

July 4, 1969

# WHICH ELMORE HARMS SOCIETY MORE?

It is fitting to repeat again on July 4th, Independence Day, that according to the U.S. Constitution, you are guaranteed FREEDOM OF PRESS & FREEDOM OF SPEECH. But in practice, are you getting them?

In the 75th Assembly District which includes the Eastern 2/3 of Riverside County and all of Imperial County, SCHURZ'S PROSTITUTED PRESS, THE RIVERSIDE ENTERPRISE, & THE SAN DIEGO UNION, are in collusion with the big farm interests and will not print the truth about the big ranchers which will hurt their reputation.

The 75th Assembly District is  $9\frac{1}{2}$  times bigger than the State of Rhode Island and 25% bigger than the State of New Jersey. The local radio and television stations serving the 200,000 people in the District do not have news staffs to gather local news. They just read what is printed in these newspapers and since the newspapers do not print the truth about the big farm interests, the truth is not forthcoming from the radio and television stations.

Your attention is particularly drawn to Franklin D. Schurz who used to be on the Executive Committee of the Associated Press until my complaints about him was followed by his exit from the Committee. Schurz and his group own the South Bend (Ind.) Tribune, a newspaper in Hagerstown, Maryland, and newspapers in Bloomington and Bedford, Indiana. In the 75th Assembly District, he has the El Centro Post-Press, the Brawley News, and the Indio Daily News, all daily papers

Schurz is no small town newspaperman operating on a shoe string. A little publisher has to do what the power structure tells him or go broke. Schurz has the financial strength to give us a FREE PRESS. He used to go around making speeches about Freedom of the Press when he was a big wheel in the Associated Press.

His newspapers in the 75th Assembly District of California, are very bold when writing about little people who get in trouble. But when it comes to the big farmers it is another story.

Recently, a young man, Thomas Wade Elmore was sentenced to one year in jail for having forbidden drugs. In the Schurz newspapers of June 30, 1969 is a letter to the Editor of PROBE which is a question and answer column. This letter protested the severity of the sentence. In the answer, the editor gives the reasons why the sentence was so severe. He ends up the answer with this peculiar statement, "Incidentally, the guy who got the sentence is in no way related to the eminently respectable Elmore farming and ranching clan".

This solicitude for "the eminently respectable Elmore farming and ranching clan" irritated me for the Schurz newspapers have never printed the truth about this clan. Once before, in a Newsletter dated Feb. 1, 1967 and entitled 115 BIG FARMERS ACCUSED OF \$2.8 MILLIONS FRAUD, I came to the defense of little people. These 5 little people had filled out fraudulent claims for unemployment insurance so that they collected \$550.00. Schurz's papers published all the details about this big \$550.00 fraud giving the names and addresses of the little people who were sent to jail and fined.

But when 115 big farmers were caught defrauding the U.S. Government out of \$2.8 millions in fraudulent claims on sugar beets, the



SCHURZ PROSTITUTED PAPERS DID NOT PRINT THE NAMES OF THE FARMERS AND PUT THE ARTICLE ON A BACK PAGE AND MIXED THE STORY UP WITH COTTON PAYMENTS SO THAT VERY FEW READERS UNDERSTOOD WHAT WAS HAPPENING. I CHALLENGE PROBE TO PRINT THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF THESE BIG FARMERS SO WE WILL KNOW IF THE "ELMORE CLAN" WHO GROW A LOT OF BEETS, IS AMONGST THE DEFRAUDERS.

These big farmers were not put on trial like the little people. They were made to return the money. SO OF COURSE THEY ALL REMAINED EMINENTLY RESPECTABLE LEADERS AND PILLARS OF THE COMMUNITY.

The government records show that the Elmore Clan received big handouts FOR DOING NOTHING-NOT GROWING COTTON!!! Here are the amounts:

	1966	1968
Elmore Co. (father John J.)	\$287,026.00	\$267,454.00
Jack Elmore (son)	\$197,219.00	\$180,926.00
Stephen (son)	\$126,243.00	\$96,413.00

Through many years, each of the Elmores have been receiving handouts like these for doing nothing and we the taxpayers have been paying to support them. They pay practically no income taxes.

The Elmore Clan's farmland has fake low assessments on it so that the clan escapes about \$100,000.00 yearly and we the little people have to pay more taxes to make up for them.

Because of the electricity swindle where the big farmers pay 1/4 the correct price for irrigation water, we the people have to pay 3 times the correct price for electricity. So the Elmore Clan escapes paying \$350,000.00 yearly in water bills.

Now this property tax swindle and electricity swindle just did not happen by itself. These swindles are contrived by the power structure, the big farm interests who control the politicians. Since 70% of the farmland is owned by absentee landowners, it means that we are being swindled mainly for the benefit of outsiders.

In the June 23, 1969 issue of the Los Angeles Times is an article, "Nixon's Next-Door Neighbor", then under it in big letters is:

J.J. ELMORE: RANCHER AND HORSE BREEDER

This is the father who gets those big handouts. The article tells about the racehorses of the Clan. So with our tax money, the Elmores have rachorses, Cadillacs, airplanes, and hobnob with President Nixon. But Probe never tells you these things about the Elmores or the other big ranchers who are just MILLIONAIRE MOOCHERS.

I looked over the court record of Thomas Wade Elmore and according to the record, his arrests have been solely for having forbidden drugs. Nowhere is he charged with selling drugs so the supposition is that he uses them himself. I questioned the police department and the probation department and could not find conclusive proof that Thomas Wade Elmore had been convicted for harming others like selling drugs, armed robbery, burglary, or assault and battery.

One of the peculiar quirks of the American legal system is that if a person shoots himself with a gun to commit suicide and is unsuccessful, he is not put on trial for a crime against society. Possibly, it is thought that since he really did no harm to society and only to himself, there should be no prosecution. Now a person using forbidden drugs on himself is committing slow suicide. Each month in the City of New York, 50 people die from accidental overdoses of "hard" drugs like heroin and morphine. Many others die from other types of forbidden drugs. Yet this slow suicide by forbidden drugs is a crime. Apparently, it is felt that people like Thomas Wade Elmore are harming society even if they are using the drugs on themselves.

Investigation of the cost of the need for police, trial of and imprisonment of Thomas Wade Elmore will cost us taxpayers no more than \$5,000.00 for the year. But this cost is not constant as the outlay of TAXES for the Elmore Clan. DECIDE FOR YOURSELF WHICH ELMORE HARMS SOCIETY MORE!!!