

November 4, 1971

# JUDGE WM. MURRAY CONDEMNNS PEOPLE TO SEMI-SLAVERY

Every public official hopes that history will honor his memory by telling the good deeds the public official has done. So it must be explained to you, FEDERAL JUDGE WILLIAM MURRAY OF BUTTE, MONTANA, why such a harsh judgment about you is being made in the headline of this Newsletter.

You have been a Federal Judge for many years but the old saying, "JUSTICE LONG DELAYED IS NOT JUSTICE AT ALL", has apparently not made much impression on you.

One month ago, you were sent a Newsletter dated October 3, 1971 and entitled "OPEN LETTER TO JUDGE WM. MURRAY" with other Newsletters. These were sent to you not to influence your decision in the lawsuit BEN YELLEN et al. V. SECRETARY OF INTERIOR but to point out to you that you had presided at hearings of this lawsuit about March 23, 1971 and now it was six months later and you had not yet given your decision.

You had at the same time received the Newsletter dated Sept. 6, 1970 entitled "OPEN LETTER TO JUDGE TURRENTINE" where I had complained that in the lawsuit U.S. v. IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT, that the lawsuit was not brought to trial although it had been filed almost 4 years ago.

From this Newsletter to Judge Turrentine, you learned that if the complaint was true, that big absentee corporations like the Dow Chemical Co., The Irvine Co., The Purex Corp., the United Fruit Co., the Kaiser Chemical & Aluminum Co., The S.P. Railroad Co., etc. were depriving the bonafide residents of Imperial County, Calif. of \$50 millions in profits annually from an agricultural production of \$250 millions per year. Imperial County ranks 5th in the United States in agricultural production.

SUCH A STATE OF AFFAIRS WHERE BIG ABSENTEE CORPORATIONS MILK AN AREA FOR ALL THE PROFITS, AVOID PAYING THEIR CORRECT LOCAL TAXES, AND IMPOSE OTHER EXPLOITATION METHODS ON THE LOCAL RESIDENTS, CAN ONLY BE CALLED A STATE OF SEMI-SLAVERY.

The lawsuit BEN YELLEN et. al. V. SECRETARY OF INTERIOR is just another legal action to end this state of semi-slavery. As was explained to you in OPEN LETTER TO JUDGE WM. MURRAY, I am in failing health and am providing the funds from my medical practice for this lawsuit. You were told that there are 123 other complainants with me in this lawsuit, but that they were too poor to be able to give money for the prosecution of this lawsuit which will eventually end up in the U.S. Supreme Court.

You were informed that if I died before you gave your decision it would make no difference what your decision was FOR THE NET RESULT WOULD BE THAT THE ABSENTEE CORPORATIONS WOULD WIN. The loser in your decision would appeal the case but if I was dead, there would be no money forthcoming to either appeal your decision or if our group won, to fight the appeal of our opponents.

Judge Turrentine when he got his OPEN LETTER, he promptly set the date for the trial. Ten days after he presided at the hearings, he gave a verbal decision. Within 3 months, he gave his written decision. When you received your OPEN LETTER, 6 months had gone by. Was it the proper thing for you to delay another month and as of this date there still is no decision?

Sudden death can come to anyone. Why do the little people living here have to depend on my heart not stopping to beat to get "due process of the law". You Judges all talk of LAW & ORDER". That is what we are doing but it is all going to be a lot of wasted motion if my heart decides to stop. I and the little people here want these injustices stopped by rule of law but this will be impossible if despite the heavy odds against us, our success has to also depend on my heartbeat.

On November 2, 1971, your delay in not giving your decision in October has resulted in another great obstacle to the little people being able to bring this lawsuit to the U.S. Supreme Court.

No matter how brilliant your legal decision that you will give in this lawsuit, can remedy the great wrong you did to the little people here by your unexplainable delay. I am just a family doctor who can just afford the expenses of the preliminary skirmishes of this lawsuit. Even if I was young and in perfect health, I could not afford the tremendous expense of taking a lawsuit to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The local newspapers are owned by absentee corporations who are in collusion with the big farm corporations. THEY HAVE NEVER PRINTED ONE WORD ABOUT THE LAWSUIT BEN YELLEN ET AL. v. SECRETARY OF INTERIOR. I have run for every public office possible so that I can get elected and use the salary to pay the expenses of the lawsuit on its way to the U.S. Supreme Court. THE VOTERS KNOW NOTHING ABOUT THIS LAWSUIT.

The only way the voters can find out what I am trying to do for them is by me walking the streets giving out my Newsletters. The big ranch corporations prevent me from being elected for they know that I will use the salary for the lawsuit expenses. So the newspapers do not mention the lawsuit, will not print my Letter to the Editor, do character assassination against me whenever possible. At election time the big rancher candidate has big newspaper advertising, big billboards, radio announcements, etc. I have none of this--only give out my Newsletters. A "CURTAIN OF SILENCE" about this lawsuit keeps voters ignorant.

If you had given your decision EVEN IF IT WERE AGAINST ME AND MY GROUP, the newspapers would have printed the decision. So at least in an election, the people would know what I am trying to do. But if your decision had been in favor of my group, I would have bought radio time and announced the favorable decision over the air. It would have had an electrifying effect. Many people just will not vote for me for they believe it is hopeless to fight the big corporations. No resident in this County is able to publicly say what I say in my Newsletters. Everyone lives in fear of loss of job or business.

On November 2, 1971, I ran for Director of Division 4 of the IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT. This job pays \$6,000.00 yearly and the work consists of a one hour meeting each week. So you can see this would have been a perfect public office which in 4 years would have given \$24,000.00 to push the lawsuit to the U.S. Supreme Court plus the small amount of money I could afford from my practice.

Here is the result of the election--Neal Jack, President of big farm corporation got 990 votes, Ben Yellen got 730 votes and Earle Lewis 84 votes. If you had given your decision and especially if it was favorable to our group, the doubters would have voted for me and \$6,000.00 yearly would have been used for the lawsuit. I am 64 years and by next election if alive will be 68. Judge Murray, you have condemned the little people to semi-slavery by your endless delay.