for the UFW as well as pledges of support from other unions and organizations such as the Santa Ana District Council of Carpenters, Laborers Union, Joint Board of the Culinary Workers, Local 52 of the Laundry Workers, California Federation of Teachers, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Communications Workers of America, United Rubber Workers, ILWU, and UE.

The tour, therefore, may well be a turning point for the boycott nationwide, especially with strong support from organized labor coming in and with the inception of the bus campaign; and it is very likely that the City of the Angels will see an organizing drive that Angelinos will never forget.



Cesar Chavez speaks to a meeting of delegates representing the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO. The federation is sponsoring a campaign of Twilight Spectacular posters on more than 100 city buses.



One out of every eight Los Angeles buses carry these boycott messages; a UFW survey indicates that 80% of all the city's residents have seen them.

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Manuel Cabero V., owner

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La Cabaña Club
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Watsonville,
California
Owner: José Barceló

UFW Leader in N.Y., N.J.

...AND THEN BARNSTORMS THROUGH THE EAST COAST

New York, N.Y.—“We will win because we are right. We will win because we work at it.”

Time and again during his tumultuous tour through New York and New Jersey in late June and early July, Cesar Chavez repeated this message to his audiences. The unprecedented display of support from a broad cross section of the public gave ample evidence that the people, in ever increasing numbers, were convinced that the cause of the farm workers is a righteous one.

Much of Chavez's east coast tour was concentrated on gaining additional support from labor officials and prominent clergymen. As usual he also participated in picketlines and spoke at mass rallies.

ALBANY: Two nationally prominent entertainers who have long supported the UFW, Pete Seeger and Arlo Guthrie, sang at a “Stop the Grapes” benefit to the delight of more than 3,000 friends of the union.

ROCHESTER and SYRACUSE: Crowds were large and enthusiastic as Cesar made his way through the Empire state. Twenty five hundred heard him at a Syracuse rally and 1,800 in Rochester. The UFW president drew a sympathetic response, at these and other locations, when he declared: “The growers and Teamsters have two choices; they can either let the workers have free elections or we will force them into an economic situation where they'll have to give in.”

NEW YORK CITY: Chavez repeated the challenge, at a highly publicized June 27 press conference, calling on the Teamsters leaders to agree to lawful elections to determine who really represents the workers in the fields.

Labor officials at a dinner and rally at the Church of St. Paul the Apostle enthusiastically backed the UFW. Recalling the struggles of other unions in the 30's and 40's, William Jones, vice president of Local 3, of the Cake Bakers, said, “It is incumbent on all unions to remember those days and support the UFW boycott.”

“It would seem from their story that the Teamsters have gone against all the traditions of trade unionism,” said Monsignor James J. Wilson, Episcopal vicar of North Manhattan, at a breakfast meeting at the Interfaith Center after hearing Chavez and other farm workers.

Chavez and the farm workers were the guests of Cardinal Cooke at a large meeting at St. Patrick's Cathedral.

NEW JERSEY: Political leaders and labor officials joined in

an impressive solidarity meeting-fund raiser for the union.

At a Woodridge, New Jersey press conference, Chavez extensively documented the use and exploitation by growers of Mexican nationals and was joined by officials from the state AFL-CIO, the United Auto Workers, steelworkers, and others from organized labor.

Two hundred labor officials from 30 unions pledged their financial and organizational support to the UFW, later at a luncheon.

HOPELAWN, N.J.: More than 100 union members and other UFW supporters picketed Pathmark Store while many New Jersey residents watched the boycott activities carried live on a local Spanish language T. V. Station.

PATTERSON, N. J.: Three thousand people attended a “Support the Union” rally and heard speeches by Chavez, Archer Cole from District Three of the International Union of Electrical Workers; Richard Lynch, vice-president of the New Jersey state AFL-CIO; and Assemblyman John Sinsimer, sponsor of a recent boycott support measure in the legislature.

LONG ISLAND: The UFW and Chavez gained more union support at a breakfast of clergymen at the Most Holy Trinity High School.

It was sponsored by the Office of the Spanish Apostolate of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, the Long Island Council of Churches, American Jewish Committee and the New York Federation of Reformed Synagogues.

Over 200 union officials from Local 25 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and Long Island Federation of Labor donated generously to the union cause and pledged support at a luncheon meeting.

BUFFALO, N. Y.: A representative of Mayor Stanley Makowski

Chavez Addresses Presbyterian Convention

Louisville, Ky.—United Farm Worker's leader Cesar Chavez here to address the assembly of the United Presbyterian Church, said Monday he is starting a national drive to remedy the “terrible problem of 60,000 to 70,000 illegal Mexican and Filipino workers” competing with American farm workers on the West Coast.

Chavez charged the Department of Justice is “completely lax in enforcing the regulations preventing the entry of illegals and to prevent them from breaking our strike.”

“We don't know why the Justice Department is not enforcing the law,” he said, “but we do



Cesar Chavez meets with New York labor leaders and local politicians during recent east coast tour. Chavez shakes hands with Bob Abrams, president of the Bronx Borough, while a New York City Councilman Ramon Velez holds a proclamation.

(Photos by Alex Beauchamp)

read a proclamation observing “Farm Workers Day to an audience of 150 labor officials and The Most Rev. Edward D. Head, bishop of the Buffalo Roman Catholic Archdiocese, presented a statement of support.

The whirlwind tour of the UFW president ended with an international demonstration of support for the union as 100 Canadians marched across the peace bridge to join with U.S. backers at a LaSalle Park rally.

know it's a total breakdown. We go to the Immigration Service and they say they can't do anything.”

Chavez, whose union seeks collective bargaining rights for migrant farm workers, said he would ask the northern-based United Presbyterians to support his drive against the “illegal entries.”

“I hope they will familiarize themselves and will want to do something about supporting our plea to do something about the invasion,” he said.

Chavez' efforts at unionization are already endorsed by the hierarchy of the Northern Presbyterian Church.



UFW President Cesar Chavez and Vice-President Dolores Huerta were guests of Cardinal Terrance Cook, of the New York City Catholic Archdiocese, during a meeting attended by many guests at St. Patrick's Cathedral.

(Photos by Alex Beauchamp)

DEPLORABLE CONDITIONS FOUND AT ORANGE COUNTY LABOR CAMPS

Santa Ana, Calif.—The Orange County human relations commission (HRC) released a report June 14 revealing, what it described as, deplorable and unsanitary farm labor camps which house some 2,000 migrant farm workers in this county just south of Los Angeles.

Two researchers, Daniel Nieto from HRC and Mildred Miller (executive director of the county Fair Housing Council), conducted a four-week investigation of 11 camps for HRC in May of this year.

Nieto and Miller found that the Tri-County camp in Huntington Beach, owned by Talbert Farmers Association had, "barracks where the workers slept consisted of 18 bunkbeds on each side of the wall. The mattresses were filthy along with the bedding. Some of the beds had sheets, many did not."

"There were flies inside and clothing washed by hand hanging on a string, tied from one bed to the other. The cement floors were filthy. There were heaters, but in some barracks they worked and in others they did not."

Nieto also visited another camp, operated under the name Orange County Vegetable Growers in Huntington Beach and owned by Fujita Farms, and described it saying:

"The first thing that hit me at this camp was the smell of urine on the grounds outside the facility... This camp had one long barrack which housed 136 men." Nieto also reported the beds were filthy and lacked enough blankets.

Farms Refuse Visitors

The Irvine Company refused to admit the HRC observers while Jack Sakioka of Sakioka Farms in Santa Ana personally threw out the investigators.

Share Our Selves (SOS) an organization of Catholic laypeople from Costa Mesa did manage to investigate the Sakioka Farm, however, and reported:

"The general condition of the entire complex is dirty and run down. There are no screen doors and dust pervades everywhere.

"Farm machinery and trucks keep churning up the dirt roads. The only attempt at cleaning buildings is once a week.

"Lighting in the barracks is poor; overhead 40-60 watt bulbs. There are no tables, chairs, lockers, clothes racks, etc.

"The men are issued one blanket and a thin mattress pad. There is no provision for privacy and no recreational facilities."

(SOS has played an important role in calling attention to camp problems and has begun English and health care classes at several of the camps.)

In brief, investigators found conditions varied from camp to camp but most places were nothing more than run down barracks. For example:

—Most housing witnessed by the HRC was made of poor quality wood slat. Others had single



Forlorn child looks through wire fence of one of many Orange County labor camps found to be in unsanitary and unkempt conditions.

sheets of tin for walls. On hot days they're like an oven, on cold days or nights like a refrigerator. A few buildings were made of concrete blocks but without proper heating they get very cold at night.

— The ratio of building space to men was found to be very inadequate at all camps.

— Only two of the sites had proper heating facilities.

— Most windows were dirty or broken and usually closed off, which prevented ventilation.

— Poor lighting existed at most sites and several buildings had live exposed wiring.

— Several of the kitchens were extremely filthy and fire hazardous. They also lacked proper storage space, forcing food items to be stocked on the floor. Flies, mosquitoes and rat droppings were found in many of the kitchens.

— Most camps had no laundry facilities for workers to wash their clothes.

— Most toilet areas observed, according to the report, "were a disgrace to human sensitivity... extremely filthy and unsanitary." There was also a lack of enough facilities.

— Open sewers were seen at several camps.

— No posting of minimum wage standards or benefits.

— The workers were not warned about recently dusted areas nor of other pesticide dangers. Many farm laborers said pesticide dust had entered their living quarters and eating areas.

— Nutritional diets at labor camps were very poor, consisting mostly of heavy, starchy foods rather than a balanced diet.

— Several of the camps had poor rubbish disposal.

HRC estimated that most of the workers living in these camps were paid an average of \$2.30 an hour. A large portion of the

wages, however, goes back to the growers since deductions are made for food, board, clothing and personal items which the growers sell.

For example, H. Fugishge charges \$106 a month for meals, Ito and Sons \$26.00 a week and Villa Park \$4.50 a day.

One camp is reportedly earning profits of \$50,000 a year but is failing to pay state and federal taxes. So not only do the migrants have to pay a large portion of their wages back to the grower but the general public loses also since taxes are not being paid.

Aside from bad living conditions HRC also reported that health care at the camps was

minimal and for a long time the county health department refused to administer care since they saw the camps as private premises and out of their jurisdiction.

Only when conditions at the camps threatened the welfare of people living outside the barracks would the health department step in.

Due to the closeness of beds in the barracks and lack of proper medical care contagious diseases are an especially serious problem. Tuberculosis and Venereal diseases afflicting many workers. VD is especially difficult to stop because the migrant population is often moving.

What is needed according to Dr. Joseph A. Carella, a pedia-

trician from Orange, is general medical care, dental care, immunization, TB screening and knowledge of where to go to get treatment. The workers must also be free from intimidation from the camp operators when they seek care.

In the past some labor camp operators have threatened to fire workers if they sought treatment. "Illegal" aliens are especially afraid to seek care because they fear their status will be discovered which would lead to their deportation.

After the HRC investigation, members of the 1973-74 Orange County grand jury also visited the camps. After their visit, A.W. Gazley, forman of the jury, said; "conditions observed by jurors confirm those reported by the Human Relations Commission."

In a letter to the county board of supervisors, Gazley wrote; "Citizens of Orange County should bow in shame, not only at the inhuman conditions observed, but also that their elected or appointed officials should be so derelict in their duties that they permit these conditions to exist."

The 1973-74 grand jury was dismissed July 1, 1974. This dismissal date did not give the grand jury time to compile enough evidence to indict any camp operators. However, Gazley told reporters, "I think definitely that laws were violated."

All the conditions witnessed by the HRC and the grand jury, are the very same which UFW has described for years and wants to abolish.

UFW cannot stand indifferently while people are being subjected to filth, disease, and exploitation, such as is found in these work camps. The union will continue to fight "La Causa" until all these indignities are abolished.

Strike Wave Looms

(continued from page 1)

warning system, a standard feature on UFW lettuce contracts.

The crowd was stunned by the news, as Chavez reminded them that only one month earlier a Bruce Church Inc. truck had run over and killed 44 year old Pedro Diaz in another Salinas lettuce field.

"After two deaths and so many injuries we see the growers and Teamsters still don't have the dignity to desire to protect the worker," said Chavez.

"What do they care?" he asked, "since we are just farm workers? What can it mean to those who are happy with their treasonous contracts? What does it matter to them that the workers suffer as they do? What has it cost them? What do they know? How many more will die?"

"This gang of men that have no respect for the working man's rights just come to take away your dues, making themselves

rich with the blood of those who work the fields."

Chavez then cited the case of workers at Norton Co. who ran the Teamsters dues, yet were not fired.

"They won't fire them, they won't fire them because they are united and they have never paid those dues."

Chavez added that while the Teamster contracts are illegal, the way in which the Teamster union recently raised both dues and initiation fees is doubly illegal. According to Federal labor laws a vote by a workers convention is required to raise such fees.

Rev. John Blethen of Los Angeles captured the applause and laughter of the crowd when he told them in Spanish, "It's hot in here, but it's going to be a lot hotter for the Teamsters."

Fred Ross Jr., director of the San Francisco boycott asked just two questions of the farm workers.

"In the Bay Area there are two men. One is Tony Mendez and the other is called Uribe.

They say they are Teamster organizers and that they represent you. Is that true?"

A unanimous "No" echoed across the auditorium as the young volunteer director asked his second question.

"Then is the only solution to keep up the boycott?"

"Yes" came back an even louder response, "Si Se Puede".

Cesar Chavez also hugged and introduced Mr. Bhagavitt the leader of India's largest farm worker confederation, who brought greetings from his country's 50 million farm workers.

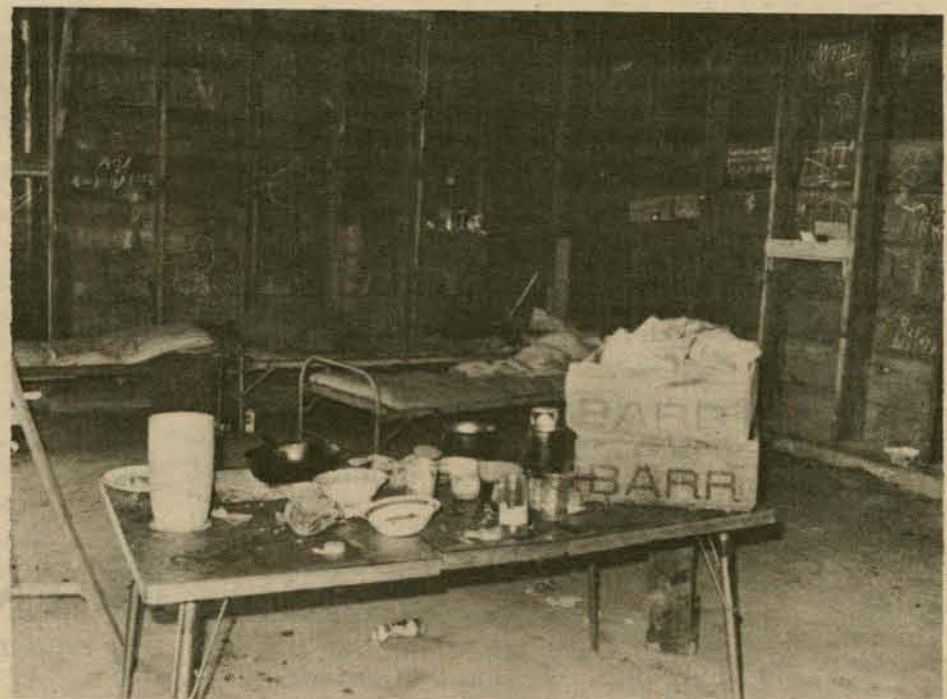
Once again, like so many times in the past, Cesar Chavez renewed the United Farm Workers commitment to the protracted struggle for justice.

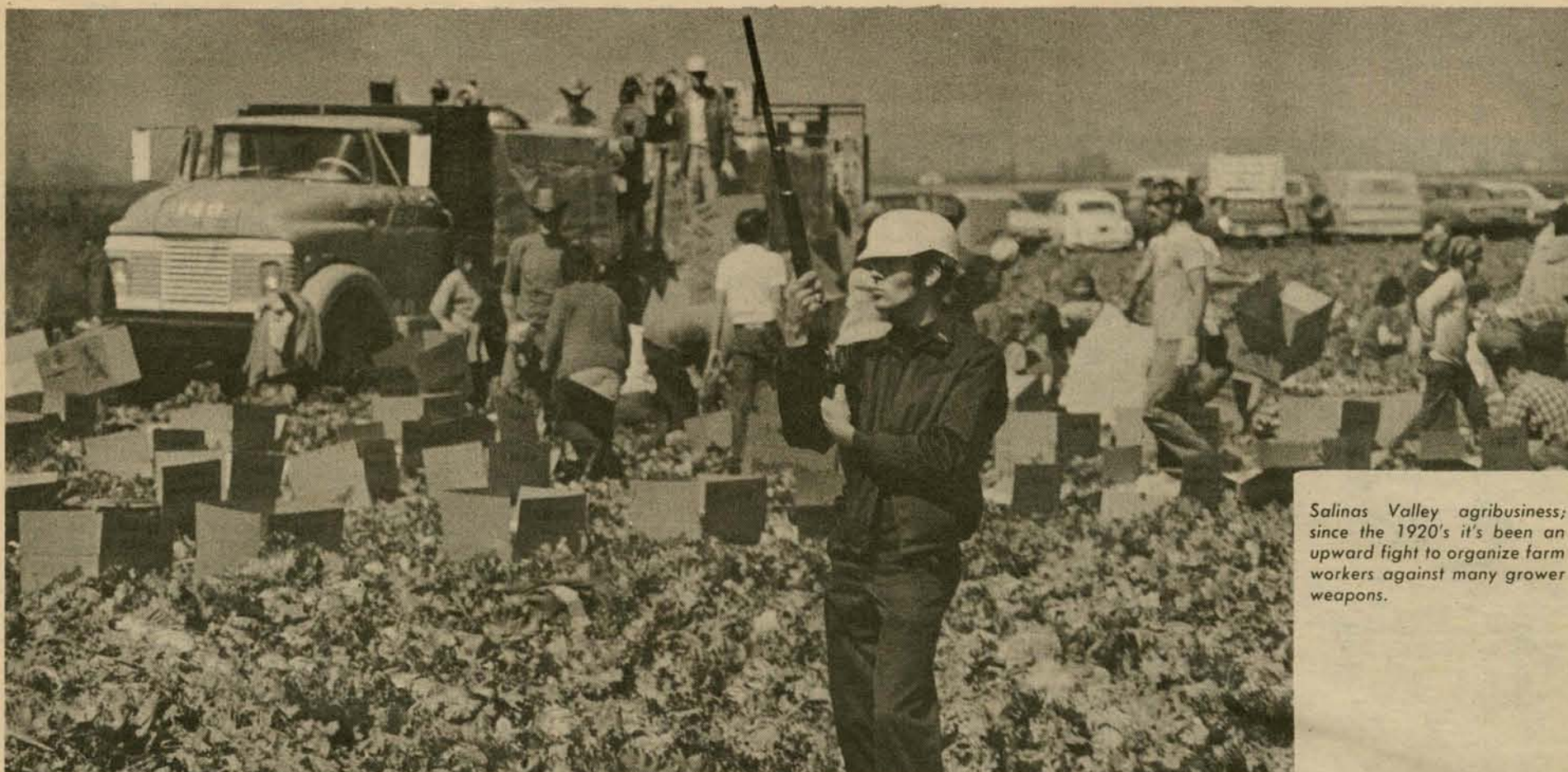
"The day must come" he concluded, "when by the force of the boycott and the support of thousands of men and women across the nation, and your strength and dedication to justice, we will be free to have our own union to fulfill the aspirations of all the farm workers here in Salinas and over the whole United States."



Desperation and loneliness in the faces and minds of "illegal" aliens used by the growers and their allies to try to destroy the heart of the campesino movement. This drecepit barren labor camp, and many like it, will be allowed to flourish by a bought-out Immigration Service—until the time the aliens are no longer needed; then they'll be easily found and sent back home.

(Photos by Mimi Plumb)





Salinas Valley agribusiness; since the 1920's it's been an upward fight to organize farm workers against many grower weapons.

Salinas: Bitter Years, Bitter Struggle

Salinas, Calif. — The farm worker's current fight against Teamsters Union dues is the latest development in the struggle against Salinas Valley agribusiness which began when iceberg lettuce turned the valley into a boom area in the 1920's.

Lettuce monopolists, for decades, have consistently used their economic and political power to fight unionizing efforts by farm and packing shed workers.

The lettuce barons have used outright repression, mechanization to eliminate jobs, the importation of "illegal" aliens, and the use of the powerful Teamsters Union to eliminate contract protections won by the United Farm Workers (UFW) union.

Few Companies Control

The valley today is controlled by a handful of companies such as Bud Antle (Dow Chemical), Bruce Church, InterHarvest (United Fruit), D'Arrigo, and others—whose land holdings extend far beyond Salinas into southern California, Arizona, Colorado, and even Latin America. Antle alone controls 40% of the nation's wrapped lettuce.

The average size of a Salinas farm in 1971 was 1,103 acres, more than three times the national average. The number of acres of lettuce harvested in Salinas remained nearly constant between 1963 and 1973 but the market value nearly tripled, from \$35.5 million to \$119 million.

Thousands of farm workers averaged 2-1/2¢ for each head harvested while two dozen lettuce growers each profited 7¢ in 1963.

The introduction of iceberg lettuce in the 20's sparked waves of migrations as Chinese, Japanese, Hindus, Filipinos, poor Whites, and, finally Mexicans

were brought in to work the fields.

An employer at a convention of fruit growers and farmers in the 1930's expressed their commonly held attitude toward the Mexican workers when he said, "We want the Mexicans because we can treat them as we cannot treat any other living man...we can control them by keeping them at night behind bolted gates, within a stockade eight feet high, surrounded by barbed wire...we can make them work under armed guard in the fields."

(Reminds one of what grower's wife Ann Merrill said last year when she called strikers "Orangutangs" at a meeting in Salinas.)

The labor contractor was established by the 1930's as the core of the agricultural labor system, allowing the growers to escape from having to deal directly with the workers.

Contractors had complete power to hire and fire workers without justification and capitalized on the workers' fear and ignorance to keep them financially indebted and virtually enslaved in run-down labor camps.

Workers, however, tried heroically to organize. 78 agricultural strikes erupted in California during the first half of the 1930's, including a large strike by Filipino and Mexican field and shed workers in 1934 and a strike by 4,000 shed workers in 1936.

These early strikes were brutally repressed by local police and vigilante committees organized

by such farmer groups as the Western Growers Protective Association (now the Western Growers Association).

Union halls and labor camps were gas bombed and burned and labor organizers were jailed. Scabs escorted by armed guards were rushed through picket lines as police dispersed strikers with smoke bombs.

Antle Eliminates Jobs

Bud Antle set out to destroy the rapidly expanding Shed Workers Union. He introduced two technological innovations: packing the lettuce in the fields instead of in packing houses, and rapid cooling with a vacuum process. These changes eliminated the jobs of 8,000 recently organized shed workers within three years.

Antle proceeded to sign the first sweetheart contract with the Teamsters in the lettuce industry in 1961, following a strong strike in the Imperial Valley by the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO. Although the Teamsters have widely advertised this contract a proof of their long standing interest in farm workers,

the contract actually covered very few of Antle's workers.

The rest of the lettuce industry signed sweetheart contracts with the Teamsters in 1970 in an effort to stave off an organizing drive by the UFW. Nearly 10,000 workers responded with a massive strike which won back five of the contracts with some of the largest growers.

Cesar Chavez was jailed for two weeks in Salinas that winter for his organizing efforts.

The workers now under the remaining Teamster contracts find themselves faced with the same problems that have

oppressed them for years—little protection against pesticides, inadequate medical care and housing, no worker organization at the ranch level, and no job security. These problems continue to plague farm workers in a county where record unemployment reached an unprecedented level of 6.1% in June of this year.

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UFW Calls for Sloane Strike Support

Los Angeles, Calif.—The United Farm Workers of America last week again called on its supporters to back the strike and boycott against the R&G Sloane Company.

Previously the UFW supported the strike and boycott against Farah Manufacturing which ended up in these workers winning the

right to be represented by a union of their choice.

For the past year and one half more than 500 members of Local 621 of the AFL-CIO United Rubber Workers have been on strike against Sloane. They charge that the management is out to destroy the union and is determined to impose unsafe

and long discarded working conditions on the work force.

Sloane, once the world's largest manufacturers of plastic pipe fittings, has paid a big price in its attempt to continue operating.

In the course of the strike the company has plummeted from first place in sales in the nation to 21st.

Safety of the workers is one of the key issues in this labor dispute. In 1958, before the union was organized in the plant, there were 150 industrial accidents on the premises.

Now, according to union officials, things have again reached a crisis stage because of management policies. Workers now inside the plant have reported that numerous accidents, including two deaths, have taken place since the beginning of the year.

Sloane, which is owned by the Susquehanna Corporation, demanded a contract that would compel workers to put in as many as 12 hours daily without overtime pay. Also that there would be no overtime pay for Saturday or Sunday work.

The company proposed a wage and work schedule which would lower the weekly income of strikers by \$42 a week. Replacing the union shop clause that previously existed in the contract would be one providing for an

Farm Workers Strike in Portugal

Montoito, Portugal — Striking farm workers in the south of this newly reformed country are beginning the first outbreak of peaceful unrest in nearly half a century.

The farm workers are demanding wage increases to keep up with the rising inflation of 20 per cent a year, along with strikers in two other towns 100 miles southeast of Lisbon.

The area's military command has attempted to portray the outbreaks as "leftist inspired" and claims the strikers are responsible for several recent fires.

However, although strikes are not yet technically legal the new military government of General Spínola has instituted a policy of tolerance and is hoping to settle the current outbreak of strikes in the urban and rural areas in a peaceful manner.

At the same time, strikes are discouraged and it is punishable under law for the press to encourage workers to walk out.

The wheat harvest in the struck area was a month behind, as of July 4. Because of this danger to the crops, workers in another area of southern Portugal were unable to settle their grievances with the landowners.

Their contract calls for 90 days of guaranteed work and \$7.60 a day for men and \$4.80 a day for women, as top wages.

The wage demands in the Montoito area are similar to those of the settled contracts. While a minimum wage of \$132 a month was set by the national government a few weeks ago, this does not apply to service and agricultural workers.



Hiram Rivera, President of United Rubber Workers Local 621, is into the thick of things during union's strike against R&G Sloan Co. in Los Angeles.

open shop under the management proposal. Also the company demanded that it be the only judge as to whether workers are entitled to a 5 percent merit increase.

The management refused to attend negotiating meetings called by the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service on two occasions.

The Sloane Management has repaid the workers, who in 1955 gave up their pay checks for several weeks so that the company's owners could have money

to buy raw material, with a vicious attempt to smash the union and to eliminate many of the benefits won since the union was organized.

Local 621 president, Hiram Rivera, says, "we're determined to win the strike, this isn't just an attack on Local 621, it's an attack on all unions by big business."

In addition to the UFW, many other unions and community organizations have come to the support to the embattled R&G Sloane Co.

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Teamsters-Canneries Connivance Destroys Rank and File Movement

AN HISTORICAL LOOK AT THE IBT (PART ONE)

by Don Watson

Editor's Note — The current attempt by the alliance of corporate owners and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT) to destroy the United Farm Workers is not the first time this has happened in labor history.

IBT's takeover of the cannery industry in northern California is a history of strikebreaking by the Teamsters, their use of coercion, sweetheart contracts, and a shocking disregard for the goals and aspirations of the labor rank and file movement.

The following is the first of three articles describing the Teamsters takeover of the canneries.

Labor history shows that it has been almost as difficult for unions to organize in the canneries as in the fields. The American Federation of Labor (AFL), formed at the turn of the century, was at first cautious about entering them but the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), a more radical organization formed in 1905, made organizational attempts before World War I.

The "Toilers of the World" made the best organizational effort in San Jose. Holding an AFL charter, they struck in 1918 with mass picketing and demonstrations. They were accused of being connected with the IWW and of being "German spies," and their strike was ultimately crushed by vigilantes and a "Citizens Committee."

The Cannery and Agricultural Workers Industrial Union unsuccessfully tried to organize in 1933 with the help of the Communist Party whose leaders were later jailed under the Criminal Syndicalism Act, a harsh California law.

The AFL became serious in 1935, when the canneries came under the Wagner National Labor Relations Act. A statewide conference was held at Stockton in 1936 and AFL charters were issued to organize canneries throughout northern California.

An AFL organizing drive won the support of the Longshoremen's Union now the International Longshoremen and Warehousemen Union (ILWU), which had a considerable power on the Pacific coast following the 1934 waterfront strike.

Fortune Magazine said in 1938, "Not until the 1930's was any strong effort made to organize cannery labor; and that effort

was made by the militant partisans of the Longshoremen Harry Bridges whom practically all California industry hates and fears."

According to a ruling issued by the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), 62 canneries in California in November 1936 "entered upon mutual courses of action for the purpose of combatting and interfering with self-organization and freedom of choice of representatives."

They organized the California Processors and Growers and hired a labor relations attorney, Harrison Robinson, who put them in touch with J. Paul St. Sure, a rising young employer's attorney.

California canneries, which began operation in the 19th century, grew to be huge corporations by the late 1930's. California Packing Company, or Cal Pak, emerged in 1916 out of a Wall Street sponsored merger of four companies and by 1939 directly farmed 69,000 acres of land and controlled 40,000 under lease. Huge corporations like Cal-Pak, Libby, and Heinz grew to dominate the canning industry.

The first move by the California Processors and Growers (CP&G) to dampen the organizing effort was to grant two voluntary wage increases in all their canneries in December 1936 and February 1937, "So that the least possible basis will exist for dispute between cannery workers and their employers." (Quote from an editorial in Western Canner and Packer).

Workers Strike Canneries

But canners were still faced with a crisis. Cannery strikes broke out at the giant Cal-Pak (five strikes), Heinz, Felice and Perrelli, and California Conserving Co. in January 1937. Union drives were underway at San Francisco, the San Francisco East Bay area (East Bay), Stockton, Sacramento, Modesto and San Jose, utilizing radio broadcasts, leaflet distributions, mass meetings and newspapers.

The canners decided to meet with representatives of IBT for assistance.

The first meeting with the Teamsters was held in February 1937. St. Sure, by now a leading canners spokesman, said the canners wanted to find a "responsible union" to deal with.

The Teamsters were reluctant at first to get involved with the canneries because the chaotic industry was difficult to organize.

However, St. Sure asked the Teamsters to cross the picket lines at Cal-Pak at the East Bay in April 1937. The Teamsters were having a meeting of their executive council in Florida and St. Sure called Charlie Real, secretary of Teamster's Local 70 in the East Bay.

The Teamster leadership, at the executive meeting, advised St. Sure they were prepared to go through the picket lines. St. Sure regarded this as the actual beginning of relationships between the Teamsters as the overseers of the operation, and CP&G.

Real ordered Local 70 drivers to strikebreak but on April 9, 1000 cannery strikers held a mass meeting in the East Bay, marched en masse to the Teamster's hall, leafletted a Local 70 meeting and pleaded for continued strike support.

The drivers responded by voting 175 to 35 to refuse to strikebreak. Local 70 President Clifford Lester declared, "Nobody has the right to order men to become strikebreakers."

In retaliation IBT President Dan Tobin removed all Local 70 officers except Real, took over the local directly through trusteeship, and named IBT Representative Joe Casey the trustee to run it for him.

Dave Beck Arrives

But the rank and file continued their defiance, forcing Tobin to send Dave Beck, IBT vice-president from Seattle, to quell them. Beck had already obtained a reputation in Washington and Oregon for signing sweetheart contracts with employers in warehouses.

Beck organized a Teamster mass meeting in Oakland in May and presented a wage increase proposal of a dollar an hour (five dollars by today's standards), negotiated with the Drayman's Association, the Lumberman's Association, and the chain stores in the East Bay. The members were also asked to vote confidence in the International's policy of strikebreaking. Both proposals carried.

Regular Local 70 meetings were suspended through the end of the cannery season. Trustee Joe Casey told the East Bay Labor Journal in October, "until the deposed officers are tried by this union, no further meetings will be held."

Meanwhile, the Agricultural Workers Union, backed by the local Central Labor Council, began organizing Stockton canneries in March. Strikes broke out in four canneries when demands were rejected by the owners, forcing them to close.

The strike was broken violently by a grower's army of 1200 during the 'Battle of Stockton.'

The grower's army assembled in the early morning darkness of April 23, 1937, supposedly under San Joaquin County Sheriff Harvey Odell but really commanded by Col. Walter E. Garrison, President of the Associated Farmers.

U.S. Senator La Follette's committee which investigated the



Charles O. Cline, an 80 year old janitor, striking Stockton Food Products, is led away after being beaten by several vigilantes deputized by a growers' group during the infamous Battle of Stockton in 1937.

—La Follette Hearings

strike said, "In short Sheriff Odell delivered the authority of his office to the Associated Farmers of San Joaquin County."

The Marysville Democrat, a daily newspaper, reported, "Sheriff Harvey Odell told the men behind the cannery barricade, 'you will take orders from the colonel and report to him. He will tell you what to do.'"

Fortune Magazine, the leading business publication, in 1938 described the Associated Farmers as "the violently anti-union Associated Farmers, run by the big growers but supported and manned by the little ones who pay dues and wield pickhandles and rifles in case of trouble."

The Associated Farmers decided to personally drive scab trucks through strike lines, a plan unopposed by Teamster officials.

The 'Battle of Stockton,' also known as 'Black Friday,' "was the bloodiest battle in Stockton's industrial history," according to the San Francisco Chronicle.

The canneries re-opened and the Teamsters, led by Teamster official Joseph McManus who was also state AFL vice-president, helped the Stockton canners organize a new union, the "Cannery Workers Union," to replace the Agricultural Workage Union. Foremen and foreladies were the officers of the new union.

Vincent Dunne, a classmate and fraternity brother of St. Sure, was appointed president of the "Cannery Workers Union." Two Stockton bank officials, Carrol Grunsky of the Stockton First National Bank and Leonard Duprey of Stockton Savings and Loan, testified in front of NLRB in 1938 that Dunne received \$4,543 to finance the new union from the Stockton Merchants Association and Mor-Pak cannery.

Cannery workers were allowed to vote only if they presented a signed receipt from McManus. Foremen and foreladies actively promoted the union in the four Stockton canneries: Stockton Food Products, Richmond Chase, Mor Pak, and Packwell Corpor-

ation. Protestors were shifted to bad work assignments according to later NLRB testimony.

In northern California Teamsters drove through cannery lines and broke all strikes in June and July 1937. The strikes at Heinz and Cal-Pak were called off.

Another strike at California Conserving Company collapsed when Teamsters crossed the picket line. The strike at Felice and Perrelli in Richmond was broken and a "Cannery Employees Association" was set up by the employers to replace the striking union.

The Santa Clara Labor Council reported, "No cannery worker who wore a union button, carried a union book or who had taken part in union activities, was given voice or vote in the new Santa Clara union."

The San Jose Union Gazette on July 2, 1937 said, "It is frankly admitted that it was the canners concern over possible strikes that led to the sweeping organization of the canneries... and new unions created under leaders acceptable to the employers. The employers lent a hand in this reorganization work by encouraging and even insisting that their employees join the new unions."

The canners even paid for a "cannery workers" newspaper and hired 'Bobs' Purcell, a former San Francisco Chronicle newspaperman, to be its editor.

The canner sponsored "unions" were formed during a California Council of Cannery Unions. Teamster Local 70 Secretary Charles Real became the president of the council and lent his prestige as a leader of what was considered a bonafide union. (The Teamsters were not ready at that time to take over outright jurisdiction). St. Sure later admitted he didn't think there was a great deal of assurance that they represented a majority of the people.

(END OF PART ONE)

Part two of the history of the Teamsters takeover will appear in the next edition.



THE RANCH COMMITTEE

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT SOCIAL SECURITY



When you work in the fields you get paid but what happens when you become too old to work? Or hurt or sick? How will you feed your family? And what will happen to your family if you die?

Social Security protects you and your family against loss of income in old age, disability or death and medicare protects you against the heavy medical expenses of old age and severe disability. It is not a welfare program but an arrangement between you and your employer and the federal government in which you earn your protection by working for a certain period of time in what is known as "covered employment."

Social Security "covers" farm workers who over the year earn \$150 or more from one employer or who are employed by one employer for 20 or more days on a "time-basis" rather than on "piece-rate basis."

During your working life you contribute part of your pay to a fund and your employers contribute an equal amount. When you become unable to work because of age (or death or disability) you or your survivors or dependents receive monthly cash benefits from this social security fund.

The program covers workers wherever they move and covers workers who are not U.S. citizens. Benefits are paid outside the United States to covered workers, their dependents and survivors.

The average monthly social security for a retired man and

wife, both receiving benefits, is now \$298 a month; for a retired worker living alone, can receive \$174; and the average family payment for a disabled worker, his wife and one or more children is eligible for is \$389 a month. For a widowed mother with two children, the average is \$418 a month.

Here is a summary of benefits:

1) Retirement income. You begin collecting at age 65 (or as early as 62 at a reduced rate). Benefits may also be paid to your wife at age 62, or at any age if she is caring for your children under 18 or for an unmarried dependent child who was totally disabled before 22; they may also be paid to your unmarried dependent children under 18, or between the ages of 18 to 22 if they are full-time students, or at any age if they were totally disabled before 22.

2) Payments if you are disabled. Benefits are paid to you at any age under 65 (and to your eligible dependents) if you are so severely disabled that you are not expected to be able to work for 12 months or more.

3) Payments to your family if you die. Benefits are paid to your family or other dependents if you die insured at any age.

4) Medicare. This is the basic hospital and medical insurance plan which protects you against the costs of inpatient hospital and medical services and related post-hospital care. Those

eligible for social security at age 65 are also eligible for coverage under medicare. People who have been receiving social security disability benefits for 2 consecutive years, or insured people and their dependents who suffer from chronic kidney disease also qualify for medicare. You are covered under medicare at age 65 whether you retire or not, and regardless of your income or ability to pay.

These are the steps a worker must take to become eligible for social security benefits:

a) Get an application for a social security number, either from a local social security office or Campesino Center. Applicants must now provide evidence to establish their age, citizenship, alien status and true identity.

b) Complete the questions on the card, sign your name and return the card to the social security office.

c) When you receive your social security number, take it to your employer. Tell him you want social security deducted from your pay. Be sure he records your number correctly.

d) When you are paid, mark down in your social security record book (available free from any social security office) the date and amount you were paid. Also note your employer's name and address.

e) Ask your employer for a receipt of wages and deductions either at the end of a year or when you leave an employer.

f) At the end of a year, tear out the postcard in the back of your record book and send it in to social security for information on the money paid to your account during the year. Extra cards are available for future years.

g) If you change employers, be sure to give your new employer your social security number.

h) Most important be sure your employer takes your social security contribution out of your pay. The people responsible for making the social security deductions and for recording and sending them in don't always do this. If this happens to you what can you do?

First, check your social security record by sending a "request for statement of earnings" postcard to the Baltimore headquarters office. Social Security will tell you by mail how much is credited to your account. If nothing is credited, or if it seems that more should be there, you can start to straighten out the record by going to or calling the local social security office. Should investigation show that you are eligible for social security coverage which was not reported, social security will credit your record for the unreported earnings.

Remember, get in touch with your social security office or Campesino Center if:

... you're unable to work because of an illness or injury that is expected to last a year or longer.

... you're 62 or older and plan to stop working.

... you're within 2 or 3 months of 65 even if you don't plan to stop working.

... someone in your family dies.

The Social Security Administration has offices throughout the country. For the address of your nearest office, look in the phone book or ask at your post office.

And, finally, you may always appeal any decision of the Social Security Administration.

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Teamsters Give \$25,000 to Nixon Support Group

Washington, D.C.—The International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT) has contributed \$25,000 to the National Citizens Committee for Fairness to the Presidency, becoming one of the heaviest financial supporters of Nixon's rapidly deteriorating presidency.

The Committee for Fairness has grown into a heavily financed, sophisticated, computer assisted operation in the last year which was made possible by large contributors, like the Teamsters.

The Teamster contribution, which was authorized by the IBT board, is the largest ever given to the committee by a group or individuals except for monies given to the committee by a group given by an au named high official of the committee.

IBT President Frank E. Fitzsimmons claims the committee "is non partisan, and its only interests are good government. With this rationale, Fitzsimmons saw no reasons not to draw the \$25,000 from the union's political education funds which generally makes contributions to candidates for political office.

The Nixon and IBT have been patronizing each other for years and this contribution is the latest example of the bond that exists between them.

The Teamsters strongly supported Nixon in 1972 although most of labor remained neutral and Fitzsimmons even went so far as to proclaim that Nixon would go down in history as the greatest president the country ever had. Not only did Fitzsimmons laud the president with



Highly paid Teamster goons (\$69.50 per day) mill about during last year's Coachella strike. When Teamster money isn't used to pay goon squads it's going to such things as President Nixon's campaign to stay in office and not back to the worker where it belongs.

superlatives but he also opened the unions' coffers to him.

In 1972, Fitzsimmons drew two million dollars from the union's pension fund for use of the presidential campaign and directed IBT officials and employees to support and make cash contributions to the re-election campaign. IBT individuals gladly obeyed and responded by giving the re-election committee \$25,000 in 1972

Fitzsimmons continued to offer his services to Nixon when he became vice-chairman of Democrats for Nixon which was financed by the Committee to re-elect the President.

Fitzsimmons is still in Nixon's back pocket, earlier this year, for example, Nixon told him to persuade IBT drivers from joining a trucker shut down and strike organized in protest of rising gas prices. Fitzsimmons gladly re-

sponded to Nixon's bidding and many Teamsters did not join the strike.

The Nixon administration, which is notorious for selling its favors, has not neglected its Teamster friends and has aided them in organizing their forces in the farm industry.

Charles Colson, then special counsel to the president, in May 1971 wrote and delivered a memo to the Departments of Labor and Justice and the National Labor Relations Board instructing them not to interfere in the IBT-UFW

dispute over representation of California farm workers unless they could "find some way to work against the UFW (Chavez) union."

The Department of Labor obeyed and refused to take action, throughout the year, on repeated UFW complaints that the Teamsters were interfering in negotiations between the UFW and the lettuce growers.

Colson sent another memo to the same agencies unlawfully directing them to take action against the UFW, late in 1971. In this memo he made it clear who the administration was going to back in organizing the farm workers.

He wrote, "The Teamsters union is now organizing in the area and will probably sign up most of the grape growers this coming spring and this will need our support against the UFW."

During the presidential election year the Departments of Labor and Justice continued to refuse to interfere and denied UFW requests for investigation and assistance as IBT thugs attacked UFW picket lines.

The Department of Defense also helped in quashing UFW efforts when it increased its buying of scab grapes and lettuce. This was done at the time the UFW intensified its boycott work and tons of scab grapes and lettuce were being destroyed.

Even to day the Department of Defense continues to be the worlds largest buyer of non-union farm products.

Nixon and the Teamsters have proven that they are the closest of friends and that despite the president's drop in popularity they will continue to scratch each others backs.



Violence-prone Teamster "guard" contingents like this is one method the Teamster union's leadership tries to suppress the farm worker movement. Another avenue is its close relationship with the corruption-ridden Nixon administration which has never been a friend of this country's working man and woman.

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Cigarettes And Tobacco

R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company...producers of Winston, Salem, Camels, Doral, and Vantage. Winchester (Little Cigars) and Prince Albert Smoking Tobacco. (Tobacco Workers International Union).

Printing

Los Angeles Herald Examiner (10 unions involved covering 2,000 workers).