

NEWSLETTER FROM DR. BEN YELLEN
Brawley, Calif.

December 20, 1968

VEYSEY IS A LIAR!!!

It was felt that the recent election campaign for Assemblyman of the 75th District should be reviewed so that the voters have a greater insight into the character of ASSEMBLYMAN VICTOR VEYSEY, AN UGLY AMERICAN.

Since these Newsletters are distributed all over the United States, it is necessary to tell the readers some unusual features about the 75th District. It has an area which is 25% larger than the State of New Jersey or if compared to the State of Rhode Island, is $9\frac{1}{2}$ times larger.

The population of the 75th District is 200,000. An Assembly District in Kansas has 20,000 people and one in New Jersey has 100,000. All these figures will immediately make the reader realize that a candidate will have a most difficult time meeting the voters face to face. The only way the voters can find out what a candidate stands for is to hear his statements over the radio, read them in the newspapers or leaflets like the one you are now reading, or on roadside billboards.

Assemblyman Victor Veysey was running for the 4th consecutive time for this office which he has occupied for 6 years. I, Ben Yellen, a physician, was running as the official Democratic candidate to break a \$50 millions racket which Veysey and a RURAL MAFIA are imposing on the people. This RURAL MAFIA to which Veysey belongs are big ranchers who do not pay their correct taxes and do not pay correct prices for irrigation water. The result is that all the people of the 75th District have to pay more taxes to make up for the big ranchers (Veysey is a big rancher) and 110,000 people out of the 200,000 have to pay three times the correct electricity bills so that the big farm interests are able to get the irrigation water at one fourth the correct price.

The primary election was on June 4, 1968. Suddenly, an organization calling itself DEMOCRATS FOR GOOD GOVERNMENT mailed out 26,000 letters to registered Democrats telling them to write in Veysey's name on the Democratic ballot so that I should lose in the primary and Veysey be elected without having to fight for election in November.

All the newspapers printed a lot about this campaign against me BUT WOULD NOT PRINT ANY STATEMENT OF MINE ABOUT THE SITUATION. Veysey tried to make it look as if the Democrats were in revolt against their own candidate. Typical of his statements is this one from the front page of the Brawley News of June 3, 1968 where he is quoted as saying, "This is a matter for Democrats to settle amongst themselves ---I am flattered that many Democrats have stepped forward to urge their party members to write my name. They consider running the election twice to be a gross waste of time and money".

The truth of the matter is that I have repeatedly attacked Democrat big ranchers like Ed Rutherford, John Benson and the Elmores of the Southern part of the Assembly District and Lionel Steinberg of Palm Springs for being part of this RURAL MAFIA profiting from these extortions from the mass of people who are rank and file Republicans and Democrats. Big ranchers get \$18 millions yearly in subsidies.

Veysey cooperating with these big Democrat ranchers tried to blitz the Democrats into believing that this was a movement of the rank and file Democrats. The truth came out in the November 8, 1968 issue of the Riverside Enterprise where there is a big article on a Ralph Kiner who lives at 59-959 Pomegranate, Cathedral City which tells how Kiner was the administrative assistant to Veysey. The article says, "During the spring primaries he served as Veysey's Riverside County campaign manager, an easy job since Veysey was unopposed and the main drive was a write-in campaign to get him nominated on the Democratic ticket as

well as on the Republican".

So you can see what a liar Veysey is when in the Brawley News he tried to fool the registered Democrats into thinking it was purely a movement run by Democrats----"This is a matter for Democrats to settle amongst themselves". Veysey and the Democrat big ranchers failed.

But the biggest lie of Veysey is found in the article in the Brawley News of Sept. 5, 1968 and also in Schurz's papers in El Centro and Indio. The big headline was, "VEYSEY LAUNCHES CONFIDENT DRIVE". Then it reads, "He described this years campaign as a "mini-campaign". That means it is going to be large enough to cover the subject and carry lots of impact. Because of the nature of my opponent, it's not going to be an all-out gut stringing campaign that is sometimes necessary".

But here are the facts. In 1966, when Veysey ran against Bob Myers, he received \$19,600.00 for his campaign. Myers had contributions of \$7,400.00. But in the 1968 campaign against me Veysey received \$27,200.00 whereas I used \$958.00 of my own money in the campaign.

DOES THIS LOOK LIKE A MINI-CAMPAIGN BY VEYSEY?

Now the DEMOCRATS FOR GOOD GOVERNMENT WHO SENT OUT THE 26,000 LETTERS AND CAMPAIGNED AGAINST ME IN THE PRIMARY DID NOT FILE A STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES BUT A CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATE IS THAT THEY SPENT \$5,000.00 AGAINST ME. So when this sum is added to the \$27,200.00 that Veysey received in contributions, it totals \$32,200.00.

As late as Oct. 8th, Veysey was busy raising more funds for his campaign for on that date he had Governor Ronald Reagan making a speech for him at a \$100.00 per plate dinner. Veysey was trying to get all the money he could for he was running scared. In a series of home made Newsletters similar to this one, I had revealed how he and other big ranchers were escaping 66% of the property taxes on their farms; how people are gyped of \$14 millions yearly in electricity bills; how big ranches prevent enforcement of the U. S. Reclamation Law, etc.

I got 19,348 votes for my \$958.00 which is a cost of about 5 cents per vote. Veysey got 45,664 votes and using the \$32,200.00, this gives 71 cents per vote. In an article in the Riverside Enterprise of October 31, 1968 is this excerpt, "Last time we won 2 to 1 against Democrat Bob Meyers. This time we'll win 4 or 5 to 1." Veysey only won 2.3 to 1 which is remarkable for my campaign since Myers had \$7,400.00 to use against my \$958.00 which is 8 times more than me while we got practically the same vote.

Lack of money was not the cause of my defeat. The cause of my defeat was a CURTAIN OF SILENCE set up against me by Herb Klein, the editor of the San Diego Union (later by Edward Thomas who followed the policy started by Klein), and by F.D. Schurz the publisher of papers in El Centro, Brawley and Indio, and by Howard H. Hays Jr. the editor of the Riverside Enterprise.

FROM APRIL TO NOVEMBER, THESE NEWSPAPERS WOULD NOT PRINT ONE STATEMENT OF MINE WHILE VEYSEY WAS MENTIONED ALL THE TIME. RADIO NEWS BROADCASTERS JUST READ EXCERPTS FROM THESE PAPERS AND SINCE THE PAPERS HAD NONE OF MY STATEMENTS, THERE WAS A COMPLETE CURTAIN OF SILENCE.

Organizations like Rotary, Kiwanis, etc. were afraid to invite me to speak as they were afraid of reprisals from the big farm interests.

Veysey with protection refused to answer the charges I made against him and at the same time made speeches like, "I have a sort of non-opponent for an opponent". THE CURTAIN OF SILENCE GAVE HIM PROTECTION & ADVANTAGE. On Oct. 1st, I began to distribute NEWS BLACKOUT and on Oct. 21, 1968 distributed a letter to the Fair Campaign Practices Committee. In both these leaflets I accused Veysey and the newspapers of the CURTAIN OF SILENCE to keep the voters in ignorance. This stirred the newspapers up 8 days before election and they asked me for interviews. I refused them because the damage had been done. VEYSEY IS A LIAR WHO WAS PROTECTED AND HELPED IN HIS LIES BY THE NEWSPAPERS!!!!