

Interfaith Forum Airs UFW - Gallo Conflict

By PAT PETRASKE

Members of the Interfaith Coalition were barraged with conflicting statements Thursday night at an ecumenical forum featuring representatives of the United Farm Workers Union (UFW) and the E. and J. Gallo Wine Corporation.

The issue was the nationwide consumer boycott of Gallo products called for by the UFW. "In an effort to be open and to get at the facts," the debate was arranged to bring the issue to a wider church community, said Father Daniel Torney, assistant to the director of the diocesan Office of Human Development and moderator of the discussion.

Father John Mulligan, chairman of the social action committee of the Priests Council, attended as a representative of Bishop Joseph L. Hogan, who had asked for an investigation of the boycott. Father Mulligan also was considering whether he should ask the Priests Council to support the boycott.

The National Conference of Catholic Bishops, along with the National Council of Churches, the Priests and Sisters Council and other church groups have endorsed only the boycott of non-UFW lettuce and table grapes. Father Mulligan explained that the Gallo wine controversy surfaced after the bishops' meeting last November. He said there might be a "moral union" of the three issues.

The question of morality was raised by George Frank, regional vice president of the Gallo Corporation, who told those gathered at Blessed Sacrament Parish "to find some proof of legal, moral or ethical injustices so that in your conscience you can boycott this company."

The UFW's attempts to organize the more than 200,000 primarily Mexican-American farm workers in California began

in 1957. In 1967 the UFW won a card check election with Gallo. With the UFW, led by Cesar Chavez, came the use of a hiring hall instead of the labor contractor system. Dolores Huerta, first vice president of the UFW, said that the union also worked for increased toilet facilities, bans on certain pesticides and on child labor, and the establishment of a health and safety committee and a credit union.

In 1970 contracts were renewed between Gallo and the UFW, but three years later when the contracts again expired, Gallo signed with the Teamsters Union. Gallo spokesman Frank said the UFW contract proposals had declared the hiring hall, union discipline and seniority to be "non-negotiable."

Negotiations broke down on these points. Frank said the Teamsters then presented a petition signed by the workers requesting representation by the Teamsters. "Prior to verification of these signatures, the UFW called for a strike," Frank said.

A majority of the signatures were verified before the Teamster contracts were signed, he said. The Fresno Bee Sept. 1, 1974 reported that Gallo acknowledged the strikers did not vote on the Teamster contract. The ratification process took place among the workers who were then employed by Gallo. The strikers had been fired.

The crux of the issue was summed up in a letter written by Bishop Hugh Donahoe of the diocese of Fresno, Calif. to Ernest Gallo, president of the winery.

"We believe the principal emphasis should be on legislation. The legislation we favor centers on the basic issue elections by secret ballot to determine which, if any union, the farm workers desire," he said.

If the farm workers were covered by the National Labor Relations Act, free elections



DOLORES HUERTA

would be held when 30 per cent of the workers produced union cards. The UFW opposes coverage by the NLR because it prohibits secondary boycotts and requires a 90-day "cooling off" period. If this period fell during the picking season, it would be disastrous for the workers, Mrs. Huerta said.

Kearney Carnival

The sixth annual Kearney Carnival will open at 6:30 p.m. tomorrow with a parade from the Ironquoit Town Hall to Bishop Kearney High School, led by the school's Marching Kings.

The four-day affair is sponsored by the parents' clubs of the school, in their effort to raise enough money to keep the tuition stable.

Friday evening, Sept. 26, the grounds will open at 6, and a fish fry will be served, 5-7, in the cafeteria. A special feature Saturday and Sunday afternoons, 1-5, will be a \$2 ticket for unlimited turns on the various carnival rides. Spaghetti supper will be served Saturday, 5-7 p.m.



GEORGE FRANK

She estimated that approximately 150,000 farm workers are now card carrying members of the UFW and 7,000 to 8,000 are out on strike in various produce areas.

Locally the United Farmworkers Support Committee has been pressuring liquor stores to stop the sale of Gallo wine. A

CHILDREN'S SHOW

The Performing Arts Club at Aquinas Institute will play Puss in Boots Saturday morning, Sept. 28, especially for children in grades K-5. Curtain time is 11 a.m.

SUNDAY BREAKFAST

A pancake breakfast will be served from 9:30 until noon Sunday, Sept. 29, at Our Lady of Mercy High School.

SCOUTS TO CAMP AT ST. BERNARD'S

Hundreds of Rochester Boy Scouts will camp on the St. Bernard's Seminary grounds this weekend, Sept. 27-29. Troops from Syracuse and Oswego will join them for a "Reach Out" retreat given by the seminarians.

spokesman for Century Liquors, the largest distributor of Gallo products in the area, said an agreement has been reached between the store management and the support committee that had been picketing in front of the store. Century Liquors has agreed to keep only representative Gallo items on the shelves and to remove the large displays.

IRISH NIGHT

An evening of Irish entertainment will be offered at Mother of Sorrows parish hall, 5000 Mt. Read, on Saturday, Sept. 28, beginning at 8:30. Proceeds (\$3 per person) will be used to equip the Rovers Junior Soccer Team.

A. W. BEILBY & SON
Funeral Home
 139 Walnut St.
 Dial 936-9121
 Corning, N. Y.

Attention General Motors* People

You owe it to yourself and to your family to find out about the Wilson Health Center and pre-paid Group Practice.

General Motors is making it possible for its employees to join Group Health—a Blue Cross & Blue Shield Contract option which guarantees to provide and cover virtually every health care need.

Health care is delivered at the Wilson Health Center, 800 Carter Street.

At the Wilson Health Center, physician specialists and other health professionals work as a team to provide personalized, comprehensive health services to every member of the family.

"If you don't work for General Motors, come to the Open Houses anyway. Contact your Personnel Office where you work to find out how you can join Group Health."

Joseph C. Wilson Health Center
 Carter Street and Keeler Street Expressway (U.S. Route 104), adjacent to Rochester General Hospital



Visit the Wilson Health Center

Group Health is extending an invitation to all GM employees to visit the Wilson Health Center.

Drop in during these hours to:

- Tour the facilities
- Learn how members choose a personal physician from the Medical Group
- Ask questions about Group Health and what it means to you

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, September 29
 2:00-5:00 p.m.
 Every Wednesday Evening
 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Genesee Valley
Group Health
 Association
 A Subsidiary of
 Blue Cross and Blue Shield

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

- QUALITY STANDARDS
- DIGNITY IN SERVICE
- INTEGRITY IN BUSINESS

F. H. McELWEE
 Funeral Home, Inc.
 Phone 394-2220
 Leo M. Bean
 Francis H. McElwee
 200 Buffalo St., Canandaigua, N.Y.
 90 E. Main St., Victor, N.Y.

HARLOFF 586-5948
Funeral Home ST. JEROME'S PARISH
 E. ROCHESTER

BURNS-HANNA
FUNERAL HOME
 1795 Ridge Rd. E. 467-5745

Paul W. Harris
 FUNERAL HOME INC.
 570 Kings Highway South (corner Titus)

SPACIOUS PARKING Private casket selection room. 544-2041 AIR CONDITIONED