



Si Se Puede!

CHICAGO BOYCOTT NEWS

United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO
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Victories!

On Wednesday, January 21, 1976 the UFW and the Western Growers Association announced that a tentative agreement had been reached between the UFW and 16 vegetable and fruit growers -- these are the first contracts negotiated under California's Agricultural Labor Relations Act.

To date, contracts have been signed with Inter-Harvest and Salinas Marketing Co-op (both Salinas lettuce companies), Santa Clara Nursery, Watanabe Ranch, Akitomo Nursery and Akune Nursery (all from the Oxnard area). Three lettuce companies from Salinas and six apple ranches and a lettuce company from the Watsonville area complete the total list of 16, but contracts have not yet been signed with them. A joint statement released by the UFW and the Western Growers Association stated: "These are the best contracts negotiated for farm workers in this country". At the signing of the Inter-Harvest contract, Harold Bradshaw, I-H President, stated "There is a commitment by both the Union and the company to make the contract work."

These contracts are just the beginning as the UFW continues its drive to change the living and working conditions of farm workers. To date the UFW has won 201 elections representing 29,404 workers which is over 65% of the decided elections compared to 28.1% for the Teamsters and 6.7% for No Union. The UFW has been certified as the bargaining agent at 91 ranches.

BUT...

Ag. Labor Board Collapses

Because of the unprecedented number of elections and unfair labor practices hearings associated with most of the elections, the administration of the ALRA has been more expensive than estimated. As of February 7th, the ALRB has officially gone broke. They have no more money with which to operate. They have closed their offices and have laid off their staff. The reason for this is that the growers and Teamsters Union have successfully stopped the necessary emergency legislation to grant the Board more money.

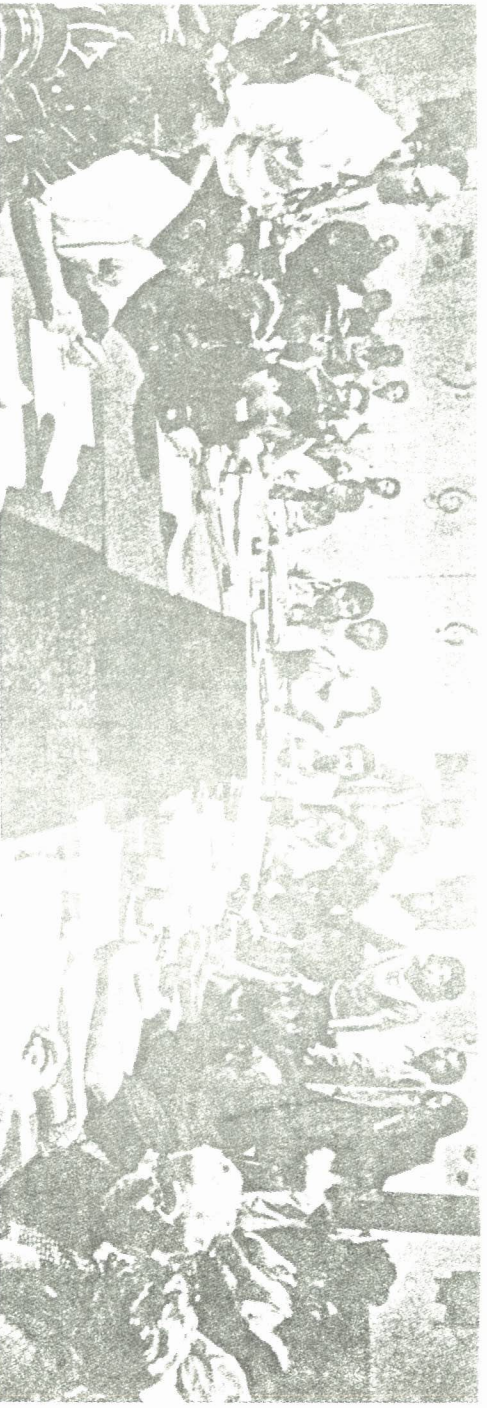
The growers and the Teamsters are using the refunding issue to try to force changes in the law -- changes which will weaken the ability of the ALRB to protect farm workers. Bishop Roger Mahony, chairperson of the Board, has stated that the law needs a fair trial before changes are considered. He is opposed to any amendments. Governor Brown has now taken a similar position, as well as the Catholic Bishops of California. On the issue of more funds, the Los Angeles Times has stated "We have said before -- and we repeat now -- that the growers and the Teamsters are acting in bad faith when they issue an ultimatum to the governor, and to a majority of their own colleagues, that they must knuckle under to such blackmail or witness the destruction of the farm labor board." (L.A. TIMES, January 30, 1976)

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On Tuesday, January 27th, the California Senate voted 20 to 15 in favor of the appropriation, but this was short of the 2/3 vote needed. At this time, it is not exactly clear what all of this is going to mean to the Farmers of the AIRD and the law itself. We do know that as of now, no more elections can be held, unfair labor practice hearings on hundreds of elections have been halted, election victories cannot be certified and negotiations cannot begin; the growers will not have to face charges for unfair labor practices and the Gallo election result will remain undecided. It is clear that the boycott will be more important than ever.

Senator David Roberti (D.- Los Angeles) summed up the situation when he stated the "real issue" in the legislative battle is that the growers and Teamsters Union "don't like the victories being won by the UFW." (Los Angeles Times, January 28, 1976)

The United Farm Workers has announced that it has filed an initiative with the state of California. We must collect over 300,000 signatures of registered voters in the state by April 28. Then the people of California will be able to vote to make the farm labor law a constitutional amendment - and the growers will not be able to tamper with it. We will have more information about this soon.



Last negotiating session for the Inter-Harvest contract - Grower representatives on left; UFW negotiators on right and back.

WATERGRAPE!

THE RESNO DEE •
AB Sect., Jan. 10, 1976

Salinas Grower Tells Of CIA Cont acts In Burglaries Case

SAN JOSE, Calif. (UPI) — A Salinas grower has testified that he and admitted political burglar Jerome Ducote twice met with representatives of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Stephen D'Arrigo was a witness Friday at the preliminary hearing before Municipal Judge John Schatz for Ducote, 46, former Santa Clara County Sheriff's detective charged with more than 20 counts of grand theft and receiving stolen property.

Ducote, the father of eight, previously told a state Justice Department investigator that he conducted political burglaries in the 1960s in an effort to change left-wing organizations ~~and~~ the United Farm Workers Union.

D'Arrigo backed Ducote's claims

he paid for some of his work. He also told the court that he met with CIA representatives in Washington, D.C., and San Jose in 1968 or 1969.

D'Arrigo did not say what took place at the meetings nor did he identify the federal agents.

He said he paid money to Ducote, who had been active in the local Young Republicans organization, for conducting investigations in the late 1960s and he also paid Ducote's expenses when they went to Washington.

But, D'Arrigo told Schatz, they had a falling-out after Ducote began "using my name fraudulently" to solicit funds from others for his burglaries.

Judge Schatz reduced Ducote's bail from \$100,000 to \$20,000 and several

hours later, Ducote was released from the Palo Alto jail where he had been lodged. He returns to court Monday.

Five other witnesses testified Friday that they loaned Ducote from \$1,000 to \$1,700. Gov. said the ex-peace officer agreed to pay them back with 50 per cent interest within several days.

Schatz warned the witnesses that admitting they had been offered the high interest could bring accusations of violating California's anti-loan shark laws. But they said they desired to continue giving testimony.

The hour witness trial about the high interest were Douglas Austin, a San Jose chiropractor; Arvon E. Hubbard, Theodore Schmidt and Stanley Wieman, a San Jose barber.

Chavez asks Gov. Brown for probe

SAN JOSE — Cesar Chavez has asked Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr. to appoint an independent committee to investigate agribusiness involvement in political sabotage against the United Farm Workers Union.

The telegram was made public during a press conference which followed Chavez's testimony yesterday at a preliminary hearing for Jerome J. Ducote.

A former Santa Clara County sheriff's deputy, Ducote has said he was involved in burglaries against UFW, which were financed by growers and with indication of coverage of the crimes by Delane and San Jose police.

"Political agencies at all levels of government have been implicated," Chavez said in a telegram which listed the two police departments, FBI, CIA, former State Sen. Hugh Barris and the Reagan Administration.

He asked for investigation by a committee chaired by the Governor himself or by Lt. Gov. Mervyn Dymally.

Cited by Chavez as among at least 52 crimes against UFW involving investigations are the 1970 shootings and bombings of its Salinas and Hollister offices.