

IMPERIAL VALLEY PRESS & BRAWLEY NEWS KEEP YOU IN IGNORANCE

J.R. Fitch, the publisher of these 2 newspapers, is depriving you of your "right to know" why the Imperial Irrigation District should not sell irrigation water to the Metropolitan Water District.

Two letters were sent to the Voice of the People explaining the matter but Mr. Fitch refused to print them. Then in the I.I.D. auditorium on Sept. 30, 1985, there was a big meeting and many people gave their opinions. I spoke then but the newspapers did not print what I said. I sent a certified letter to Mr. Fitch but he refused to accept it

Therefore, this leaflet has been made up so that you understand the water situation. There is an East Mesa which consists of 225,000 acres of raw desert land. You, the little people, are entitled to buy this land at \$320 for 160 acres. The Federal Government signed a contract in 1932 before it built the All-American Canal, that the I.I.D. will supply the East Mesa with 1.3 million acre feet of irrigation water for farming. If this acreage was put into production, there would be an increase of 50% in the acreage being farmed. The East Mesa is about 15 miles East of Holtville at the exit which says Brock Experimental Farm on Highway 8. The All-American Canal can supply the Mesa by gravity flow

As you all know business conditions are very bad here. Absentee people own 90% of the farmland here and take the profits out and do not spend the profits here. With the East Mesa full of little farmers and their families, there will be a big increase in business for they will spend locally. But the absentee farmland owners do not want the little farmers to have the East Mesa land to compete with them. The I.I.D. is controlled by the absentee landowners plus the aid of a few local big farmers. So by selling irrigation water to the Metropolitan Water District, there will not be irrigation water for the East Mesa.

The name Metropolitan Water District name is a fake. It makes you think that the people living in the City of Los Angeles get a lot of water from the MWD. The City of Los Angeles gets only 7% of the MWD water. Eight Five (85%) percent of the MWD water is used for farming. It's correct name should be Southern California Farmers Irrigation District. Tom Elias in a news article tells how the MWD sells some of its water to Kern County farmers. So you see if the MWD gets the East Mesa water, it is going to use 85% of it for farming. The Palo Verde Irrigation District has 30,000 acres of desert land not put into production yet. It objects to the MWD getting more water from the Colorado River by an intake North of the Parker Dam where our East Mesa water will also be taken.

J.R. Fitch is President of Redi which claims that by boosting tourism and geothermal, business conditions will improve. We need a mob of little farmer families on the East Mesa to increase business. You have been told by me that the Future Farmers of America in Imperial County is a fake for no young people can get land here. Notice that the leaders of the Future Farmers of America are silent about the East Mesa, the only chance for young people to get land and become farmers.

So the next time Fitch puts on NEWSPAPER WEEK and proclaims FREEDOM OF PRESS, FREEDOM OF INFORMATION, and the RIGHT TO KNOW, remember this leaflet had to be printed so that you citizens not be kept in ignorance.

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