

NEWSLETTER FROM DR. BEN YELLEN
Brawley, Calif.

July 15, 1968

THANK YOU RANK & FILE REPUBLICANS

FOR WRITING IN BEN YELLEN ON THE REPUBLICAN BALLOT FOR
ASSEMBLYMAN OF THE 75TH DISTRICT IN THE PRIMARY ELECTION ON JUNE 4TH.

As you know, I made no campaign for such a write in. The rank and file of both the Republican and Democratic parties do not know about the write in votes you gave me for they have been kept in ignorance by SCHURZ'S PROSTITUTED PRESS WHICH HAS PAPERS IN INDIO, BRAWLEY, AND EL CENTRO.

It encourages me greatly to learn that the little people in the Republican party are reading my Newsletters and finding out how the big ranchers are swindling the people living in Imperial County and in that portion of Coachella Valley of Riverside County supplied with electricity by the Imperial Irrigation District. The total of the swindles is \$25 millions yearly. The Coachella Valley County Water District helps the I.I.D. in the electricity racket.

The big ranchers control the ASSESSORS in Imperial and Riverside Counties. These Assessors make fake low assessments on the ranches so that each rancher escapes at least 50% of his property taxes. The people living in Imperial County and the area of the Coachella Valley County Water District have to pay \$11 millions more in taxes yearly to make up for the property taxes the big ranchers escape.

The electricity racket amounts to \$14 millions yearly. Here is how it works--the ranchers of the Imperial Irrigation District in Imperial County and the ranchers in the Coachella Valley County Water District of Riverside County get irrigation water at 1/4 the correct price. To make up for the tremendous losses of selling the irrigation water below cost, the I.I.D. sells the electricity at 3 times the correct price thereby swindling the people out of \$14 millions yearly.

THE BIG RANCHERS ARE BOTH REPUBLICAN AND DEMOCRAT AND IN ELECTIONS THEY WORK TOGETHER TO ELECT THOSE WHO WILL HELP THEM SWINDLE US.

If your electricity bill per month is \$15.00, it should be \$5.00. You should only pay \$10.00 if your bill is \$30.00. If the bill is \$90.00, it should be \$30.00. Merchants, businessmen, motel owners, etc. who have bills like \$300.00 per month, will only pay \$100.00.

One of the main reasons that I am running for Assemblyman, is to put in a bill into the State Legislature so that the Imperial Irrigation District will be put under the Calif. Public Utilities Commission. If this is done, the irrigation water will be sold at the correct price and your electricity bills will be 1/3 what they are now.

Victor Veysey is a millionaire rancher who has been Assemblyman for 6 years. He will not put in such a bill into the Legislature. The big ranchers know what I am trying to do. They do not want to pay the correct bills for irrigation water. They prefer to swindle the people. SO THEY WILL SPEND LOTS OF MONEY TO STOP ME FROM BEING ELECTED!!!

Victor Veysey and his Republican big ranchers got together with Democrat big ranchers like Ed Rutherford and John Benson. All of them were afraid of me since I was the only candidate on the Democratic ballot for Assemblyman of the 75th District in the primary election. Veysey was the only candidate for this office on the Republican ballot. Ordinarily, this would mean that both of us would be candidates in the November election.

So Veysey and the big ranchers tried to defeat me in the primary by conducting an expensive write in vote against me. Veysey is a millionaire rancher who is a leech on the body politic. He mooches \$100,000.00 yearly from the government at the county, state, and Federal level. Just in irrigation water bills alone, he escapes \$40,000.00 yearly and we the rank and file in both the Republican and Democratic parties, have to pay \$40,000 more in electricity bills to make up for Veysey.

I particularly bring to the attention of the little people in the Republican party that Ed Rutherford and Jack Benson have ranches which escape more than \$100,000.00 each yearly in irrigation water bills. Rutherford about 5 years ago was the Chairman of the Imperial County Central Democratic Committee. The mother of John Benson throws big cocktail parties at her home when Congressman Tunney visits here. All the Big Democrat ranchers meet Tunney at these cocktail parties. The rank and file of the Democratic party are never invited to these parties. The big ranchers are afraid they will be contaminated.

You are told all this so that you little Republicans will realize that I am not running for Assemblyman on a partisan basis. My election will help the rank and file of both the Republican and Democratic parties to get electricity bills which are 1/3 of what they are now.

Here is how Veysey with the aid of the big Democrat ranchers tried to run me off the Democratic ballot. If they had succeeded, only Veysey would be on the ballot in the November election. They put up big roadside signs all over the 75th Assembly District. These were put up about 2 weeks before the primary election and read:

ALL PARTIES AGREE
RE-ELECT VICTOR V. VEYSEY

Then Ed Rutherford and Jack Benson sent 26,000 letters to registered Democrats telling them to write in Veysey's name on the Democratic ballot. The voters got these letters just 4 days before the primary so that I would not have any chance to fight back. Benson and Rutherford had their names signed to this letter. They called their organization DEMOCRATS FOR GOOD GOVERNMENT.

The newspapers were full of articles about the write in campaign against me. There were radio announcements telling the people to write in Veysey. No newspaper asked me for a statement about the situation. I did not spend one cent asking rank and file Republicans to write me in on the Republican ballot. That is why I appreciate so greatly that some of you little people in the Republican party wrote me in on the Republican ballot without any urging on my part.

Excluding the filing fee of \$160.00 which both Veysey and I had to pay to become candidates, Veysey reported that he spent \$7,000.00 for the primary election. I spent only \$9.00. Ed Rutherford with his organization in violation of the election laws made no report. A conservative estimate is that they spent \$5,000.00. So my opponents spent \$12,000.00 on the write in and got 2,250 votes at the cost of \$5.00 per vote. I spent nothing on a write in and got 46 votes. In the November 1962 election, I ran as a write in candidate for Assessor of Imperial County. I got 747 votes and only spent \$20.00. So you can see what a big failure the writein campaign was for Veysey.

In the regular voting(not writein) Veysey got 12,758 votes and I got 12,401. This vote does not have much significance as many voters do not bother to vote for a candidate running unopposed. Please pass this Newsletter around to the voters so they know the truth. VOTE FOR BEN YELLEN FOR ASSEMBLYMAN IN NOVEMBER. STOP THE SWINDLING!