

## Boycott Memo from Jim Drake/Mike Miller – Boycott Tactics Feb. 11, 1966

Boycott Memo 2/11/66

Re: Delano Strike News and Boycott tactics

Enclosures: Issue #29, El Malcriado; Wall Street Journal Article

The Wall Street Journal Article should be useful for factual letters to the editors, etc. (This article will come in a later mailing)

Evidence is piling up that the boycott is gaining momentum. 64 cities now have boycott centers. The activity in these locations ranges from simple use of the pledge card to all-out picketing. So far Los Angeles and New York have reported the most success. Success comes from plain hard work...leafleting, picketing, refusing to give up or take no from anyone. Of the 64 cities, 13 have full time staff who have had training in Delano. The goal is to have full time FWA staff people in the twenty largest sites and 100 boycott centers actively working by March 1. We are weakest in the Northwest and Southwest. Any leads which we can follow up in those areas will be a big help.

Following is a verbatim copy of a teletype message dated Feb. 7, 1966, 3:15 P.M. from the office of the Department of Employment, State of California. For those confronting Schenley officials it should prove helpful. Please report such confrontations immediately.

“Following is a statement of additional facts relating to the labor dispute between Schenley Industries Inc., T.D. 65-3289 A, and the F.W.A. AT the conclusion of the grape harvest season in the Delano area an investigation was initiated to obtain further statements from growers and from workers who had gone on strike to determine if these workers were hired for the harvesting only or if they were hired for a continuity of other agricultural work in the grape activities. All of the workers interviewed indicated that they viewed their hire for harvest work to include hire for other work such as pruning, tying, staking, irrigating, hoeing, and shoveling, suckering, girdling, tipping, thinning and leaf-pulling. Similarly, based on employer’s interviews, it was found to be common practice among vineyardists in the Delano area to hire workers in the harvest with the understanding that other work such as pruning, tying, staking irrigating, hoeing, and shoveling, girdling, tipping, thinning, and leaf-pulling would be performed by the same workers.”

“Although some of the employees engaged in grape harvesting who left work in the Schenley vineyards at the time of the labor dispute occurred between Schenley Industries and the NFWA were seasonal employees of labor contractors, other employees who left work had been hired directly by Schenley. The records show that Schenley follows the general hiring practices of other vineyardists in the Delano area in their hiring arrangements and agricultural activities in grapes throughout the year.”

(An accompanying telegram stated that referrals by the Dept of Employment may not be made to any of the above jobs under provisions of section 602.2 (B) Title 20, code of Federal Regulations.)

A reminder: There is no substitute for hard work with the labor people in the boycott areas. There are many signs that labor is going to get behind NFWA in increasing force. Our committee at Reed College, Portland reports substantial labor interest. If they can do it the rest can too.

Keep us informed. Viva!

Jim Drake/Mike Miller  
Box 894, Delano, California