FARM UNION PEACE IS SEEN ON COAST

Gov. Brown Gets Agreement on Bill He Says May End Lettuce-Grape Dispute

By RONALD B. TAYLOR
Special to The New York Times

FRESNO, Calif., May 7—Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr. sent to the Legislature today a farm labor relations bill that he said would provide the machinery to end the bitter, often violent 10-year-long dispute between the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and the United Farm Workers in the vineyards and lettuce fields of California.

After a 100-hour negotiating session that began last Friday, Governor Brown announced in Sacramento at midnight an agreement on a compromise bill that he said had the support of Cesar Chavez, leader of the United Farm Workers, and most of California’s agricultural business leaders. Thus far, the teamsters have not given their support.

If the bill passes the Legislature, which it is expected to do, it could become a model for farm labor relations legislation nationally, according to a spokesman for the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare in Washington. Farm workers are not now covered by Federal labor relations laws.

Farm workers now have no way to express their will except

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Farm Union Peace Foreseen on Coast Under Agreement on Labor Relations Bill

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by striking or boycotting farm products. They cannot vote for union representation.

In 1973, grape growers formally agreed to contracts with the United Farm Workers signed contracts with the teamsters union, contending that their workers wanted to switch to the labor relations board.

Mr. Chavez labeled the "sweetheart contracts" more beneficial to the growers than to the workers.

If Governor Brown's proposed laws become law, these workers would be able to express their union preference in secret-ballot elections.

Late today the Industrial Relations Committee of the State Senate approved the bill by 5 of America contract to 1, moving it along to the Finance Committee.

The Governor's press secretary said Mr. Chavez had said that while the bill was imperfect, the farm workers would "live with it provided there is no change."

James Eller, legislative representative for the California Farm Bureau Federation, said, "The industry position is in support of the Governor's bill as long as there are no more amendments of any kind."

Key provisions of the proposed act would do the following:

- Establish an agriculture labor relations board to supervise secret-ballot elections for both seasonal and permanent farm workers during the harvest period. The elections would be held within one week of the time workers petitioned the labor relations board.
- Restrict the use of secondary boycotts to those farms where a union had won an certification but had not been able to bring an employer to contract terms.
- Authorize the board to create a one-industrial bargaining unit per farm.
- Allow the workers now employed on farms under United Farm Workers contracts to petition for a vote that could result in the withdrawal of an existing contract.
- Allow the board to establish voting procedures that are not available in the current bill.

Mr. Chavez, one of the authors of both the Chavez and Agribusiness Teamster bills was reported to have agreed to withdraw their legislation.

Mr. Chavez then made contact with the Western Conference of Teamsters, saying his staff had worked around the clock from last Friday morning to hammer out compromises.

Mr. Brown then made contact with M. E. Anderson, head of the Western Conference of Teamsters, saying his staff had worked around the clock from last Friday morning to hammer out compromises.

Mr. Brown was reported to have agreed to withdraw his legislation. The compromise Brown bill was radically amended during the 100 hours preceding the announcement last midnight of a successful effort to bring about agreement.

The sequence of events that led up to that announcement, according to aides of the Governor, went like this:

During the last month Mr. Brown had agreed to withdraw the bill with all of the in-house hearing—it was not considered punitive, and he was asked to put his amendment to the support of labor and industry in the compromise bill.

Yesterday the farmers had ad hoc California Bishops Committee met with all of the amendment to the support of labor and industry in the compromise bill. A dozen of the major agri-business organizations, including the California Farm Bureau, at 10:30 Mr. Brown had agreed to form an ad hoc committee of the California Bishops Committee members reported to the Governor that they business organizations, including the California Farm Bureau, had form an ad hoc committee to negotiate the compromise.

In an effort to head off this duced a meeting between Mr. Chavez and the growers, going to hear and get his amendment on the table.

The Assembly Labor Rela-quarters near Bakersfield, was tions Committee was to have on the telephone plugged into a desk phone on all three farm laborers' phones. Mr. Brown then contacted a meeting of 3 govenor, who had called Mr. Chavez on the telephone.

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