FARM WORKERS MARCH on Fort Ord in protest of Pentagon purchase of boycotted Antle lettuce

UFWOC SUES PENTAGON

SEE PAGE 4
The 12,000-member Cannery Workers Union Local 748 of Modesto may go under trusteeship because of unorthodox techniques used by its secretary-treasurer Ted Gonsalves in the Salinas Valley dispute between the UFWOC and the Teamsters.

The local’s executive board accused Gonsalves of spending at least $24,000 in union funds on the anti-Chavez campaign without authorization from the board or the membership.

If approved by the membership, trusteeship means that all local union officers, from the janitors to the top business agents and leaders, must turn in their resignations. Trusteeship also means that the local’s books will be thoroughly audited for the first time by the International Teamsters Union. The Cannery union is an affiliate of the Teamsters.

Gonsalves campaigned against UFWOC in Salinas for the Teamsters even though his cannery workers were clearly more sympathetic to the Chavez cause, according to spokesmen in Local 748. At a union meeting last month, the membership of local 748 tried to oust Gonsalves and demand an accounting. Gonsalves at the time blamed the shortage of funds on “a mixup at the bank” and said that, besides, he had paid back the $24,000 anti-Chavez expenses out of his own pocket. Gonsalves claimed, too, that the Teamsters had promised to repay the cost of the Salinas adventure.

One of the six Modesto men under federal indictment on charges of violating gun and explosive control laws has said he and the other five worked for Gonsalves in Salinas as a picket.

William Grami, representing the Western Conference of Teamsters headquartered in Burlingame, has been in Modesto for a month to investigate accusations against Gonsalves. Grami revealed that he personally or-

SIX INDICTED ANTI-CHAVEZ

Six Modesto men were indicted on December 30th by a federal grand jury in Sacramento on firearms charges stemming from an alleged plot to disrupt Cesar Chavez’s Salinas Valley organizing activities.

The defendants are accused of violating the Gun Control Act of 1968, and five of the eight counts of the indictment involve the making and selling of explosive devices. Two are for the sale of sawed-off rifles. The eighth alleges a conspiracy to violate the Act.

The criminal acts are said to have taken place between October 29th and November 3rd.

The United Farm Workers Organizing Committee’s headquarters at 721 1/2 San Benito Street in Hollister were ripped apart by a dynamite explosion on November 3rd.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Bruce
brings on union stir

Gonsalves brought on a union stir in Salinas because of his behavior there. Gonsalves did not leave until September 15th.

While in Salinas, Gonsalves 'did us more harm than good,' Grami said. "His methods were unorthodox."

Grami apparently referred to what one Salinas lawman called Gonsalves' "outlandish pose" which included being driven around with three bodyguards in a black four-ton limousine once used on the "Mission Impossible" TV series. American flag flew from the front fenders of the car, which is equipped with a bar and a television set.

The car, purchased by Gonsalves in September, was built by the Lehman-Peters Co. of Chicago and originally cost $18,000, according to a former Modesto owner. The vehicle came equipped with two air conditioners and is reportedly the same model as used by Governor Ronald Reagan.

Gonsalves lives near Hughson on a guarded estate surrounded by acres of peach trees. He is transported in the black limousine to and from the local's office in downtown Modesto.

While in Salinas, the Teamsters made their headquarters at the Towne House Motel, where Gonsalves reportedly ran up a $5,000 bill. Only about $2,000 of the bill has been paid. Employees at the Towne House said Gonsalves and his group were asked to leave about mid-September because they used foul language in the dining room of an adjoining restaurant.

Gonsalves asked Teamster boss Grami to consider paying some of his expenses. Grami says he told Gonsalves to submit the expenses, and said he would look at them.

ON CHARGE OF CONSPIRACY

Babcock of Sacramento told EL MALCRIADO that - for the purposes of the indictment - "the conspiracy never got as far as any overt acts involving destruction. The conspiracy was only for transferring firearms, including destructive devices..." Babcock added that "an undercover agent who made purchases and discussed things with the conspirators indicated the devices were to be used to cause a little trouble with Cesar Chavez' union."

The defendants are Gene Fleming, Dale Cadwell, John Wilson, David Bean, Ronald Cocker and Floyd Jordan. Their trial is scheduled April 12.

Babcock said the men amassed guns, grenades and dynamite which they intended to use for disruptive activities against UFWOC. The defendants list their occupations as truck drivers and laborer.

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On Wednesday, January 6, 1971, Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers filed suit against Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird and Bud Antle, Inc., one of the world's largest producers of lettuce. The suit was filed in U.S. District Court for the central district of California.

According to Jerry Cohen, attorney for the Union, the Defense Department and Bud Antle Corporation have violated the First and Fifth Amendments of the U.S. Constitution, the Administration Procedure Act, the Armed Service Procurement Regulations, and civil causes of action.

The Pentagon is acting as a strikebreaker for the huge Bud Antle Company by sharply increasing its purchase of high-priced scab Antle lettuce, while ignoring lettuce available from growers under UFWOC contract.

Their conduct is another example of the historic discrimination Chicano and Filipino farm workers have suffered in the United States. The suit charges that the defendants are motivated by racial hostility, and are thus depriving minorities of their right to equal protection of the law.

Because the United Farm Workers are involved in a labor dispute with Bud Antle, Inc., they have charged that the alleged conspiracy between the Defense Department and Bud Antle is a violation of the First Amendment which guarantees the right to associate freely and organize. By preventing the right to organize the defendants are preventing the lettuce boycott to take place.

The farm workers charge that they have been deprived of their right to be free from illegal economic injury.

In 1970, 8.3% of the Defense department's lettuce was bought from Bud Antle. In the first quarter of this year alone 29.1% of the lettuce destined for the armed forces was Antle lettuce. At the same time purchases of lettuce from those companies which have signed contracts with UFWOC, by the government, have been sharply curtailed. One of those companies, InterHarvest, "experienced a very dramatic withering away of military sales after it signed with us," says the UFWOC boycott department.

In addition, the Defense Department has made purchases of Bud Antle lettuce at prices substantially higher than the prevailing market price for lettuce of similar quality. On December 15, 1970 the Defense Personnel Subsistence Center in Los Angeles received 49,320 pounds of lettuce at 12.3 cents per pound. The cost of a crate of lettuce at this price came to a total of $5.54. On that very same day the highest quality of wrapped lettuce sold anywhere in Los Angeles sold at $3.50 a crate.

This is not the first time the farm workers have come to grips with the Defense Department. In 1969 when UFWOC was boycotting table grapes the Defense Department's purchase of table grapes rose considerably. Pentagon officials at that time denied that they were taking part in an attempt to break the boycott. It was due to "growing troop acceptance of grapes and because there were fewer supplies than usual of other fresh fruits."

Payment for damages has been asked for by UFWOC. The total could run into the millions if the farm workers get what they've asked for which is $45,000 each.
for Cesar Chavez and the members of UFWOC.

The Defense Department has denied the charges. Bud Antle, head of the corporation cited, stated: "The real trouble is Chavez thinks he is King of the Mexicans."

$750,000 was spent by the Pentagon on Antle lettuce in the first quarter of this year. This is $20,000 more than was spent on Antle lettuce in ALL of last year. But the Pentagon said the increase in the amount of Antle lettuce was due to the fact that lettuce production has been "hampered by union jurisdictional disputes which, in turn, hampered the normal flow of lettuce shipments from all the growers. But Antle, who says he is fully unionized (by the Teamsters), was generally able to continue operations, and was often the only source of supply."

The government then went on to say that the higher prices of their lettuce over the finest lettuce available to the public consumer is caused "by the fact that we must buy only top quality lettuce which must be trimmed and wrapped to prolong its freshness overseas and afloat (on naval vessels)."

The Bud Antle Corporation likewise denied there was a price hike in the lettuce crop. Antle said, "we often sell to the military as a favor because many growers will not bid on military orders since the requirements for guaranteed deliveries are too rigid." Antle denied that the boycott has affected sales but UFWOC said his lettuce is "not available on the shelves in most cities in the Northeast, and military sales were essential to help Antle make up for its losses due to the boycott."

**Farm Workers Picket to Protest DoD Use of Boycotted Lettuce**

In protest to Department of Defense strike-breaking activities against UFWOC, farm workers and their supporters have begun mass picketing of military bases across the country.

The demonstrations began January 11 with picketing at installations in California (Ft. Ord, Alameda Naval Air Station, Long Beach Naval Station, Moffett Air Force Base), Nevada (Nellis Air Force Base), Maryland (Ft. Holabird), and Washington (Ft. Lewis). Peaceful picketing will be expanded to include 30 or 40 bases this week.

In Los Angeles, the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, vice-president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and head of its "Operation Breadbasket" program gave his group's support to the picketing and boycott.

"Browns are exploited laborers on the farms while blacks are exploited consumers in the ghetto," Jackson stated.

At the Ft. Lewis demonstration, 30 pickets were taken into custody by MPs when 60 UFWOC supporters tried to see the base commander about buying union lettuce. They were released after being issued letters of expulsion warning them against re-entering the post.
COURT BANS GROWERS' USE OF CONVICTS

Convict labor has always been a popular subject for Hollywood film makers. Thanks to the California State Court of Appeals, the only instance of convict farm labor will be in the movies.

The ban on the use of prison labor came about when Thomas L. Pitts, secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, filed a suit on October 5, 1967. Pitt's action was the result of the state's refusal to use union farm workers who were willing and able to help fill the alleged labor shortage in the harvest of grapes and figs in Merced County in 1967.

The state used convict labor to prevent the supposedly "disastrous crop loss" with full authorization from Governor Ronald Reagan. Up to 200 prisoners were moved to special centers where they were sent out to harvest the crop. Instead of the convicts being paid wages for their work their pay was used to pay expenses including $5 per day for room and board per man. The remainder was said to have been put in a fund to be held for them until they are released from prison.

When the state made the decision they notified Pitts. He then reminded them that there was a farm workers union willing to help the growers. The growers refused the offer.

After entering the suit in 1967 Judge William O'Brian of the San Francisco Superior Court issued an injunction against the Governor and the state on April 28, 1969. The injunction prevented Reagan and the Department of Corrections and Employment from violating the state constitution. The section violated states:

"The labor of convicts shall not be let out by contract to any person, co-partnership, company, or corporation and the legislation shall, by law, provide for the working of convicts for the benefit of the state."

The state appealed, arguing that the hiring of convicts does not violate the law as long as the state does not profit from such hiring.

But the appellate court disagreed. Judges Norman Elkington, John Molinari, and Richard Sims Jr. stated that if convict labor was provided for commercial activities without restraint, the state's labor market would be greatly affected. It said it made no difference that the convicts had consented to going wages and that a labor shortage was anticipated, since the law provides for no such exceptions. The court said the program was not a rehabilitation program but solely for the purpose of providing convict labor to help growers through harvest time.

UNJUST RULING

The Commission for Mexican-American Affairs, made up of religious, labor, and business people from the Catholic San Antonio Archdiocese, condemned a California court for holding Cesar Chavez in contempt of court.

The commission from the 32-county archdiocese declared that "an act of injustice has been perpetrated" on Cesar Chavez by the Monterey County Superior Court.

Cesar was put in jail after refusing to call off the boycott of Bud-Antle lettuce. Under indeterminate sentence, he was freed 20 days later by order of the California Supreme Court until it can hear his appeal against the injunction on February 4th.

The Commission then went on to urge all Americans to support the farm workers' desire "for decent wages and an end to degrading working and living conditions." Americans can best do this by boycotting all stores and restaurants that sell and serve non-union lettuce.
HARMER IS AT IT AGAIN

The United Farm workers once again face a threat to their goal of extending to farm workers the rights that are available to all other workers across the nation.

The threat comes in the form of State Senator John L. Harmer (Republican, Los Angeles County) who has introduced a bill to establish state-supervised elections for farm workers seeking collective bargaining on wages, hours, and working conditions.

According to Harmer, this bill (Senate Bill 10) will be only one of several attempts to be considered this year:

"Out of this session will emerge some legislation. Whether it will be this bill or another, I don't know."

BOYCOTT HITS VALLEY CHAIN

Farm workers have posted a picket line around the headquarters of the Williams Brothers Market in Santa Maria because the market president has stalled serious negotiations on selling of scab lettuce.

UFWOC organizers Jose Chavarria and Pab- fino Pacheco have met with Merrill Williams, president of the 10-store chain, several times during the past three months. But when Williams stalled on setting up a final meeting on January 4th he found 40 UFWOC pickets at the head store.

The picketing will go on indefinitely at all the stores located from San Luis Obispo southward to Lompoc, until the demand that the chain replace scab lettuce with union - UFWOC - picked and shipped lettuce is honored.

The chain is presently carrying lettuce marked with the Teamsters Union label from El Centro and Blythe. As many as 250 carons of the boycotted lettuce per day are shipped into the store.

Williams has told Chavarria that he would put Union lettuce on the sales stands if UFWOC could guarantee him the stores would not lose customers. Chavarria then told Williams he could guarantee a loss of sales if the stores continued to sell non-union lettuce.

A preliminary injunction has been handed down by Judge Jensen affecting all stores in the Williams chain. It severely limits the number of pickets per entrance and precludes "standing, parading, and patrolling" on parking lots and sidewalks near the stores.
Farm Workers Union Will Build a Clinic in Delano

I. January, 1966, Roger Terronez, a thirty-two year old farm worker and union leader, was seriously injured in an automobile accident. Roger was taken to the Delano Hospital emergency room. Outside, his friends, fellow workers, gathered for a vigil. Suddenly the doctor walked out of the emergency room, his white smock soaked in Terronez' blood. Would a tracheotomy, the standard procedure in trauma cases such as Roger's, be done? "His neck is too fat...and besides...he's going to die anyway." Shortly thereafter he did die without ever having the simple operation he needed to make a fight for his life.

This is just one example of the shocking medical treatment farm workers receive. All one has to do to decide whether farm workers are treated as second class citizens by segments of the medical profession is to look at the statistics. According to the San Francisco Chronicle (2-23-69) the life expectancy for farm workers is 49 years as compared to seventy for the average American, infant mortality rates are 125% greater than the national average, farm workers are twice as likely to contract influenza or pneumonia as the average American, the rate of tuberculosis and other infectious diseases is 2.6 times greater than the national average, farm workers are the victims of three times as many accidents, and these people have the highest occupational disease rate of any group in California (50% higher than the next group, construction workers).

These are some of the reasons why the Rodrigo Terronez Memorial Clinic was founded in October, 1966. The clinic sits behind a long narrow one story building that

Above: THE ARCHITECT’S VISUALIZATION OF THE NEW RODRIGO TERRONEZ MEMORIAL CLINIC WHICH WILL BE CONSTRUCTED IN DELANO.
Left: TODAY THE CLINIC IS HOUSED IN A DREARY TRAILER, NEXT DOOR TO A PIG FARM. THE PRESENT CLINIC LACKS THE SPACE AND EQUIPMENT FOR TOP QUALITY HEALTH CARE.

THE PROPOSED CLINIC MUST BE EQUIPPED TO PROVIDE TOTAL OUTPATIENT CARE INCLUDING THE PROVISION OF COMPLETE RADIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS WITH FLUOROSCOPY. A CLINICAL LABORATORY WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THE MOST COMMON HEMATOLOGY, CHEMISTRY AND BACTERIOLOGICAL TESTS. A FULLY EQUIPPED EMERGENCY ROOM WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THE IMMEDIATE TREATMENT OF TRAUMA CASES, JOB RELATED ACCIDENTS, PESTICIDE POISONINGS, ETC.

More than 10,000 farm workers and their families have been provided with health care and limited medical service in this clinic, the width of which is less than one lane of a highway. Serving these unwanted (but needed for business) Americans is a doctor, two nurses, a receptionist-bookkeeper, and a health aide. Perhaps the best way to get to know the feelings and needs of the farm workers is to talk with the staff of the Rodrigo Terronez Memorial Clinic.

Irene Terrazas was born in East Los Angeles and has had 24 years experience as a community worker. She has worked with the National Farm Workers Service Center since its founding in 1966. She has been a health aide since 1969.

EL MAlCRlADO: How did you come to be associated with the farm workers? IRENE: I joined the Union in ’66. Before I belonged to the Women’s Mexican-American League. I read about Gilbert Padilla in the newspaper. First I joined the San Gabriel Valley friends or committee - I forget which - of the Farm Workers. We used to send up eggs. Then we sent meat up to Delano. Our group continued...
CLINIC...

was made up mostly of teachers, professors. From then on, man, I had the bug. My whole family is involved including my kids. My daughter is here full time and the others come in the summer.

I was here when Cesar Chavez took his tour and Marion Moses had to help. We didn't have a doctor then so I'd help out, speak Spanish.

Marion kept asking for me for three years. I know most of the people.

Irene Terrazas, left, is the clinic's health aide. Here she and nurse Marion Moses take an EKG reading on Mr. Saludado, a UFWOC member.

El Malcriado: What are the only major problem is the language barrier. Must be very patient, repeat and repeat. You must make sure you get everything. Saeed is an Arab organizer. When he is around he helps translate. We had a girl who knew the different dialects of the Filipinos. But she left, I don't know why.

We don't take X-rays here. We have to send out. The new clinic will really be neat. Regular clinics have one person issuing drugs, a receptionist, another to make up a chart. But here we do everything, each one of us.

El Malcriado: Who can come to the clinic? Irene: Everyone working with the Union. We just ask them where they work, under the Union.

El Malcriado: What kind of treatment do the farmworkers receive outside the clinic? Irene: Well, I'll tell you. A lady went to the drugstore. She gave them her Medical slip. The lady behind the counter told her: "You don't need it, you don't need it!" A man was hurt on the job. The doctor just slapped it up, you know. Just gave him a shot and sent him back to work. The doctor said he could not understand Spanish. The man had to quit a few days later. He was in great pain. We put a splint on his arm and sent him up to Bakersfield. He came back with a cast. He had a broken arm.

El Malcriado: How do you feel about the farm work-
EL MALCRIADO: How did you come to work for the clinic?
SISTER CARMEN: In November last year I learned that a nurse was needed to take Marion Moses' place through Jim Holland, a building contractor in San Francisco. I worked from November of last year to March. Then nurse Margie Ginesberg left for the Peace Corps. Came in June for three months but after two weeks I decided to stay longer. Two weeks was just not long enough to get oriented. It is different from any other hospital I've ever worked in.

EL MALCRIADO: In what way is it different?
SISTER CARMEN: You have to be very conscious of who is going to pay. Never before had to worry whether the bill was going to be $25 or $10. Greater consideration must be given to need versus convenience. For example, in some situations an X-ray may be given to confirm a diagnosis. It is a good thing but it is not essential. One can go on clinical evidence. You think twice before having a patient go for an X-ray. Here, we have to send people to Bakersfield or Earlimart because of the trouble with the local doctors. Transportation is a problem. You learn to improvise because the equipment isn't available. You try to concentrate of taking care of people in their homes instead of calling for them here.

The clinic serves an educational function. You are trying to teach people their disease period or entity and how the benefits come from being a union member. I think education plays a large role. We want to make the union strong. The more services we offer, the stronger the union gets. Sometimes

EL MALCRIADO: Why do you work here for so little?
SISTER CARMEN: You can look at it in a more detached form when you

ACCORDING TO SISTER CARMEN, TRANSPORTATION OF PATIENTS, HOME CARE, LACK OF EQUIPMENT AND THE INTEGRITY OF LOCAL MEDICAL CARE FACILITIES ALL MAKE SPECIAL PROBLEMS FOR THE ADMINISTRATORS OF A FARM WORKER CLINIC. SISTER CARMEN IS ONE OF THE DELANO CLINIC'S TWO NURSES.
CLINIC...

time. There is no continuity. Perhaps the only stabilizing factor is Marion. You have to come with a notion of learning what is necessary here, not you are only going to bring to them your knowledge.

What they are trying to do here is make medical services available to the migrant worker.

One day a young fellow came in for drugs because he had spent $30 locally for drugs which didn't do anything.

We had a woman here who needed a caesarian. She had to make three full trips to Bakersfield before it was arranged.

El Malcriado tried to talk with the clinic's staff doctor, Bill Davis. Five times El Malcriado tried,

each time the doctor was so busy he just couldn't spare the time. There is a constant stream of people moving through the clinic bringing the health problems which were never solved in the past by the medical men around Delano.

Appointments are requested of the patients at the clinic but that doesn't mean others won't be seen. No union member is ever turned away, appointment or not.

We have now heard what brings the staff of the clinic to Delano. They are determined to fight the prejudice the haves bury the have-nots in. But what about the people themselves? The farm workers who are tired of being second class. The Chicano and Filipino workers who will never quit until all migrant labor gets what most Americans take for granted. El Malcriado spoke to one such person, Richard Chavez.

EL MALCRIADO: Do you feel you have ever been victimized at the hands of the medical profession?

RICHARD: Yes. The most terrible example of this happened about four years ago, five years in April. My son was involved in a car accident. They took him to the Delano Hospital as an emergency case. He died about 24 hours after the accident.

When I got there he was trapped in the car. He was talking very clear. When they took him out of the car he had a broken leg and a punctured lung, plus other fractures. About 45 minutes after they got him, he was dead.

I feel if he had gone to Bakersfield he would still be alive. It was a shock that he was dead after talking to him. I understand Delano is not equipped to handle such
Roger had a freak accident also. He died on the operating table. I know of many here. Just recently, my uncle came down with a diabetic stroke. He spent all night there. The next day the doctor came up to me, very cold, and said he was going to die very soon and there was nothing we could do.

With the assistance of some family we got him transferred to Bakersfield. There he had his leg amputated below the knee. And now, he is quite well.

I would rather take a chance of dying on the way to Bakersfield than going to Delano Hospital.

The farm workers always get second-rate treatment everywhere. First, because of the financial status and also because of the language barrier. There is a case of a fellow who got hurt on the job. His foot was quite swelled. The doctor gave him a shot and sent him home. Later we found out that his foot was broken in three places. This is not uncommon. I don't know why they do this.

I feel our clinic will provide the care and medical assistance deserving of all human beings, whether rich or poor.

In addition to the normal delusion of ills that face the clinic, they face a very serious special problem... that of pesticide poisoning.

Chlorinated hydrocarbons, such as DDT, are nerve toxins. The effects on the brain, spinal chord, and nerves result in the mutation of all body functions including eating, sleeping, reproduction, etc. Breast milk contains 4 1/2 times as much DDT as cow's milk sold to the public. There is mounting evidence that DDT is passed through a pregnant woman's bloodstream into her baby's bloodstream.

Organophosphates are also used heavily in agriculture. These compounds cause quick violent deaths in contrast to the slow chlorinated hydrocarbons. Often farm workers come to the clinic in Delano with severe skin diseases which do not respond to treatment. Impaired vision and asthma are also common.

A recent survey by the Public Health Department in California showed that 80% of the workers surveyed had one or more of the symptoms of pesticide poisoning.

The potency of some of the poisons cannot be overstated. Because of engine trouble a crop duster attempted a forced landing. The plane rolled into a fence and turned over. The pilot was not injured but was covered with the dust of the organo-phosphate Tepp. The estimated fatal dosage is one drop orally or externally.) The pilot walked about 50 feet from the plane and asked for a drink of water. After drinking the water he began to vomit and almost immediately became unconscious. By the time the ambulance came he was dead. The driver, pathologist, and mortician all became sick from handling the body.

These are the problems the Rodrigo Terronez Clinic faces. The odds against them are tremendous. However, the staff feels that they have learned the necessary ingredients for administering a quality health care system for the multi-national, multi-lingual population. This clinic's success is based on the direct participation of the people. They trust the clinic because they know it is run by themselves, for themselves. The clinic has overcome the cold impersonalization of the modern medical profession.

But they need trained people. They need people who are willing to work long and hard. This is simply because all the desire in the world cannot replace skilled people and expensive medical equipment.

Some day the National Farm Workers Service Center hopes to open clinics in the Southern San Joaquin Valley, the Imperial Valley, and the Coachella and Salinas Valleys. The plans of the people at the clinic in Delano all aim at one goal: to establish a pattern of change toward equality of care that will improve the delivery of health services to all poor people of California.
The Six Days of Christmas

The farm workers' community school or Huelga School is an after school and evening program for children ages 4 - 18. Most of those who attend are the children of people who work for the Union. In the afternoon we have an informal program including a wide range of academic, arts & crafts, and play activities.

During December all of our afternoon activities were focused on preparing for Christmas and doing something about Cesar being in jail. Children don't always understand what is involved in issues like contracts, wages, and hiring halls. Children do understand what it means to put Cesar Chavez in jail because he refuses to call off the boycott. The Huelga School children wanted to help "boycott the hell out of the lettuce," and they wanted to help Cesar not be too sad because he was in jail.

The kids decided to picket Safeway. For a whole week we did almost nothing but make picket signs. The kids made up their own slogans, cut cardboard, lettered it, illustrated the signs and figured out how to mount them. They also made a couple of banners out of an old sheet. The slogans the children made up were forceful. They always stated very clearly where the children were: "We are fighting Safeway and we will not give up." "La huelga dice Abajo con Safeway y los rancheros." "I want huelga -- I want Cesar out of jail."

When the children got out on the picket line at Safeway that Saturday, they immediately realized their signs were addressed more to other huelguistas than to the average Safeway customer. Fortunately we had materials with us. The children made some new, more appropriate signs: "Don't shop at stores that sell scab lettuce."

The next week was spent in making Christmas cards for parents and Cesar and in making decorations for a couple of Christmas trees. Again the children did some striking art work, and they wrote a lot of neat things to Cesar, like, "Cesar, why don't you sneak out of jail." During this time we were also doing a lot of singing. We always sing, but at this time we were getting ready to sing for the food caravaners who were coming on December 18 and 19. The children knew that these people supported the boycott. They wanted to sing to them to encourage them to work harder. Together with Larry Lava they made up a new song to the tune of "The Twelve Days of Christmas," called "The Six Days of Christmas."

On the first day of Christmas Cesar gave to me --
A contract for a victory,
On the second day of Christmas Cesar gave to me --
Two picket signs,
On the third day of Christmas Cesar gave to me --
Three Huelga buttons,
On the fourth day of Christmas Cesar gave to me --
Four pounds of beans,
On the fifth day of Christmas Cesar gave to me --
Five dollars a week,
On the sixth day of Christmas Cesar gave to me --
Sixty towns to boycott •
writing, singing, designing and thinking done than we would have in a normal month. Cesar's jailing gave the children significant responsibility that they would fulfill. They joyfully did work that actually needed to be done.

Our culture has freed children from having to bear responsibility. We almost never ask children to do work beyond the classroom or the house. Many Indian tribes, on the other hand, gave children significant jobs such as tending sheep and guarding other infants, which were significant to the life of the community and which would not have been done if the children had not done them. Indians gave their children responsibilities appropriate to their abilities and maturity. In doing so they acknowledged the significance of the activities of their children to the life of the tribe. From infancy the child saw his activity in relation to all that made tribal life possible. Children learned to see and to do what needed to be done so that the tribe might live. The huelga helps us free our children to have meaningful responsibility in the life of this community.

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