

James A. Nash
July 26, 1973

AN INTERPRETIVE CHRONOLOGY
of
A Fact-Finding Trip
on the UFW Strike
in California by Massachusetts
Religious Leaders

In response to a telegram from Cesar Chavez of the United Farm Workers Union, requesting Massachusetts religious leaders to come to California to help restore the morale of his striking union members, a delegation from the Bay State journeyed to the San Joaquin Valley to obtain a first-hand view of the labor strife among grape growers, the Western Conference of the Teamsters Union, and the United Farm Workers. The delegation was composed of

The Rt. Rev. John M. Burgess - Bishop, Protestant Episcopal
Diocese of Massachusetts

Bishop Edward G. Carroll - Resident Bishop of the Boston Area,
The United Methodist Church

The Rev. Canon Theodore F. Jones - Canon to the Ordinary, Protestant
Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

The Rev. Avery D. Post - Minister and President, Massachusetts
Conference of the United Church of Christ

The Rev. C. Joseph Sprague - General Secretary, Massachusetts
Council of Churches

The Rev. Harry H. Hoehler - President, Massachusetts Council
of Churches and representing the
Massachusetts Bay District, Unitarian-
Universalist Association

The Rev. Darrell Holland, Director of Communications for the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ, and the Rev. James Nash, Director of Social Relations in the Mass. Council of Churches accompanied the delegation as staff. The delegation had been briefed thoroughly beforehand on the facts and issues in this labor controversy.

The group was greeted at the Los Angeles airport at noon, Sunday, July 22 by the Rev. Chris Hartmire of the National Farm Worker Ministry, who arose, against doctor's orders, from a sick bed to meet us. Chris provided us with further briefing materials and directions.

Following an auto trip over the mountains to Lamont, we were briefed in the Lamont Field Office of the United Farm Workers by Fr. John Banks, a member of the National Farm Worker Ministry and press officer for the United Farm Workers. John outlined the current situation concerning UFW strategy and