



New Mexico
Governor Toney
Anaya Endorses
the Grape Boycott

FOOD AND JUSTICE

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It would be a wonderful thing -- and wishful thinking -- if a major boycott like our current table grape boycott could be switched on and off like a light.

It would be even more wonderful if growers were sensitive enough to the human dignity of farm workers so that boycotts wouldn't be necessary in the first place.

But as we learned in our previous grape boycotts, as Midwest farm workers learned in their struggle against Campbell's, and as thousands of boycotters of Nestle's had to learn, it takes a long time to mobilize public support and affect the profits (not the morality, unfortunately) of growers and owners enough to win a boycott.

So we are again pleased to report evidence of growing boycott support in this issue. We were happy to receive the endorsement of Gov. Toney Anaya of New Mexico, and we were touched, though not surprised, at the outpouring of support from labor leaders representing millions of workers in Los Angeles and New York (see following pages).

The big turnout of labor leaders who endorsed the boycott in both cities - and in other U.S. and Canadian cities we have visited - convinces me that all the talk about labor having lost its capacity for solidarity is a lie.

California grape growers know in their hearts it is a lie, too. But only after the message reaches their pocketbooks will we be able to turn the boycott switch off again. 🍷

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Cesar Chavez with some of the 40 labor leaders who endorsed the table grape boycott in Los Angeles.

Labor Leaders, New Mexico Governor Endorse Boycott

Farm labor leader Cesar Chavez kept up a steady pace of travels in May and June and gained valuable grape boycott endorsements from labor leaders in Los Angeles and New York City, from New Mexico Gov. Toney Anaya, and from additional groups in Texas.

Los Angeles

The series of trips promoting the table grape boycott got off to a stunning start in Los Angeles in mid-May with a massive display of labor solidarity with Cesar Chavez and the farm worker movement.

At a meeting of more than 40 labor leaders representing millions of southern California workers, Chavez expressed his gratitude for labor support of farm worker boycotts in the past and asked for their help once again. "The forces arrayed against us are stronger than ever," Chavez said. "Our boycott will be successful only if we have the same strong support from

labor that we had in the late '60s and early '70s."

At both the meeting and a press conference the next day, Chavez presented the UFW's new 14-minute film, "The Wrath of Grapes," which focuses on the plague of pesticides threatening farm workers and consumers. Also featured in the film are two other primary issues in the current UFW boycott of table grapes: free and fair elections for farm workers and good-faith bargaining by growers (see page 15).

New York City

Labor support during a three-day visit in New York City in early June proved as enthusiastic as it had been in Los Angeles. At a rally of trade unionists in Herald Square in downtown New York, Chavez dramatically held a bunch of grapes in the air and crushed them in his fist to demonstrate what effect their support would have for the boycott. The people responded with shouts of "Boycott



Cesar Chavez crushes table grapes in New York City to demonstrate the UFW's determination to defeat the growers through the grape boycott.

grapes!"

Also speaking at the rally was Thomas Van Arsdale, president of the New York City Central Labor Council, who pledged labor's support of the boycott. "Since New York is the largest consumer market for California grapes in the nation, I hereby pledge the support of the 1.2 million members of the New York City Central Labor Council to the 'Wrath of Grapes' campaign."

In addition to a steady round of media appearances and meetings with labor and community leaders, Chavez also addressed an awards dinner sponsored by the New York Metro Area Postal Union, at which he was honored as the "citizen who has done the most for workers." Present were the postal union's International President Moe Biller and President Josie McMillian.

New Mexico Governor Endorses Boycott

A week later, Chavez flew to Santa Fe and was joined at a State

Capitol press conference by New Mexico Gov. Toney Anaya. Anaya issued an official proclamation that urged "all New Mexicans to support Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers" and declared June 11 "California Table Grape Boycott Day."

"I am pleased," Governor Anaya said, "to present Cesar Chavez this proclamation in support of his latest efforts to create a better, safer, healthier world."

The next day Chavez went to Las Cruces and testified against the use of backbreaking shorthanded hoes and knives and the lack of decent sanitation facilities for farm workers at a New Mexico Environmental Improvement Board hearing. (A few days later, the board ordered the shorthanded tools banned and required growers to provide cool drinking water and sanitation facilities for farm workers in the fields.)

El Paso

After opening the visit with a press conference and a "Grapes of Wrath" signing ceremony, Chavez'

several other appearances during the two-day visit included walking a picketline with striking Communication Workers of America. "The labor movement is like a family," Chavez said. "We're brothers and sisters. We have to stick together."

The following names are a partial list of leaders who signed the "Wrath of Grapes" pledge card at press conferences.

Los Angeles

Jimmy Rodriguez, Sr., president, Bill Robertson, secretary-treasurer, and Al Hernandez, representative, all of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor; Mary Yunt,

and regional director, and Steve Mutter, assistant regional director, Western States, International Ladies Garment Workers.

Nellie Crowley, executive secretary-treasurer, Laundry and Dry Cleaning Union; Joe Placentia, international representative, Region 6, United Auto Workers; W. C. Demers, special assistant to vice-president, District 9, and Rudy Mendoza, staff representative, Communication Workers of America; Richard Rothstein, general manager, and Barbara Mejia, assistant manager, Southern California Joint Board, Amalgamated Clothing Textile Workers Union; Max Mont, executive director, Jewish Labor Committee; Barbara Walthers, president, Orange County Coalition of Labor Union Women.



Thomas Van Arsdale, representative of more than a million workers as the president of the New York City Central Labor Council, endorses the table grape boycott.

president, Orange County Central Labor Council; Albert Gribell Velasco, president, Labor Council for Latin American Advancement; Ken Faulkner, president, Transport Workers Union; Herman Leavitt, general secretary-treasurer, and Scotty Allan, secretary, Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees International Union; Justin Ostrow, general vice-president, International Association of Machinists; Dave Sickler, national AFL-CIO field representative and coordinator, Orange County Organizing Committee; Cornelius Wall, vice-president

Bernie Sapiro, president, Council No. 2, and Doug Maloney, president, Graphic Communications Union, Local 404-M; Dallas Jones, president, Los Angeles Fire Fighters, Local 1014; Juan Rodriguez, president, United Steelworkers, Local 6700; Joe Scavo, business representative, Steam Fitters, Local 250; Ernie Garcia, business manager, Paint Makers and Allied Trades, Local 1232; Arnold Medina, assistant business manager, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 18; and George Ruznak, International Association of Mach-

inists, Local 94.

New York City

Jack Sheinkam, secretary-treasurer, Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union; Josie McMillan, president, New York Metro Area Postal Union; Victor Gotbaum, executive director, District Council 37, and Bettye Roberts, president, District Council 1707, American Federation of State, City, and Municipal Employees; Edwin Espaillat, vice-president, and Rae Kahn, Retired Teachers, United Federation of Teachers; Irving Stern, international vice-president, United Food and Commercial Workers.

David Dinkins, president, Manhattan Borough, who proclaimed June 4 "Grape Boycott Day" in Manhattan; Ted Jacobsen, secretary, New York City Central Labor Council; George Altomare, vice-president, Italian-American Labor Council; Rabbi Joseph Glaser, executive director, Central Conference of American Rabbis; Joseph Baumann, secretary-treasurer, and Donald Mumm, vice-president, Service Employees International Union 32b-j; Humphrey Donahue, director, Region VII, AFL-CIO; Dennis Hughes, director, New York State

AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education; Damasio Emeric, president, National Association for Puerto Rican Civil Rights; and Fred Nauman.

New Mexico

State Senators Sanchez, Cole, and Cisneros; State Representative Ben Lujan (majority whip); Neal Gonzalez, executive secretary-treasurer, New Mexico AFL-CIO; Father Leo Lucero, representing Santa Fe Archbishop Robert Sanchez; Rev. John Howell, New Mexico Conference of Churches; Rabbi Leonard Hellman; and Sam Baca, Big Brothers Organization.

El Paso

State Senators Ron Coleman and Tati Santiesteban; State Representatives Paul Moreno, Nancy McDonald, and Nick Perez; State Democratic Executive Committeewoman Patricia Roybal Sutton; Democratic Party County Chairman Tom Diamond; El Paso City Councilpersons Alicia Chacon and Tony Ponce; Victor Munoz, president of the Central Labor Council and Graphics Communications Union; Federico Esparza, United Steelworkers; and Rosa Eribes, president of the Communication Workers.



New Mexico Governor Toney Anaya declared June 11 "California Table Grape Boycott Day" and endorsed the boycott during a visit with Cesar Chavez.



Chris Schneider and Marcos Camacho accept certificates from Judge Takasugi during a swearing in ceremony and celebration at the UFW's headquarters.

Apprenticeship Program Works

On June 14, Chris Schneider and Marcos Camacho, two UFW volunteers, officially became attorneys-at-law. They were sworn in by Judge Robert M. Takasugi at the union headquarters in Keene, California.

This may not seem like news. But consider this: Chris and Marcos are not college graduates. Neither has ever been to law school.

Chris, 31, is from Indianapolis and has been a volunteer in the union for twelve years. Marcos, 27, was a farm worker at the age of 7 and joined the union in 1979.

Chris and Marcos are attorneys today because the UFW participates in an apprentice program called Office Law Study. The apprentice program combines textbooks and classes with practical legal experience.

Apprentices in the program are required to study law for four years and to pass two bar exams. Passing these

tests is required for certification.

To participate in the program apprentices must complete two years of college or take an exam which is a two year equivalency test.

The UFW started the program in 1977, and so far all the union volunteers who have taken the exam have passed. The passing rate for the California Bar exam this spring was 28%. This percentage includes those who attended law school.

The training program was a dream of Cesar Chavez for many years. He said, "A lot of people finally believe that this dream is a reality. It is a program that works."

Office Law Study is just one of the many apprentice programs the UFW offers to individuals who wish to work for the union. Other training programs teach skills in such areas as computer programming and mechanics.



Pandol worker Juan Magana shows that he and the table grapes are unprotected from pesticide exposure.

Pandol Workers Reveal Pesticide Abuses

Jack Pandol is a very rich man. He is pals with the California governor and government officials.

His companies pack and ship over 100 varieties of nuts, fruits and vegetables. He owns thousands of acres of prime farm land. In 1984, he estimated the sales of his companies at \$200 million, and he has grown since then. He owns many companies, including chemical supply businesses.

Perhaps it is his wealth and power that make him and his company officials believe that they can disregard laws and regularly put their workers in danger.

This is not the image Pandol wants to portray. He tells the press that he has "very good, very positive" relations with the workers.

But the workers have a very different interpretation of management/labor relations at Pandol's companies. These workers have horror stories of the way they are treated.

Juan Magana, an employee of Pandol's for over five years, is one such worker. Here is just one of his stories. This occurred this past April.

"We were getting off work. At this time we were spraying grapes. I was told I would be working a little later and was instructed to fill a tank with water. I filled it with 500 gallons of water. The chemist then gave me what appeared to be something like an Anacin tablet ground up.

"It was wrapped in plastic and then again in paper. He handed it to me and then backed away. I wondered



Growers, such as Pandol, use tractors like this to spray pesticides on California table grapes.

why he backed away from me so quickly.

"I tried not to breathe when I put it in the tank. He told me to spray only one row of grapes. I don't know what it was, but it was 500 gallons of water with that chemical in it on only one row. The chemist told me if there was any left over to throw it in the street."

According to Juan's account and the testimony of other workers at Pandol, the company regularly endangers its workers by exposing them to dangerous pesticides.

Juan Tejas relates how the workers are used to cover up the use of pesticides which may be illegal. He said that supervisors at Pandol gave him a can labeled "Roundup" (a widely used herbicide). He was told to place another pesticide inside the "Roundup" can so, his supervisor said, "we don't have any problems with the inspector."

In violation of the law, the company does not issue protective clothing. In its handbook, Pandol promises workers they will have "safety equipment and protective clothing" when working with pesticides. This is a lie.

Juan Magana says, "They do not give me any kind of protection-- no gloves, mask, glasses, not even water to wash my hands. I put my hands in the chemicals and mix them with the water. Then we go with the machines to spray it on the fields.

"One day we sprayed Dinoseb. Everyday we spray something different. I am covered with the material so that I am white. The spray falls into my face."

What kind of safety precautions do the company officials take? According to the workers, the most they do is tell the workers not to eat the fruit they are working with.

Jose Luis Cejas, a Pandol worker

said, "Most of the time, the foreman tells us the fruit is very dangerous and poisonous to eat."

Another precaution the foreman takes is to stay away from the chemicals they have ordered the workers to spray. Juan Magana said, "When they check to see if I am applying the chemicals properly, they stay in their trucks. They seem to be afraid of the pesticides. They roll up their windows. They know what poisons are being sprayed. If they want to talk to you, they make motions to shut the spraying down; then when everything is stopped, they come over to talk to you. We are bathed up to our ears with these chemicals."

Juan Magana said he regularly suffers from headaches, nausea and rashes.

Jorge Cordero, another Pandol worker, said he recently was working in a field when a sprayer came very

close to him to apply pesticides. He complained to the supervisor because he was afraid the chemicals would make him ill. Jorge said that the supervisor responded, "You're not going to die. Anyway there's lots of Mexicans to take your place."

How does Pandol respond to these accusations of blatant disregard for human welfare and the law? He doesn't. He refused to return any of several calls placed at his office.

Juan Magana continues working to support his family. He said, "I take care to put my shoes and clothes in the trunk of my car when I come home, and I lock it. I know they are dangerous chemicals. They (company officials) don't care. They are angry because the workers want the union."

"The growers meet at their organizations. They have their meetings. Why don't they let us have our organization? Let us have a meeting?"

Juan Magana and other Pandol workers gather at the UFW office in Delano, CA to describe their working conditions and relate pesticide horror stories.



GUEST COLUMN



Thou Shalt Not Oppress

By Rabbi Joseph B. Glaser

"Thou shalt not oppress a hired worker who is poor and needy," commands the book of Deuteronomy, the fifth book of the Holy Bible (24:14). Even as the children of Israel were still on the march through the wilderness to the promised land, this simple rule of justice became a part of their values, as ordered by God. All Jews, Christians and Moslems, the spiritual heirs of those slaves freed from Egyptian bondage, are bound by that law, whether they live in the Middle East, in New York -- or in California.

Yet the law is violated daily, year after year, by growers who treat farm workers with disdain and neglect born of greed and driven by arrogance. Elections are ignored, promises broken, agreements and judgments violated, lethal pesticides are strewn, often without warning or advisement, and violence sheds blood and tears. It is oppression -- un-Godly oppression.

But the Bible also says: "Rob not the poor...for God will plead their cause and spoil the soul of those that spoiled them" (Proverbs 22:22F). Yes, those who so do wrong know it, and their sense of guilt at treating fellow human beings shamefully eats quietly away at one's spirit, and does indeed "spoil the soul."

How liberating and joyful it would be for growers to open their hearts to their brothers and sisters and share more of the yield of their labor! They would gain more than the workers. But, until they do, we who hear the call of justice from Sinai must be the echo chamber by expressing our displeasure of the mistreatment of God's children by word and deed. God's justice will prevail. 🌸

Rabbi Joseph B. Glaser is the Executive Vice President of the Central Conference of American Rabbis.



Chris Hartmire, general manager of the Social Marketing Department.

UFW Inaugurates Organizational Divisions

After several week-long planning sessions covering a year and a half, the United Farm Workers has now inaugurated a new organizational plan for many of its programs and projects.

The broad title is Marketing Group, headed by Group Executive Cesar Chavez, UFW president. Reporting to the Group Executive are the General Managers of four divisions: Social Marketing, Recruitment Marketing, Public Relations, and Donor Marketing.

"We needed to make adjustments to keep pace with the new marketing methods business and advertising are using," Chavez said. "It was a case of

'do or die' if we intended to keep the farm worker cause moving ahead."

Social Marketing

One of the new divisions is Social Marketing, headed by Rev. Chris Hartmire, general manager. Under this division are such programs as telemarketing, the direct-mail program, advertising, and research. The primary goal of this division in the present life of the farm worker movement is to win the UFW's international boycott of table grapes.

"Practically everything we are now doing is directed to winning the boycott," Hartmire said. "If we don't do that, we won't have any union to do social marketing for."

One of the key elements in this division is research. In addition to reaching boycott supporters through mailings and by telephone and personal contact, much prior research and testing have to be done. "Spraying mailings all over the country isn't going to produce much support," Hartmire said. "We have to target the people most likely to help us and then reach them as efficiently and as inexpensively as possible."

Recruitment

A second division of the Marketing Group is recruitment, headed by its general manager, Roberto de la Cruz. This division emphasizes, not surprisingly, the recruitment of volunteers who are concerned about helping farm workers.

"For the first time in our movement's history, we have developed a wide-ranging program that will attract good candidates, that meets their personal needs while they work with us, that orientates them to our move-



Roberto de la Cruz, general manager of the Recruitment Marketing Department



Armando Garcia, general manager of Public Relations.

ment, and that trains them for positions they are interested in," De la Cruz said.

Public Relations

The third division under the Marketing Group is Public Relations, with Armando Garcia serving as its general manager. The primary items in this division are films and filmstrips, video and audio cassettes, and a variety of printed materials. This division presently produces monthly publications for farm workers (*El Malcriado*) and supporters (*Food and Justice*).

"We are probably the least-developed division of the Marketing Group now, but we're off and running, and in a few more months there'll be no stopping us," Garcia said.

Donor Marketing

Under the umbrella of the fourth division, Donor Marketing, headed by Arturo Rodriguez, general manager and also a member of the union's national executive board, are such programs as union leaders' media tours, visiting groups, the solidarity membership drive (see following page), a speakers' bureau, boycott endorsements, and the boycott pledge card program.

"Nearly everything we do right now is aimed at winning the table grape boycott, and we love it," Rodriguez said. "But we also want to win that fast so we can get going on a lot of good projects that are now on hold because of it." ▼



Arturo Rodriguez, general manager of the Donor Marketing Department.

UFW Opens Membership to Supporters

The United Farm Workers recently announced a new program which will allow union supporters to become union members.

The program was initiated because many supporters have asked how they can become members of the union and help the table grape boycott campaign. The Solidarity Membership program was designed to meet this need.

Arturo Rodriguez, national executive board member and general manager of the Donor Marketing department, is in charge of the program. He explained, "Through weekly contributions to 'The Wrath of Grapes' campaign, groups and individuals can become associate members of the union."

Rodriguez noted that the Los Angeles County Labor Federation has already become a member, as well as individuals in New York, New Mexico, California and Texas. "Initial reaction to the program has been very

positive," he said.

In exchange for weekly contributions, supporters receive union recognition and union publications. They also receive something more important.

"The program will allow supporters to become actively involved,"

Rodriguez said. "It will bring consumers and farm workers together. It will not only help farm workers with their cause, but it will also help consumers because the boycott is for consumers too."

The classifications for the group solidarity membership are: Golden Eagle Membership (\$25 per week); Silver Eagle Membership (\$10 per week); Black Eagle Membership (\$5 per week).

The classifications for individual solidarity membership are as follows: Golden Eagle membership (\$10 per week); Silver Eagle Membership (\$5 per week); and Black Eagle Membership (\$1 per week). ♡

UFW Produces New Boycott Film--Actor Mike Farrell Narrates



Amalia Larios, born with a piece of her spine missing, is just one victim of pesticide abuse featured in the UFW's new film.

The United Farm Workers now has available a new film -- "The Wrath of Grapes" -- professionally produced with narration by actor Mike Farrell, well known for his role in the TV series "M.A.S.H."

The dynamic and moving film graphically illustrates the extent to which grape growers have gone to prevent farm workers from participating in free and fair elections. One scene includes dramatic footage of company thugs destroying a polling place and terrorizing farm workers and state agents during an election.

There is also a moving interview with Dolores Lopez, whose 21-year-old son Rene was murdered by a company agent shortly after leaving a polling place during a state-supervised election.

Most of the film, however, focuses on growers' reckless use of dangerous pesticides and their threat to farm workers and consumers. "The Wrath of Grapes" takes the viewer into the fields to see the effects of pesticide spraying on farm workers. Then the

viewer goes into the homes of two farm worker families tragically affected by pesticides. One child, four-year-old Amalia Larios, will never walk because she was born with a piece of her spine missing. Her mother worked in fields sprayed with deadly pesticides in the first months of her pregnancy.

The film also points out the dangers of pesticide residues to consumers and the pesticide threat to residents of towns bordering fields full of pesticides.

Farm labor leader Cesar Chavez, interviewed in the film, says this madness has to be stopped and can be if consumers join the boycott and pressure growers into agreeing to stop using these deadly pesticides.

The 14-minute color film is available in 3/4" video, 1/2" VHS video, and 16 mm. For more information on "The Wrath of Grapes" film, please write: Cesar Chavez, P.O. Box 62, Keene, CA 93531. ♡

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