



## Larry Itliong and the Fight for Labor Rights



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There has been a long history of discrimination towards Asian workers despite facing similar struggles that labor unions fought against.



# MEAT vs. RICE

American Manhood against Asiatic Coolieism

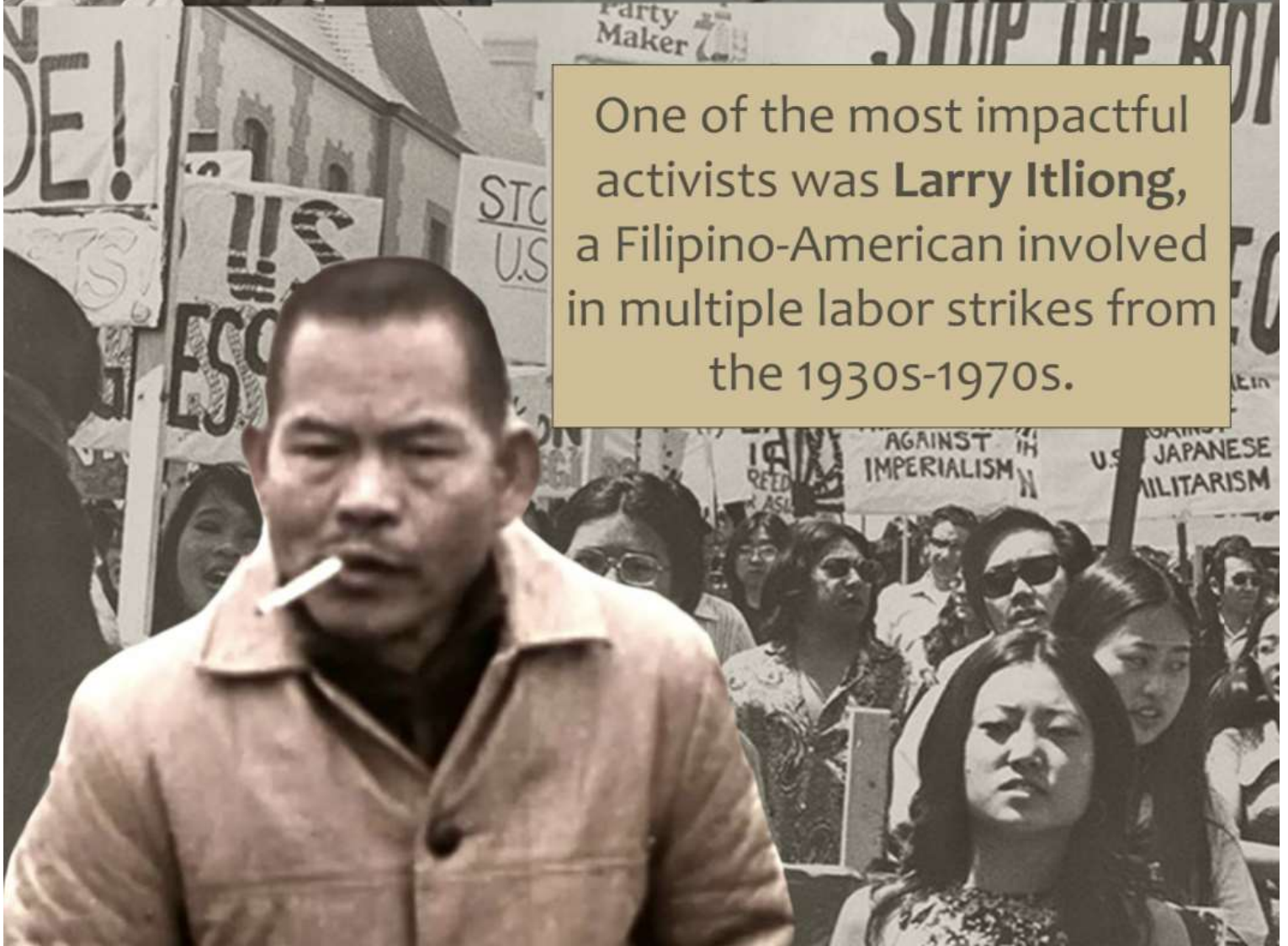
WHICH SHALL SURVIVE?



WORKINGMEN'S PARTY CALIFORNIA

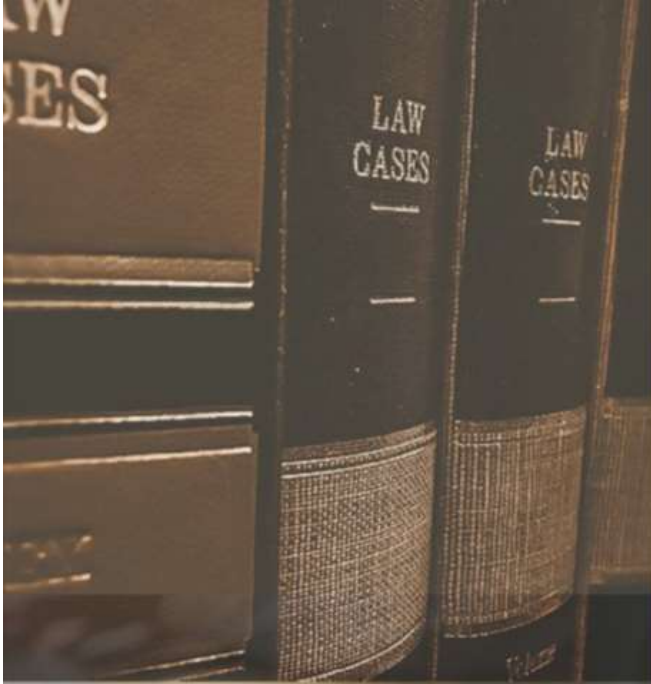


Nonetheless, Asian-Americans have persisted and have fought for not only labor rights in the US, but for equal rights in general.



One of the most impactful activists was **Larry Itliong**, a Filipino-American involved in multiple labor strikes from the 1930s-1970s.

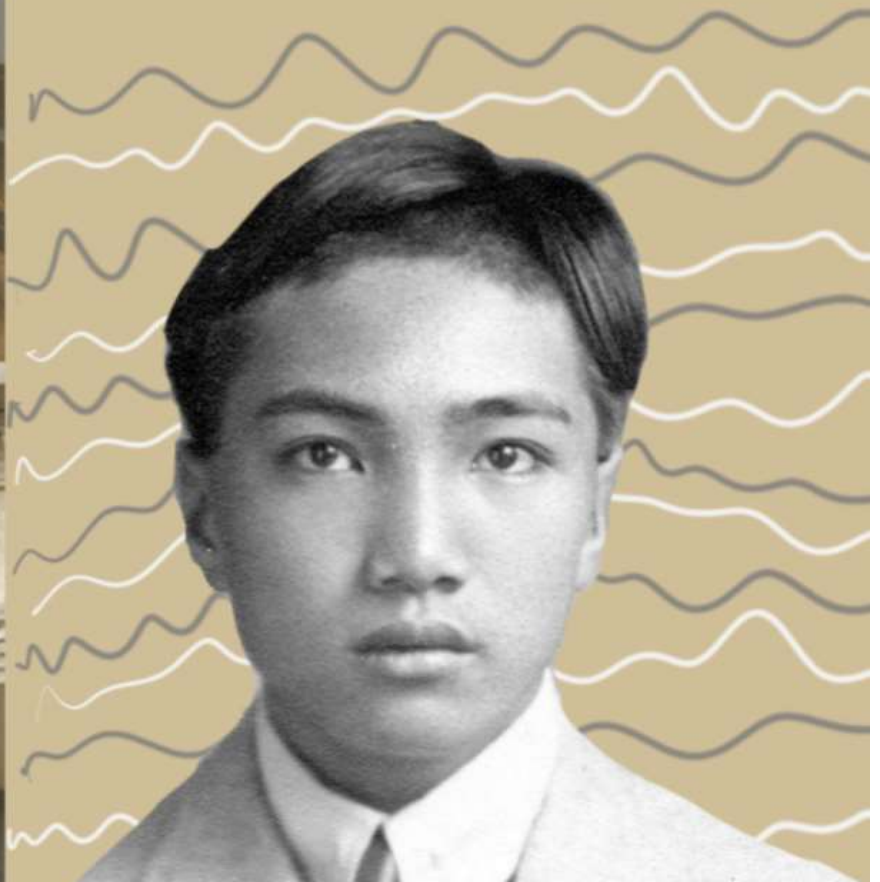




“White people were  
against us. It was  
very intense”  
- Larry Itliong

Itliong came to the US  
at 16 with dreams of  
being a lawyer and fighting  
for equality.

His education level and  
race ended those dreams.

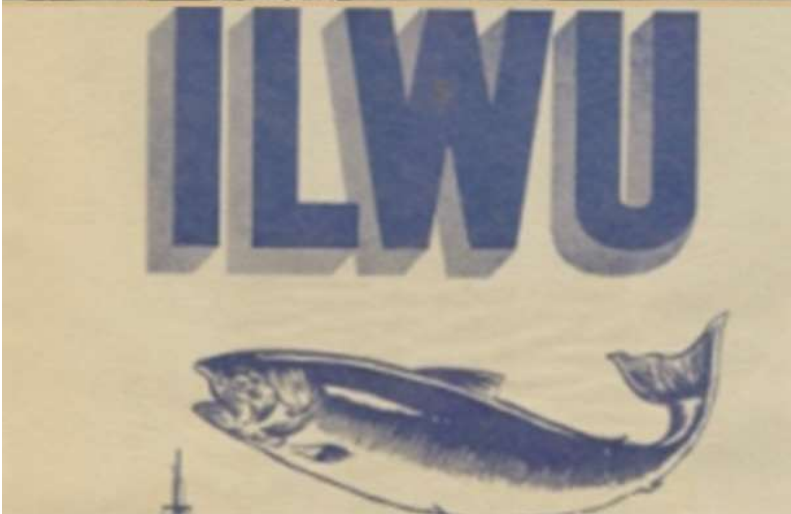




This did not stop  
Itliong from fighting  
for mistreated  
laborers.



Lettuce strike in  
Washington State  
(1930)



Formation of Alaska  
Cannery Workers  
Union (1933)

## ARMED GUARDS POSTED IN ASPARAGUS STRIKE

STOCKTON, May 10 (AP)—Half the asparagus in San Joaquin county's rich fields remained uncut today as striking harvest workers confronted growing ranks of armed guards. The California Asparagus Growers association said today it has hired 140 such guards, to "prevent picket trouble."

munist-dominated union which workers kicked out of the pieries in 1946 and we will not erate their sneaking in a through the back door." The strike is for recognition the C.I.O. Food, Tobacco & cultural Workers union. The F.T.A. says 4,500 wor are out. Its strike has thus

Asparagus Strike  
in Stockton, California  
(1948)



In May of 1965...

# Grape Strike at Coachella Valley

Itliong led the Agricultural Workers  
Organizing Committee to protest the  
unfair wages.

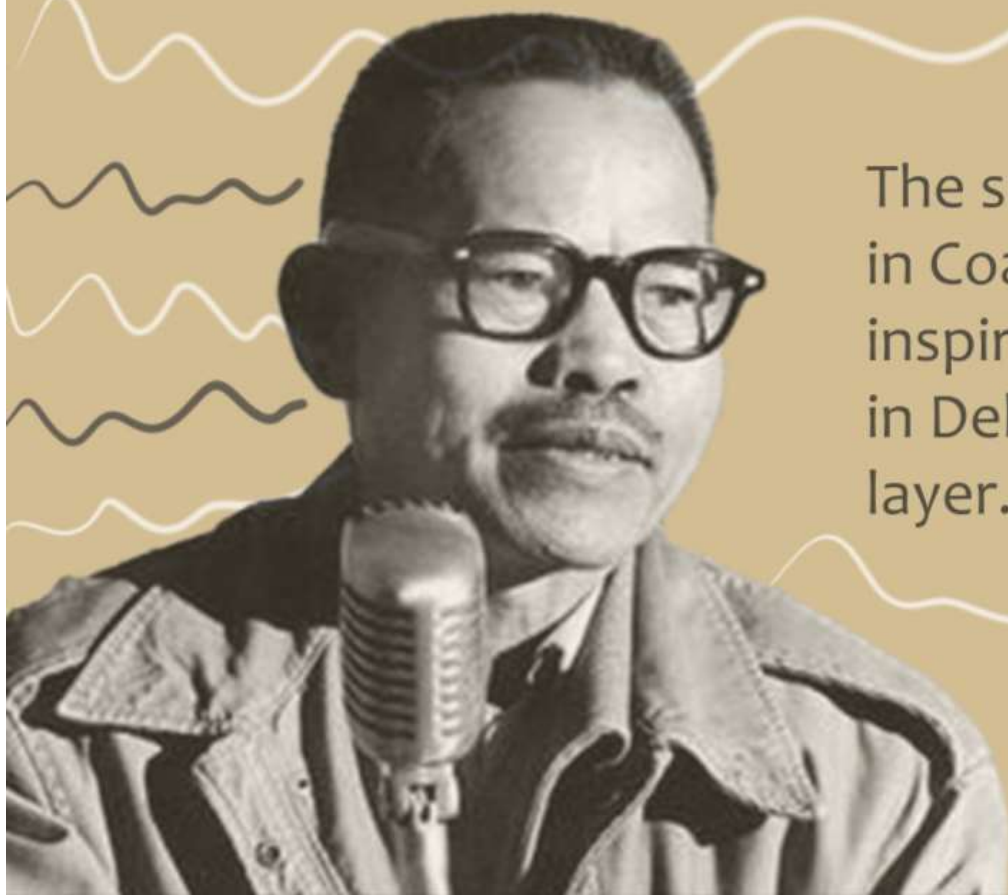


After 9 days of protest, growers changed wages from \$1.20 to \$1.40.



“This strike re-enforced our earlier decision to pay the rate.”

- Grower at Coachella Valley,  
“The Grape Strike Pamphlet” (pg 11)



The successful fight in Coachella Valley inspired the fight in Delano just months later.



# Delano Grape Strike of 1965



September 8th, 1965:  
Over two thousand Filipino  
workers from AWOC went  
on strike.

September 18th, 1965:  
Twelve hundred Latino  
workers from the National  
Farm Workers Association  
joined them.





Led by union leaders Cesar Chavez and Larry Itliong, the 5-year strike had amazing impacts on the labor movement.

Not only did it unite Latino and Filipino workers through the formation of the United Farm Workers, but it led to the passage of the Agricultural Labor Relations Act (1975).



'The Begin

California Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr., center to after signing the landmark farm labor bill, LL, 1, with Assemblyman Richard Alatorre (left) and Senator



“Lahat raw tayo ay pantay pantay sa karapatan at hustisya. Dapat natin itong tiyakin. Bindi ito basta na lamang na iaabot sa atin.”

-Larry Itliong

*“They say we are all equal in rights and justice. We must make sure of it. It is not simply handed to us”*

