

THE SHAME  
OF ARVIN  
p.3

# El Malcriado

"The Voice of the Farm Worker"

No. 17

10c

## English Edition

## EDITORIAL: THE SHAME OF ARVIN

THE TWENTY FOUR MEN ARRESTED THIS MONTH IN THE ARVIN STRIKE OF THE UNION OF THE NORTH NOW TAKE THEIR PLACE AS HEROES OF THE CAUSE. THEY JOIN A LONG LINE OF BRAVE MEN WHO, THROUGH THE YEARS, HAVE SACRIFICED THEMSELVES SO THAT OTHERS COULD LIVE BETTER.

WE CALL IT THE SHAME OF ARVIN BECAUSE IT IS ONE MORE NAIL IN THE CROSS ERECTED BY SOME OF THE MOST IGNORANT MEN IN THE UNITED STATES. NOW AMONG THEM IS THE SHERIFF OF KERN COUNTY.

WE CALL FOR THE REMOVAL OF THE SHERIFF FROM PUBLIC OFFICE. HE SEEMS TO WANT TO PRACTICE HIS PROFESSION IN THE TRADITION OF THOSE POLICE IN MISSISSIPPI AND ALABAMA -- WE DO NOT WANT HIM IN OUR STATE WHERE MEN ARE SUPPOSED TO LIVE IN FREEDOM, UNDER A LAW WORTHY OF RESPECT.

MAY THE GRAPES OF EL RANCHO FARMS ROT ON THE VINE UNTIL MEN ARE PAID WHAT THEIR LABOR IS WORTH. AND MAY THE 24 MEN BE REMEMBERED UNTIL THE DAY WHEN THE CAUSE TRIUMPHS AND SUCH A THING CAN NO LONGER HAPPEN.

## EDITORIAL: GOVERNMENT AGAINST THE PEOPLE

IN THE LAST WEEK WE HAVE FOUND THREE MORE EXAMPLES OF THE GOVERNMENT AGAINST THE PEOPLE:

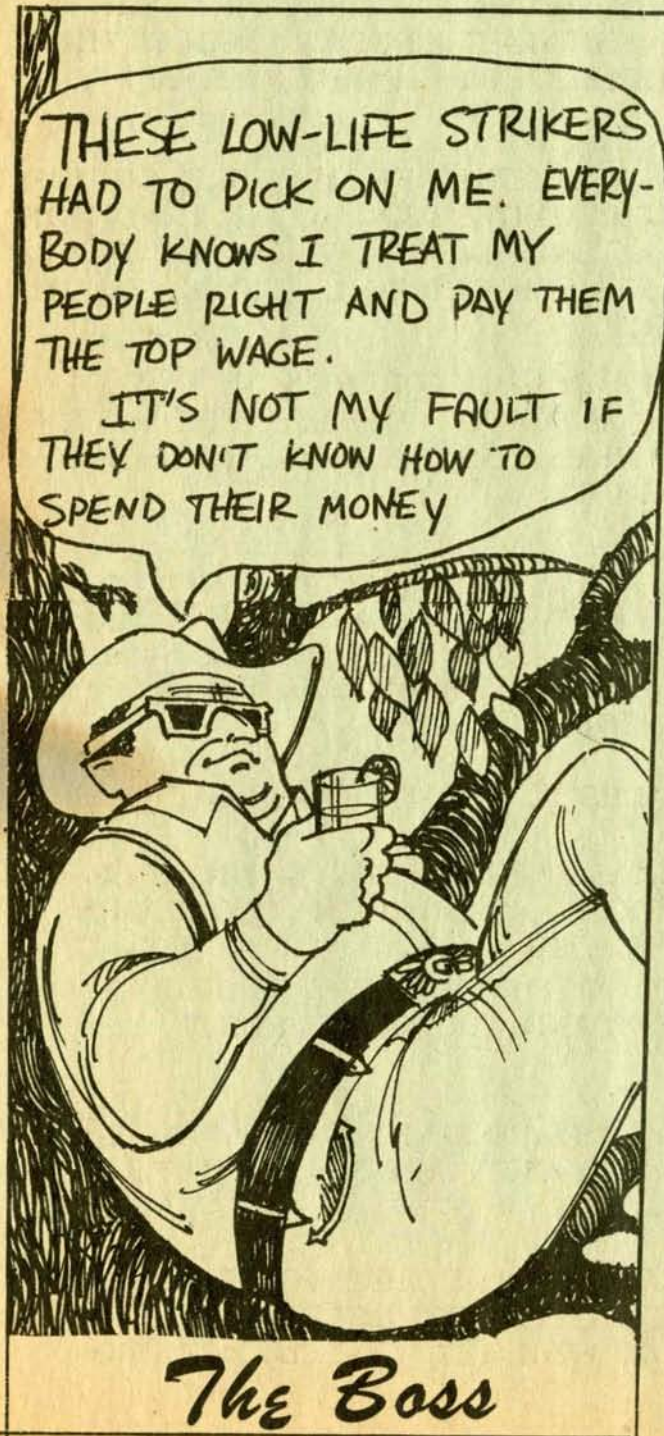
- 1) THE GOVERNMENT SIGNED PAPERS TO PERMIT 8,000 BRACEROS IN THE TOMATOES.
- 2) THE IMMIGRATION SERVICE CLOSED THEIR EYES TO THE MASS USE OF WETBACKS IN THE MELON HARVEST. CAMP 30 OF THE GIFFEN CO., IN HURON WAS FULL OF WETBACKS.
- 3) THE TULARE COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY STARTED ISSUING EVICTION NOTICES TO THE LINNELL AND WOODVILLE RENT STRIKERS.

ALL OF THESE THINGS MEAN THAT THE PEOPLE HAVE NO VOICE IN THE GOVERNMENT. IN THIS COUNTRY THEY ARE SUPPOSED TO HAVE A VOICE.

IF WE ARE WILLING TO FIGHT, WE CAN HAVE THAT VOICE. AND NOW WE ARE CALLING ON YOU FOR HELP--YOU WHO READ EL MALCRIADO. TURN TO PAGE 8 OF THIS PAPER TO FIND OUT WHAT YOU CAN DO.

# Police With Dogs

## Stop Arvin Strike



### 24 JAILED

El Rancho Farms, with the help of eight carloads of police from the Kern County Sheriff, two cars from the Arvin City Police, and two from the California Highway Patrol, plus dogs, squashed the strike of the "Union of the North," last week.

They arrested and took away 24 of the strikers. The charge against them was "Parading without a Permit." They were held overnight in the jail until their friends and relatives posted bond: from \$56 to \$276.

The strikers, all farm workers from the Arvin area, lived mostly in the Sunset Labor Camp near Lamont. The Strike involved about 200 workers and started when the rancher, Mr. Kirkoorian started paying his workers a miserable \$1.25 per hour for picking grapes.

Among the 24 workers taken to jail in Bakersfield were two union organizers Mike Gonzales of Earlimart and Refugio Hernandez of Heber, Calif. According to one Union of the North organizer the arrests came as a result of an informal agreement between the grower and the police.

The arrests, unjust and illegal, are being challenged by decent people all over the valley. All the workers are pleading not guilty in the court action.

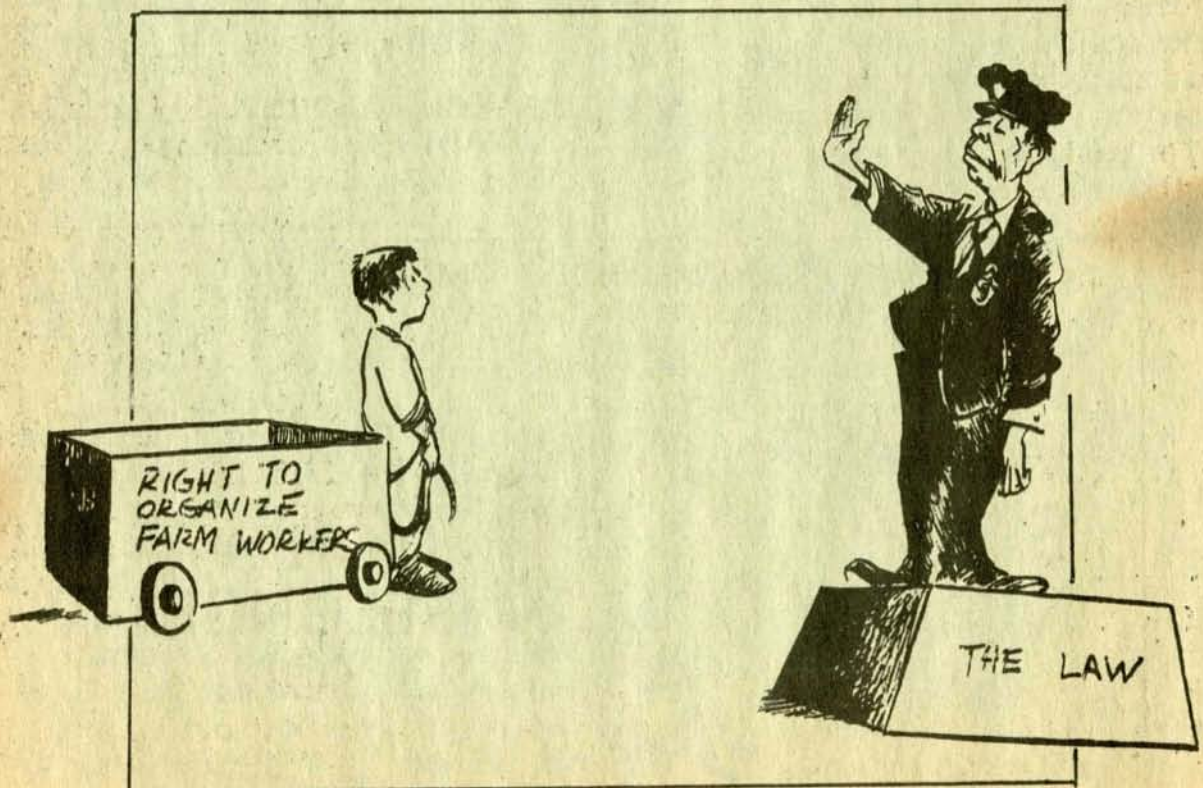
# List Of Honor

The following workers are all strikers in the Association Strike in Tulare County against the Martin Ranch. They are laying out the path for the future.

Jose Garcia Ramos  
Sara De Garcia Ramos  
Mauro Raman  
Beatrice Raman  
Ponciano Mata  
Hortensia Mata  
Manuela Jackson  
Clariza Hinajosa  
Juan Bozon  
Edmundo Hinajosa  
Jorge Hinajosa  
Asencion Caudillo  
Frances Caudillo  
Elsa Jackson  
Clara Sanchez  
Simon Sanchez  
Gustavo Vela

Thelmia Vela  
Concepcion Pedraza  
Ramero Pedraza  
Elvia Silva  
Evaristo Valdez  
Cruz Garcia  
Muyro Loreda  
Fidel Martinez  
David Mabarrete  
Amancio Jackson  
Jumencio Serna  
Paula Moreno  
Mary Espinoza  
Elidio Garcia  
Maria Pedraza  
Willie Champion  
Ernestina Champion

Candido Espinoza  
Mercedes Serna  
Lupe Mendiala  
Dolores Cucipit  
Marcelina Castaneda  
Josie Perez  
Toni Rodriguez  
Jennie Rodriguez  
Virginia Ohiarez  
Margarita Espinaza  
G. Z. Mucado  
Carmen De La Vega  
Rosa Delia Watson  
Curetana Escobar  
Domingo Espinoza  
Ricardo Pedraza  
Cleto Champion



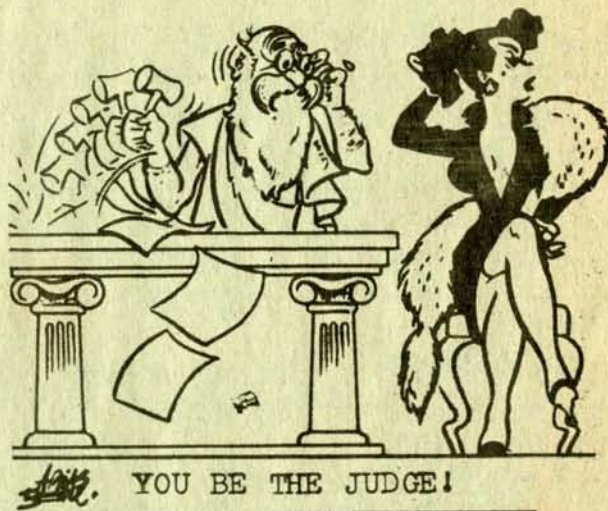
# COUNTY AND STATE INVESTIGATE LINNELL AND WOODVILLE CAMPS

VISALIA (Aug. 12) - Eight inspectors from Tulare County closed in on Linnell Camp this morning. Their purpose was to find violations of the health, building and safety laws of which the Housing Authority is guilty.

At the same time a new State Director of Housing was appointed by Governor Brown. This man, Walter Monasch, came immediately to Visalia to try to settle the rent strike.

On August 24, the Housing Authority will hold a special secret meeting to decide what to do about the rent strikers. They have already stopped issuing eviction notices because they are afraid of the workers who have made so much trouble for them.

**EL MALCRIADO SAYS:** The Association will continue its rent strike against the Tulare County Housing Authority until a complete victory is won. Not one cent of rent will be paid until the rents are lowered and the camps cleaned up.



## HOW TO STRIKE?

1. TALK TO YOU CREW: MAKE SURE EVERYONE IS WITH YOU.
2. MAKE A STRIKE COMMITTEE
3. COME TO THE ASSOCIATION FOR ADVICE AND HELP.

### FARM WORKERS CREDIT UNION

BANCO COOPERATIVO CAMPESINO

102 ALBANY

DELANO, CALIF.

P. O. BOX 894

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# RANCHER WHO BEAT WORKER'S CHILD STILL WALKS THE STREETS

The Police of Buttonwillow, Calif., have failed to make any further investigation in the case of the beating of Ramirite Villareal, 5 years old, by the grower Bud Buerkle. The patron has already been served with a summons from Civil Court, where the father is suing him for \$5,000.



The Association demands, however, that a criminal complaint be filed. The letter which appears on this page was sent to the Buttonwillow Police.

EL MALCRIADO SAYS: Justice moves slowly: without a push from the workers and their Association, it doesn't move at all.



## FARM WORKERS ASSOCIATION

*Asociacion de Trabajadores Campesinos*

102 ALBANY

DELANO, CALIF.

P. O. BOX 984

Sheriff's Office  
Buttonwillow, California

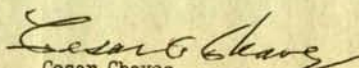
Dear Sirs:

We are writing to you regard the case of five year old Ramirito Villareal, who was beaten by Mr. Bud Buerkle of Buttonwillow without cause on July 3.

We have waited a month in order to give you an opportunity to make an investigation and the results public. As of today, no complaint has been filed, and, therefore, your department stands as an embarrassment to law and order, and a mockery of justice.

The National Farm Workers Association, therefore, on behalf of our member Alfonso Villareal, father of Ramiro Villareal, hereby demands that a complaint be filed. If this is not done, and the criminal aspect of this beating ignored, we will expect a complete explanation.

If you do not make a full answer to this inquiry, by your actions you and your department invite the condemnation and anger of the working people of Kern County.

  
Cesar Chavez  
Director

# Association Strike Continues Successful

- 7 -

The J. D. Martin vineyard between Earlimart and Poplar remained empty as the strike by the Asociacion entered its third week. All the workers striking were working on other jobs. Mr. Martin's only comment was, "Good luck on your strike." He is one of the largest ranchers in the area.

The strike, officially recognized by the State of California, involved about sixty workers. The strike was the first labor action against an employer in Tulare County by the Association.

Martin owns oranges near Yettem, and a cattle ranch and gold mine in other areas. He was offered \$15 million dollars for the local holdings, which he refused.

He told the Association that he could not afford a 15¢ an hour increase in wages for the sixty workers. Also, he was apparently unable to afford toilets in the field or cold drinking water.

No workers can be referred to his fields by the Department of Employment. Also any workers who are caught working in the Martin vineyard as strike-breakers by the Association will have their name and pictures printed in this paper and sent all over California.

The strikers are now on the List of Honor of the Association. The strike has cost the workers over \$3,000.00.

It has cost Mr. Martin much more.

See page 12.

## CAMP COUNCIL CONTROL RETURNS TO THE PEOPLE

The Camp Council of Linnell and Woodville Camp met late last week. It is the Council which has \$3,000.00 which belongs to the residents of the camps.

Mrs. Maria Alvarado was appointed temporary chairman. A meeting will be held this week to get control of the Council back in the hands of the people.

The Camp Councils were set up when the camps were new in the 1930's. Dues have been deducted from tenants rents. The purpose of the Councils is to act as an Association to represent the workers.

Now that things are happening at the camps, the Councils will again act for the people.

# You Can Help

'A CRIME AGAINST ALL THE  
FARM WORKERS OF CALIFORNIA'

## A Letter To The Governor

### THE RENT STRIKE

Here is a copy of a letter sent by the Association to the Governor. Already hundreds of people have demanded an investigation and the investigation will be made by the State Government. But continuous pressure on these officials is needed or they will do nothing.

The workers actually involved in the rent strike have shown tremendous courage to last this long under the daily pressure of the Housing Authority.

### NOW YOUR HELP IS NEEDED.

They ask you to write a letter to Governor Brown, in Spanish or English. They ask you to say "Governor, these people have suffered long enough. Now you must help them get justice by supporting an investigation of the Housing Authority."

Ask your friends to write letters also. Send the letters to: "Governor Brown, Sacramento, Calif."



### FARM WORKERS ASSOCIATION

*Asociacion de Trabajadores Campesinos*

FOR ALBANY DELANO, CALIF. P. O. BOX 884

August 15, 1965  
Farm Workers Association  
1549 West Olive  
Porterville, California

The Honorable Governor Edmund G. Brown  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, California

Dear Sir:

Residents of the Woodville and Linnell Farm Labor Centers in Tulare County have been on a rent strike for over 100 days. Enclosed is a petition from renters in these two camps protesting the poor management of the camps and the unjust rent increase made on their substandard tin shelters. They request you to ask for an immediate investigation.

The rent strikers have many adequate reasons for asking for this investigation. Fundamentally the issue is this: Tulare County's Housing Authority has raised rents on a money-making slum. The FCHA raised these rents on substandard dwellings (11x15 tin shelters without water or plumbing) by 47%, in spite of the fact that they had already banked about \$130,000 in profits from rentals on the camps. The Housing Authority itself admits the cabins are in terrible condition. Not only did the Housing Authority have this money in the bank, it gave out false information regarding the sum involved.

There are countless incidents of mismanagement of the camps which need to be investigated. For example, in the Linnell Labor Camp the Housing Authority demands payment of 50¢ per month from each family for "camp council dues." This camp council has been dead for seven years, yet the treasury contains about \$3,000.00. Checks are signed, at the request of the Housing Authority, by two women who supposedly represent the "camp council."

At Woodville, residents pay 50¢ per month dues. No one seems to know what happens to this money.

The residents are required to sign a grossly unconstitutional lease. Furthermore, the leases are in English. At least 50% of the tenants do not read English.

Further evidence of this corruption will be provided if requested. Please realize the sense of urgency which accompanies this petition. The tenants who have participated in this rent strike have been served with notices of eviction. This action may take place at any time and would, in truth, constitute a crime against farm laborers in the whole state of California.

Sincerely yours,

*Gilbert Padilla*

Gilbert Padilla

# What The People Are Thinking

Editor:

In your edition #16 I read an article which states that Mr. William Moffit, manager of Mount Arbor Nurseries, was called before the District Attorney in Bakersfield to answer to charges made by the Farm Workers Assn. I also read that no charges were pressed because Mr. Moffit wasn't aware of the law prohibiting hiring of strikebreakers who are not first made aware that a labor dispute exists at the place of employment.

The trouble is that these growers act stupid so that they can get away with it. This reminds me when this same man stole \$100.00 from my wages and another nursery Konklin stole \$66 from my wages. These figures represent my bonus. I complained to the Labor Commissioner and the companies denied everything and the Labor Commissioner believed them. I wasn't paid and am sure no one caught them. I'm sure these men also just did not KNOW that stealing wages is a crime.

But one consolation I have is that we showed Moffit that a strike can be made against his operation. This amuses me alot; what he stole from me he has had to pay out to the workers double as the result of the strike.

Through El Malcriado I want to congratulate all those who went out on strike - those men with the spirit of Zapata - too, those women with the spirit of Adelita. Because only through unity will we be able to triumph and it won't be so easy to break us now as it was when I was all

alone. One thing is clear that the laws of the world are for the weak - like the spider web - the rich and the strong can break them and get away with it. I am a witness to this.

Epifanio Camacho  
McFarland, California

Editor:

Malcriado, I want information about the benefits of the members in the Farm Workers Association because I am sure I want to be a member. We the farm workers want to earn what others make. We have the heaviest work and make the least money. My name is:

Jose Basaldua  
Fresno, California

Dear Editor:

I wish to thank all of our members and friends who sent me their letters and cards wishing a quick recovery during my illness. Our special thanks to all those whose prayers were offered for my recovery, also to all the people who had the holy sacrifice of Mass celebrated for my recovery. To all of you may God give you his blessing.

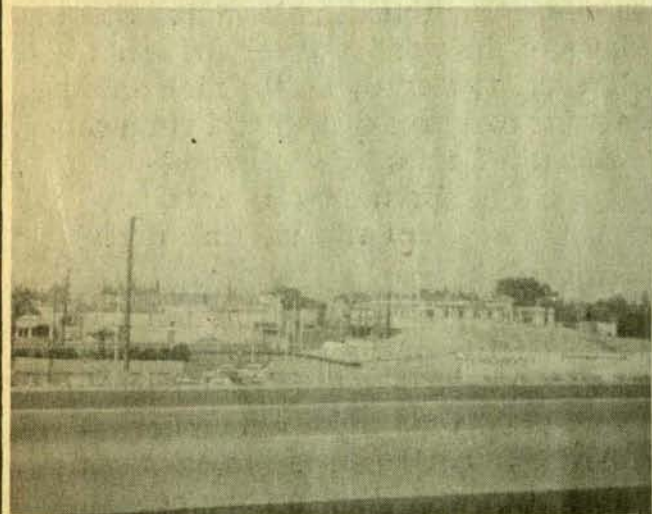
Cesar E. Chavez  
Delano, California

Dear Editor:

I am a member of the Association and am curious to know something about the War Against the Poor. I can't understand why it has to be us poor they are always picking on. The growers pick on us, the law picks on us, even where we live (campos) the managers pick on us. But to think that now the government is after us on an all out war, this I can't understand. What is this all about?

Richard Estrada Botella  
Campo de la Loma  
Fresno, California

# What is the Name of This Town?



*The first answer  
wins \$5.00*

SEND YOUR ANSWER AND  
YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS  
TO:

"GAME OF THE TOWNS"  
P. O. BOX 894  
DELANO, CALIF.

The winner of the Game of the Towns last week was LUCY SILVERIO of Kerman, California, the first person to send the correct name, KERMAN, CALIF. She was sent a check for \$5.00. FIGURE OUT THE TOWN IN THIS WEEK'S CONTEST AND WIN \$5.00.

THE \$5.00 CHECK FOR THE  
WINNER: "GAME OF THE TOWNS"



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 YOU WORK FOR WHATEVER WAGE I PAY YOU,  
 YOU NEVER CREATE ANY PROBLEMS FOR  
 ME AND YOU NEVER FORGET TO  
 BRING ME A LITTLE PRESENT. OF  
 COURSE I DO MY PART FOR YOU,  
 I PROTECT YOU WITH STEADY WORK—  
 A LITTLE CHEAPER WAGE— BUT YOU  
 HAVE STEADY WORK.

COYOTE IF YOU SAY I'M  
 SMART IT MUST BE TRUE,  
 AND THERE IS AN ASSOCIATION  
 THAT WILL SHOW ME THE WAY  
 TO REPAY YOU FOR YOUR  
 GENEROSITY.



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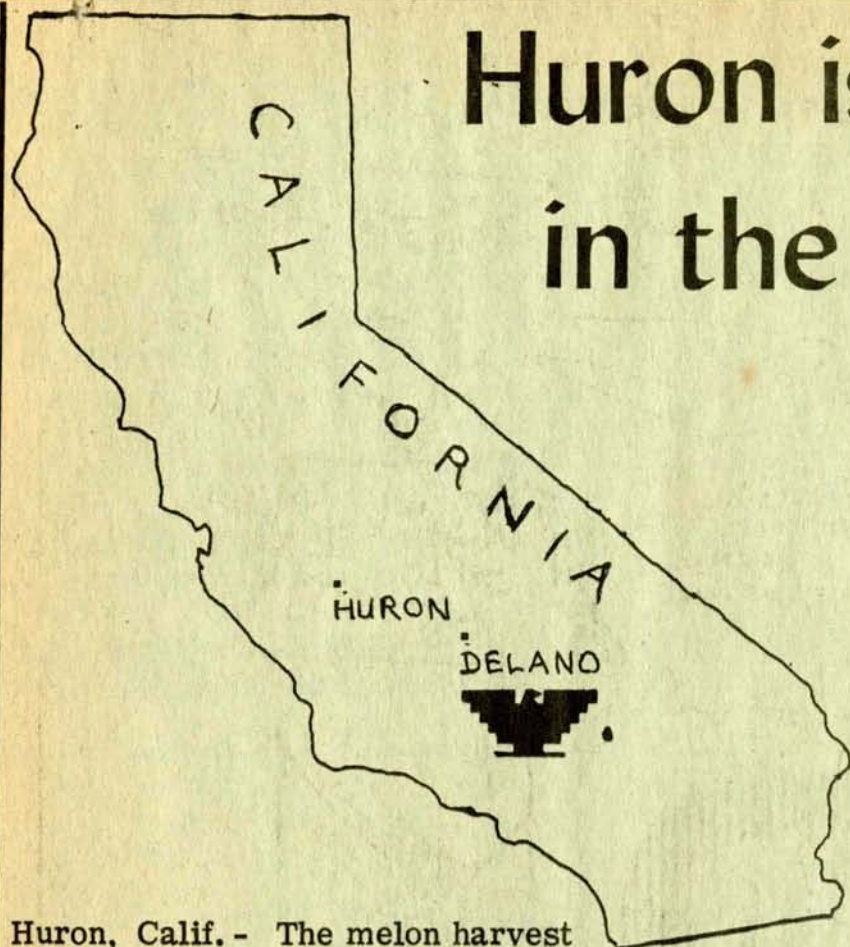


DR. ALBERT N. ROSS, CHIROPRACTOR

924 MAIN STREET • DELANO, CALIFORNIA

PHONE 1531  
 RES. 1664

# Huron is a Hole in the Ground



A  
SPECIAL  
REPORT

Huron, Calif. - The melon harvest entered its final weeks in the Huron area. Wetbacks were doing most of the work, under the noses of the Immigration. They had been imported to keep the wages down. One example was Camp 30 of the Giffen Company, where an illiterate boss held down all the workers in a reign of terror, threatening to send them back to Mexico.

Among the irrigators, things were worse. They were paid \$1.10 per hour and \$2.25 a day was deducted from their wage. Some of these who worked on a piece rate were forced to work two hours free every day. The irrigators were even forced to buy the wrench needed to open the water valves.

One man who had immigrated his two sons from Mexico legally couldn't get work for them in Camp 30. Why? Because the camp was full of wetbacks

working illegally without papers at a starvation wage.

Another man, an irrigator, went to get his pay which was owed to him because he needed it immediately for an emergency. The grower refused to pay it until he got the constable to come with him to force the employer to pay.

Huron, California is a hole in the ground. There is no way out of it if you don't have a car: there is no public bus, train or taxi that goes into or out of Huron. The three companies which control everything in the area also run the town. They also want to run the people, but little by little our eyes are opening. The days of the big shots are numbered. With the help of God the Association will change this and Huron will be a better place.

## MAPA RECRUITMENT OF WORKERS

### DOUBLE-CROSSED BY GOVERNMENT

THIS MAN IS NOT  
A MEMBER  
OF THE  
FARM WORKERS  
CREDIT UNION.  
102 Albany-Delano

ARE YOU?



The demonstration by the Association at the MAPA Convention had a strong reaction all over California. The largest effect of the demonstration was to force MAPA to have their irresponsible recruitment efforts regulated by a union -- the Union of the North.

Their recruiting of farm workers, mostly in the Stockton area, will be under arrangements that the Union has with the labor contractors there.

Meanwhile, behind everybody's back, 8,000 braceros were approved for the tomatoes.



GEORGE  
TREJO

CIPRIANO  
MUNIZ

## CHAMPIONS

George Trejo, of Parlier, and Cipriano Muniz, of Selma, have sold the highest number of copies of EL MALCRIADO in their towns.

## Ranchers Get Their Hands Into Public Money

FRESNO COUNTY (West Side) - The ranchers here want the county to take tax money to widen all the county bridges across San Luis Canal. They want this so that their 36-foot-wide machines can cross. There are special bridges for the giant farm machines now, but they are too far apart, the ranchers say.

EL MALCRIADO SAYS: They already have their hands deep enough in the public treasury. They don't pay gasoline tax on these machines. Why should we, the taxpayers pay for their bridges. Let them build their own bridges; they have already robbed the government of enough money.

# "TO MAKE DEMANDS"

- 15 -

"...I am witnessing what people go through when they are not free in a country that tells them they are free, who are discriminated against in a country that claims no discrimination regardless of race, creed, or national origin; people who work in fields where there are no water or toilets for wages that are debasing, and have not the command of the language or a sense any longer of their own worth to speak out against what is being done to them; workers who are stamped on every moment of their lives by men who have the power, not because they are right, not because they are better, but precisely because they can pay for the power.

And the worker when he wants to fight back faces perhaps a judge who is a grower, a welfare agency that's been told they're giving too much money away or a county hospital that treats him like an animal who deserves whatever disease he's brought.

They've been down so long they cherish what little they have, fear to lose a job, and they find some way of telling themselves that \$1.25 is a decent wage, is what the labor of their hands is really worth.

So I need very much to be taught that my country means precisely what it says; I need to be shown there are men in this country with the strength in them to make demands of the country, to ask of it that it live up to what it claims it is..."

---- This article, reprinted in English from El Malcriado #13, was written by a student from the East Coast who came to California to help farm workers with the help of some government money. He has since been kicked out for "stirring up too much trouble".

## How Do You Get Disability Insurance?

Sr. Editor:

Why don't you give useful information in El Malcriado, such as to explain how to get money if you are hurt on the job. I heard about how the Asociacion got \$6,000 for one man who was hurt. Please answer my letter in the paper.

Abel Mendes Cabrera  
Bakersfield, California

El Malcriado says: If you are hurt on the job, even if it is your own fault and the knife slips and cuts you, you may be entitled to time lost from work and medical expenses. Here are the rules:

1. You must report the accident to your boss immediately, and make sure he reports it to the head of the company.

2. You must go to the doctor; you have to use the doctor of the boss.

3. Then you come to the Association, if you are a member, and the Assoc. will help you file a claim.

Since money is paid only for medical expenses and time lost from work after the first week, you have to be hurt awfully bad to get \$6,000.

**El Malcriado**

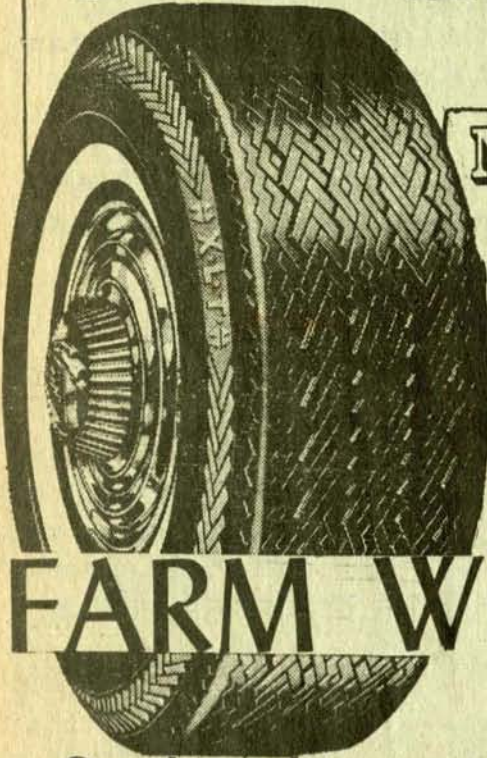
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