

August 9, 1967

SCHURZ'S CURTAIN OF SILENCE

This Newsletter is being sent to the citizens of St. Joseph County, Indiana with a population of 250,000 people (South Bend with a population of 140,000 persons is the County seat) and to the residents of Washington County, Maryland with a population of about 100,000 people (Hagerstown with about 40,000 persons is the county seat).

The reason for all this is that Franklin D. Schurz is the man who controls the newspaper, THE SOUTHBEND TRIBUNE which is the main newspaper of St. Joseph County and the only daily paper in South Bend, Ind. He is also the President of the Herald Mail Co. of Hagerstown Md. which prints the 2 daily newspapers THE HERALD and THE MAIL, which are the only daily newspapers in Washington County.

The same group with Franklin D. Schurz as the boss man also owns a string of newspapers in Southern California close to the Mexican border. They are the Indio News, the Brawley News, the El Centro Post Press, and the Calexico News. Here they are known as SCHURZ'S PROSTITUTED PRESS successor to VIRGIL PINKLEY'S PROSTITUTED PRESS. The reader will soon realize why this name was given to Schurz's newspapers in reading this Newsletter.

Formerly, under Virgil Pinkley, these Southern California newspapers printed lies, refused to print authentic news, printed twisted accounts of the news, and put an propaganda of big farm interests so that the populace would be brainwashed so they would not realize how the big ranchers were exploiting them. This Newsletter was born to give a true version of what was happening so that the brainwashing would be prevented.

Now the first thing you readers should do is to read the main article on the front page of the Wall Street Journal of July 25, 1967. This tells how publishers, editors, and newsmen of some of the most respectable(?) newspapers were caught taking the payoff or with their hands in the till. At this very moment a very prominent newspaper reporter on crime working for a big Philadelphia paper, has been arrested and accused of taking the payoff to not report fully charges against companies accused of defrauding customers.

Now it is not known who is taking the payoff in SCHURZ'S PROSTITUTED PRESS during the past 3 years that the Schurz group had majority control of these newspapers but many complaints have been sent to Mr. Schurz as to how the news was printed. But he has done nothing to stop all this destruction of the FREEDOM OF THE PRESS and he must bear the moral responsibility.

But there is another very important reason why you people of St. Joseph County, Indiana and Washington County, Md. should be told about SCHURZ'S CURTAIN OF SILENCE. It is possible that Schurz is running a similar PROSTITUTED PRESS in Indiana and Maryland. Therefore, it is up to some public spirited citizen to print a Newsletter in these areas and tell the truth and combat any lies, distortions, omissions of fact, etc.

Now all you residents in Maryland and Indiana are paying heavy Federal income taxes as we do here in California. Part of your taxes are given by the Federal Government to Latin American countries in a

program called the ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS. There are many civil disturbances in these countries. Some of them are due to the little people not owning the land they do farmwork on. Many absentee landowners got big tracts of land as Spanish land grants. So the U.S. is giving your tax money to the Latin American countries to buy land from the absentee landowners and sell it to the little farmworkers on longtime mortgages and low interest rates.

The United States avoided a lot of these troubles for in 1862, it passed a law called the Homestead Act by which little people could get 160 acres per person. In this way monopoly was avoided and the monopoly of land as seen in the Latin American countries is not seen in the U.S. Homesteaded land that had sufficient rainfall could have crops grown on it. A requirement to get title to the land was that crops had to be grown for about 6 years.

But in the Far West and particularly in the Southwest the land is arid because of insufficient rainfall. This is the situation in Southern California and Arizona. So President Theodore Roosevelt in 1902 had the U.S. Reclamation Law passed. He said when signing it, "the money is being spent so that the little man of the West will be built up so that no big man from the East or West can come in and monopolize the water and the land". This law set up the Bureau of Reclamation to build dams across Western rivers and also to build canals and aqueducts to bring the impounded water to the arid land to be used for farming.

The U.S. Reclamation Law has 2 essential features-1. the person doing the farming must live on the land to get the water (or live close by); 2. a person can get only sufficient water to farm 160 acres (husband and wife farm 320 acres). The Federal Government built the Boulder Dam and several auxiliary dams to control the Colorado River. The water is being used in the Imperial Irrigation District, in Imperial County, Calif. from where this Newsletter originates. This irrigation district is the biggest in the Western hemisphere. There is a production of \$230 millions in agricultural products yearly and this county rated 5th in the nation last year.

There is a profit of \$25 millions yearly on this production and the government gives handouts to the farmers of \$11.2 millions. But the big ranchers with their money and influence are doing 90% of the farming in violation of the U.S. Reclamation Law. Seventy percent of the land is owned by absentee landowners. Of the grand total of \$36 millions only \$8 millions remain amongst the 75,000 residents here and the other \$28 millions go to the absentee landowners and ranchers. It must be impressed on the readers that the handouts of \$11.2 given in 1966 is greater than the actual production of many counties in the East.

Dr. Ben Yellen after 6 years of effort, convinced the Government to enforce the U.S. Reclamation Law and chase out the absentee landowners. On January 11, 1967, the U.S. filed a lawsuit against the Imperial Irrigation District (which is controlled by the big ranchers) to force it not to give water to those in violation. Then 9 big farmers entered the lawsuit on the side of the District against the Government. One of them is Stephen Elmore who with his brother and father receive \$610,488 yearly from the Government for doing nothing. They just do not grow cotton on part of their large landholdings. But on this land withdrawn from cotton growing, they grow other crops and make more money.

SCHURZ'S PROSTITUTED PRESS is constantly putting in propaganda articles claiming the big ranchers are correct. His press features all the legal moves of the big ranchers. On August 7, 1967, Dr. Yellen with 123 other persons, the majority of whom are farmworkers, entered this lawsuit on the side of the government. The Los Angeles Times, the biggest Newspaper on the West Coast has an article on page 2 of Aug. 8, 1967 telling about the little people entering this lawsuit. It is 225 miles from here. The San Diego Union in its Aug. 9, 1967 issue reports this. It is 125 miles away. SCHURZ'S PROSTITUTED PRESS prints nothing. WHO IS GETTING THE PAYOFF FOR THIS CURTAIN OF SILENCE???