NEWSLETTER FROM DR. BEN YELLEN Brawley, Calif.

Nov. 4, 1967

CARTER SQUEALS LIKE A STUCK PIG !

Robert F. Carter, the general manager of the Imperial Irrigation District, has like Rip Van Winkle suddenly awakened from a sleep of 7 years. For 7 long years, I have walked the streets of the towns of Imperial County, Calif. distributing my Newsletters in which I accused the I.I.D. of swindling the people here out of \$14 millions yearly in electricity bills so that the I.I.D. could sell the irrigation water to the big ranches for 1/4 the correct price.

These Newsletters told the people that their electric bills should be 1/3 of what they are. If your bill for the month is \$9, it should be \$3; if \$15, it should be \$5; and if \$30, should be \$10; etc. etc. The average family was being swindled out of \$100 to \$250 yearly.

But during all these 7 years, Rip Van Winkle Carter did not think it was necessary to answer this criticism. So the people became informed as to how the electricity racket was worked. They found out that the absentee landowners who owned 70% of the land here in violation of the U.S. Reclamation Law were being subsidized on their irrigation water by us 75,000 people who lived here and suffered from these high electric bills.

I explained to Attorney Arthur Brunwasser of San Francisco, how nobody could sign a petition because he or she would lose his or her job. If they were in business, they would be boycotted by the big farm interests. He was told how I could not accept donations from people for election expenses or to pay expenses of lawsuits, for if the records of donations were subpoenaed, the big ranchers would find out who was against them and they would start economic reprisals against those who had given me the donations.

I told him that the only way I could work it, was to run for every office from dogcatcher up. In this way there would be a poll of the voters to see if they had learned the political facts of life. Lawyer Brunwasser found out that each election more and more people voted for me. At the same time, it was hoped that others who were not satisfied with the economic conditions here, would run for office.

I receive many letters and telephone calls from people who refuse to give their names. They make complaints about things like the high electricity bills, no work, etc. They want to help but do not want their identities revealed. This shows that many people are still intimidated by the big farm interests. They are all told not to open their mouths and keep out of trouble. They are encouraged to contact me and give me any information they know. But the most important thing that they are told is, "Read the Newsletters and pass them on and tell the person receiving the Newsletter from you to pass it on". In this way, more and more persons learn the truth and the brainwashing they have received from the big farm interests is broken.

One of the greatest difficulties is to get people who are not afraitor to run for offices like Director of the Imperial Irrigation District, school boards, members of City Councils, etc. As a matter of fact, Mrs. Jane Jolly who is running for Director of Area #2, got the idea from reading my Newsletter entitled, "WANTED-CANDIDATE FOR DIRECTOR OF AREA #2 IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT". This Newsletter asked for persons to run for Director who were interested in reducing the high electricity rates.

As long as the big ranchers have the power to intimidate the people, it seemed hopeless to think that at least 3 persons would be elected to the Board of Directors of the I.I.D. so that they would be the majority and adjust downward the electricity rates.

With the brilliant advice of Attorney Arthur Brunwasser, it was decided that I run for Director of Area#4 of the Imperial Irrigation District. With the \$6,000 salary to use for legal fees, accountant fees, etc. it would be possible to run a \$200 millions anti-trust suit against the Imperial Irrigation District and the Coachella Valley County Water District for conspiracy in price fixing of electricity to swindle the electricity users for the benefit of the big ranches.

BY THIS METHOD, ONE PERSON LIKE MYSELF CAN BREAK UP THE ELECTRIC-ITY SWINDLE WITHOUT THE HELP OF ANY OTHER DIRECTOR OF THE I.I.D. HOW-EVER, YOU VOTERS IN AREA #2 (IMPERIAL) CAN GIVE ME GREAT HELP IF YOU ELECT JANE JOLLY A DIRECTOR.

Robert Carter, the general manager of the I.I.D. has come up out of his deep sleep squealing like a stuck pig. He and the big farm interests who are his master, recognize the great significance of the legal action with Lawyer Brunwasser leading the attack.

But I want you voters to think this over carefully. Rip Van Winkle Carter is just an employee of the I.I.D. He is using the time and money of the I.I.D. to defeat me by putting out public statements saying that you can not compare the \$19.55 per 1,000 kwhours rate of the I.I.D. with the \$6.78 rate for the same amount of electricity in the Tennessee Valley Authority territory.

The Imperial Irrigation District is a governmental agency. No employee has the right to do the type of politicking that Carter is doing. You do not see any employee of the Post Office or any State Agency doing such politicking in elections. Candidates for office are the only ones entitled to engage in such political activities. Carter had 7 years to do his explaining in non-election years.

Old Rip Carter had better take some CARTERS LITTLE LIVER FILLS to stimulate him to put locks on the watergates so that about 1 million acre feet of water is not stolen every year. The big ranches use Mexicans who live in Mexico as irrigators and these men will not talk how they lift the water gates and steal tremendous amounts of water. When Carter and his clique are kicked out and the zanjeros employed by the I.I.D. are not afraid they will be fired for reporting water stealing, the zanjeros will tell some interesting stories;

Once the anti-trust suit is started and Lawyer Brunwasser gets our accountants in on the books of the I.I.D., you voters will learn some of the interesting trick bookkeeping going on. Carter's job is to see that water is not stolen and to stop the trick bookkeeping and not to do politicking in election years.

Rip Van Winkle Carter does not attack Neal Jack, the millionaire farmer who is my opponent who in the IMPERIAL VALLEY PRESS of Oct. 23, 1967 is quoted as, "CANDIDATE WANTS IID RATE CUT". Carter said that I was comparing a retail I.I.D. rate of \$19.55 with a TVA wholesale rate of \$6.78. But the Imperial Valley Press (Oct. 31, 1967) and the Brawley News have this headline, "TVA BACKS YALLEN CLAIM- REFUTAS CARTER ON RATES". It tells how Paul Evans, TVA Chief of Information says that the \$6.78 rate is retail.

Just read the Brawley News or Imperial Valley Press of 1937 and you can see many articles where the I.I.D. said that if the people voted to go into the electric power business, its rates would be much cheaper than the private electric company that was here. WE WANT CHEAP RATES!!!