1970 Commemorative Stamps
Now available from UFWOC. See page 16.
WHY BOYCOTT LETTUCE?

"HUELGA" the battle cry of striking farmworkers is now re-echoing in cities coast to coast. The reason for picket lines in front of city markets, advocating the boycott of non-union lettuce, is very simple.

In August, thousands of Salinas and Santa Maria Valley farm workers walked out of the fields to man picket lines. They were infuriated at the sweetheart contracts signed between growers and the West Coast Conference of Teamsters. That is to say, the workers themselves had no voice in the "negotiations", nor were their interests and needs involved in the sweetheart contracts. It is a well-known fact that many growers signed with the West Coast Teamsters in an effort to keep the FARM WORKERS' union out of their fields. It would not only be a blow to their conditioned racism to actually sit across a bargaining table from a union composed of farm workers, but they also realize that a collective bargaining agreement with UFWOC actually involves facing the needs of the farm workers: needs such as a medical plan for the workers and their families, a week's paid vacation, and job security (seniority) through the elimination of the contractors. A union hiring hall, in place of the contractors, insures the workers this seniority without making money on the sweat of their toil. Under UFWOC contracts workers are guaranteed $2.10 an hour in 1970 and $2.15 in 1971. Teamster contracts offered only $1.85 this year and $1.94 after five years. It should be quite apparent who actually represents the farm workers.

The lettuce workers know who their bargaining agent is and through the strike have demanded that the sole representative for farm workers be UFWOC. Now that court orders have banned all picket lines in the fields, farm workers and their families have joined with already existing boycott committees in major cities throughout North America. Our past boycott experiences have proven Time to be a potent ally of our cause. However, with the support our movement has gained in the last few years, the powerful force of the lettuce boycott will soon bring the many stubborn, racist growers to seats across the bargaining table from UFWOC. Many of these greedy exploiters of human beings still cannot cope with the idea that their "good boys" no longer exist. These same growers will be seen at the negotiating sessions as soon as their fat pocketbooks begin to deplete. Our FARM WORKER union possesses this type of power -- and we are exercising it. BOYCOTT NON-UNION LETTUCE.
1. 1970 Year of Victory - 17x23 magenta and brown . . . . $1.00
2. Walter Reuther - In Memorium - 17x23 black and white . . . . $1.00
3. God Help Us to be Men - 14x22 pink and orange . . . . . $1.00
4. Viva la Revolucion - Pancho Villa - 17x23 black on brown . . . . $1.50
5. No Violencia en Salinas - 17x22 red and black . . . . $5.00
6. May the Strike Go On - Cesar Chavez - 17x23 full color . . . . $1.50
7. Viva la Revolucion - Emiliano Zapata - 17x23 black on red . . . . $1.50
8. Buy Union Label Only - Boy's white T-shirt, size 10, 12, 14 . . . 1.00
9. Demand the Best - blue or khaki shirt (men/women) size 14, 15, 15½, 16, 16½ . . . 2.25 (blue) . . . 3.00 (khaki)
10. Demand the Best - white T-shirt, boy's size 10, 12, 14 . . . 1.00; men's size S, M, L . . . 2.00

UFWOC Defense Fund
P.O. Box 130
Delano, Ca. 93215

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Non-violence has worked in India. It has worked in the lettuce fields and vineyards of California, and it has also proved effective on the impoverished island of Sicily, where the poor find themselves trapped on an endless treadmill of sickness, ignorance, and unemployment. The following is the story of the man who made non-violence work in Sicily, DANILO DOLCI....

Danilo Dolci is a man of immense physical size. Those who know him best say that he is a rare combination of a profound intellectual mind and an efficient organizer of the poor and dispossessed.

The more Dolci travelled throughout Sicily, the more poverty and destitution he found. Infant mortality in Sicily is nine times that of the rest of Italy. Dolci also found that the poor farm workers and the city dwellers were afraid to organize. The only tightly-organized group in Sicily is the Mafia; the Mafia deals harshly with anyone else who tries to get together and help the people. He also found that there is a code of silence in Sicily, called omerta. It means manliness or self-control. It means "don't rock the boat," and it has a devastating effect on the people.

The Mafia has dominated Sicily's fish industry by illegal dynamiting and trawling, and grape growers have to make expensive pay-offs to the Mafia to keep the people from raiding their vineyards at night.

Dolci was originally from a village near Trieste, now in Yugoslavia. He helped build orphanages after the Second World War. When he saw a baby die of hunger, he began his first fast. He said he would not eat another mouthful until the government sent at least 50 thousand dollars "to employ the neediest and help the most urgent cases." By the seventh day of his fast, a doctor said he was...

A doctor keeps a sharp eye on Dolci's health during a fast.
in Sicily

dying. The authorities soon forked over the money saying that they would do their best "to relieve the desperate plight of this zone."

The clergy became hostile with Dolci, and the government eventually closed one of his orphanages. He moved to another Mafia capital in Sicily, the village of Partinico, where two-thirds of the male population was unemployed. It was here that Dolci underwent another seven day fast to complete the construction of a dam. He also led his famous strike-in-reverse. He and several of his followers were arrested for working on a road which needed repair.

Dolci was given fifty days in jail for "disturbing the public." He then continued to write books and go on fasts. He conducted one fast in Palermo, where he found as many as eight people occupying a single bed, an average life expectancy of thirty-five years, babies attacked by rats, and the Mafia even controlling the coffin making business. For his efforts on behalf of housing, he received the $26,000 Lenin Peace Prize, drawing criticism to him from all quarters. He spoke on non-violence all over Europe.

Danilo Dolci believes strongly in the self-help potential of the poor. One of his most famous phrases is the following: "We are all murderers."

"In this world, which is an intelligent, organized, and often hypocritical school of murder, I shall not live according to my instinct, but according to my spiritual conscience. It is my duty to serve, my place to be with the least. I will collaborate with life -- never with death."

A celebration marks the breaking of one of Dolci's fasts.

Dolci's goals are almost exactly those of the farm workers' movement. The following statement could have just as easily come from Cesar Chavez: "It is because we have discovered that peace and development come together that the effort for peace, in order not to become abstract, must be dedicated to the resolution of specific social and economic problems."

Dolci, like Chavez, has created a social awareness among the working people that has wrought far-reaching changes throughout the world. More and more people are now convinced that non-violent social change is the only way.


Dolci has led many peaceful demonstrations to protest unfair conditions.
was convinced that he was the man who could help us. I will never forget the important advice he gave me. He knew that I had doubts about my work in Detroit. He said that he did not want people who already knew how to do the job. He wanted people who were eager to learn how to do the job."

America today. "Our society is based on the Calvinist ethic," Chuy said. "All I can see in it is greed and selfishness. The farm workers are really challenging this way of life. They are saying that the color of one's skin should not designate one's position in this society." Chester was impressed with the sacrifices of the farm workers in Salinas. "I showed up one night at an all night picket line at the Oakland Produce Terminal. I felt that by being involved in the movement, that I am doing something really worthwhile. Since I am Nicaraguan, I identify myself with the cause of all the Indo Spanish people."

He added that the organization of farm workers was a fantastic thing to behold. "It's like a work of art. There is so much untapped talent lying around in the fields. At first the workers kept telling us 'You do it.' But now they are leading and governing themselves. God, it's beautiful. In a short time they can manage anything."
There are over 1,000 Arab immigrants working in the vineyards and fields of Kern and Tulare counties. Saeed Mohammed Al-Alas believes that he and his fellow Arab farm workers will derive many benefits under the new contracts as members of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee.

Saeed, a native of Crater Aden in South Yemen, now lives with his Mexican wife and two children in the Visalia-Farmersville area in Tulare County.

The 28-year-old immigrant became a full-time organizer for UFWOC in August of this year. Saeed speaks fluent English, and is frequently sought out by his countrymen for a variety of services.

"We had a big meeting with 500 Arab workers at the Elmco Camp," Saeed told EL MALCRIADO with an enthusiastic smile. (Elmco is one of the large grape growers near Porterville). "Richard Chavez spoke in English and I spoke to the men in Arabic," he added.

"The men wanted to know about the new contracts and the Robert F. Kennedy medical plan. We assured them that this union was really for them. They were surprised at first and didn't understand what we were trying to do. But now I think that they are going to be some of our best union members."

Saeed told how he had helped the cooks at the camps. "They were only getting paid when the men worked," he said. "I went to the bosses and said that the cooks in the camps had to get paid all the time. The cooks are now grateful to me and the union for helping them."

Saeed Al-Alas came to the United States in 1964. He had spent some time in England where he learned English. His home town is located near the Suez Canal, and it suffered very much from the Arab-Israeli War of 1967. Like the rest of his countrymen, Saeed mourned the loss of Gamal Abdel Nasser of the United Arab Republic. Arab farm workers conducted a funeral march and prayer service in honor of Nasser in Porterville on October 2. (See photo.)

"Nasser has been a father to us," Saeed said. "He was the only great leader we have had. He brought all the Arabs together, began many economic programs, and threw the British out of Egypt. He was really interested in the people."

Saeed worked for a short time as a machinist in L.A., but plans to stay in the valley because he likes the climate better. "Besides," he adds, "where else could I do as much for my countrymen?"
Coast to Coast - Throughout North America, farm workers are again harvesting boycott support. With the massive support we have built up over the years, we cannot fail. These few names represent only a quick glance at our Lettuce Boycott Force.
Farm workers everywhere have a common experience in that an employer always pays his workers the least amount of money he can get away with. If a grower could get someone to do a job for nothing, he would do that, too. His conscience is always submerged by greed, indifference, and a belief that life is a battlefield in which he either wins or loses. He fights an eternal war against his fellow men.

Nature seems to point to the conclusion that he is right. "Survival of the fittest" is the law of the jungle he applies in a civilized world. If he persuades us that this is the only way to succeed, then there are not enough growers for farm workers to take on. He better look around with an open mind and be fair in whatever he does.

The government gives the farmer the right to property for his use and enjoyment, but not to oppress people and deny them their right to live. Authority and power of government derive from the people, and the people demand that their government protect their rights. To me justice is the only way to peace and harmonious living. Lack of it fosters distrust and the insecurity that a brother coming home late in the twilight evening might get shot.

In order to promote better relations between growers and workers, the organizing of a farm workers union was inevitable.

The management-labor problems could be resolved without resorting to violence. The fact that a grower talks to his worker like a dog is proof enough that the two don't have equal bargaining power. So, a worker cannot talk sense to his boss. But workers together in a union can surely squeeze justice from the big money bags of the growers to the point of not killing the "hen that lays the golden egg."

It follows, therefore, that members should know what their union is, its benefits and how to get them, and the power they generate as a body. The
BY PHILLIP V.

EL MALCRADO

VERA CRUZ, VICE-PR.

ESIDENT, UFWOC

Unity among workers is not the "go-across," or the building needs. Its existence is justified only if it serves the general power. We use for our cause, its existence, negotiation for fair wages for people who work for it, pay their dues and fight for the union. The union is the power that attracts world-wide attention and invited armies. Personnel development, personal knowledge and strength of the officers and members of the union are essential to all the union's success.

As we grow, the union's growth and success depend very much on the personal knowledge and understanding of the officers and members. Satisfactory results do not come from the union's existence by itself. Activities must be applied to all the union's successes.

We build a union for workers' benefits and equal treatment. If it deviates from these principles, then its foundation crumbles.

The union exists to serve the workers. We are not merely a group of men who gather to discuss issues. We are a group of workers who work together to achieve our common goals.

Our membership is based on a common interest in the betterment of our lives. The union's activities are directed towards the improvement of our working and living conditions. We work together to ensure that our voices are heard and that our rights are protected.

We are a part of a larger movement for democracy and justice. Our union is a reflection of the struggles and struggles of the working class. We are united in our fight for a better future.

As we continue to grow, we must remain true to our principles and work towards the betterment of our lives and the lives of those around us.
Harivallabh Parikh, a disciple of Gandhi who is leading non-violent land reform and social change among farm workers in western India, visited the strikers in Salinas on September 25 and 26. He made the trip to meet Cesar Chavez to have firsthand knowledge of the United Farm Workers so that he could describe their Gandhian commitment to non-violence to farm workers in India. He also wanted to outline the progress of Indian farm workers.

With Gandhi’s non-violent revolution

In an afternoon talk and later with a film Harivallabh Parikh, who prefers to be called “Bhai” (Brother), told his story to Cesar and boycott organizers meeting in Seaside.

Bhai was born on December 14, 1924, in the state of Gujarat in western India. His father was Prime Minister in what then was a princely state under Great Britain. After graduating from high school at age 13, Bhai refused his father’s wish that he should study in England. The next year he became the youngest disciple of Mahatma Gandhi, travelling all over India with him in the struggle for Indian independence. At the beginning of World War II, Bhai joined the underground revolution against the British, but he soon rejected violence and returned to Gandhi’s non-violent movement. He was imprisoned by the British during the war for his resistance to colonial rule.

A very important turning point in Bhai’s life came when he refused Prime Minister Nehru’s offer to run for high government office after India’s independence. Having declined a political career, in 1948 he travelled on foot over 13,000 miles visiting villages to seek out the most impoverished area in India as the site of his lifetime work. A year later, with his few possessions piled on a bull-ox cart, Bhai took his young wife and new baby to the remote tribal village of Rangpur in Baroda District. There he chose the shade of a neem tree for his home. He then founded The Anand Niketan Ashram (The Abode of Joy).

21 years of success

By 1970 his community had revolutionized that rural area touching the lives of over one million tribal people. His accomplishments included:

- sweeping land reform affecting over 750 villages.
- 350 village cooperative farms (Gramdams)
- 63 consumer cooperatives
- 150 land wells irrigating 25,000 acres

Comparing India to Salinas

As Bhai became acquainted with the progress of the salad bowl strike, he understood completely the tactics of exploitation by the growers and Teamsters, and drew parallels with exploitation carried out by large farmers in India as well as the money lenders whom he found charging tribal people over 300% interest. “To break the struggle hold large land owners held on the...
UFWOC and the Jersey Farm Workers

BRIDGETON, N.J., September 25--While the lettuce strike in Salinas is capturing the nation's headlines, 17 Chicano lettuce pickers are fighting their own battle with one of South Jersey's largest lettuce growers here on the east coast. Prospects remain dim for any quick victory here, but the workers have served notice that La Causa will soon be flexing its muscles in Jersey as well as in the west.

The workers, led by UFWOC member Andres Rigo, were recruited last spring in Arizona and Calexico. All were promised good wages and fringe benefits to come to work for Louis Pizzo, a former member of the Governor's Migrant Board, mayor of the small town of Rosenheim, and one of the big shots in South Jersey agriculture. Pizzo once commented, referring to the workers who make him rich, "See those people in the field, well, they're nothing, I tell you, nothing. They never were nothing, they never will be nothing, and you and me and God Almighty ain't going to change them."

The workers, part of a crew of several hundred, were pushed unmercifully through the pre-harvest operations (thinning, weeding, etc.), with the promise that work and wages during the harvest would be great. Then just a few days before the harvest, these and other workers were laid off. Three thousand miles from home, without jobs or a place to stay and no savings or prospects of winning a quick victory and, low on funds, may have to return to the west. But Pizzo and the other growers have better start learning that the workers are going to start fighting back against this type of vicious exploitation. And lettuce just might be where the union label first appears on an eastern crop.
A massive strike in the hopfields of Washington's Yakima Valley resulted in an overwhelming vote for affiliation with UFWOC at two ranches and eleven temporary agreements with growers. During the strike against 14 ranches, over 2000 hop workers walked out of the fields in favor of union representation.

Among the strikers' demands was a minimum wage of $2.00 an hour. Such a demand is surely justified in an area which grows a 128 million pound annual crop worth 14.2 million dollars. These totals account for 60% of the nation's hop yield.

The state Department of Labor was contacted to supervise the first two elections, but couldn't act within the time allotted for the elections. Four priests acted as impartial observers to the voting which clearly authorized UFWOC as bargaining agent of the workers.

The temporary agreements found the growers accepting the idea of representation elections and also recognizing grievance committees. Some of the ranchers agreed to pay workers for days on strike and also granted amnesty to all workers. In one instance, the head of the Washington Hop Growers Association, Eli Patinod, rescinded on an oral agreement. He was to sign a pact with the strikers, but on arriving at the ranch to finalize the agreement, the grievance committee found four Anglo workers, who had been deputized, with shotguns and billy clubs. Also on hand to greet them were four sheriff squad cars, a paddy wagon, and four police dogs. Their job was to keep the grievance committee out. Patinod called for other growers to unite and form vigilante groups -- but no one paid attention to him.

When the hop workers contacted Delano for assistance, UFWOC organizer Rudy Ahumada was sent to advise the strikers on organizing tactics. Now heading the Yakima Valley United Farm Workers are Tomas Villanueva, Chairman; Roberto Trevino, Public Relations Spokesman; and Lupe Gamboa, Chief Negotiator.

The strongly union-minded workers are now going after the other crops for elections and already have authorization cards signed in the Skagit Valley and Walla Walla areas.

contracts: UFWOC Scores Twice in Northern California

FRESHPICT, a produce-growing subsidiary of the giant Purex Corporation, and PIC-N-PAC, the largest strawberry grower in California, have signed agreements with the UNITED FARM WORKERS.

This brings to four the number of major growers who have signed with the union in the SALINAS and PAJARO VALLEYS. The others are INTER-HARVEST, the largest lettuce grower in the valley, and BROWN AND HILL, considered by most the largest green tomato producer in the country.

The FRESHPICT contract is described as being very similar to the one that was signed last month with INTER-HARVEST. It is RETROACTIVE to September 11, 1970, and gives the workers $2.10 an hour, provides for a UNION SHOP, gives farm workers a policy-making say in the use of PESTICIDES in the fields. The previous TEAMSTER contract called for $1.85 an hour pay rate. The UFWOC contract also includes 10¢ an hour HEALTH AND WELFARE and a contribution by the grower to the ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND.

About 400 workers are covered under the contract on the California farms. For the first time, a MINIMUM WAGE of $2.20 per hour is guaranteed under the PIC-N-PAC contract. The contract also provides that the crates of freezer berries will contain no more than 18 1/2 pounds of fruit and that they are to be weighed right in the fields.

Again, the U.S. CATHOLIC BISHOPS COMMITTEE ON FARM LABOR were the mediators and should be praised for their hard work.

**BALLOT**

Do you want Cesar Chavez's union (UFWOC) to represent you?

| 105 | YES |
| 3   | NO  |
THE LETTUCE FIELDS...

THE ARTIST, ANDY ZERMENO, HAS CAUGHT THE EMOTIONS OF STRIKING FARM WORKERS IN BEAUTIFUL COLOR.

STAMPS, WHICH ARE SHOWN ON THE FRONT COVER, ILLUSTRATE THE PLAGHT OF FARM WORKERS BOTH BEFORE AND DURING THE FORMATION OF THEIR OWN UNION.

"I shed tears seeing the hopeless existence of my desparate wife, our frightened son and the unborn child which she carries.

"my shoeless children, their father dead, use twigs as toys in the only playground they have ever known--the roadside of fields where I labor.

"we have been driven like cattle, in moving caskets, to slave for rich growers who have no time to worry about these boys or their families."

"in our eyes we show the empty places we have seen.

"equality has been an unknown word. i had no money, so neither schools nor doctors gave much attention to me.

"our schools were picket lines but our hearts will bleed until our sons and daughters know pride and dignity.

"our hands and backs are scarred with over burden but faith, unity and hard work will lighten our load and bring farm workers new life.

"no longer will our families be forced to live in the filth of shacks -- we too seek strong walls to house our families.

"there is no need to spray pesticides on us while we are working. when the earth is ready we pick her fruits. we are not ashamed to put our hands in the dirt -- we know our roots are in the land.

"one by one we have joined the cause. together we will see life which was never before ours.

"we choose to represent ourselves.

"our strike message is simple -- we demand to live and work as men.

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