



hear the children

714½ s. saint clair street, toledo, oh 43609 phone 419-243-3456

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National Assembly of
Religious Women
Church Women United
New York, NY

Farm Labor Organizing Committee
Baldemar Velasquez, President

November 8, 1983

Dear Friend,

Child labor has plagued farm work in the United States for decades. In Ohio, as in California, farm workers are organizing to stop the abuse of children in America's fields. But this often overlooked tragedy can only be ended through public awareness and support.

The Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC), representing over 2,000 Ohio farm workers on strike in the fields contracted to the Campbell Soup Company, wants to alert the American public to the extent of child labor in Ohio's tomato and pickle fields. An adult field worker in Ohio earns an average hourly wage one dollar below the national minimum; hence, thousands of small children each year are forced into hazardous work to help support their families.

Long hours in the hot sun, use of heavy machinery and exposure to dangerous chemicals make agricultural work one of the three most hazardous occupations, according to the Department of Labor. The unhealthy conditions and difficult life are reflected in an infant mortality rate 125% to 300% above that of non-migrant children.

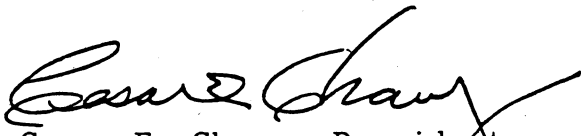
By working in the fields, farm worker children are denied an education and the opportunities enjoyed by most children. 80% of migrant children will not graduate from high school.

Over 20 years of organizing in California have shown us that the only way to protect the rights of farm worker children is through a union contract, and the boycott has been the farm workers' most powerful tool in winning contracts. The Farm Labor Organizing Committee does not want to ask the taxpayer for health and welfare assistance ...they want a contract with Campbell Soup.

For five years, FLOC has sought a contract which would provide wages high enough to end the poverty which necessitates child labor. Campbell Soup has continued to deny the farm workers union recognition; now, FLOC seeks support for their non-violent struggle through a consumer boycott of Campbell products.

It is important that people hear FLOC's story. We are asking you to give generously to the Hear the Children Campaign so that their message can be printed in major newspapers across the United States. We are asking that you distribute this flyer, encourage printing of a similar display in papers/newsletters and ask your colleagues and friends to join us in this informational effort.

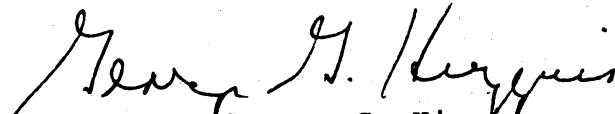
With your help and the help of others like you, the story of FLOC's struggle with Campbell Soup will reach millions of people; you will certainly have helped FLOC win a contract which will protect farm worker children from such tragic abuse.



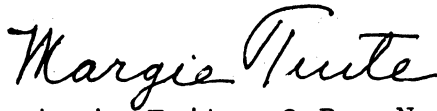
Cesar E. Chavez, President
United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO



Baldemar Velasquez, President
Farm Labor Organizing Committee



Rev. Msgr. George G. Higgins
Catholic University of America



Marjorie Tuite, O.P., National Coordinator
National Assembly of Religious Women;
Director of Citizen Action, Church Women United

Make checks payable to FLOC/HEAR THE CHILDREN
Mail to 714½ South Saint Clair St., Toledo, OH 43609

Flyers can be obtained from the same address.



City of Cambridge

7.

IN CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILLOR D. SULLIVAN

March 19, 1984

- WHEREAS: The heroic striking of tomato workers in Ohio, Indiana and Michigan seeks to end the poverty, insecurity and indignity of farmworkers employed in one of the nation's largest industries, agri-business; and
- WHEREAS: The Farm Labor Organizing Committee, under the dedicated leadership of Baldemar Velasquez, by their steadfast courage and devotion have succeeded in winning a significant beachhead of union organization; and
- WHEREAS: Farmworkers and their families are unemployed and under-employed much of the year, piecing together jobs in various seasonal crop activities, isolated from the mainstream of community life, encased in insecurity and poverty, subjected to indignity, excluded from most unemployment insurance and most social legislation safeguards, deprived of educational opportunities for their children; and are without adequate housing, health care, sanitation and community services; and
- WHEREAS: Ethnic and racial predjudice and discrimination have been imposed upon farmworkers because most are Mexican-American or members of other minority groups; and
- WHEREAS: The rights of farmworkers to form unions and to engage in collective bargaining under orderly procedures are not protected by law; and
- WHEREAS: The National Farm Worker Mininsty, which relates to the National Council of Churches, sponsors Farm Worker Week annually to acknowledge the contributions of our nations farmworkers and to recognize their struggles for justice; therefore be it
- RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council proclaim April 29th - May 6th, Farm Worker Week in the city of Cambridge; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council stands firmly in support of the boycott of the Campbell Soup Company and urges schools, institutions and residents, for the sake of human dignity, to do the same.

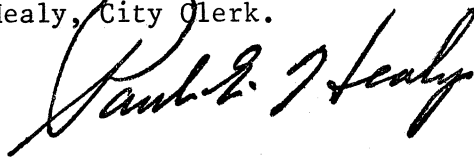
In City Council March 19, 1984.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of 7 members.

Attest:- Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Paul E. Healy", written over a horizontal line.

Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

Order # 7

S-165

C.D. Sullivan re: resolutions proclaiming
the week of April 29, 1984 to May 6, 1984
"Farm Worker Week in the City of Cambridge"
& supporting the boycott of the Campbell
Soup Company.

In City Council,

March 19, 1984

3/19/84

CDS
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