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1947

### Voting Flyer for Eureka Communist Party

Eureka Communist Party

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# WHY VOTE AWAY YOUR VOTE?

Eureka voters who go to the polls June 16th to elect the candidates of their choice to conduct the various affairs of the city government, will be performing this function for the last time--UNLESS PROPOSITION ONE IS DEFEATED.

If the Proposed New City Charter is adopted, the voters will have given up their right to select any city officers except the members of the Board of Education and the Council. They will be entrusting all appointments to the council and to a Chief Administrative Officer (city manager) selected by the council.

## PROVISIONS BASICALLY UNDEMOCRATIC

This drastic change in the form of Eureka's city government might have some merit provided the voters could keep control over the council and the manager. But this is exactly what the Proposed New City Charter does not permit. Under its provisions:

The manager is not responsible to the people, but only to the seven man council, in which a 5/7ths vote is needed to remove him.

The councilmen have staggered four year terms; four members elected, then three, at two year intervals.

Thus no amount of popular indignation could unseat the full council at one election--as was done by Eureka voters in 1939.

(Note that in the recent Oakland election a campaign conducted by united labor and allied groups succeeded in removing four Warren-Knowland machine councilmen. There is little doubt that a clean sweep would have resulted had the entire council been up for election; but Oakland has a city-manager and staggered council terms, so the people could achieve only a partial house cleaning.)

As if to emphasize their lack of faith in action by the people, the framers of the Proposed New Charter have left a mile-wide loophole in the provisions governing use of the Recall. There is nothing to prevent the council from passing regulative ordinances which would make this most important weapon of the people impractical if not completely useless.

## WHO WILL BENEFIT ?

Why are the Chamber of Commerce and other business groups in Eureka waging such a costly campaign for the adoption of this charter? What do they really mean by their slogans of "business-like efficiency" and "Progressive Government" ?

(Note that the Chamber of ~~Commerce~~ of Richmond, replying to the Eureka chamber's query about ~~its~~ city manager government, characterizes it as "conservative yet aggressive."

The proponents of the Proposed New City Charter spend a lot of time comparing Eureka's city business with that of a 16 million dollar corporation. "Why not manage the city's business the way the corporation's is managed?" The question sounds reasonable enough until you stop to think about it:

WHO EVER HEARD OF A 16 MILLION DOLLAR CORPORATION THAT WAS RUN IN THE INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE ?

Would you like to see Eureka run--as a model of "business-like efficiency"--the way the big lumber companies are run?

Would you like to see Fentriss Hill, Lord of Korbel--who runs to the reactionary 80th Congress to add fuel to the current anti-labor drive--installed as a "non-partisan, non-political" city manager?

## DON'T VOTE AWAY YOUR VOTE !

The City is a business, yes. But not a business devoted to the ruthless pursuit of profits. The City's business is the welfare of its citizens, and for this reason its government belongs in the hands of its citizens.

DEFEAT PROPOSITION ONE !

Vote "NO" on June 16th, and clear the way for revising and amending the present basically democratic city charter.

EUREKA COMMUNIST PARTY  
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