CRIMINAL INDICTMENTS PROMISED BY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

LOS ANGELES, California -- Taking testimony from a number of prominent state and county officials, including California Secretary of State Edmund G. Brown, Jr., and Los Angeles District Attorney Joseph P. Busch, an Assembly Committee has uncovered widespread fraud in the certification of Proposition 22 for the November 7 ballot.

The Farm Bureau and other agribusiness interests have attributed spending over $490,000 in placing the measure on the ballot, and expect to spend even more in advertising during the closing weeks of the campaign.

Illegal use of minors to secure signatures, use of "dodger" cards and gross misrepresentation of fact were among the tactics exposed during hearings of the Assembly Committee on Elections and Apportionment in Los Angeles October 21.

The most dramatic testimony during the day came from Secretary of State Edmund Brown, who earlier made an unsuccessful attempt to have Proposition 22 removed from the ballot because of the fraud he had uncovered.

Brown showed the Committee NBC and CBS film clips of Robert Winters of American Advertising and Sales, one of several public relations firms paid to gain certification for Proposition 22, demonstrating how he had instructed signature-gatherers to use a printed "dodger card" in cover up an official description of the proposition on its petitions.

Brown also had a number of people in the audience come forward to tell the Committee how they had been deceived into signing the petitions for the measure or gathering signatures for it.

Fifteen year old John Ham and his mother, Mrs. Grace Ham, told the Committee how they were tricked into gathering signatures for Proposition 22.

Fifteen-year-old John Ham of Norwalk testified under oath that he had been paid eighteen cents a name to gather signatures for the proposition by a public relations firm. His mother, Mrs. Grace Ham, then told the Committee that she had been required to come to the firm's office to sign the petition as the official signature gatherer in order for John to be paid.

Both acts—the gathering of signatures for an initiative by a minor, and the certifying of those signatures by someone other than the gatherer—are illegal under California law and subject to criminal penalties. John and Mrs. Ham told the Committee that they were unaware of this illegality at the time John was employed by the firm, and that they had voluntarily come forward to give their testimony when they had learned of it.

Brown also called on Rabbi David Verne! of UCLA, who told the Committee he had been persuaded to sign the petition after being told that it was "to help farm workers.

"It is very embarrassing to have to admit this," said Verne!, "especially with my very strong feelings on the subject.

Brown had several other witnesses available in the audience, and read from numerous letters and affidavits on the topic similar to that experienced by the committee.

Secretary of State Edmund G. Brown, Jr. reads several affidavits to the Assembly Committee demonstrating that Proposition 22 had been fraudulently qualified for the November 7 ballot.

Los Angeles Times Fri., Sept. 15, 1972

Brown Sues to Remove Farm Ballot Measure

Calls Drive for Signatures Worst Case of Election Fraud to Be Uncovered in State

BY WILLIAM ENDICOTT

Sacramento — Secretary of State Edmund G. Brown, Jr. filed suit, Thursday in Sacramento Superior Court to remove a controversial farm labor initiative from the November general election ballot.

He said more than 63,000 signatures on petitions to qualify the measure for the ballot were obtained as a result of fraudulent and misleading representations made to signers.

Brown called it the "worst case of election fraud ever to be uncovered in California."

Brown's action stemmed from investigations by his office and district attorneys in 10 counties.

He said he had received approximately 5,000 letters and signed statements from persons who said they signed petitions under false pretenses.

The Fair Labor Practices Committee, a front group for agriculture interests in the state of California spent more than $240,000 to qualify Proposition 22 for the ballot on November 7 and intends to spend over $300,000 more to get it past the voters. This committee hired the public relations firms Alan Blashard & Associates and America Advertising and Sales to collect the signatures needed to qualify the initiative.

Where did the Fair Labor Practices Committee get the money to hire these firms? The following is a partial list of those who made the largest contributions to finance the Fair Labor Practices Committee so far:

- California Agricultural Council
- United Farm Workers
- California Canners
- California Dairymen
- California Farm Bureau
- Southern Pacific
- Western Grain Growers
- American Dairy Association
- California Milk Producers
- California Dairy Association
- California Canners & Growers
- California Dairymen & Growers
- California Farmers Union
- American Dairy Association
- United Farm Workers
- California Agriculture Council
- California Canners
- California Dairymen
- California Farm Bureau
- Southern Pacific
- Western Grain Growers
- American Dairy Association
- California Milk Producers
- California Dairy Association
- California Dairymen & Growers
- California Canners & Growers
- California Farmers Union

Who's Behind the Fraud?
California Labor Battles New Move To Hamstring Farm Workers Union

Los Angeles—California labor pledged an all-out fight for support of the United Farm Workers against a November election initiative that threatens the survival of the fledgling union.

The latest campaign to be waged in behalf of the UFW emerged here at the ninth biennial convention of the California state AFL-CIO.

The target is Proposition 22, the Agricultural Labor Relations initiative, which if passed would outlaw specified types of strikes, picketing and boycotts in the farm industry. Among other anti-labor measures it would create a board with power to certify organizations as bargaining representatives, conduct elections and prevent "unfair" labor practices.

John F. Henning, executive secretary-treasurer of the state federation, announced formation of a United Labor Committee to battle the proposal during an appearance of UFW Director Cesar Chavez at the convention.

Henning named Chavez as his co-chairman to head the United Labor Committee to defeat the initiative and said the organization will encompass Teamster, Auto Workers and Longshoremen as well as AFL-CIO unions. He received unanimous approval from the delegates for an immediate $10,000 contribution from the state federation with the provision that more funds will be made available as necessary.

Henning told the delegates that banks, growers and conservative anti-labor forces in the state are preparing to spend in excess of $1 million for success of the initiative.
State’s Bishops Oppose Proposition 22

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — The Catholic bishops of California have asked voters to reject Proposition 22, a November ballot proposal to restrict unionizing activities of farm laborers and outline secondary boycotts of agricultural products.

The proposal is supported by large agricultural interests and opposed by unions, most notably Cesar Chavez’ United Farm Workers Union. The UFW’s current lettuce boycott would be crippled by the law.

CALLING THEIR OPPOSITION to Proposition 22 a matter of “science,” the California bishops declared:

“It is our conclusion that this proposed act deviates so widely from a just and equitable approach to settling agricultural labor problems that, if adopted, it would undoubt­edly create far more serious tensions and difficulties than it attempts to solve.”

They called the statement of California bishops, which took exception to claims by proponents of the bill that it followed National Labor Relations Act guidelines. “Although publicized as following closely the terms of the National Labor Relations Act,” said the bishops, “the provisions of Proposition 22 actually deprive or restrict the (present) rights of the state’s farm workers.”

The bishops outlined several of their specific objections to the proposition:

• “The election criteria and procedures proposed in the initiative so restrict the farm workers’ freedom choosing to join a union that they must be declared in direct opposition to the basic right of free choice.”

• “The criteria for worker eligibility are so worded as to deny the (present) majority of farm workers the right to vote.”

• “The proposed act grants to the employers management rights which make it virtually impossible for the farm workers to negotiate many is­sues affecting their basic working conditions.”

• “The basic right of workers to strike is so conditioned by the act as to render this right meaning­less.”

4—THE MONITOR, SEPTEMBER 28, 1972

Archbishop Timothy Manning of Los Angeles

Archbishop Joseph T. McGucken of San Francisco

Board of Rabbits Votes Unanimously to Oppose Proposition 22

LOS ANGELES, California — The Board of Rabbits of Southern California voted unanimously September 11 to oppose Propo­sition 22 and called for an investigation of the charges of fraud and deception against the groups who collected the signatures to put the initiative on the ballot November 7.

The Board of Rabbits issued the following statement:

“As reliable, we are committed to the biblical talmudic injunction to share concern for the rights of the laborer and to as­sume his economic and social welfare. Our prophetic and halachic heritage summons us to manifest at all times a high regard for individual freedom and dignity and for the establishment of love and righteousness in human affairs.

We therefore wish to express our opposition to Proposition 22 on the November 1972 ballot which would seriously restrict the agricultural workers of this state in their right to strike and boycott and to participate in proper union representation elections. We call upon the members of our congregations to make careful study of the implications of this proposition and to defeat it on November 7, 1972.

We are also seriously disturbed over the manner in which Proposition 22 was placed on the ballot and urge our elected officials to investigate the charges of fraud and deception that have been raised against the groups that collected signatures for the initiative.

LOS ANGELES TIMES Sep. 9, 1972

Church Group Opposes Farm Worker Initiative

The general board of the Southern California Coun­cil of Churches has voted unanimously to oppose Proposition 22, the Agri­cultural Labor Relations Act, which will appear on California ballots in No­vember. “It is unfair to farm workers in that it cripples their right to strike and boycott, and excludes most migrants and seasonal farm workers from union representation elec­tions,” the board said in a meeting this week.

The board called its dozen member denomina­tions to study carefully the contents of Proposi­tion 22 prior to election day, Nov. 7.

Board members also said they shared the concern of some elected officials as to the way in which Proposition 22 was placed on the ballot through the initia­tive procedure...
As California moves into the decade of the '70s maintaining and improving its position as the leading agricultural state in the nation, the need for legislation to bring stability to farm labor relations becomes increasingly apparent.

No state or federal labor legislation covers farm workers now. Unions, chiefly Cesar Chavez' AFL-CIO United Farm Workers Union, organize as best they can by strikes and boycotts. Neither government nor worker has the protection of law to delineate the rights and define the responsibilities of each.

Good farm legislation would strike a balance between the interests of farm owner and farm laborer to the end that California agriculture as a whole would continue to prosper. Such legislation would have to make special provision for the special conditions of farm economies and farm work; both grower and laborer are extraordinarily vulnerable to economic pressure at harvest time.

Proposition 22 on the November ballot, an Agricultural Labor Relations Act, purports to bring order from chaos on the California farm. Unfortunately it would not.

It would provoke, not prevent, conflict on the farm. It would retard, not encourage the passage of national farm labor legislation, which would put California farmers on an equal footing with producers in other states.

Proposition 22 is futile, because it would disfranchise most farm workers and prevent the establishment of freely chosen representative unions. It would leave growers practically immune to more economic pressure. It would make it virtually impossible for workers to negotiate basic working conditions.

The 7,000-word initiative is opposed by the Council of Churches of Northern and Southern California, the Southern California Board of Rabbis and the Roman Catholic Bishops of California.

Moving into a void left by state and federal law, the bishops have for several years mediated between grower and worker. The bishops have said the initiative violates the 'bedrock social doctrine' of their church.

It can fairly be said that Proposition 22 violates also the bedrock social doctrine of American labor law, which tries to reach an equitable balance between employer and employee in consonance with the good of the nation. Proposition 22 would not solve present difficulties but create new ones. It is not a step forward but a step backward. We urge a No vote on Proposition 22.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA INTERFAITH COMMITTEE FOR JUSTICE FOR FARM WORKERS

Reverend John C. Moyer
Reverend Linda S. Durham
Reverend William H. Stegel
Reverend Donald G. Broderon
Ms. Gloria A. Carrillo
Reverend William A. Noel
Ms. Anna Draper
Reverend & Mrs. Robert M. Herbold
Father Gabriel D. Oishi
Father Pablo Garcia, O.P.
Reverend Donald G. Broderon
Ms. Gloria A. Carrillo
Mr. L.1. Wawdell
Reverend Thomas W. Gearawan
Father Peter Jacob McConnell
Reverend Travis L. Campbell
Reverend Marlon W. Lemon
Reverend Frank Plaisted
Reverend David Schilling
Mrgs. Francis A. Quinn
Mrs. S. Armin pencil
Reverend Harry Scholfield
Ms. Rita Sensel
Mrs. Efren DeSana
Ms. Alan S. Wing
Father Joseph E.开通, O.P.M.
Reverend Michael J. Burns
Father John C. Peterson
Father Daniel Derry
Father James Macaulay
Father Jacob J. Sunder
Father S. Armin pencil
Reverend Richard Roe
Mr. & Mrs. Rich Tets
Ms. Mary F. Miesendahl
Reverend John C. Moyer
Reverend Linda S. Durham
Reverend William H. Stegel
Reverend Donald G. Broderon
Ms. Gloria A. Carrillo
Reverend William A. Noel
Ms. Anna Draper
Reverend & Mrs. Robert M. Herbold
Father Gabriel D. Oishi
Father Pablo Garcia, O.P.
Reverend Donald G. Broderon
Ms. Gloria A. Carrillo
Mr. L.1. Wawdell
Reverend Thomas W. Gearawan
Father Peter Jacob McConnell
Reverend Travis L. Campbell
Reverend Marlon W. Lemon
Reverend Frank Plaisted
Reverend David Schilling
Mrgs. Francis A. Quinn
Mrs. S. Armin pencil
Reverend Harry Scholfield
Ms. Rita Sensel
Mrs. Efren DeSana
Ms. Alan S. Wing
Father Joseph E.开通, O.P.M.
Reverend Michael J. Burns
Father John C. Peterson
Father Daniel Derry
Father James Macaulay
Father Jacob J. Sunder
Father S. Armin pencil
Reverend Richard Roe
Mr. & Mrs. Rich Tets
Ms. Mary F. Miesendahl
Reverend John C. Moyer
Reverend Linda S. Durham
Reverend William H. Stegel
Reverend Donald G. Broderon
Ms. Gloria A. Carrillo
Reverend William A. Noel
Ms. Anna Draper
Reverend & Mrs. Robert M. Herbold
Father Gabriel D. Oishi
Father Pablo Garcia, O.P.