

aspects. "Emotional bonds, sexual controls, affection, and charitable impulses do not countenance quantification" (p. 264).

The literature of the Italian Americans has been enriched by this carefully researched study of the Italians of Buffalo in the fifty-year period. Perhaps this research model and its conclusions will be analyzed in the future with other comparative studies of urban centers to provide a more comprehensive dimension of this important ethnic group.

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Ernesto Galarza. *Farm Workers and Agri-business in California, 1947-1960*. Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 1977, 405 pp., \$3.95.

The reader who is already familiar with Galarza's work will not find it surprising that once again he has done a painstaking job of writing this account of the history of agricultural workers in California during the years 1947 to 1960. Contrary to Galarza's own fears that the academically minded might find his book "insufficient" and the list of suggested readings "too thin," *Farm Workers and Agri-business in California, 1947-1960* provides the reader with a wealth of information based on careful research and on Galarza's own recollections of his experiences as a farm worker and union organizer during that period.

The author's engaging style captures the interest of the reader, be he a scholar or from the general reading public. The reader whose knowledge of the plight of the farm worker is minimal will find the first section of the book, entitled "Agri-businessland," particularly beneficial in that it gives basic background information on the land, water, labor, family farms, mechanization, state and federal agencies, legislation, etc. Galarza carefully ties in all these elements showing how they affected the farm worker before he moves the reader on to the actual encounters faced by the National Farm Labor Union during the years 1947 to 1952.

Starting with the DiGiorgio strike in 1947 by Local 218 of the NFLU in Kern County, there begins to unfold a series of strikes aimed at obtaining fair wages, better overall working conditions, and general correction of the more obvious abuses. Their success was very limited. In each case, the flame of unionism was being applied to the frozen structures of power, yet, as Galarza points out, "it was like trying to melt an iceberg with a candle."

With the enactment of Public Law 78 in 1952, which gave bracero hiring the sanction of federal law, the main target of the NFLU

became the eradication of this system. Galarza outlines the devastating effects that the bracero system had on domestic workers, yet, in his estimation, the culprit is not so much the braceros themselves, or even the illegals, but a system that was in reality "a cover-up of agri-business in partnership with the government."

The last activities of the NFLU (renamed the National Agricultural Workers Union in 1952) are limited to its attacks on government officials and its relations with labor. By 1964, when Congress ended the bracero system, the NAWU had already disappeared from the scene, having merged with the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of America in 1960.

The final section of the book is reserved for comments on how well or how badly the NAWU did. Galarza is of the opinion that the only success that the NAWU could be accredited with was in terms of the role it played in ending the bracero program. As for the rights of the farm workers to freedom, liberty, democracy, and community, "their struggle goes on."

Galarza's book is a scholarly work written with careful accuracy for the historical events that took place. It also shows great concern with the moral issues that were at stake during that thirteen-year period. Galarza's strong commitment to justice, which led to his own involvement in the union movement, pervades throughout the book; his humanistic approach to the writing of this account gives an added dimension to a book that could have otherwise been somewhat limited in its appeal due to its subject.

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Milton J. Esman (editor). *Ethnic Conflict in the Western World*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1977, 399 pp., \$17.50.

Ethnic conflict has reemerged in the economic and political arenas of the western world, less between nation states, more within the boundaries of particular nations. The type of conflict that emerged in the United States during the 1950's and 1960's was racial, in sharp contrast to the ethnonationalist conflict in western Europe and Canada. The latter has a long history and has been shaped by cultural, linguistic, and religious differences. This conflict declined after World War II but is now back on the scene. The explanation of its return is one of the major purposes of this book. A second purpose is to raise the question of whether the Democratic Conflict Management model of consociationalism is a useful tool by which ethnic conflicts can be solved in a manner fair to all. Esman says consociationalism: