

NEWSLETTER FROM DR. BEN YELLEN
Brawley, Calif.

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PROPAGANDA BY SAN DIEGO STATE COLLEGE

ATTENTION: ALL UNIVERSITIES & COLLEGES

TO: Members of History Dept.
Members of Sociology Dept.
Members of Political Science Dept.
Members of Business Administration Dept.

When you read the newspapers, you will often see statements telling about racketeers going into legitimate businesses and operating under that guise. As a matter of fact, just recently, there was quite a furore about mobsters gaining control of National Banks and then looting them.

As far as is now known, this is the first report of racketeers infiltrating a college and using it as a propaganda apparatus to deceive the people so that they should not know the tremendous amounts of money being extorted from them.

Imperial County is in California right on the Mexican border. It has only 75,000 people, yet its agricultural production is \$214 millions yearly which gives it a ranking of 4th in the United States. The power structure here consists of big ranches. They are so powerful that they have been able for 32 years to prevent the enforcement of the 160 acres limitation of the U.S. Reclamation Law.

Absentee landowners own 70% of the farmland. Local big ranchers own 20% of the farmland and work in close accord with the outside landowners in the exploitation of the inhabitants. Only 10% of the land is owned by small ranchers who are obeying the 160 acres limitation.

The two big rackets (there are quite a few lesser ones) extorting money from the people for the benefit of the big ranches are 1. the \$14 millions electricity swindle perpetrated on the citizens by the IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT so that the big ranches will be able to get below cost irrigation water for the farmland; 2. the \$8 millions county property tax swindle inflicted on the people by John Bowman, Assessor-Collector of Imperial County, so that the big ranches escape on the average 66% of their correct taxes. So you see Imperial County has a close resemblance to a semi-feudal state where the powerful own the property and the people pay the taxes. Do not forget that the Imperial Irrigation District is a public agency. You are therefore being told how two public agencies are being used to extort money from the little people for the benefit of the racketeers the big ranchers.

To give you an idea of the extent of these rackets in Imperial County as compared to others, your attention is drawn to the testimony given by Police Commissioner George Edwards of Detroit, Michigan before the McClellan U.S. Senate Anti-Racket Committee on Oct. 10, 1963. He said that the mobsters grossed \$150 millions yearly. When this amount is divided by the 3.7 millions population in the Detroit Metropolitan area, you find that each person had \$40 extorted from him.

But as regards Imperial County, \$22 millions yearly are being extorted from 75,000 people, GIVING A FIGURE OF \$300 PER PERSON. THIS IS 7½ TIMES THE EXTORTION IN THE DETROIT AREA.

The large ranches have controlled the radio, television and the local newspapers run by Virgil Pinkley and nicknamed PINKLEY'S PROSTITUTED PRESS. Through these news media have flowed a constant stream of propaganda which glorifies this or that big rancher. This hokum tells how clever he is in ranching, what a civic leader he is, and what a philanthropist he is.

BUT THE NEWSPAPER ARTICLES NEVER TELL WHAT BIG CHARITY HANDOUTS THE BIG RANCHERS RECEIVE. THEY NEVER TELL THE PEOPLE THAT THEY ARE BEING CHARGED 2½ TIMES MORE ON ELECTRICITY BILLS BY THE IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT SO THAT THE BIG RANCHES CAN GET IRRIGATION WATER A ¼ THE CORRECT PRICE. THE NEWS MEDIA MAKE NO ATTEMPT TO INVESTIGATE THE TAX SWINDLE.

Instead, there is a constant propaganda line in the newspapers and radio and television that the cause of high taxes is the "WELFARE OF THE POOR". Stories are told how the poor do not want to work. But the truth is that the big ranches collect 8 times the Charity handouts that the poor collect. A mother with 10 children who have been abandoned by the father, can receive only \$4,600 yearly to support her children. Yet Matt LaBrucherie, a big rancher who is worth several millions, receives about \$16,000 as a handout from the government just for growing cotton and this crop takes only 6 months to grow.

Nowhere in PINKLEY'S PROSTITUTED PRESS could you read what happened in the U.S. Senate on September 13, 1965 when Senator Daniel B. Brewster(Maryland)tried to get an amendment to the new Farm Bill so that no farmer could get more than \$10,000 yearly in charity handouts. PINKLEY'S PROSTITUTED PRESS is very careful when it writes about "subsidies", "price supports", and "soil conservation" not to mention that these are "charity handouts". MANY PERSONS DO NOT KNOW THAT THESE ARE ALL FANCY WORDS MEANING THE SAME THING AS THE WELFARE PAYMENTS THAT THE POOR RECEIVE.

The big ranchers do not want the people and especially the poor on welfare to know that they, the big ranchers, are BEGGARS IN CADILLACS and MILLIONAIRE MOOCHERS.

The large ranches were having things all their own way with this propaganda. They even had visitors from all over the world come here to inspect the irrigation system. But NOT ONE WORD is told to the visitors that the so-called big success of the Imperial Irrigation District with \$20 millions cash in its treasury, IS JUST DUE TO THE GIGANTIC SWINDLE IN ELECTRICITY BEING PERPETRATED ON THE LITTLE PEOPLE.

But then Dr. Ben Yellen started his Newsletters (this is an example) in which he explained in simple terms the rackets of the big ranches so that all the people could understand what is going on. So the I.I.D. decided to intensify its propaganda by using the SAN DIEGO STATE COLLEGE which has a branch in Imperial County.

A course entitled "Resources of Imperial Valley" was started at this local branch of the San Diego State College. Some of the topics taken up in this course are non-controversial. But most of this course is on subjects of irrigation, farming, etc. etc. The speakers on these controversial subjects are all propagandists for the big farmers. Some of them are Harry (the Huckster) Horton, Herb Lee, Ed Hayes, manager of the Imperial Valley Farmers Assoc. etc. etc.

Nothing was told to the persons taking this course how the I.I.D. is swindling the people on electricity. The impression is given that the I.I.D. owns the irrigation works which is not true. When the big fight about imported Public Law #78 braceros was going on, the pupils were fed a meal at the labor camp of the I.V.F.A. and led to believe that this meal is typical and that agriculture here can not survive without braceros from Mexico. Lack of space prevents telling more.

For 3 years Dr. Yellen has asked to be a lecturer on this course so the students learn some truths. Professors Joseph Rodney and Hitoshi Ikeda will not even answer Dr. Yellen's letter. So remember these 2 stooges of the big ranches. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE WRITE TO ME.