

Boycott News



Five More Chains Join The Boycott

Finast, Food Mart, Mott's Shop Rite, Big Y, and Foodarama Shop Rite have all joined our boycott. Except for Mott's and Big Y, the chains' commitments ended four-month boycotts of each chain. Big Y, upon learning of Food Mart's agreement, called the Springfield office of the UFW. It seems they wanted to make a commitment before the weekend, to be sure that there wouldn't be picket lines in front of their stores.

The success of all the campaigns relied heavily upon supporters. Letters, phone calls, increased picketing activity, delegations, and mass leafleting demonstrated to the decision makers at these food chains that the public really does support farm workers.

U.S. Justice Department: "Arizona Recall Petitions Valid"

The Justice Department has notified Arizona Secretary of State Gary Nelson that his arbitrary decision to remove 28,000 signatures from recall petitions was a violation of the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

In May 1972 Governor Jack Williams signed into law the most repressive farm labor legislation ever passed in this country. The UFW responded with a massive political campaign and Cesar Chavez' 25 day Fast of Love, subjects of the movie "Si, Se Puedel".

In ten months the UFW gathered 176,000 signatures, of which 108,000 were initially declared valid. 103,000 were needed to force the recall election. Then in a last ditch attempt to stay off the election, 28,000 signatures were declared invalid because they had been gathered by deputy registrars, though there is nothing in Arizona or federal law that makes this illegal.

Two months ago the UFW demanded that the recall election be scheduled. There has been no response from state officials.

Connecticut State Labor Council Endorses Boycott

Last month the state Labor Council endorsed the UFW grape and lettuce boycott. Support from organized labor has been strong in the past, and the endorsement marks the beginning of even greater help. Union leaders are hard at work organizing a state-wide Trade Union Committee that will lend physical and financial support to farm workers.

Victory for Farah Strikers

After a 22 month strike and boycott of Farah slacks the workers, mostly poor Chicana women, won recognition of their union, Amalgamated Clothing Workers, AFL-CIO. Congratulations to these valiant people!

Gallo Boycott Intensifies

Last June Gallo ignored workers' requests for secret ballot elections and signed 'sweetheart contracts' with the Teamsters. After working for six years under UFW contracts, the employees were told by Teamster official James Smith, "We're not going to go to any Mickey Mouse elections of any kind."

Gallo maintained that they had 'proof' that the workers wanted to be represented by the Teamsters. However when the Temo contracts were announced all but two workers walked off their jobs in protest.

Gallo, one of the largest wineries in the country, is the pace setter in the California wine industry. What Ernest and Julio do, the others also do. When they signed Temo contracts so did the others who were renegotiating UFW contracts. When they renew their UFW contracts, so will the others.

Any wine that comes from Modesto, California is a Gallo product. Please don't buy it. Gallo markets win under the following brands:

Red Mountain	Carlo Rossi	Spanada	Ripple
Sparkling Wine	Thunderbird	Eden Roc	Andre
Champagne, Cold Duck	Boone Farm	Piasano	Tyroliia

Farm Worker Bill Defeated in Connecticut

H.B. 5164, a bill that would have brought farm workers in Connecticut under the state labor law died in committee. This action by the Labor and Industrial Relations Committee marks the second year in a row that legislation to bring farm workers under the state Labor Relations Act has been kept from a full vote of the legislature.

At the hearings of H.B. 5164, introduced by Richard Antonetti (R-W.Haven), John Driscoll, President of the state Labor Council; Jack Middleton, Director of the Office of Urban Affairs; Len Dube, UAW; Jose LaLuz, PSP; Fr. Tom Goekler, Chairman of Support Committee for ATA (Puerto Rican farm workers organization) and a number of Puerto Rican men who have worked in the tobacco fields spoke in favor of the proposed bill.

Speaking against the legislation were Luther Sterns, President of the Farm Bureau in Conn.; Emil Mulnite, President of Shade Tobacco Growers Association; and representatives of the Conn. Nurseymen's Assoc. and Yankee Milk, a milk producers' cooperative.

Staff Changes: or Where Have all the Organizer Gone???

Due to the critical needs in other parts of the country, there have been a number of UFW staff changes in Connecticut. Susan Sachen and Chris Byrne have been reassigned to other cities. Rob Restuccia and Louise Waldstein have returned to Boston to be with Rob's family in a time of crisis.

Additions to the staff include Stepfen Rivers, who will be working in Bridgeport and Waterbury, and Earl Camire, who has been assigned to the central part of the state.

Cowpies

Emil Mulnite, Pres. Shade Tobacco Growers Assoc., Feb. 21, HB.5164 Hearings: "We're good to our Puerto Ricans. If they're good boys we pay their plane fare home at the end of the season. Why, we even pay for the taxi to take them from the airport to their little hut in the hills."

Unidentified Anti-UFW picket at mass rally in Boston, March 23: A placard that read, "Be American, Eat Grapes. Read your Bible more, in 1974"

Many Thanks to...

Bob and Fran Griffin for a Volkswagen.

Horace Bushnell Church for their payment to the Post Office that enabled us to purchase a bulk mailing permit.

Fr. Joseph Krukowski for the use of Newman Hall.

All those who helped pay the phone bill, and all of you who have given us your time and/or money to carry on the farm workers' cause.

Farm Worker Week

The National Council of Churches has endorsed the week of April 29 as National Farm Worker Week. Churches and synagogues across the nation will be participating in a variety of activities to educate their congregations about farm workers problems and also to support their activities. There will be liturgies, seminars, discussion groups that will explore the problems. Food drives and collections will be implemented by many congregations.

If you'd like help planning a program for your church, contact the nearest boycott office.

Connecticut Boycott Offices in Need

The Union has no funds for anything more than room and board and \$5. a week for organizers. There's nothing in the budget for the expenses of running an office. So the people in the cities are asked to help with these costs.

The phone bill for last month was \$300. Checks should be made payable to SNET.

The cost for postage for this mailing will be about \$100. And checks should be made payable to the U.S. Post Office.

We also need a car, in running condition; a typewriter; a table or desk; food; trading stamps; and office supplies - paper, stamps, tape, etc.

If you can donate anything, call us and we'll come pick it up. And thanks, in advance, for your generosity.

AGP: Still Refusing to Help Farm Workers

It was over a year ago that farm workers went to A&P for help. A&P refused. They were in business to make money, and grapes and lettuce are very profitable. So it was up to us to show them that it was much less profitable to carry boycotted produce than to cooperate with the grape and lettuce boycott. Thousands of people all over the country manned the picket lines in front of A&P stores.

And today we're back in front of A&P with the same message - help farm workers. On the surface it may look as though there's been no progress, but a year ago there weren't any chains cooperating; now the majority of New England chains have made commitments. The boycott is gaining momentum, and with your help we can win back the grape contracts before another season of violence is directed at farm workers.

Please write to Thomas Noonan, A&P Vice President, 420 Lexington Ave., New York, New York 10017, and urge him to help farm workers.

1915 Park Street
Hartford 06106
527-5064

17 Belmont Street
Hamden 06517
288-4905

389 Kossuth Street
Bridgeport 06608
366-5685

- I have written to Thomas Noonan at A&P.
 Contact me for a film or speaker at my church, union, school, etc.
 I want to help office work leaflet other.
 I enclose a donation.

NAME

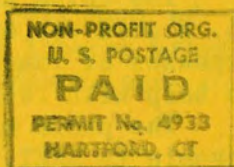
PHONE

ADDRESS

CITY

ZIP

United Farm Workers
of America, AFL-CIO
1915 Park Street
Hartford, Ct. 06106



Deborah Miller
322 South Main Street
Torrington, CT 06790

BOYCOTT GRAPES AND LETTUCE, unless you see the UFW eagle. BOYCOTT GALLO!