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CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
SYNDICAT CANADIEN DE LA FONCTION PUBLIQUE

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September 3, 1986

RECEIVED

SEP 10 1986

TO ALL CUPE CHARTERED ORGANIZATIONS

UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEES
UNION (C.U.P.E.)

RE: Support for Gainers Boycott

As you've no doubt read and heard, the 1,080 employees of Gainers meats in Edmonton (members of the United Food and Commercial Workers Union) have been on strike since June 1st. Their goal is for wage parity with other workers in the meat packing industry, but in actual fact their fight is for survival against one of the most anti-union employers in the country (Peter Pocklington).

Alberta's labour laws - probably the worst in the country - do not obligate employers to take back striking employees once a strike is over. Gainers employees have, therefore, no job protection and in fact are referred to by Pocklington as his «ex-employees».

These sisters' and brothers' jobs are on the line, and they're fighting back hard. They've had solid support from the labour movement, and we're pleased to say that CUPE has been in the forefront of that support. But we can do even more.

Right now our major task is to ensure that the CLC's national boycott of Gainers products becomes a success, and hits Pocklington where it hurts most - in his profits. CUPE locals and members can help by boycotting Gainers themselves, and convincing their friends and relatives to do the same.

Jeff Rose
National President
Président national

Jean-Claude Laniel
National Secretary-Treasurer
Secrétaire-trésorier national

Benoit Doyon
Mike Dumler
Lucie Nicholson
Tom O'Leary
Jack Rodie
General Vice-Presidents
Vice-présidents généraux

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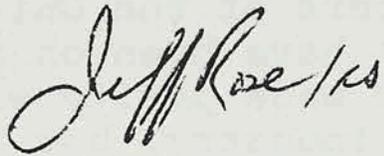
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The attached leaflet tells you all about their struggle, and lists the products to be boycotted. Please make your members aware of it by posting the leaflet at your workplaces and union offices. More copies of the leaflet are available at UFCW offices across the country.

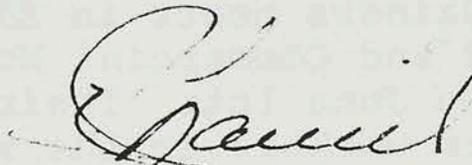
As always, we know we can count on your active support.

Thanks!

Yours fraternally,



JEFF ROSE
National President



JEAN-CLAUDE LANIER
National Secretary-Treasurer

P.S. CUPE National has sent a donation of \$10,000 to the UFCW National Defence Fund for the Gainers strikers, and locals wishing to add to this should forward their donations to:

UFCW National Defence Fund
300 - 61 International Blvd.
REXDALE, Ontario
M9W 6K4

:gd/opeiu 491
Att.

Boycott Gainers-Swifts meat products

SWIFTS BACON — Premium, Lazy Maple, Sugar Plum, Capital, Eversweet, Royal Breakfast, Sunny Morning, I.G.A.

OTHER BACONS — Superior, Freirich, Royale, Capital, H.R.I., Hickory House, Food Services, Holiday, Sunshine, Denver, Royal Breakfast, Sierra, Armour, Alberta Gold.

HAMS — Homesteader, Superior Dinner Hams, Captain Cabin, Royale, Alberta Gold, Lazy Maple.

MEATLOAF — Superior (Red & Gold Label).

SMOKED MEATS — Premium Corned Beef Brisket, Royale Pork, Superior Porks.

PARTY STICKS/SMOKED MEATS — Superior, Alberta Gold.

THIN SLICED MEATS — Safeway, Royale.

WEINERS — Firebrand Pork, Firebrand Beef, Smokies, Alberta Gold, Superior, Premium.

SMOKED HAMS — Superior, Sugar Plum.

RINGS — Superior Blood Sausage, Fine & Coarse, Garlic & Bolo.

BOLO — Superior & Salami.

PACKAGED PRODUCTS — Magic Pantry

FROZEN PRODUCTS — Brown'n' Serve Sausages

CANNED MEATS — Swifts Prem Luncheon Meat, Holiday Luncheon Meat, Swifts Cooked Ham.

All packaged meats sold in Canada bear this small government inspection label. The number in the label indicates the plant where the meat was produced. The number for Gainers, Edmonton is **18B**. You can use this number to identify the Gainers products sold in your store.

For more information, or to borrow the video documentary **You Can't Jail the Strike** on the Gainers strike, contact the UFCW, 61 International Blvd., Rexdale, Ontario M9W 6K4 (416) 675-1104



Thank you

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Please don't buy Gainers meat products

Every time you buy packaged meats at your grocer we ask you to avoid purchasing the Gainers brand names listed on the other side of this sheet.

Here's why

The 1,080 employees of Gainers meats in Edmonton, Alberta went on strike on June 1, 1986. Their demand is for a contract which brings them up to parity with other workers in the meatpacking industry.

They aren't asking for huge wage increases. They want a raise of 51 cents in their base rate this year, bringing it up to \$12.50 per hour. They want a further increase of 52 cents next year. And they want their new hire rate increased from \$7.00 to \$9.37 per hour.

Gainers owner, Peter Pocklington, wants to get rid of the employees' union by replacing them with non-union workers. He has been granted an injunction to limit picketing at Gainers so that he can bus

strikebreakers into his plant. He refers to the strikers as his "ex-employees" and says he'll never negotiate with a union again.

The men and women on the Gainers picket line have resisted Pocklington's attempts to liquidate their union. They've been arrested by the hundreds as they peacefully demonstrate outside the plant. But the Edmonton police say they'll continue to enforce Pocklington's injunction.

You can help the strikers out by using your buying power to let Pocklington know he **must** negotiate with the union which represents his employees. The striking workers at Gainers thank you for your support.

**Support our fight for parity
Boycott Gainers products**



United Food and Commercial Workers International Union
Region 18 — Canada

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