

UFW needs your help

BOYCOTT CONTINUES

The purpose of this article is to make you more familiar with the issues concerning the grape and lettuce boycott. In 1971 a study uncovered:

- 800 U.S. farmworkers die of insecticide poisoning each year. There were 5729 severe poisonings in 1970.

- Average schooling is 8.6 years and 25 percent of farmworkers had 4 years or less of schooling.

- Despite the banning of child labor in 1938, one quarter of the farm labor force is children.

- Life expectancy of a U.S. farmworker is 49 years.- Farmworker families live in an average of 1.9 rooms; 90 percent of houses have no sinks, and 18 percent of the houses have no electricity.

- The farmworkers' chances of catching influenza, pneumonia, tuberculosis or other infectious diseases is three times the national average.

The farmworkers were left out of the National Labor Relations Act in 1935. This act granted the right to collective bargaining to most workers in the United States. The farmworkers were excluded from this act because of the power of the growers lobby. This means that the growers are not required by law to hold an election to let the workers choose a union. In May 1962 Caesar Chavez founded the Farmworkers Union. This union was founded to give the farmworkers some basic rights; a credit union, a small life insurance program, and a service center.

In early 1965 Caesar Chavez called a strike against the grape growers of California. The strike was broken as the growers hired

illegal workers to pick the grapes. In 1967 the UFW called an international grape boycott since the strike alone was not effective.

By 1970 the growers had suffered economically so they agreed to sign with the United Farmworkers Union. This was a great victory for the farmworkers. Drinking water, toilet facilities and rest breaks were a few of the changes which were provided for the farmworkers. Hiring halls also were set up by the union to eliminate labor contractors who were the middlemen taking cuts from the farmworkers wages. Limitations were imposed on the use of pesticides.

After the grape contracts were signed, the UFW approached the lettuce growers to tray and organize their workers. The growers announced that they had signed with the Tamsters. A lettuce strike and boycott followed.

In April 1973, all these well needed benefits came abruptly to an end, when the grape growers without consulting the farmworkers signed with the Tamsters. On April 16, 1973 the strike and grape boycott began again. Workers picketed in the fields and held rallies to win their rights. Teamster goons were sent in and paid \$67.00 a day to break the strike. They beat and harassed the workers. In August, mass arrests of striking farmworkers were made. August 17, 1973 Caesar Chavez called off the strike after two fatalities. Many of the grape workers then left the fields and travelled into cities to gain support for the boycott. Three of these farmworkers came to Montreal in Dec. '73.

As the situation now stands, it is very important for Canadians to become aware, and to support the grape and lettuce boycott. Montreal is the growers fifth largest market for their grapes and lettuce. Ninety-five percent of the grapes sold in Canada are from California. People in the United States are aware and many are supporting the boycott. As a result, the growers are sending more of their grapes and lettuce into Canada. Dominion is the largest chain of stores in Canada. Our job is to convince them that their shoppers (YOU), do not want Dominion to carry California grapes and iceberg lettuce. If they still continue to carry the boycotted products, we aim to convince the shoppers through petitions and picket lines not to shop at Dominion. On Campus at JAC, we are now quite successfully gaining support with the students and some staff members. We have not, however, been as successful with Steve Olive, the head of the cafeteria at Stewart Hall. People from John Abbott and a representative from the UFW explained to him the deplorable conditions of the farmworkers, and asked for his help but he refused to stop carrying the boycotted grapes and lettuce... To conclude there will be a meeting Wednesday, Nov. 6th at 1:00 PM in Stewart 148 to plan further activities in support of the boycott. All are invited to attend. For further information contact Debbie Miller, the UFW organizer for the West Island at 695-7791, local 35, or Jim Christie, Laird 222.

Sandy Smart

JATV News Unconventional

If you've got a negative attitude towards television, maybe JAC's very own T.V. news service could change your mind.

Its weekly show, "The News at Noon," is an opportunity for students to publicize activities, become familiar with the John Abbott community and air any gripes they have.

According to John Lehman, Coordinator for the Television News Service, it's important for students to differentiate between conventional T.V. and the News Service.

"Using it in this way is fundamentally different from commercial T.V. because it's dealing with your own community and what you're doing. We're trying to use television in a way that will bring it back into touch on a grassroots level."

The students involved with the news service (about 20 so far) meet

every Monday morning to discuss the shows, and plan the week's shooting. There's always room for more participants; even those who don't want to get involved from a technical point of view can use the service as a voice for their views. Anyone who has a gripe, can come to the TV studio (K-30) Wednesday mornings at 11:00 to express their opinion on camera. In addition, anyone who feels they would like to do an editorial on some topic is free to use the T.V. News Service to do so.

The T.V. show is on every day this week at noon: at Kirkland, in the lounge area; at Macdonald, in the Stewart Lobby.

Since the service is brand-new this year, its role must be defined by the student community. Everyone can make use of it, and it can be a voice for everyone.

Barbara Crook



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they receive the student activity fees that the college collects for them.

When the Association submitted their constitution to the Board, the Board decided that they would not approve it unless a clause giving the administration of the College control over the finances of the Association was added.

The constitution has yet to be approved by the Board of Governors but with the consent of the Students Association the control of the money has already been handed over to Brockhurst.

Robin Lissak, newly elected Treasurer of the Association was unconcerned by this situation and commented that the Association is on "excellent terms" with the administration and that, "there

has been a nice transition of responsibility from the administration to the students."

PART OF A TREND

The situation at Snowdon is part of a trend in English CEGEP's towards more direct control of student money by the administrations of the colleges rather than by the students.

At Champlain College this year the administration backed down from a plan that would have seen the student activity fees remaining in the college's bank account after strong protests were made by the student council there.

Students at the Ste. Croix campus of Vanier College are being confronted with the same issue now, as representatives of the administration attempt to insert clauses giving the college control over the student funds in the constitution they are now writing.

The paper, the Snowdon Associated Press, was threatened with a complete cutoff of funds unless they gave Brockhurst all the pictures and negatives of the accident and submitted to him the article that they wrote for censorship.

Brockhurst claimed that he censored the report of the accident to protect the students involved from further distress and wanted to keep the pictures for the "insurance companies."

Brockhurst said that he has a responsibility to use his control over the student activity fees to, "stop potential problems for the college," and that if the paper had printed the pictures of the accident that there would be "adverse reactions" to the College.

Any requisition of over \$200. of the activity fees has to be approved by Brockhurst by order of the Vanier Board of Governors, who argue that they would be responsible if any student organization got into trouble and therefore should have control over them.

Neil McGillivray CUP



BOYCOTT U.S. TABLE GRAPES AND HEAD LETTUCE (unless you see the UFW label)



CHAMPLAIN Administration Being Purged

The purge of the administration of Champlain College in St. Lambert on the South Shore continued this week with the firing of Campus Principal, Guy Gauthier, by the Executive committee of the Board of Governors. Gauthier was accused of "Mismanagement" of the College by the Director-General, Dr. Brian Ash.

The principal reason for Gauthier's dismissal was the bungling of a nursing program that was to have begun in September at Champlain. Due to administrative blunders on the part of Gauthier and other administrators the program was never officially approved by the Order of Quebec Nurses and was cancelled in September after 70 students had enrolled in the course. Through

extensive negotiations the students were transferred to nursing programs at Dawson and Vanier Colleges.

Gauthier has been Campus Director at the St. Lambert Campus since its beginning three years ago and since the time has got a reputation for being non-progressive and anti-student in the college community.

One year ago Gauthier was responsible for a plan to overcrowd the newly built facilities in St. Lambert to try and force the completion of the buildings by the Quebec government. Last year the college operated with no recreational facilities and only enough studying space for 12 of its 900 students.

Gauthier was also responsible for the implementation of a

regulation under which two students were expelled for smoking hashish in the student lounge, earning Champlain the reputation of a reactionary and backward college.

A feud had also developed last year between Gauthier and Fred Turley the former Director-General of Champlain. The feud resulted in a breakdown in communication between the St. Lambert campus and the central administration in Sherbrooke.

In an editorial in the student newspaper, the Champlain Bugle, commented last year, "The trade off of insults, petty complaints, accusations and counter-accusations demonstrates the degree to which the administration of the college has degenerated." Gauthier is the second ad-

ministrators at Champlain to be fired in less than a month. The first was Adrien Groenenburg, the former head of Campus Services at the college.

Groenenburg resigned at the request of Ash at the end of October because Ash felt that he was not doing his job properly. Groenenburg was also at the college from the beginning and will continue to teach for the rest of the year, part-time in the evening.

Groenenburg was also viewed by may as one of the reactionary elements at the college. Last year Groenenburg refused to sign a petition that was signed by all the working staff under him for more adequate working conditions.

Gauthier was also asked to resign by Ash on the condition that if he doesn't he will be fired.