

May 31, 1970

VOTE FOR JOE MIGUEL

I strongly urge the voters of the Supervisorial District 1 of Imperial County, Calif. to vote for Joe Miguel on June 2, 1970.

MR. MIGUEL IS THE ONLY CANDIDATE WHO IS TALKING ABOUT THE ELECTRICITY RACKET WHICH EXTORTS FROM EACH FAMILY \$50.00 TO \$250.00 YEARLY. THIS SWINDLE IS PERPETRATED ON THE PEOPLE SO THAT MAINLY ABSENTEE RIG FARMERS AND CORPORATIONS SHOULD PROFIT FROM THE SWINDLE BY BEING ABLE TO GET IRRIGATION WATER AT 1/4 THE CORRECT PRICE WHILE YOU ARE CHARGED 3 TIMES THE CORRECT PRICE FOR ELECTRICITY.

Les Dowe, the present Supervisor who is running for election, is a stooge of the big farmers. For 8 years he has been Supervisor AND NEVER ONCE HAS HE SPOKEN ON THE ELECTRICITY SWINDLE AND HE NEVER WILL. Jim Fowler, the other candidate, also does not talk on the electricity swindle. Both Dowe and Fowler therefore are for the big farmers and against you homeowners and merchants and businessmen who have to use lots of electricity and pay exorbitant electricity bills.

As you know, I have been active during the past 10 years in publicizing these high electricity bills. Candidates for any office in Imperial County who will not in their pre-election speeches talk about the racket, do not intend to do anything about the swindle if elected.

I and Raul Loya of Indio, Calif. (he is running for Assemblyman on the Democratic ticket on June 2nd, and I also strongly urge you to vote for him) filed a lawsuit in the Federal Court in Washington, D.C. to have the Secretary of the Interior to set the electricity rates for the Imperial Irrigation District because the I.I.D. gets much of its electricity from Federal Dams and Federal Law says that the Secretary must set the rates if the Calif. Public Utilities Commission does not.

But it is necessary that you voters of the 1st Supervisorial District along the Mexican border from Calexico to Winterhaven, by voting for Joe Miguel, to show that you want the electricity swindle stopped. This racket creates a very severe hardship on you for wages for working people are very low since they have to compete with Mexicans who live in Mexico and can work for much lower wages as their living costs are 1/8 those of the worker living in the United States. So these high electricity bills are a bigger burden on you people living in Calexico and Winterhaven than on those in the rest of Imperial County.

To give you an example of an absentee farmer who profits from the electricity racket, I point out Dr. Francisco Bravo. He escapes paying about \$40,000 yearly in water bills for instead of paying \$9.00 an acre foot for water, he pays only \$2.30 per acre foot. You electricity users who should pay \$7.50 per 1,000 kilowatthours for electricity are forced to pay \$26.00 per 1,000 kilowatthours (this includes the taxes you have to pay on your homes and businesses to make up for the property taxes the Imperial Irrigation District does not pay). So the next time, Dr. Francisco Bravo throws a barbecue, he is not giving you anything free, he is using a little bit of the money out of the \$40,000 yearly he gets by you being made to pay high electricity bills.

Many letters have been sent to Ralph Nader concerning this swindle. He has announced that investigators will be sent this summer to find out not only about this swindle but why absentee landowners like Dr. Francisco Bravo are not prevented from farming here.