

NEWSLETTER FROM DR. BEN YELLEN  
Brawley, Calif.

Nov. 2, 1966

# VOTE FOR JOHN BOWMAN

This Newsletter is addressed particularly to the 2,200 citizens who voted for me for ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR in the primary election of June 7, 1966. I repeat VOTE FOR JOHN BOWMAN for ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR in the coming election on Tuesday, Nov. 8, 1966.

Now I have previously attacked John Bowman calling him a SWINDLER for swindling the homeowners, workers and businessmen out of \$8 millions yearly in property taxes by putting fake low assessments on the farmland of the big ranchers so that they escape \$8 millions yearly in property taxes.

SO WHY DO I NOW ADVISE YOU TO VOTE FOR JOHN BOWMAN AND NOT FOR WALTER LANCASTER?

Politics is a dirty, tricky business and the average citizen has not got the time to investigate for himself which candidate to vote for. That is why this Newsletter and the previous ones have been printed. To give you accurate information as to how to vote.

NO CANDIDATE IS PERFECT. ONE HAS TO VOTE FOR THE BETTER OF TWO CANDIDATES. It can also be expressed in another way---that one has to vote for the lesser of two evils.

Here is the situation. The Assessor-Collector of Imperial County puts the assessments on the land, buildings and personal property in all of Imperial County. Then he collects the taxes on all this. The Imperial Irrigation District is only about  $\frac{1}{4}$  the size of Imperial County. The Assessor-Collector of the District assesses only the land in the District. In the towns, he only assesses the land on which the buildings stand.

So you can see that the Assessor-Collector of Imperial County will collect much more taxes since the county is 4 times the size of the Imperial Irrigation District which it contains plus the fact that taxes on the buildings and personal property are also collected.

Both John Bowman and Walter Lancaster have been putting fake low assessments on the farmland of the big ranchers. BOTH HAVE BEEN SWINDLING YOU. That is why I have been running for election to the office of Assessor-Collector of Imperial County.

The amount Bowman swindled you was \$8 millions and the amount swindled by Lancaster was  $\frac{3}{4}$  million. Since the bigger sum involving Bowman's office was much greater than Lancaster's, I concentrated my attack on Bowman. My Newsletters always mentioned Bowman and did not mention Lancaster. This focussed attention on Bowman.

IT MUST BE UNDERSTOOD THAT IF LANCASTER HAD BEEN IN THE OFFICE OF ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR OF IMPERIAL COUNTY, MY ATTACK WOULD HAVE CONCENTRATED ON HIM SINCE HE WOULD HAVE BEEN SWINDLING THE LARGER AMOUNT.

As all of you citizens know, I have been running for all offices

from dogcatcher up to Supervisor of the County. This was done for a definite reason. You all must realize that the officials in Washington, D.C. do not know that people are afraid to express their opinions by signing a petition. If persons signed a petition asking for enforcement of the 160 acres limitation of the U.S. Reclamation Law, you all know that the big ranchers would find out who the signers are and these people would lose their jobs or their businesses would be boycotted by the big ranchers. Similarly, if they signed a petition to Governor Brown to have the Attorney-General of California investigate the fake assessments on the land of the big farmers, again the identity of the signers would be learned and they would suffer reprisals at the hands of the big farmers.

But when I run for the various offices from dogcatcher up to County Supervisor, the citizens are able to vote in secret ballot and in this way they show that they agree with me, Dr. Ben Yellen. The big ranchers can not learn who these voters are. These voters can not be punished by the big ranchers. The Washington, D.C. officials and Governor Brown learn what the people want.

AT THE SAME TIME, JOHN BOWMAN LEARNED THAT WITH EACH ELECTION THAT DR. YELLEN WAS GETTING MORE VOTES. The criticism by Dr. Yellen's Newsletters in which Bowman was called a Swindler stung him badly. He knew that if he did not do something about assessments, he would lose the next election. SO HE BEGAN TO DOUBLE THE ASSESSMENTS ON THE LARGE RANCHES. I HAVE LOOKED AT THE ASSESSMENT RECORDS AND CAN TELL YOU THIS IS TRUE. I HAVE SEEN THIS WITH MY OWN EYES. Lancaster is the Imperial Irrigation District Assessor.

But what has Walter Lancaster been doing all the time while Bowman was under strong attack by me? He just sat back and has DONE NOTHING. He has NOT RAISED THE FAKE ASSESSMENTS. He was just playing an old political trick of saying and doing nothing while his voters were convinced by Dr. Yellen's Newsletters about Bowman's fake low assessments on the big ranches.

So in the June 7, 1966 primary for the office of Assessor-Collector of Imperial County, here were the results:

John Bowman	6,479 votes	campaign expenses	\$4,500
Walter Lancaster	6,728 votes	campaign expenses	\$2,500
Dr. Ben Yellen	2,200 votes	campaign expenses	\$330

So you see that Lancaster is leading Bowman by about 250 votes in the primary. But you voters who voted for me, can now vote for Bowman and reward him for raising the assessments on the big ranches. John Bowman has felt the pressure of you 2,200 voters and did something about it. WALTER LANCASTER HAS DONE NOTHING.

Here are 2 samples showing how John Bowman is putting more correct assessments on the big ranches. He still has to improve but anyway HE IS BETTER THAN LANCASTER:

	Bowman's Assessment,	Lancaster
Dr. Francisco Bravo near Calexico 316.6 acres	\$63,140	\$42,980
Bruce Church Co. Inc. near Brawley 466.5 acres	\$81,560	\$60,470

In each instance, Lancaster is about \$21,000 below Bowman in the assessment. Dr. Francisco Bravo bellowed like a bull in July 1965 against Bowman before the Board of Supervisors sitting as a Board of Equalization. He even donated \$100.00 to Lancaster's campaign fund so that Bowman would be defeated in the primary election.

I particularly point out to you the Bruce Church farmland which Church bought in 1947 at \$550 per acre and which is some of the best farmland. Bowman claims to assess at  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the market value so when he assesses it at \$175 per acre, it means he thinks it is worth \$700 per acre which is about \$800 below market value. Lancaster assesses at \$130 per acre giving a market value of only \$520 per acre which is \$980 too low. VOTE FOR BOWMAN. HE IS BETTER!!!