

NEWSLETTER FROM DR. BEN YELLEN
Brawley, Calif.

October 1, 1968

NEWS BLACKOUT

American Newspaper Publishers Assoc.
750 Third Ave. New York, N.Y.

American Society of Newspaper
Editors
750 Third Ave. New York, N.Y.

Dear Sirs:

From time to time, your organizations give out howls of anguish accusing others of destroying a Free Press. For instance in the Los Angeles Times of April 18, 1968, there is an article via Associated Press with the title, "CREDIBILITY GAP WIDER, NEWSPAPER EDITORS SAY" in which the American Society of Newspaper Editors charges the President Johnson Administration of deception whereby the functions of a FREE PRESS is impaired so that the people can not learn the truth from your newspapers.

Your organizations like to assume a halo of Civic Virtue to make people believe that you are the DEFENDERS OF THE TRUTH. But I have sent complaints to you about Franklin D. Schurz, the Publisher of the South Bend (Indiana) Tribune with a circulation of about 125,000 who has been running a PROSTITUTED PRESS in Imperial and Riverside counties to protect a RURAL MAFIA which has been swindling the people out of \$50 millions yearly. But as far as I know nothing has been done to stop Schurz for he is continuing along the same line.

You editors just love to print Italian names when there is a racket going on in the big cities. But you do not have the guts to tackle rural racketeers who have Anglo-Saxon names and who have a college education.

Now I am not picking on some small town Editor and Publisher who is operating on a shoe string and has to knuckle under to the power structure. I am talking about a big wheel in your industry, Franklin D. Schurz who is on the Executive Committee of the Associated Press, a member of the American Newspaper Publishers Assoc. and the American Society of Newspaper Editors. Small town rural Editors and Publishers do not belong to these organizations.

Prior to Schurz, another big wheel in your industry, Virgil Pinkley was the Editor and Publisher of the very same newspapers, the Indio News, the Brawley News, and the El Centro Post-Press. Pinkley protected the RURAL MAFIA also and I originated the phrase PINKLEY'S PROSTITUTED PRESS to give a concise description of what he was doing.

Pinkley was manager of United Press in London during World War II. After the War, he became the Editor of the Los Angeles Mirror which was the afternoon sister paper of the Los Angeles Times. So he was no small town rural Editor struggling to keep his newspapers from going under. I complained about Pinkley also but your organizations never did anything about him. If they belong to your organizations, THEY ARE THE UNTOUCHABLES AND NO COMPLAINTS ARE PUBLICIZED BUT YOU ARE A BUNCH OF LOUD MOUTHS WHEN YOU ACCUSE OTHERS NOT IN YOUR INDUSTRY OF DISTORTING THE NEWS, LIES, DECEPTIONS, ETC.

Now another big wheel, Herb Klein of the San Diego Union is pulling the same stunts. Klein belongs to the A.S.N.E. and the Copley Press, a big chain, belongs to the A.N.P.A. Herb Kein in 1960 left his job as Editor of the San Diego Union, circulation 215,000 and was the Press Chief for Richard Nixon in the Presidential campaign. After Nixon's defeat, Klein returned to his job as Editor. Now in the 1968 campaign of Nixon, Mr. Klein is again the Press Chief for Nixon.

I, Dr. Ben Yellen, am the Democratic nominee for Assemblyman of the 75th District which consists of all of Imperial County and the Eastern 2/3 of Riverside County.

IT IS NOW 1 MONTH BEFORE ELECTION BUT HERB KLEIN'S SAN DIEGO UNION HAS NOT PRINTED ONE OF MY STATEMENTS ON THE ISSUES.

The San Diego Union pushes its circulation in Imperial County vigorously and has an entire page devoted to news of this County. My opponent Assemblyman Victor Veysey has many of his statements printed. Even the itinerary of Veysey is given. Yet on the day before election, the San Diego Union will crown itself with the halo of Civic Virtue and urge its readers to be sure and vote. HOW CAN THE READERS KNOW THE ISSUES AS I GIVE THEM IF HERB KLEIN AND THE SAN DIEGO UNION KEEP A COMPLETE NEWS BLACKOUT ON WHAT I SAY? Yet Herb Klein is the sort of Press Chief Richard Nixon picks to put out the news for him in a Presidential campaign.

Franklin D. Schurz with his 2 papers in Imperial County also has a complete blackout on my statements so that the voters do not know the issues. YET THE FREEDOM FOUNDATION OF VALLEY FORGE HAS GIVEN AN AWARD FOR AMERICANISM TO THESE PROSTITUTED PAPERS. This Freedom Foundation is just as prostituted as SCHURZ'S PROSTITUTED PRESS.

In Riverside County, Schurz's paper, the Indio News also has kept a complete news blackout on my statements on the issues. The main newspaper of this County is the Riverside Enterprise published in the City of Riverside and has a circulation all over the County.

THE RIVERSIDE ENTERPRISE IS ALSO KEEPING A COMPLETE SILENCE ON MY STATEMENTS. THE 75TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT HAS 200,000 PEOPLE WHO ARE BEING KEPT IN IGNORANCE OF MY PLATFORM BY THE SAN DIEGO UNION, THE RIVERSIDE ENTERPRISE, AND SCHURZ'S PROSTITUTED PRESS.

The Publishers of the Enterprise are Howard H. Hays and Arthur A. Culver. The Editor is Howard H. Hays Jr. and the Associate Editor Norman Cherniss. This newspaper with its reporter George Ringwald received the Pulitzer Prize for 1967 for revealing an alleged exploitation of the Indians owning the Palm Springs land which as far as I can tell from reading the newspaper amounted to about 1 million over a ten year period.

Apparently, the Riverside Enterprise is not afraid to attack a few lawyers, a few judges, and a few businessmen in an alleged exploitation scheme amounting to 1 million in 10 years. But it has not got the guts to print my attacks on the big farm interests who are swindling the people of the 75th District out of 50 millions yearly.

The 75th Assembly District is part of the 38th Congressional District. Congressman John Tunney (Democrat) and his Republican opponent Bob Hunter have had many of their statements printed in the Enterprise, San Diego Union, and Schurz's 3 papers. Assemblyman Veysey is also well treated by these papers. The itineraries of these 3 politicians are printed by these newspapers.

Even Mrs. Terese Karmel, the Peace & Freedom candidate for Congress for the 38th District has had about 5 of her statements printed in the Enterprise although the San Diego Union and Schurz's papers have a news blackout on her. BUT NONE PRINT THE STATEMENTS OF DR. BEN YELLEN.

Why? Because I speak on issues that none of the other candidates discuss. Riverside and Imperial Counties rank 5th and 6th in the U.S. in agricultural production. THE BIG RANCHERS ARE THE POWER STRUCTURE. I tell how the corrupt Assessors of Riverside and Imperial Counties put fake low assessments on the farmland so that all big ranchers escape at least 50% of their taxes and Assemblyman Veysey, a big rancher escapes \$10,000.00 yearly. The rest of the people have to pay more taxes to make up for the big ranch interests. I tell about the \$14 millions electric swindle of the people. I tell about the violations of the U.S. Reclamation Law. I urge you to send investigators to see a NEWS BLACKOUT by your own members!!!

Yours truly, *Ben Yellen*
Ben Yellen, M.D.