

NEWS LETTER FROM DR. BEN YELLEN

BRAWLEY, CALIF.

OCT. 26, 1960

MORE ABOUT PROPOSITION # 1
VOTE "NO" ON PROPOSITION #1

Those of you who read my NEWS LETTER OF OCT. 9, 1960, learned that Proposition #1 is supposed to bring water from the Feather River to Los Angeles. The Feather River Project Assoc. which is pushing this Proposition claims that it will cost 1.75 billion dollars. Experts have given opinions that it may cost 5-10 billions and you as taxpayers will have to pay for it.

THE PROPAGANDA THAT HAS BEEN PUT OUT, SAYS THAT CITIES LIKE LOS ANGELES, ARE IN URGENT NEED OF THE WATER. Yet as of today, the Metropolitan Water District which represents 91 cities from Los Angeles to San Bernardino and down to San Diego, HAS REFUSED TO ENDORSE PROPOSITION #1.

The reason is simple. The MWD wants a firm contract from the State of California giving the exact amount of water to be delivered, the date of start of delivery, and the price. The MWD does not want the Southland to be stuck paying terrific taxes and not getting any water or very little water.

The U.S. Government DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT THERE IS SUFFICIENT WATER FROM THE FEATHER RIVER!!!! It has the United Western Plan in which it plans to get water from Oregon and Washington, where the rain is plentiful and the big forests grow.

But the Southern Pacific R.R., Standard Oil of Calif., Kern Land & Cattle Co., Anderson-Clayton Co., the Los Angeles Times and the other big corporations do not want the U.S. government plan. In my NEWS LETTER of Oct. 9th, I told you how these big corporations own most of the land past which the big aqueduct is going to run. They are going to use as much water as Imperial Valley uses to make farmland out of this desertland.

If the U.S. Government plan were put into effect, THESE BIG CORPORATIONS WOULD HAVE TO SELL THE LAND BECAUSE UNDER U.S. RECLAMATION LAWS, THEY WOULD ONLY GET WATER FOR 160 acres.

Under the Feather River Project built by the State of California, the big Corporation Landowners would get all the water they want at the expense of all the taxpayers of California.

The Metropolitan Water District is afraid that 450,000 acres of desertland west of Bakersfield and north of the Tehachapi Mountains which are owned by these big corporations will take tremendous amounts of water so that none will be left for the Water District. Therefore, the MWD wants a firm contract before it advises its 7,000,000 people to vote for Proposition # 1.

The Feather River Project Association is controlled by these big landowners who put up the money for the propaganda to stampede the voters. Imperial Valley farmers will not be able to sell their hay in Los Angeles since this other area is much nearer L.A. and will grow much hay.