

for our jobs back, but the strikers were determined to fight for their union.

The growers then started shutting off the water, the lights and the gas so that even if you stayed in the camp you could not cook and at night you had no light and it was cold and you could not get a drink there, and they tried to drive the strikers away from the camps. We told the strikers to stay there and come to town to eat even if they had to walk. This made the growers so mad that one day while we were on the picket lines they bolted up all the rooms, they threw all the workers' stuff outside the rooms, they threw it all over camp. So when the workers went back in the evening hoping to be able to sleep in the camp, they were met by security guards of the employer and they were told that in order for them to get into the property where the camp is located they had to go and see the grower to get a permit to get their clothing so that they could move out.

Well, it was around 6 or 7 o'clock in the evening when we came back from picket duty, and try to find where the employer was at that time was quite a job. Some strikers went to the office of the employer and there was nobody there. So a lot of these people slept on the road and slept in their cars. We had no room for them at the place where we have a messhall for them to eat, so we told them that they had to sleep outside and we hoped that they wouldn't get too cold and get sick. A lot of them slept out on the road.

The next day they went to the employer's offices and asked permission to get their belongings. The lack of housing entailed a great deal of problem for us as organizers, so we started asking for public assistance. We sent out letters to people asking that they give us assistance in our struggle to better ourselves as farmworkers. Luckily it was at that time that the organization of Mr. Chavez supported our strike. Mr. Chavez was smart enough to utilize publicity to make the people understand that the farmworkers have a just cause in trying to get the workers the kinds of conditions that they should be working under and the kind of pay that they should be getting.

In the early parts of the strike we were attacked by the growers. I myself have been attacked by the growers and I have been arrested.

Mr. THOMPSON. What do you mean by "attacked by the growers"?

Mr. ITLIONG. We were being pushed around. As a matter of fact, one of the growers pushed me so hard, I think he pushed me about 10 feet for no reason when I was walking on the picket line. I was just walking in the picket line when all of a sudden a grower came and just shoved me as hard as he could.

Mr. THOMPSON. What did you do?

Mr. ITLIONG. What can I do?

Mr. THOMPSON. You didn't fight back?

Mr. ITLIONG. No; I could not even if I wanted to. I know that I have experience in the past that if you fight these people you are not going to get anyplace.

Mr. THOMPSON. It is all right for them to push you around but you cannot push them around?

Mr. ITLIONG. That is right.

During my organizational work a grower beat the hell out of me and I filed a complaint at the D.A.'s office. You know what they told me? "You have no business going there; you are lucky he didn't kill