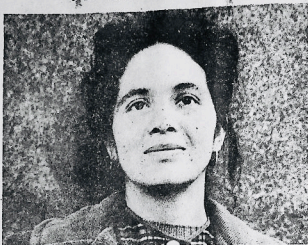


"WE ARE THE STRIKE."



Mrs. Dolores Huerta

## VIOLENCE

Dolores Huerta: "We were picketing the produce market in Los Angeles to try to stop the grapes--the was just before Christmas--and we would go every day and picket on the loading docks. It was Peggy, and Sylvia, Lupe Anguiano and myself with Bob Marino and Rudy Reyes, and Bert Delarmente, and Johnny Rodriguez.

"The truck owners were very rough with us, kicking the girls in the legs and running the heavy steel hand trucks loaded with grapes over our feet. If the guys had tried to help us there would have been a riot and we would have all been hurt and maybe put in jail and then we wouldn't be able to stop the grapes. These pickets knew this and they just stood by and watched it happen which was very hard for them.

"The truck owners would push us off the dock which was about five feet high, time after time, every day, and we would just climb back up again. It hurt very much to have them run into you with a loaded steel dolly; it hurt much more to stand by and watch them doing it to the others.

"But except for a few, a truck owner would never do it twice, because he would be ashamed of himself. And we slowly began to win the support of all the people who were there watching these things happen, and soon there were no Delano grapes going through L. A.

"To be non-violent, you have to decide ahead of time. If most of us had not decided to be non-violent, we certainly would have lost the whole strike."

## ANOTHER GROWER FALLS

Less than a week after the giant Schenley corporation gave in to the striking farm workers, another major grape grower signed an agreement with Cesar Chavez. The Christian Brothers, makers of Christian Brothers Wine, own a big winery and hundreds of acres of land in the Napa Valley (outside of the strike zone). They announced that their field workers would be protected by the N. F. W. A., and that a written contract would be signed within a few weeks.

Brother Gregory, president of Mont La Salle Vineyards, the main vineyards covered by the agreement, said, "We are prepared to formally recognize the N. F. W. A. as the organization through which social justice may be realized for our agricultural workers."

The Christian Brothers are a Catholic religious order, and there was no strike or threat of strike at their vineyards. But the field workers there need higher wages, just like everywhere else. There are over 200 workers during the harvest season (and at one time braceros were used). Like all farm workers, they need a union to protect them and their rights.

Brother Gregory stressed that the union was recognized voluntarily, because the Christian Brothers knew that the workers' cause was just. As Catholics, they believed in the statement of California bishops which was issued last month in favor of union protection for all farm workers. Brother Gregory suggested that all growers should voluntarily start negotiations with the FWA, before strikes start. The Christian Brothers tried to get the other growers in the Napa Valley to voluntarily sign a contract, the other growers refused.

## The Thunderbird Spreads its Wings



OXNARD--A new office of the National Farm Workers Association was officially opened this week in Oxnard. The office, designed to serve all of Ventura County, is located at 515 Cooper Road. Operated by Ignacio Garcia, 24, it will serve all farm workers and provide the special services which are available only to members.

Information will be available here about the great Farm Worker Rally which will be held in Oxnard next week at which Cesar Chavez will speak and the Teatro Campesino will be featured.

Also available at the 515 Cooper Road office is information about the benefits of the NFWA, which include \$1,000 life insurance, free family services, representation with police, government and employers by the Association.

Garcia, the Oxnard FWA leader, has a long background in organizational work. He is originally from Laton, California (Fresno County).

Cesar Chavez has asked that "all Oxnard farm workers join under the symbol of the thunderbird and fight for our rights, together with our brothers throughout the state".