

NEWS LETTER FROM DR. BEN YELLEN

Brawley, Calif.

January 7, 1961

DO YOU WANT A COTTON ALLOTMENT?

You little farmers have seen hundreds of your neighboring little farmers squeezed out by the big farm interests. You have watched helplessly wondering when your turn was to be next. I notice that almost all your sons leave for the cities on the coast because they and you feel that there is no place for them in farming in Imperial Valley.

THE IMPERIAL VALLEY FARM BUREAU HAS NOT PREVENTED THIS EXODUS OF SMALL FARMERS. The big farmers control the Farm Bureau.

NO SOLUTION HAS EVER BEEN OFFERED TO THE SMALL FARMERS TO MEET THE THREAT OF EXTINCTION FROM THE BIG CORPORATION FARMERS.

THE CALIFORNIA STATE GRANGE IS NOW ENTERING IMPERIAL VALLEY TO GIVE PROTECTION TO THE LITTLE FARMERS. IT HAS A DEFINITE PROGRAM.

Here is what they intend to do. Imperial Valley farming is under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Reclamation Laws. The big farmers by means of their propoganda and their control of the Imperial Irrigation District, have led you to believe otherwise.

The new Secretary of Agriculture is Governor Orville Freeman who is famous for protecting the little farmers from the onslaughts of the corporation farms. He is going to be notified how the big farms are violating the U.S. Reclamation Laws. He will be told that 99% of the cotton is grown by farms in violation of the U.S. Reclamation Laws. He will be asked to refuse to give cotton allotments to farms violating the U.S. Reclamation Laws.

As I estimate it, when the big corporation farms lose their cotton allotments, every little farmer will be able to get 40 to 100 acres allotment to grow cotton.

THIS MEANS A LOT OF MONEY TO THE LITTLE FARMERS. I know that most of you will spend this money in your nearby town. This will in turn help the town merchants who have been having very hard times. The big corporation farms took the profits out of the Valley. Since the big farms use 95% of the imported Mexican and Japanese laborers, none of this payroll remains here because the foreign workers send the money to Mexico and Japan for their dependents to spend.

**BUT YOU LITTLE FARMERS MUST UNITE!!!!!!**

YOU MUST JOIN THE CALIFORNIA STATE GRANGE WHICH CONSISTS OF SMALL FARMERS ONLY. Roughly speaking, anyone under 500 acres, is a small farmer.

The membership fee is \$5.00 per year. You get a Grange News every 2 weeks. There is group insurance, a credit union and many other features which will help you.

For information, contact me at 128 South 8th St. Brawley, Calif. or Mr. Jackson C. Raines, Executive Committeeman, P.O. Box 309, Yucaipa, Calif. or California State Grange, 2101 Stockton Boulevard, Sacramento, Calif. You will join an organization of 45,000 members.