

Grape Strikers Score Gov. Brown as March Ends

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10—A weary but jubilant band of striking vineyard workers ended a 300-mile, 25-day march here today with an "unconditional demand" upon the absent Gov. Edmund G. Brown.

A crowd estimated by the State Highway Patrol at 8,000 heard the marchers chant "we want Brown" while a union spokesman called for a special legislative session to enact a collective bargaining law for farm workers.

Under a sky sometimes sunny, sometimes spitting rain, speaker after speaker on the State Capitol's western plaza drew "vivas" with assertions that this Easter day was a historic one for the nation's farm laborers.

There were "vivas" for the United States, "vivas" for Mexico, since the hard core of the marchers were Mexican-Americans, and "vivas" for Cesar Chavez, the calm little 38-year-old director of the National Farm Workers Association.

This unaffiliated association, born four years ago today in a garage in Delano and now claiming nearly 2,500 family members, sponsored the long pilgrimage from Delano in the southern San Joaquin Valley.

Brown in Palm Springs

But Governor Brown, who only two days ago was endorsed by the California Council for Political Education for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination in his bid for a third term, had no "vivas" from this group of strikers and its allies.

He spent the day at Palm Springs with his family, as has long been his custom, instead of giving in to demands of the association that he appear at this Easter afternoon rally.

He was warned that two million Mexican-Americans and other Californians of Spanish descent who had supported him in the past would weigh his action carefully at the polls.

Some of the Governor's advisers had urged him to greet the marchers here but they were overruled by campaign strategists. The marchers voted Tuesday that Mr. Brown must meet

them today or not at all.

Mrs. Dolores Huerta, a vice president of the association and principal speaker at the rally, declared:

"We are no longer interested in listening to the excuses the Governor has to give in defense of the growers, to his apologies to them for not paying us decent wages or why the growers cannot dignify the workers as individuals with the right to place the price on their own labor through collective bargaining.

"The Governor maintains that the growers are in a competitive situation. Well, the farm workers are also. We must also compete—with the standard of liv-

ing to give our families their daily bread."

Flushed with a feeling of victory in a three-month boycott of Schenley Industries, Mr. Chavez announced an intention to begin "an all-out consumer boycott of products produced and marketed by the Di Giorgio Corporation," the biggest employer of field labor in the Delano area.

Joseph DiGiorgio, the corporation's president, proposed last week a secret-ballot election on the four DiGiorgio farms in California to determine whether the workers on any of them wanted a union to represent them.

Mr. Chavez said he had in-

structed boycott committees across the country to keep their organizations intact in case Mr. DiGiorgio did not follow the example and grant the association sole bargaining rights on its Delano ranch.

Mr. Chavez had accepted the idea, but objected to an election in which an independent Farm Workers Union, which strike leaders described as a "company union," would have a part.

It is believed in some quarters that conditions set by Mr. DiGiorgio in his proposals might be less rigid than he had indicated at a San Francisco news conference at which the proposal was announced.