



May 30th had been named as National Grape Boycott Day in Canada and had been endorsed by the United Church of Canada and the Canadian Labour Congress. With the signing of contracts in April and May, the National Day had an overriding atmosphere of celebration and appreciation.

Five hundred people gathered on Toronto's Centre Island on May 30th to share in an afternoon of music and games that was the Toronto Boycott Office's expression of thanks to the city's people for their continued understanding and support of the farm workers' struggle.

"Gracias, Toronto Day" began with three car caravans, starting from different sections of the city and lead by a number of municipal and provincial political figures. The caravans converged on the Toronto waterfront where ferries took the demonstrators over to Centre Island, a beautiful public park three miles out onto Lake Ontario.

Folk, soul and Mexican music helped create the feeling of jubilation for the appearance of the first union label grapes in Toronto.



Above: Daughter of Manuel Rivera proudly marches on Boycott Day.

Right: Petra Salgado samples the first union grapes in Toronto, from the David Freedman Company of Cochrane.



victory.

Brief remarks from various community, labor, church and political leaders and the presentation of a framed union label to a representative of Toronto's Mayor re-committed the community to see this struggle through to total success.

The entertainment highlight of a five afternoon was the breaking of the pinata.

Petra directed the construction of a five foot grape bunch, each grape containing candy and peanuts. Combining Mexican and Canadian cultures, the pinata ceremony, run by Alfredo de Avila of the Buffalo, N.Y. boycott, found the Cana-

dian youngsters using hookey stick and their best slap shot technique to fnes the candy.

Park officials, cautiously uninvolved in the physical preparation until the Mayor's office cleared away much mud tape claimed the afternoon was one of the most successful occurrences the island has ever hosted.

In Vancouver, Pam Smith, UFWOC Boycott Director, used the May 30th designation to kick off the summer campaign against Safeway. Two hundred supporters formed ten picket lines before adjourning to Stanley Park for a picnic. Virginia Jones of the Portland, Oregon, boycott joined the Vancouver celebration.

In Montreal, Jessica Govea organized a massive roving picket line that totaled over 200 at times and visited five Dominion stores, concluding the day's activity outside of the Quebec division headquarters. A street theatre group traveled with the picket line on a flat-bed truck, performing a skit depicting economic links binding the growers and the supermarket.

Additional activities on the 30th were held in the British Columbia cities of Victoria, Prince George, Prince Rupert, and Nanaimo.