

# The Honorable Governor Culbert Levy Olson

A Progressive Statesman Before His Time

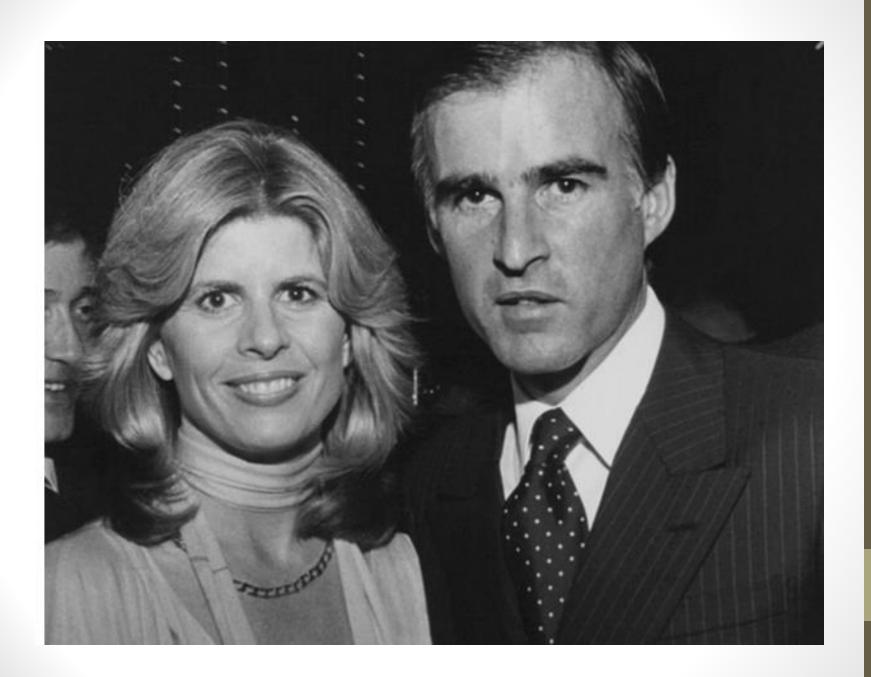
## The Honorable Culbert Levy Olson

Governor of California 1938-1942



# The First Digital Exhibit for a California Governor





#### Raised in the Mormon faith



## Delilah King Olson



#### Utah State Senator in 1916



## Delilah King Olson, Culbert's mother, with her daughters, Edith & Bertha (Bobo)



# Culbert with his Brothers & Sisters













# With Maude Eliza & William E. Shiels at their Children's Wedding





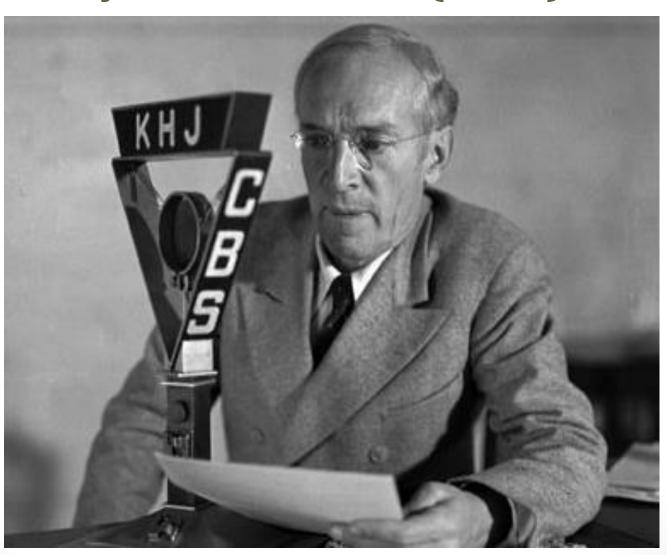




# The Olsons' 33<sup>rd</sup> Wedding Anniversary in 1938



## Supporter of Upton Sinclair's "End Poverty in California" (EPIC)

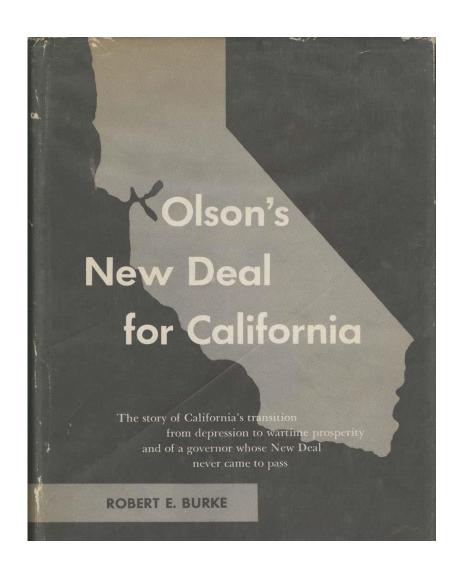


## In 1934, Elected to California State Senate





#### New Deal for California



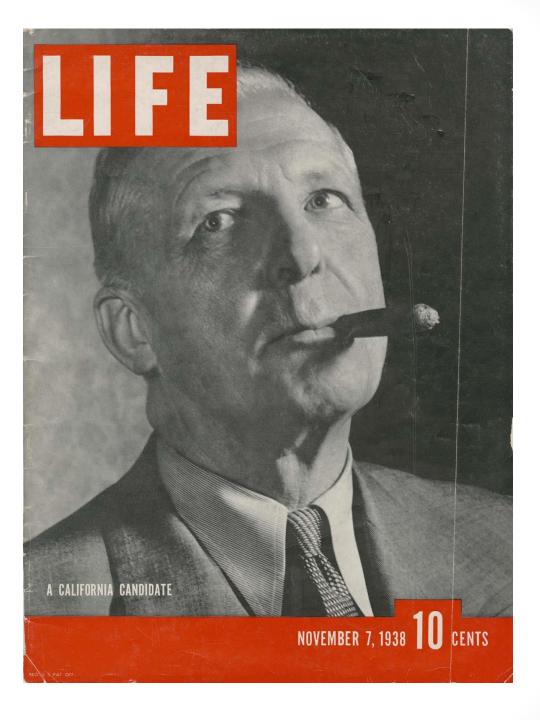
# Culbert Olson Ran for Governor in 1938

#### His platform included:

- Support for Labor and Unions
- Guaranteed Old Age Pensions
- Universal Healthcare
- Regulation of Public Utilities
- Separation of Church and State

## Campaign Postcard 1938





#### The Olsons' cast their ballots





## Inaugural Address

"There is none among us who can doubt that the people have voted for a government that shall honestly place human values before material values; that they want a government that will do the human thing in a sound and workable way, unswerved by pressure from any self-seeking group or special interest."

#### Governor Olson Sworn In



## Crossing fingers









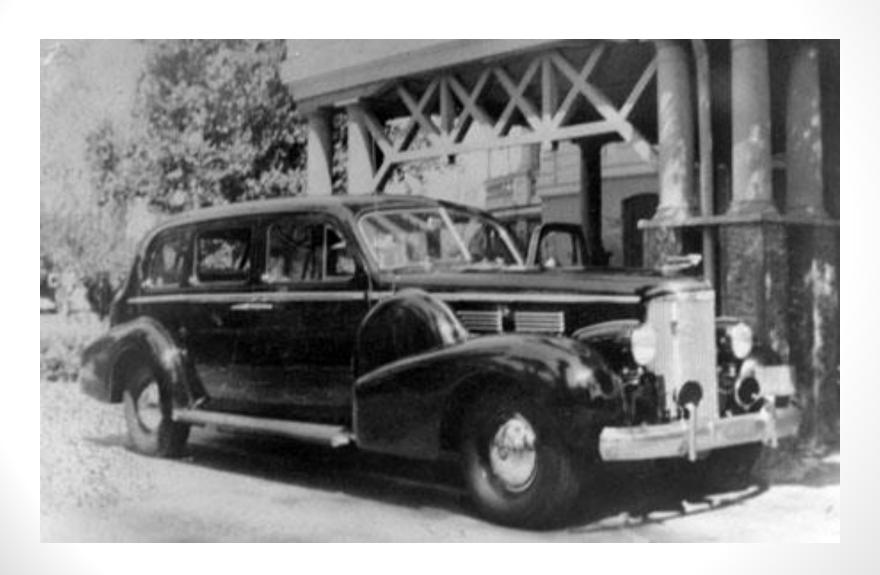


GRAND BASH: Gov. Culbert Olson and his wife, Kate Jeremy Olson, greet the 4,000 guests who attended his 1939 inaugural.

## Governor's Mansion in Sacramento, 1939-1943



#### Culbert's Packard Limo, 1939





#### Olson Pardoning Tom Mooney



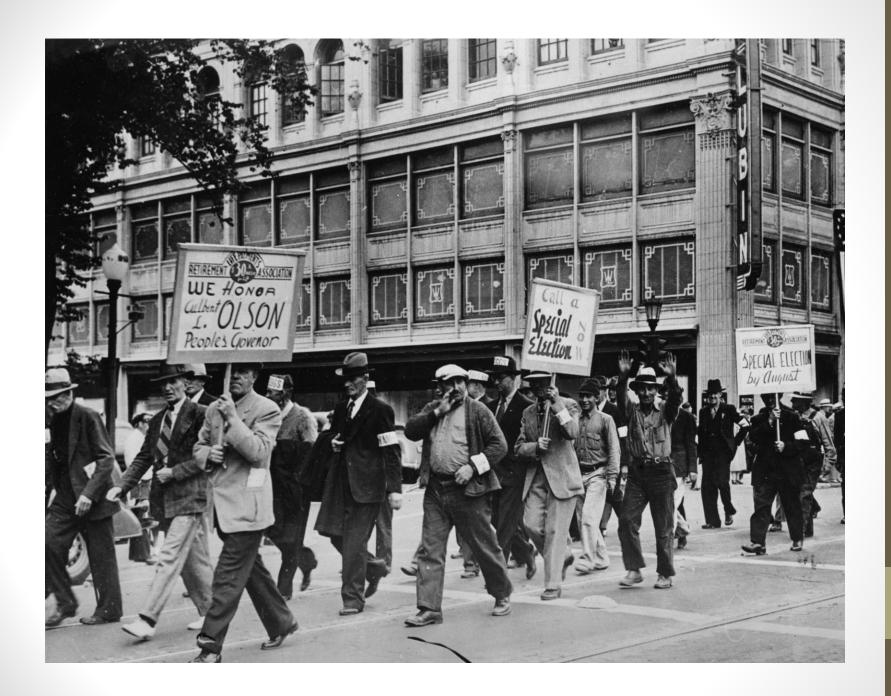


# Universal Healthcare for California presented in 1939

- "It is no longer seriously debated that a fundamental change is needed in the method of meeting the costs of medical care and the risks and loss of sickness, especially for wage earners and others of small or moderate income," Olson, presenting the plan on April 13, 1939.
- All working Californians earning \$3,000 or less a year – close to \$50,000 today — would have been required to be covered. Those earning more than \$3,000 could voluntarily participate.

#### Ham & Eggs Pension Plan





#### \$30 Thursdays



### With Ellis E. Patterson, Lieutenant Governor at the State Legislature





#### Bombardment of Elwood, February 23, 1942

 Navel attack by Japanese submarine of coastal targets near Santa Barbara, CA.

 The event was key in triggering the West Coast invasion scare that influenced the decision to inter Japanese-Americans.

 It was the first shelling of mainland US during World War II.

#### WW II Comes to California



### John Dewitt, instrumental in Executive Order 9066, directing the internment of Japanese Americans



# Franklin Roosevelt's Letter to Gov. Olson, May 18, 1942

 I am deeply concerned that the American-born Japanese college students shall be impressed with the ability of the American people to distinguish between enemy aliens and staunch supporters of the American system who happen to have Japanese ancestry.

### Gov. Olson with Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, and Babe Ruth



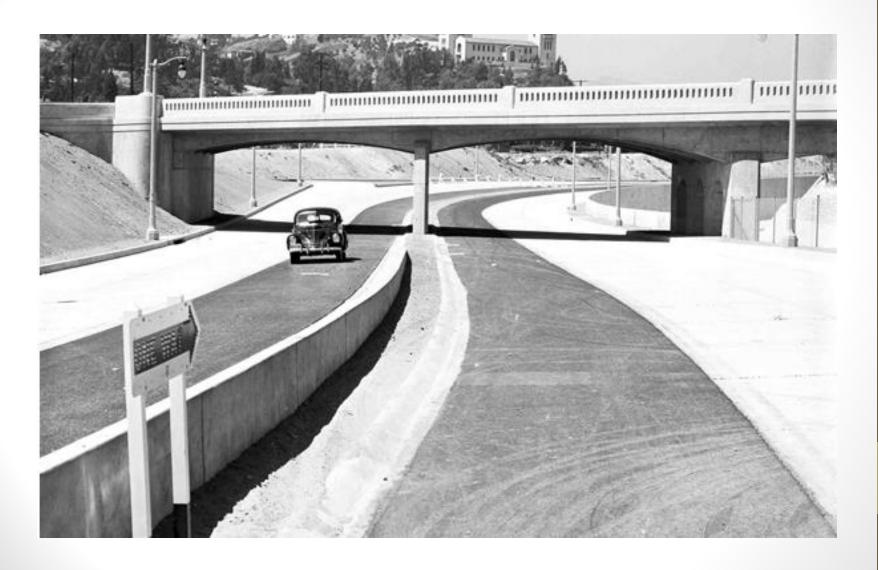
#### With movie star Mae West



#### With Rose Queen Mary Stanton, Pasadena Freeway



#### The Pasadena Freeway, 1940



#### At the opening of the Cahuenga Pass Freeway with Mayor Bowron & Gene Autry





#### A gift, on one condition...





#### TIMES PAST

#### Will Rogers State Beach Dedicated

Los Angeles Times



YEARS

July 26, 1942: California Gov. Culbert Olson and Los Angeles Mayor Fletcher Bowron were among the officials

on hand for the formal dedication of Will Rogers State Beach Park, The Times reported.

"Every part of America would be happy to join us in honoring the memory of the great American citizen for whom this new state park has been named, Will Rogers, who stood so high in the hearts of all liberty-loving people," Olson said.

The beach included 6,300 feet of coastline, including 1,800 feet from the estate of Rogers, who died in a 1935 plane crash.



# With Vice President Henry A. Wallace in Los Angeles, 1942





#### At home with family in Los Angeles



#### Justice Stanley Mosk



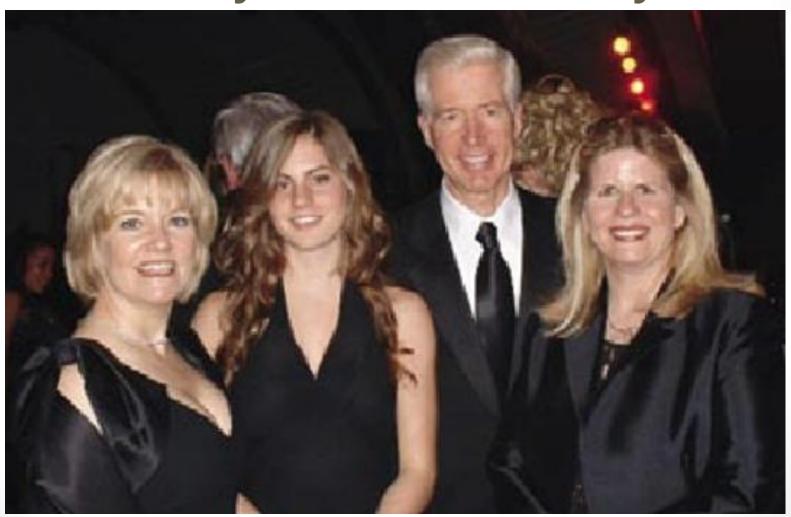


#### A California Granddaughter





### With Governor Gray Davis, First Lady Sharon & Kaitlyn



#### With Elizabeth Warren, Ann Weldon & Barbara Boxer



### Debra & Hillary



## Debra with Norman Lear & Ann Weldon



### Olson's great-granddaughters, Chrysta & Kaitlyn with President Clinton



# With Hillary Clinton, and daughters Kaitlyn & Chrysta



#### Granddaughter Diane Olson & Robin Tyler, the First Same Sex Marriage in California



