

October 12, 1965

# ARE THE BIG RANCHERS GIVING BRIBES TO THE INTERIOR DEPT?

Today, Oct. 12, 1965, there is going to be a dedication of the new executive office building of the Imperial Irrigation District which has been swindling the people of Imperial Valley for many years for the benefit of the big ranchers most of whom are absentee landowners. Absentee landowners own 70% of farmland here.

THERE IS GOING TO BE A CONVOCATION OF THE EXPLOITERS TO DO HONOR(?) TO THE EXPLOITERS WHO ARE DEAD. BUT THE CEREMONIES AS SCHEDULED WILL GIVE NO TRIBUTE TO THE LATE F.W. GREER WHOSE GREAT PUBLICITY WORK CHANGED THE OPINION OF THE CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES FROM DISAPPROVAL TO APPROVAL OF THE BUILDING OF THE BOULDER DAM AND THE ALL-AMERICAN CANAL. F.W. GREER WAS THE ONLY ONE OF THE PIONEERS WHO FOUGHT FOR THE DAM AND CANAL AND CONTINUED TO FIGHT TO GIVE THE BENEFITS TO THE LITTLE PEOPLE BY ENFORCEMENT OF THE 160 ACRES LIMITATION OF THE U.S. RECLAMATION LAW.

They are going to honor M.J. Dowd and Evan (Little Caesar) Hewes, two stooges of the big ranchers, who are mainly responsible locally for preventing the enforcement of the 160 acres limitation and for setting into motion the \$14 millions yearly swindle of the little people on electricity bills so that the big ranches can get below cost irrigation water.

Attending, will be NORTHCUTT ELY, the lawyer, who got Secretary of Interior Ray L. Wilbur, who was a physician ignorant of law, to sign a decision Feb. 24, 1933 saying that the farmland of the Imperial Irrigation District was not subject to enforcement of the 160 acres limitation. Secretary Wilbur is obliged before he can make any decision such as this TO GET A LEGAL OPINION FROM THE SOLICITOR (the chief lawyer) OF THE DEPT. OF INTERIOR. Northcutt Ely inveigled Secretary Wilbur, a physician, to sign without the Solicitor's Opinion. Northcutt Ely since that time has been receiving \$7,000 yearly from the I.I.D. (They call it a "retainer".) So Lobbyist Ely, the exploiter is going to honor his fellow exploiters M.J. Dowd and Little Caesar Hewes, both of whom gave Northcutt Ely their fullest cooperation.

Then there will be present Mathew Fiscaline, President, and Robert Durbin, Secretary-Manager, Irrigation Districts Association of Calif. This Association has on its Board of Directors BIG RANCHERS, and its policy is to prevent the enforcement of the 160 acres limitation. THIS ASSOCIATION IS THE LOBBYING ORGANIZATION FOR THE BIG FARMERS IN CALIFORNIA FOR MATTERS RELATING TO LAND AND WATER.

Then there is Allan Grant, the President of the California Farm Bureau Federation. He is a bigshot and is going to make a speech at this dedication. HIS ORGANIZATION IS BIG FARMER CONTROLLED AND ITS

POLICY IS AGAINST ENFORCEMENT OF THE 160 ACRES LIMITATION.

But why was not J.B. Quinn, the President of the Calif. State Grange whose policy is enforcement, not invited? Does not the I.I.D. want people of Imperial Valley to hear the argument for enforcement just as F.W. Greer used to make? THE I.I.D. SUPPRESSES FREE SPEECH!

And how about Jim Patton, President of the National Farmers Union which is for enforcement? Whatever good M.J. Dowd and Evan Hewes did in this world would be further dishonored WHEN THE ENTIRE DEDICATION IS TURNED INTO A BRAINWASHING ORGY OF BIG FARMER PROPAGANDA.

Then we have the other main speaker FLOYD E. DOMINY, Commissioner of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation of the U.S. Dept. of Interior. He is always too busy when Dr. Yellen goes to Washington, D.C. and desires a 30 minute conference to plead the case of the little farmers. Yet Dominy seems to have plenty of government time to waste coming here 3,000 miles for the dedication of a building he would not once look at if it were in Washington, D.C. Who is paying the expenses of this nonsense? FLOYD DOMINY IS HERE TO BRIGHTEN THE PUBLIC IMAGE OF THE I.I.D. WHICH IS AGAINST ENFORCEMENT AND WHICH IS SWINDLING THE PEOPLE ON ELECTRICITY TO THE TUNE OF \$14 MILLIONS YEARLY. For 5 years Dr. Yellen has not been able to see FLOYD, THE INVISIBLE MAN in Washington.

The U.S. Dept. of Interior with its Bureau of Reclamation is notorious for taking payoffs. Its LAND OFFICE through which Gov't. land was obtained, had repeated scandals for taking bribes to give away land and forests. The persons in the Interior Dept. have the same morals as other people. The trouble is that this Dept. is the guardian of the Nation's land, forests, water, electric power sites on rivers, oil reserves, etc. etc. The rich and the influential have the money to bribe the employees of the Interior Dept. THE LITTLE PEOPLE DO NOT HAVE MONEY.

It is impossible to give all instances of bribe taking. MOST OF IT IS UNKNOWN. But in President Taft's Administration, the late GIFFORD PINCHOT, then Chief Forester of the Interior Dept. and later Governor of Pennsylvania accused Secretary of Interior Richard A. Ballinger of being in cahoots with the big corporations and giving them some of the nation's resources. THERE WAS A BIG SCANDAL.

Secretary of Interior Albert Fall of the Harding Administration, was convicted and sent to prison for taking a bribe of \$100,000.00 brought to him in a little black bag by Harry Sinclair of the Sinclair Oil Corp. Secretary Fall just gave away the Teapot Dome oil reserves. This fraudulent contract was later cancelled by the U.S. Govt. just as the fraudulent decision of Secretary Wilbur of Feb. 24, 1933 about the water of the I.I.D. will be cancelled. Secretary Wilbur was a physician who knew no law. He had no SOLICITOR'S LEGAL OPINION to make a decision.

But if Secretary Fall had been smart, he would not have taken any money when he was Secretary. He could have left his office and then accepted a job as "a consultant", or be "on a retainer", or become a Vice-President (in name only) of the Sinclair Oil Corp. Then he could have collected the \$100,000.00 in yearly installments of \$25,000. Bribery got so bad in this way of a government official leaving the government and going to work(?) for the corporation which paid off the bribe in this fashion, that Congress passed a law saying that a govt. official must wait 2 years before he could accept a job with a corporation he did business with while he was a government official.

But payoffs are more subtle these days. If a government official does not cooperate with the big corporation, he is liable to not get appointed to higher jobs. In 1945, Michael Strauss was Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclam. (same job as Dominy). He wanted enforcement of the 160 acres limitation in Imperial Valley. The big ranchers got a law passed that only an engineer could be Commissioner. Since Mr. Strauss was not an engineer, he could not collect his pay. TELL ME MR. DOMINY- ARE YOU AFRAID THE BIG RANCHERS WILL DO THIS TO YOU A NON-ENGINEER?

The Interior Dept. said the recordable contracts will be given to the big ranchers Oct. 1, 1965. WHERE ARE THEY? Are the big ranchers giving payoffs to the Interior Dept. to stop the contracts?