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Source: Dick Meister in Ann McGregor's *Remembering Cesar: The Legacy of Cesar Chavez*. Quill Driver Books: California, 2000.

It was a hot summer night in the little San Joaquin Valley town of Delano, California. Cesar Chavez ... sat behind a makeshift desk ... in the cluttered shack that served as headquarters for him and the others who were trying to create an effective farm workers union.

“Si se puede,” he said repeatedly to me, a highly skeptical reporter from San Francisco....

“Si se puede – it can be done!”

But I would not be swayed. Too many others, over too many years, had tried and failed to win for farm workers the union rights they had to have.... The Industrial Workers of the World, ... the Communists who followed, the socialists, the AFL and CIO organizers – all their efforts had collapsed under relentless pressure of growers and their powerful political allies.

I was certain this effort would be no different. I was wrong.... Chavez grasped the essential fact that farm workers had to organize themselves. Outside organizers, however well intentioned, could not do it.

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