

ATTENTION:

SCHENLEY SAYS THEY WILL NEGOTIATE

STRIKERS ON 300 MILE PROTEST MARCH PAUSE TO CELEBRATE.

THIS MAY BE YOUR CHANCE TO PRESS CONGRESSMEN FOR CONCESSIONS TO FARM WORKERS.

GRAPE PICKERS WIN FIRST RECOGNITION

LODI, Calif., April 6 (AP). The first recognition of a labor union for California grape pickers was achieved today and it touched off a celebration among strikers who were on a 300-mile protest march.

In Los Angeles, Schenley Industries announced agreement to recognize the independent National Farm Workers Association (NFWA)/

Cesar Chavez, NFWA general director, left the march in Lodi and went to Los Angeles for the negotiations with Schenley, second largest employer in the strike-hit Delano area.

Marchers staged a spontaneous celebration and ripped up signs urging a boycott of Schenley products.

For 25 days, the march which has swollen from 80 persons to 250 persons has been in progress up California's Central Valley to the State Capitol in Sacramento.

The demonstrators, who hope to reach Sacramento on Easter Sunday, ask for union recognition and a minimum wage of \$1.40 an hour. It is now \$1.25.

Schenley agreed to accept the NFWA, which has been sponsoring the march, as the sole bargaining representative of agricultural laborers employed by the firm in Tulare and Kern Counties and to begin collective bargaining within 30 days.

A strike against 35 grape growers, sponsored by the NFWA and the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee of the AFL-CIO was called Sept. 8, 1965. Some big growers had denounced the strike as the work of a few labor organizers and said most pickers are not interested in a union.

Several church and civil rights organizations and California political figures have joined the march since it began March 17 at Delano.

Meanwhile, Robert Di Giorgio, president of Di Giorgio Corp., main target of the strikers, said he would hold a news conference Thursday to announce "steps that Di Giorgio is taking to bring about an immediate solution to the farm labor problems in the Delano area."

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