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# BRAWLEY'S BRAZEN BRAINWASHING

For a long time, this Newsletter has been accusing SCHURZ'S PROSTITUTED PRESS (successor to Virgil Pinkley's Prostituted Press) of brainwashing the people of Imperial Valley, Calif. This was done by omitting important news, by distorting the news, or by just printing lies. This prostitution of a FREE PRESS was all done for the benefit of big farm interests who are operating here in violation of the U.S. Reclamation Law.

So it is necessary to repeat again what is going on here to overcome the propaganda of SCHURZ'S PROSTITUTED PRESS. Imperial Valley has a 12 month growing season because it is the desert with constant sunshine and no drought since the Federal Government built the Boulder Dam which made water available for irrigation farming all year round. There are no frosts or rainstorms as seen in the East, Midwest, and South to cause sudden ruin to the crops. Because of all these conditions, one acre here is equal to the production of five acres anywhere in the United States.

By the provisions of the U.S. Reclamation Law only persons living here are entitled to get water for farming. In addition, each person who farms here is entitled to get water to farm 160 acres (husband and wife can farm 320 acres). It must be restated again that the 160 acres equals in production 800 acres of farmland in the rest of the U.S. (320 acres equals 1,600 acres elsewhere).

There are 500,000 acres of land in production giving a yearly value of \$230 millions which made Imperial County rank 5th in 1966 in the U.S. A profit of \$25 millions was realized on this \$230 millions of agricultural products. Then the Federal Government gave subsidies of \$11.2 millions in 1966 which when added to the \$25 millions, gives \$36 millions as total income for 1966.

But the big farm interests who are mainly absentee corporations in a manner similar to what the absentee landowners do in Latin-American countries, have been skimming off \$28 millions while only \$8 millions remain in the Valley. These big farm interests are not supposed to be here farming if the U.S. Reclamation Law is enforced. If it were the residents here would get the entire \$36 millions income yearly.

There would be about 1,500 family farms of 320 acres each. Each family farm would get about \$7,500 in subsidies. It would make about \$13,000 in profits which when added to the subsidy of \$7,500, would give a total yearly income of \$20,500. All this would result from the enforcement of the U.S. Reclamation Law. President Theodore Roosevelt in 1902 intended this for when he signed this Law he said, "The money is being spent to build up the little man of the West so that no big man from the East or West can come in and monopolize the water and the land". But the big farm interests have been able with their money and influence to prevent enforcement of the Law here for 30 years.

The fight is whether the little people living in Imperial Valley will do the farming and get the \$36 millions yearly income or will the big ranchers in their defiance of the Law get the money. It is as simple as all that. One of the big weapons of the big farm interests is their control of the local newspapers-SCHURZ'S PROSTITUTED PRESS.



The big farm interests in the same fashion as the absentee land-owners of the Latin-American countries, have imposed several exploitation schemes on the little people of the IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT which is the largest in the Western Hemisphere. The big farmers escape on the average 66% of their property taxes, so that the residents here have to pay \$8 millions yearly in extra taxes. The big ranchers get the irrigation water at 1/4 the correct cost and the little people are forced to subsidize this below cost irrigation water of the big farm interests by being made to pay 3 times the correct price for electricity. This amounts to a \$14 millions electricity swindle yearly. There exist a few other exploitation schemes practiced on the residents by these absentee farming corporations but are of lesser importance.

Dr. Ben Yellen after 6 years of urging the government to take action finally was successful when the U.S. filed a lawsuit against the Imperial Irrigation District to prevent it from supplying water to anyone farming land in excess of 160 acres. This lawsuit was filed January 11, 1967. Then 9 big ranchers entered the lawsuit on behalf of themselves and the other big ranchers to help the Imperial Irrigation District fight the Government. SCHURZ'S PROSTITUTED PRESS put out in big headlines the efforts and propaganda of the big ranchers and the I.I.D. in fighting the government.

But the lawsuit of the Federal Government is useless if only the 160 acres limitation is going to be enforced. These absentee farm corporations will just make up hundreds of little corporations which will each farm 160 acres and operate long distance from the headquarters of the big corporation which will be a "holding company". What is needed is a Court decision that the farmer receiving the water must be a bonafide resident living in Imperial Valley and the land must belong to him. This is needed to prevent absentee land ownership.

So on August 7, 1967, Dr. Ben Yellen and 123 other plaintiffs filed a petition to enter the lawsuit on the side of the government. This legal action specifically was intended to get enforcement of the provision of the U.S. Reclamation Law "that that the person getting the water must live on the land or close by". The majority of the plaintiffs are persons engaged in farmwork or their spouses. Dr. Yellen in studying the history of the U.S. Dept. of Interior felt that there was the possibility of a double cross by the Interior Dept. when it appeared to only stress the 160 acres limitation provision, thereby permitting a loophole by which the absentee big ranchers could continue to operate by means of innumerable small corporations.

It is no secret that the Dept. of Interior is full of advocates of the big farm interests. Dr. Yellen has publicly accused Floyd Dominy, the Chief of the Bureau of Reclamation (directly in charge of enforcement of the Law in irrigation projects) of being a saboteur of the U.S. Reclamation Law by always making speeches against enforcement (See FLOYD DOMINY SABOTEUR OF U.S. RECLAMATION LAW dated August 15, 1967). He has never attempted to enforce the Law in any irrigation area.

You can readily see how important is the legal action of Dr. Yellen and the other 123 plaintiffs. The economy of Imperial Valley is farming. Everything else depends on farming. The Los Angeles Times which is located 225 miles from Imperial Valley recognized the importance of this court action and printed an article about it on page 2 of its August 8, 1967 issue. The San Diego Union which is located 125 miles from Imperial Valley printed a big article on the legal action on Aug. 9, 1967 and had another big article about it on Aug. 20, 1967.

It is now 14 days since this court action was taken. But the BRAWLEY NEWS, one of the newspapers of SCHURZ'S PROSTITUTED PRESS, has not printed one word about the legal action 2 weeks after it was filed. The Brawley News which serves the Northern part of Imperial Valley is GOING TO KEEP THE PEOPLE IN IGNORANCE ON THIS IMPORTANT LAWSUIT. It is brainwashing the people like in countries with a dictatorship, where important news is omitted. You can just imagine what the Brawley News does in regard to distorted news or just plain lies. THIS BRAZEN BRAINWASHING IS ALL DONE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE BIG FARM INTERESTS!!!