

the tiny United Farm Workers and the giant International Brotherhood of Teamsters, which up to then had enjoyed control over most of the big corporate farms through undisguised partisanship on its behalf by the growers.

Since the power of decision was transferred to the workers themselves, the farm union, led by Cesar Chavez, has been winning at a steadily increasing rate. Not altogether by coincidence, its victories brought a combined drive by the growers and the teamsters to induce the legislature to starve the new Agricultural Labor Relations Board by withholding the supplementary funds it needs to conduct hundreds of elections all over California. The A.F.L.-C.I.O. and many other groups joined with the Governor in supporting the additional appropriations; but the lobbying power of the agribusiness interests, plus the rich truck union, has forestalled the two-thirds majority required for approval of the needed funds.

Charges of pro-Chavez discrimination in the law's enforcement are belied by the fact that the grower representative on the Labor Board has voted along with the rest of the members to make virtually all its major policy determinations unanimous. The obstructive tactics now being used by the law's foes invite a return to the law of unreason in the farm labor field.

...Discord in the Fields

The pioneering farm labor law that brought peace to California's fertile valleys has been nullified through a cut-off in enforcement funds, thus raising anew the danger of violence in the fields and of consumer boycotts that would inflict damage on merchants and other non-combatants all over the country.

The law was passed only a few months ago after patient negotiation by Governor Brown had produced agreement on its terms among all the warring factions in agricultural labor and management. It provided machinery for ordering state-sponsored elections to determine the preference of field workers in the contest for dominance between