

New Law Subverted, Chavez Union Charges

San Francisco [RNS] — A 64-page "white paper" charging that California's new farm labor law has been sabotaged and subverted, primarily by the farm labor board's general counsel, Walter Kintz, was sent to all U.S. Roman Catholic bishops by the United Farm Workers of America.

The booklet entitled "The Sabotage and Subversion of the Agricultural Labor Relations Act (ALRA)," calls for the dismissal of Kintz from his post with the Agricultural Labor Relations Board (ALRB), which is headed by Auxiliary Bishop Roger Mahony of the Fresno Catholic diocese.

The document was mailed to the Catholic bishops on Nov. 11, less than a week before their meeting in Washington, D.C. The bishops had been instrumental in helping the UFW to obtain its first contracts and have supported the UFW boycott of grapes and lettuce over the years.

In addition to its attack on **UNITED THANKS**

Mt. Morris — The people of Mt. Morris are invited to take part in a Thanksgiving service at 7:30 tonight at the United Church. This fourth annual ecumenical Thanksgiving celebration will be led by representatives of St. Patrick's and St. John's Episcopal, as well as United.

Kintz, the UFW document alleges abuses of the law's secret ballot election process in which UFW members have been fired for exercising their voting rights in favor of the Cesar Chavez-led UFW, or have been intimidated and denied the right to vote because of actions of growers and Teamsters' union opposition.

Stating that the recently-enacted farm labor law is "a good law that raised great hopes" among the workers, the white paper says, "unfortunately, the law is being subverted and sabotaged and its promise is being turned to ashes. The major responsibility for this tragedy," it asserted, "rests with Walter Kintz, who as ALRB general counsel, is completely accountable for the law's administration and enforcement."

The document pointed out that the UFW had strongly supported the new law, with Chavez and a group of farm workers conducting a 59-day, 1,000-mile walk through the state to tell farm workers of their new rights and of the protection from injustice guaranteed by the new law.

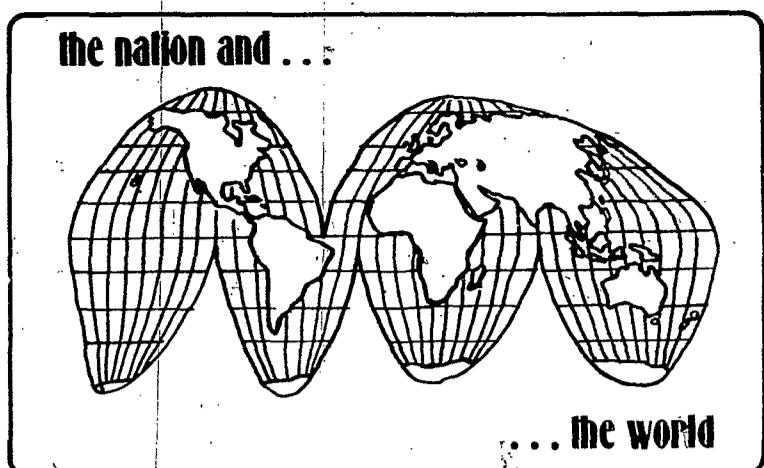
Yet, the paper charged, the actions of the ALRB general counsel and his staff have included legitimizing the "illegal"

alliance of growers and Teamsters, taking no action against threats and violence caused by this alliance, and weighing the ALRB's rules in favor of the grower-Teamsters alliance.

The document said "Kintz permitted the Teamsters to collect dues after the ALRA became law," and allowed "dues deduction cards," obtained prior to the law, to certify Teamsters for union elections. "As a result," the white paper added, "this grower-Teamster collusion denied the workers a choice of unions for which to vote."

Providing a long list of "irregularities" and "unfair labor practices," the white paper said these included "threats to fire workers who supported the UFW, firing such workers, retaliation against employees who voted for the UFW... use of guns, use of armed vigilantes to prevent UFW organizers from leafleting workers... and more."

The white paper accused Kintz of failing to act when the UFW filed unfair labor practice charges and, in effect, encouraged "a continuation and increase of such unlawful practices," causing many workers to switch their votes because of fear and intimidation.



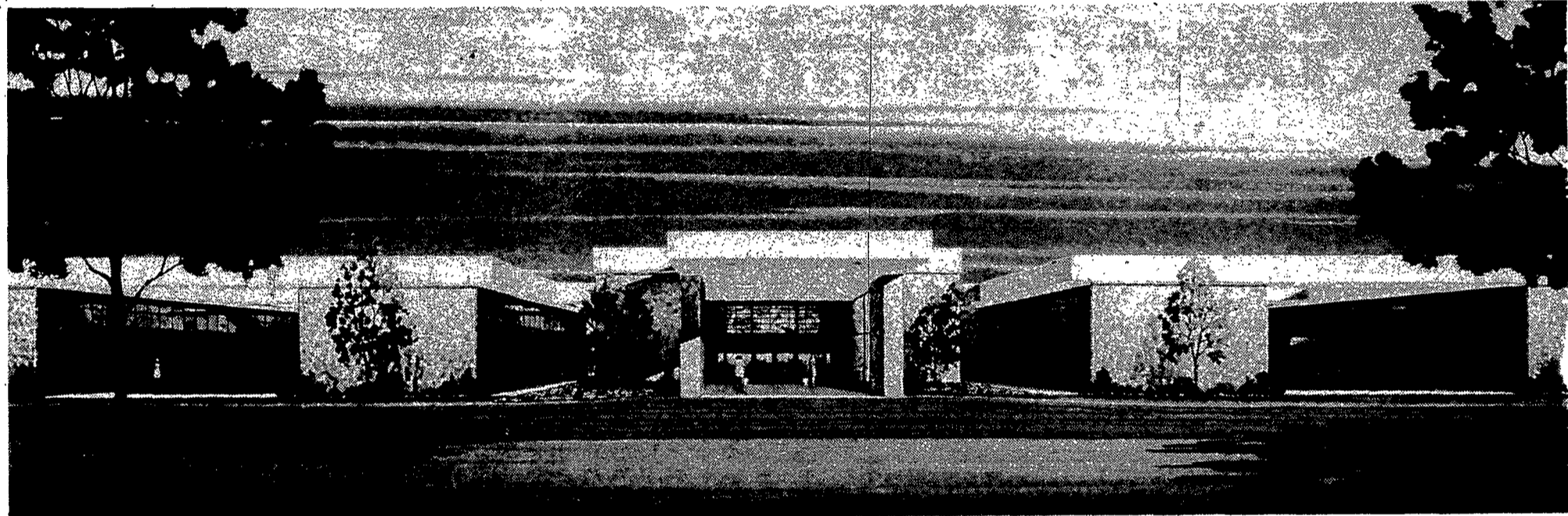
The sale and New York City promotion of "Jesus Jeans" has drawn a stinging rebuke from the Archdiocese of New York. "Jesus Jeans," imports being distributed by Compact Apparel, are being advertised on billboards featuring the rear view of a young woman tightly clad in brief denim shorts. The slogan reads "He who loves me follows me... Jesus Jeans." Father Kenneth Jadoff of the archdiocese has said "The whole marketing approach is offensive to the Christian community..."

Cardinal Jan Willebrands, president of the Vatican's Secretariate for Christian Unity, has said the United Nations General Assembly declaration on Zionism "cannot certainly help either justice or peace, which we all desire, in the Middle East..." Pope Paul last week beatified a Naples physician who worked with the incurable. The new Blessed is Dr. Giuseppe Moscati. He was born in 1880 and died in 1927. He is the first layman to be beatified during the Holy Year.

Rep. Robert F. Drinan, a Jesuit member of Congress, has introduced a bill into the House which would ban smoking in specific public places. The measure is designed to protect non-smokers "who want their health protected from contamination forced upon them by a few," the priest said. Violators would be subject to a maximum \$100 fine as a federal offense.

SCRIPTURE TALKS

Auburn — Brother James Lehey of the Christian Brothers will deliver the second in his series on "An Introduction to Scripture" on Monday, Nov. 24 at St. Alphonsus School. The sessions, held from 8 to 9:30 p.m., are open to the public at no charge.



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