

# New Contracts Net 17,000 Acres

3400 WORKERS ARE  
CONTRACTS WITH  
COVER GRAPES AND

PROTECTED BY NEW UFWOC  
THEIR EMPLOYERS. THEY  
OTHER CROPS ON 15 RANCHES.



On Friday, June 26, Cesar Chavez and Larry Tilson announced to a cheering strikers' meeting that several new contracts had been signed with grape growers, large and small.

Collective bargaining agreements have been reached with Karahadian & Sons, Inc., Key-Kas Co., Nick De Paulo, Mel-Pak, Bobra, Lloyd Hopper, Beckman & Bender, Laflin & Laflin, Jim Gimlin, and with the Coachella Imperial Distributors (33 small grow-

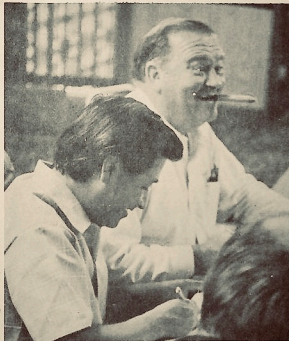
ers), all of the Coachella Valley. (SEE BOX ON PAGE 3 for acreage, etc.).

A dispute arose regarding the ratification election for the Coachella Imperial Distributors. The union lost the initial election on June 24, but the election was declared invalid because too many ballots were cast, and the workers were intimidated by Ross Carjaga, a distraught labor contractor. He had told workers that they would lose their jobs if they voted for

UFWOC. The phoney election vote was 153 - 46. Another was held on June 26, under the supervision of the Reverend Lloyd Saatjian of Paul Springs, and the Reverend Roger Mahoney of Fresno. The outcome was 168 - 4 in favor of union recognition by UFWOC.

Another agreement was signed with John Macchioroli, who farms 450 acres of grapes in Arizona, in the same week.

The biggest breakthrough came on June 26. Over 11,500 acres



at Left: CESAR CHAVEZ SIGNS UNION CONTRACT WITH JIM CAMP OF S.A. CAMP.

fight the unions." Jerry Cohen, UFWOC's attorney said: "These contracts are helpful because they add more union-picked grapes to the market, which makes the boycott of scab grapes more effective." Cohen added that 15% of all table grapes are now being picked by union labor.

Contract provisions follow the pattern set by agreements recently negotiated by UFWOC. They include wage rates of \$1.75 an hour plus 25¢ a box; 30¢ per hour per worker for the Kennedy Health Plan; 2¢ per day per worker for a special economic development fund; a union hiring hall, which eliminates the use by growers of contractors; a successor clause, guaranteeing the fulfillment of the contract even if the land is sold.

More and more growers are standing in line to sign with UFWOC. They realize, in the words of AFL-CIO negotiator Irwin de Shetter, that "what's good for the farm workers is good for the farmer."

William Kircher, Director of Organizing for the AFL-CIO also addressed the strikers, congratulating them for their efforts which brought about the negotiations: "The only language the grower understands," Kircher said, "is the language of the organized power of farm workers."

of grapes were covered in four contracts signed with two companies: the Tenneco Corporation, one of the largest conglomerates in the United States, and with S.A. Camp, a huge San Joaquin Valley grower. Tenneco has three farming corporation subsidiaries: The Kern Land Farm Company (3,500 acres in grapes), Hegblade & Margules of Coachella (635 grape acres), and Rancho El Dorado of Phoenix, Arizona (550 acres in grapes). The S.A. Camp Company of Shafter, Ca-

lifornia (3,000 acres) now farms part of the DiGiorgio land near Arvin, and has bought the Pete Divizich ranch in Dacor (4,500 acres). As of December 12, 1970, the S.A. Camp contract will also cover 1,200 acres of plants.

Election procedures will determine to what extent UFWOC will cover other crops. The growers which negotiated with UFWOC expressed the feeling that they had signed because they are in business to "make money and not to