

Oct. 29, 1968

HOW YOU ARE SWINDLED ON ELECTRICITY BILLS HERE

One of the main reasons that I, Dr. Ben Yellen, am running for Assemblyman of the 75th District, is to break up the \$14 millions yearly electricity swindle which is being perpetrated on 110,000 of the 200,000 people in this District by the RURAL MAFIA--THE BIG RANCHERS WHO ARE THE POWER STRUCTURE HERE.

This Newsletter is so important that I strongly urge the reader to be sure and pass it on to another voter. The RURAL MAFIA with its control of the newspapers and radio here just as is seen in Communist countries, has been keeping the people in ignorance of what is going on.

In this election campaign you can see how the RURAL MAFIA WORKS. Although I am running on the Democratic ticket, I want you rank and file Republicans and rank and file Democrats to notice that I attack in the same way both Democrat Big Ranchers and Republican Big Ranchers, Democrat Politicians and Republican Politicians, and even Labor Leaders, all of whom are part of this RURAL MAFIA or are allies of it.

I NAME NAMES AND GIVE THE AMOUNTS OF MONEY THEY GET OUT OF THEIR NEFARIOUS ACTIVITIES AGAINST THE PUBLIC WELFARE!!!

This gives you the explanation why in the past 4 months, you have not read any article in the newspaper giving my views on many serious matters and especially the \$14 millions yearly electricity swindle. You have not heard any radio broadcast giving my views. I had intended to use roadside billboards to bypass the CURTAIN OF SILENCE that the newspapers and radio have against me but BURNELL PHILLIPS, THE FATCAT LABOR BOSS who is on the Board of Directors of the Riverside National Bank, and Congressman John Tunney, who is an ALLY OF THE RURAL MAFIA, contrived so I would not get \$1,000.00 from the Committee of Political Education (COPE) of the AFL-CIO to use for roadside billboards. The Democratic candidate in 1966 got this \$1,000.00 from the labor unions BUT HE WAS NOT OPPOSED BY FATCAT PHILLIPS BECAUSE HE DID NOT TALK ON THE SAME ISSUES THAT I AM TALKING ABOUT IN THIS ELECTION CAMPAIGN LIKE THE ELECTRICITY SWINDLE, THE PROPERTY TAX EVASION BY THE BIG RANCHES BY MEANS OF FAKE LOW ASSESSMENTS, THE BIG HANDOUTS THE BIG RANCHERS RECEIVE FOR NOT GROWING COTTON, AND THE PROBLEM OF THE ABSENTEE LANDOWNERS WHO TAKE 70% OF THE FARMING PROFITS AWAY AND THE GREEN CARD COMMUTING MEXICAN WHO TAKES THE JOBS AWAY FROM DOMESTIC WORKERS. The absentee landowners and the greencard commuting Mexicans spend their profits and wages elsewhere so that the local merchants and businessmen have poor business.

Bob Hunter the opponent of Congressman Tunney is also an ally of the RURAL MAFIA. The only difference between him and Tunney is that Tunney has in addition FATCAT LABOR BOSS BURNELL PHILLIPS with him. State Senator Gordon Cologne (Republican) who is not running for office this year, IS ALSO AN ALLY OF THE RURAL MAFIA AND WILL NOT TALK ABOUT THE ELECTRICITY SWINDLE SO THAT THE PEOPLE ARE KEPT IN IGNORANCE.

James Griffen is also running for Congress against Tunney. He is not an ally of the RURAL MAFIA but unfortunately he is not speaking much on local issues.

MRS. TERESE KARMEL IS ANOTHER CANDIDATE FOR CONGRESS AGAINST TUNNEY WHO IS NOT AN ALLY OF THE RURAL MAFIA. SHE IS SPEAKING OUT AGAINST THE BIG RANCHERS' VIOLATION OF THE U.S. RECLAMATION LAW, THE ELECTRICITY SWINDLE AND THE OTHER RACKETS THAT THE RURAL MAFIA HAS BEEN USING TO EXTORT MONEY FROM ALL RANK AND FILE DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS AND THOSE BELONGING TO OTHER PARTIES OR ARE INDEPENDENT.

I heartily recommend that my supporters vote for her. She is well acquainted with Washington, D.C. for she graduated from George Washington University located there. She was an advertising manager for a chain of ladies wear shops and has also been associate editor of Army Times Publishing Co.

And now to the electricity swindle. It must be understood that investor owned electric power companies like Southern California Edison Co. pay property taxes, franchise taxes, Federal Income taxes, and State Income taxes. For example, suppose Southern Calif. Edison makes a profit of \$10 millions before income taxes. It must then pay a FEDERAL INCOME TAX OF \$4,800,000.00. So it has only \$5,200,000.00 left and then it has to pay a big Calif. State income tax.

Now let us suppose that at this moment, the Southern Calif. Edison Co. becomes a governmental agency like the Imperial Irrigation District is. If it continues to sell its electricity at the same price, IT WILL KEEP THE ENTIRE \$10 MILLIONS PROFIT FOR IT WILL NOT PAY ANY FEDERAL OR STATE INCOME TAX. As a matter of fact, it will have even more profits than \$10 millions for it does not pay any property taxes or franchise taxes.

The Imperial Irrigation District sells irrigation water and electricity. Before 1938, it only sold irrigation water and because it did not charge the correct price for the water, it was constantly bankrupt. It collected property taxes on land only, and that was the way it kept going before 1938. Then it went into the electric power business with loans of Federal money on which it paid no interest or very low interest. IT SOLD ITS ELECTRICITY AT RATES THAT AN INVESTOR OWNED ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY LIKE SOUTHERN CALIF. EDISON SELLS AT.

BUT THE IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT PAID NO INCOME TAXES OF ANY SORT! IT PAID NO KIND OF TAXES! SO IT MADE BIG PROFITS ON ITS ELECTRICITY BUSINESS.

Its electricity rates should be 1/3 of what they are. The irrigation water which should be sold at 4 times the present price, is not sold at the correct price. In other words, the buyers of electricity are paying 3 times the correct price to subsidize big ranchers like HEGGBLAU & MARGULEAS, KENNEDY BROS. & THE RUMMONDS BROS, ALL IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT OF RIVERSIDE COUNTY where this electricity swindle is going on. It is going on all over Imperial County.

In the area of Indio, Coachella, Thermal, Mecca, North Shore, etc. the electricity bill if \$30.00 should be \$10.00 if this swindling was not going on. A Kennedy and a Rummond are on the Board of Directors of the Coachella Valley County Water District with other ranchers and allies of the RURAL MAFIA!! THEY ARE IN A CONSPIRACY WITH THE I.I.D. TO SWINDLE THE PEOPLE WHILE THEY GET BELOW COST IRRIGATION WATER. It is interesting to note that the Kennedy Bros. get a handout of \$107,466.00 yearly and the Rummonds get \$68,356.00 yearly from the Federal Govt. FOR NOT GROWING COTTON. In addition, they get paid price supports on cotton and other crops they grow.

The people in the Palm Springs, Palm Desert areas etc. get Southern Calif. electricity for which the Calif. Public Utilities Commission decides the correct price. The Rummonds and the Kennedys decide the price in the Indio area to favor themselves. A Palm Spring resident pays \$18.04 per 1000 kWhrs & in Indio, one pays \$18.75 practically the same!