

Boycott Non-UFW Produce & Support The Workers

Background On The U.F.W.-Teamsters Struggle

The Teamsters and United Farm Workers have been battling for the last several years over the unionization of farm workers in the southwestern United States. In this battle the Teamsters, one of the most powerful unions in the country, with support of the growers have been using every trick imaginable to gain contracts.

Since the Teamsters has tended to be a company union giving sweetheart contracts. Generally they just ignore the workers and sign the contracts in their name

with the growers. The bluntness of this is so great that, despite strong worker opposition, the Teamsters, have succeeded in reducing the UFW from 60,000 members and 100 contracts to 10,000 members and a dozen contracts in two years.

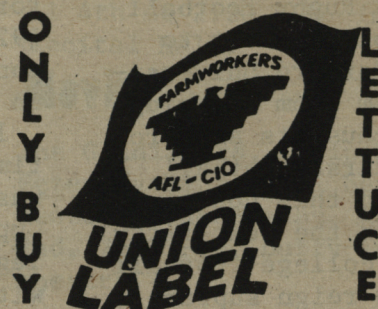
To quote Cesar Chavez, UFW President, "We didn't lose the contracts. It's a damned gimmick between the growers and the Teamsters. It's a steal. That's what happened. The workers were not involved."

Significantly, when a bill came up in the Cali-

fornia state legislature to allow farm workers the right to have secret ballot election in order to vote for the union of their choice, the UFW supported it while the Teamsters and the growers fought it. It's obvious who has the support of the workers.

And when this bill came up before the state Senate it failed. Who has the power in California? Certainly not the workers.

Boycott non-UFW lettuce and grapes. Support the struggle of the California farmworkers. For too long



they have been getting below the minimum wage - with no fringe benefits. Already sales of scab lettuce and grapes are down 20% in this country. Reduce them to nothing.

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Steinburgs Agree To Ban Scab Lettuce

The United Farm Workers claimed its first major victory in Canada on February 15th, when Steinberg's agreed to stop the sale of non-union lettuce and grapes in 60 Montreal island stores. Steinberg's also agreed to preferential lettuce buying and to not advertise non-union lettuce.

Montreal UFW organizer Stephen Robertson said that the decision to join the boycott was reached after 9 hours of deliberation with Steinberg president Mel Dobrin and other execs.

Robertson said that Steinberg's ban will begin in late May, the beginning of the 1975 grape-growing season.

For over a year, Steinberg's has been posting signs in its fruit sections advising people wishing to join the boycott not to buy non-UFW grapes.

According to Robertson the California grape market has been cut by an estimated 20% as a result of support for the UFW.

Boycott organizers are optimistic that other supermarkets will follow Steinberg's lead by the Spring.

'U.F.W. Gets The Grape'

UFW SUES GALLO - AGAIN: San Francisco (Earth News) - the United Farm Workers Union (UFW) has filed a \$31,000 damage suit against Gallo wine, charging Gallo with failure to comply with a Teamsters contract resulting in health hazards and the firing of an employee.

The suit, filed in the name of a former Gallo employee, Ismeal Gonzales, says the man was fired because he advised fellow workers their interests would be better served by the UFW than the Teamsters. Ironically, Gonzales was originally hired by Gallo as a strikebreaker after a UFW walk-out in June, 1973.

The suit also charges that Gallo field foremen forced workers to work directly behind rigs spraying pesticides of unknown composition and made them work so fast that their health and safety were at stake.

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