

The San Francisco

INVESTIGATOR

The newsletter for people who do not trust City Hall

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VICTORY

Voters repudiate Brown Machine on June 2

The day after: A haggard Mayor Willie Lewis Brown appeared on a morning talk show. "The Office of Protocol is no more," he wept. "Apparently, the voters do not approve of the way we are rebuilding City Hall," he complained. "I guess they don't like our plans for Treasure Island—either," he whimpered.

Brown's nemesis, State Senator Quentin Kopp, also made the round of morning shows. If Willie Brown was a canary—this cat was licking his chops.

WAY TO GO SAN FRANCISCO!

As a co-sponsor of Prop F—the anti-Party Palace & Protocol Office ballot measure—SFI was feeling pretty good, too. It was our March 1997 exposure of cost-overruns, wet-bars and party suites at Willie Brown's redesigned Taj Mahal that ignited a popular lawsuit to stop His Honor from personalizing public property. The Prop F ballot initiative grew out of SFI's (and Babette Drefke's) failed lawsuit, which was skewered by fine print. Then, on June 2, Prop F pulled an amazing 59 percent of the vote—despite a massive campaign of expensive disinformation mounted against it by the Brown Machine and the SF Chronicle's stenographer at City Hall, Edward Epstein.

Even more amazing: Assessor-candidate Fred Perez won nearly

forty percent of the vote against incumbent Doris Ward, who had a war chest of money to throw around; and the endorsement of every City Hall official and political courtesan—not to mention most of the media. Diamond-stick-pin-wearing Perez had mounted a lackluster, low-profile, utterly boring campaign. It seems that our publisher's article on Assessor Ward's maladministration—in the May 6 SF Weekly—had some effect on public opinion, after all.

We have always claimed that Mayor Brown's supposed popularity is but smoke and mirrors. After all,

his margin in the first round of the 1995 general election was only 5,000 votes—split away from Frank Jordan by Gingrichian Ben Hom. The events of June 1998 should scotch the myth of Brown's political "genius." Two days after the show, One-Term Brown told the press that he will not perform the actions required by the popular propositions that drowned him in political shame. Next.

On a heavier note: Willie Brown's letter to Housing Authority honcho Ronnie Davis—reproduced on page 4—is a violation of the Hatch

VICTORY CONTINUES ON PAGE 4

Media Blackout

SF Housing Authority Director a Forger?

As the April memo from Willie Brown to Housing Authority Director Ronnie Davis (see page 4) shows, Brown expected the federally-funded bureaucrat to repeat the June 1997 election fraud engineering activities that won Davis a \$170,000 salary from Brown's Housing Authority Commission.

For the last few weeks, the Cleveland Plain Dealer—and not the Chron/Ex—has been reporting the facts behind the firing of Davis' former boss, Claire E. Freeman-McCown, from her \$218,000 sinecure as head of the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority (Cleveland). Freeman threw a \$600,000 contract to her soon-to-be husband, Ira A. McCown. As this came to light, the FBI discovered that the Authority was paying a \$100,000 mortgage on Freeman's townhouse in Alexandria, Virginia.

San Francisco Housing Authority Director Davis—a Freeman crony—then produced a letter—sent to him for some unknown reason—approving the mortgage payment, signed by several Cuyahoga Metropolitan commissioners on July 17, 1993. Only, the signatures appear to have been forged; and there is no record of a meeting on that date. Stay tuned. ■

I CANNOT ACCEPT
YOUR CANON THAT
WE ARE TO JUDGE
POPE AND KING
UNLIKE OTHER MEN,
WITH A FAVORABLE
PRESUMPTION THAT
THEY DID NO WRONG.
IF THERE IS ANY
PRESUMPTION IT IS
THE OTHER WAY
AGAINST HOLDERS
OF POWER.
INCREASING AS THE
POWER INCREASES.
HISTORIC
RESPONSIBILITY HAS
TO MAKE WAY FOR
THE WANT OF LEGAL
RESPONSIBILITY.
POWER TENDS TO
CORRUPT AND
ABSOLUTE POWER
CORRUPTS
ABSOLUTELY. GREAT
MEN ARE ALMOST
ALWAYS BAD MEN,
EVEN WHEN THEY
EXERCISE INFLUENCE
AND NOT AUTHORITY.
STILL MORE WHEN
YOU SUPERADD THE
TENDENCY OR
CERTAINTY OF
CORRUPTION BY
AUTHORITY. THERE
IS NO WORSE HERESY
THAN THAT THE
OFFICE SANCTIFIES
THE HOLDER OF IT....
AND THAT THE END
JUSTIFIES THE MEANS.
HERE ARE THE
GREATER NAMES
COUPLED WITH THE
GREATER CRIMES.
YOU WOULD SPARE
THESE CRIMINALS,
FOR SOME
MYSTERIOUS REASON.
I WOULD HANG THEM
HIGH... FOR REASONS
OF OBVIOUS JUSTICE.
STILL MORE,
STILL HIGHER, FOR
THE SAKE OF
HISTORICAL SCIENCE.

Lord Acton.
The History of Liberty