

that still don't believe in the right of working people to organize and form associations to bargain collectively on their own behalf. I can't believe there are very many of them left.

It seems to me your request is entirely justified and that this Congress would be making a serious mistake and avoiding a serious obligation if it does not pass this bill.

Mr. CHAVEZ. Mr. Congressman, it seems to us that there may be very few people who will be against unions but it seems to me that most of them are in Delano. [Laughter.]

Mr. O'HARA. I want to congratulate you. I know something of your career and I want to say that you and your associates are doing something that needs doing and I am delighted for America that you are doing it and I think that we ought to give you some help.

Mr. CHAVEZ. Thank you.

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Albert.

Mr. ALBERT. Mr. Chavez, do you have contracts with some of the companies in the Delano area?

Mr. CHAVEZ. Yes; we have a contract with the Schenley Corp. We have contracts with the DiGiorgio Corp., and we have now a contract with Christian Bros.

We have negotiated part of an agreement with the Mosesian-Hourigan-Goldberg outfit in Delano.

We have some negotiations starting with the Novitiate Wineries and then we have four, possibly seven, growers who have agreed to provide a representation procedure for us this coming summer.

We still have 33 growers in Delano that we have been striking and now we are going into our 21st month of the strike and we can't get them to establish that procedure.

Mr. ALBERT. Are your relations on the whole good with those growers with whom you do have contracts?

Mr. CHAVEZ. I think that they are very good. The problem is we cannot get them to say so publicly because again they say, "You know our grower friends won't like that."

Again, the Schenley Corp. made a statement to our negotiating committee when we went back just about 2 weeks ago to renew the contract. The representative said that in their experience of 30-some years that this was their best experience with a union; that, while we argue with them any time we felt that we were right and we were not about to give in on anything that we felt belonged to the workers; once we made an agreement, we stuck to it and we did our best to have that agreement work.

So, even with the DiGiorgio Corp., where there was this conflict and intense feelings about unions, I think that we are getting along together now.

Mr. ALBERT. These unfair practices which you have mentioned, do you face these with most of the companies or is it just a few individual companies in your area?

Mr. CHAVEZ. Any company that we are striking, and when they feel the pressure they do these things.

Mr. ALBERT. What you are saying is that as a matter of principle, regardless of how you get along with one company or don't get along with another, you should have the same rights as other laboring people in other industries to participate in the protection and meet the obligations of the National Labor Relations Act?