

# Warren's Years in California

Earl Warren "was the best governor California ever had," said a man who held the same office several years later—Edmund G. (Pat) Brown.

"He faced the problems of growth and social responsibility and met them head-on," Brown said. "He felt the people of the state were in his care. And he cared for them."

Warren was elected governor of California in 1942, won re-election in 1946 and won an unprecedented third term in 1950.

Politically, he he started out aligned with the right wing of the Republican party in California. He was an ardent champion of states' rights and, as attorney general before becoming governor, he had been vehement in his denunciation of Communist radicals.

As governor, he vociferously supported the military decision after the attack on Pearl Harbor, to remove all persons of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast and put them in detention centers.

But during his decade as governor, Warren began moving toward the progressive positions that eventually would make him one of the most controversial chief justices in U.S. history.

While Warren was governor, unemployment insurance was improved, child care centers were established, pensions for the blind and aged were increased, the penal system was reformed, and the state became a leader in care of the mentally ill.

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The Warren family at a 1966 Christmas Eve reunion in northern California. Front row: Mrs. Warren; grandchildren Nina Elizabeth Daly, Earl Jamieson Daly, John Warren Daly; the Chief Justice; grandchildren Earl, Heather and Willie Brien; son James C. Warren (holding calf). Rear: grandsons James Warren Jr. and Jeff Warren; daughter Dorothy Clemente; son-in-law John Daly; daughter-in-law Margaret Warren; grandson John Warren; daughter Virginia Daly; Mrs. B. E. Jesse, and Daughter Nina (Honey Bear) Brien.

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Appraising his own time as governor, Warren was proud of the fact that the state grew enormously "without any contribution or discord whatsoever." He assessed the period—when California's population jumped by 5 million—this way:

"Where on earth have so many people been intergrated into a commonwealth in so short a period of time? It is

He was born in Los Angeles on March 19, 1891. His parents were Scandinavian and his father was a railway car repairman for the Southern Pacific.

He took successive jobs in Oakland's city attorney's office and in the Alameda county district attorney's office. In 1923, he became chief deputy district attorney.

That same year he entered public life in the obscure role of clerk to the Assembly's Judiciary Committee. His career was started, and from then on it was less and less obscure.

But Warren was unable to solve the most tragic case in his career as a district attorney. In May of 1938, his father, living alone, was beaten to death with a lead pipe. His killer was never caught.

At the outset of his term, Warren married Nina Palmquist Meyers, a widow with a small son named James. Warren adopted the boy and the Warrens later had five other children: Virginia, Earl Jr., Dorothy, James Fitzhugh and Robert.

Republican to win statewide office in 1938, when he was elected California's attorney general.

It was only a short step from there to the governor's office in 1942.

As his successes in Sacramento gained him national fame, he became increasingly powerful in Republican councils. He was GOP National Committeeman from 1936 to 1940 and was the Republican keynoter at the 1944 Chicago convention.

In 1948, he was California's favorite son candidate for the GOP presidential nomination, and then ran for vice president with New York's governor Thomas E. Dewey as the presidential nominee.

That race, which Harry Truman and Alben Barkley won, marked the only election defeat of Warren's career. He sought the presidential nomination in 1952, but eventually helped swing the convention to Dwight Eisenhower.

A year later he donned the robes of Chief Justice. After his retirement in 1969, he and his wife Nina continued to live quietly in the Washington hotel apartment that had been their home since they came to Washington.

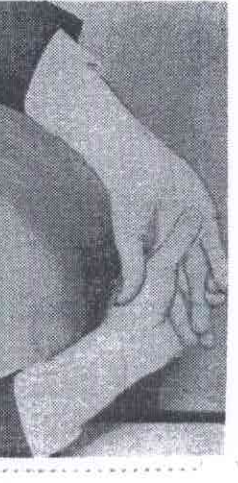
## Ecuador Floods

### Take 5 Lives, Cut a Pipeline

Quito

Floods in Ecuador's eastern Amazonian region have drowned at least five persons and cut the trans-Andean oil pipeline, police said here last night.

The deaths resulted when floodwaters swept away a bridge near Lake Agrio, a



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## Tributes Pour In For Earl Warren

The predictable tributes to Earl Warren poured in from high places all over California yesterday, but the owner of a family restaurant in Oakland perhaps best summed up the former governor and Chief Justice.

"He was just a down-to-earth guy—a terrific guy," said Joe Matla, the third-generation proprietor of the Golden West Tamales Restaurant in North Oakland.

Warren's career in public service started in Oakland, as did his life-long love for golden West tamales. Invariably when as chief justice he returned to the Bay Area, he dined at Matla's place.

San Francisco Mayor Joseph L. Alioto, a personal

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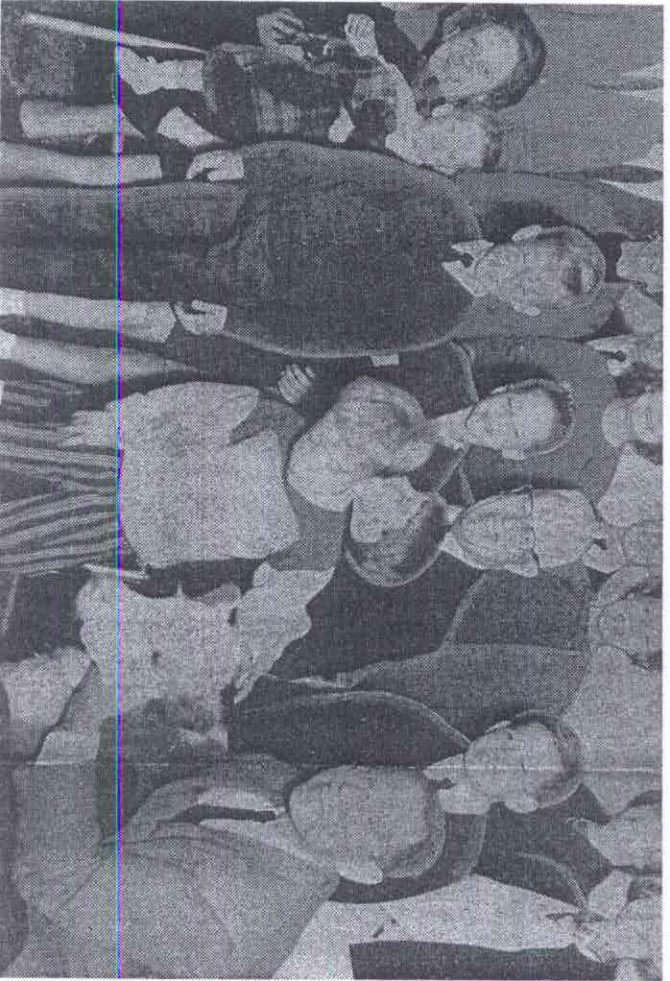
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He spoke throughout the country in support of the United Nations; he advocated federal aid to education. He opposed the "blanket accusations" voiced by the late Senator Joseph McCarthy and countered Republican attacks against following "extremists of the right."

"He's really a Democrat and doesn't know," President Harry S. Truman once said



The Warren family at a 1966 Christmas Eve reunion in northern California. Front row: Mrs. Warren; grandchildren Nina Elizabeth Daly, Earl Jameson Daly, John Warren Daly; the Chief Justice; grandchild Earl, Heather and Willie Brien; son James C. Warren (holding calf). Rear: grandsons James Warren Jr. and Jeff Warren; daughter Dorothy Clemente; son-in-law John Daly; daughter-in-law Margaret Warren; grandson John Warren; daughter Virginia Daly; Mrs. B. E. Jesse, and Daughter Nina (Honey Bear) Brien.

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Appraising his own time as governor, Warren was proudest of the fact that the state grew enormously "without any confusion or discord whatsoever." He assessed the period—when California's population jumped by 5 million—this way:

"Where on earth have so many people been integrated into a commonwealth in so short a period of time? It is my belief that this accomplishment will be recorded in history as one of the most outstanding of our generation."

Before he rose to the state's highest office, Warren's years in California were marked by a steady ascension of political power and popularity.

He was born in Los Angeles on March 19, 1891. His parents were Scandinavian and his father was a railway car repairman for the Southern Pacific.

At school and college he worked to pay his way—as a newspaper delivery boy, a freight hustler, mechanic's helper, truck driver and clarinet player.

For three years after law school, Warren clerked in a San Francisco law office, and then was drafted into the Army in 1917. He emerged as a first lieutenant two years later.

That same year he entered public life, in the obscure role of clerk to the Assembly's Judiciary Committee. His career was started, and from then on it was less and less obscure.

He took successive jobs in Oakland's city attorney's office and in the Alameda county district attorney's office. In 1923, he became chief deputy district attorney.

In 1925, he ran for election as Alameda county district attorney.

He won that first election—and every other race he ever entered, excepting one. He remained as district attorney for 13 years, and earned fame as a racket bustler. He sent a sheriff to jail on graft charges and a mayor to jail for bribery.

But Warren was unable to solve the most tragic case in his career as a district attorney. In May of 1938, his father, living alone, was beaten to death with a lead pipe. His killer was never caught.

At the outset of his term, Warren married Nina Palmquist Meyers, a widow with a small son named James. Warren adopted the boy and the Warrens later had five other children: Virginia, Earl Jr., Dorothy, Tina Elizabeth and Robert.

It was an attractive, close-knit family that became a major political asset. Over the years, Warren remained a deeply dedicated family man.

He was also remarkable adept at making friends, and his engaging personality helped him become the only

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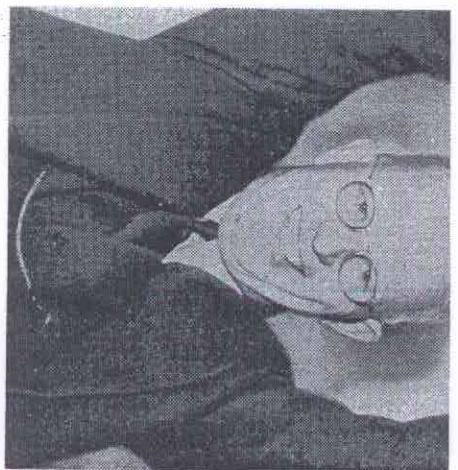
Warren's career in public service started in Oakland, as did his life-long love for Golden West tamales. Invariably when as chief justice he returned to the Bay Area, he dined at Malta's place.

"I don't know anything about politics," Malta said. "I can only judge him as a person. He was very warm, relaxed and deep rooted with those he loved. And he had very strong feelings about Oakland."

Or as restaurateur Malta said: "I never knew him to put on airs."

### A WINNING WARREN IN 1942

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# Chief Justice in a Time of Great Change

By Alan Barth

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parts are being flown in to inspect the damage.

Reuters

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# Chief Justice in a Time of Great Change

By Alan Barth  
Washington Post

By nearly every standard that can be said to measure judicial stature, Earl Warren must be counted among the great Chief Justices of the United States—the great-est, in all probability, since John Marshall.

Like John Marshall, Earl Warren presided over the Supreme Court during a period of dramatic change in the character of American life. The Marshall court, at the inception of the Re-public, wrote upon a clean slate in giving vitality to the U.S. Constitution, and in de-heating for itself a decisive role as a shaper of the national destiny.

The Warren court adapted the institutions of a developing society to the needs of a fully developed nation, a great military and economic power in a world made irri-mate by scientific and technological advances altogether beyond the imagination of the Constitution's framers.

It is likely to be mislead-ing to designate a court by the name of a chief justice. But in the case of Earl Warren as in the case of John Marshall, the designation seems justified not alone as the mere indication of a time period but as a recognition of leadership and influence.

The court over which Warren presided was an extraordinarily vigorous one, replete with powerful personalities. He was surpassed by several of its members in legal learning, in felicity of expression, in depth of judicial perception and philosophy.

As administrator of the court's affairs, however, he

gave the disparate justices a measure of unity and a sure sense of the tremendous political role of the court had to play in its time.

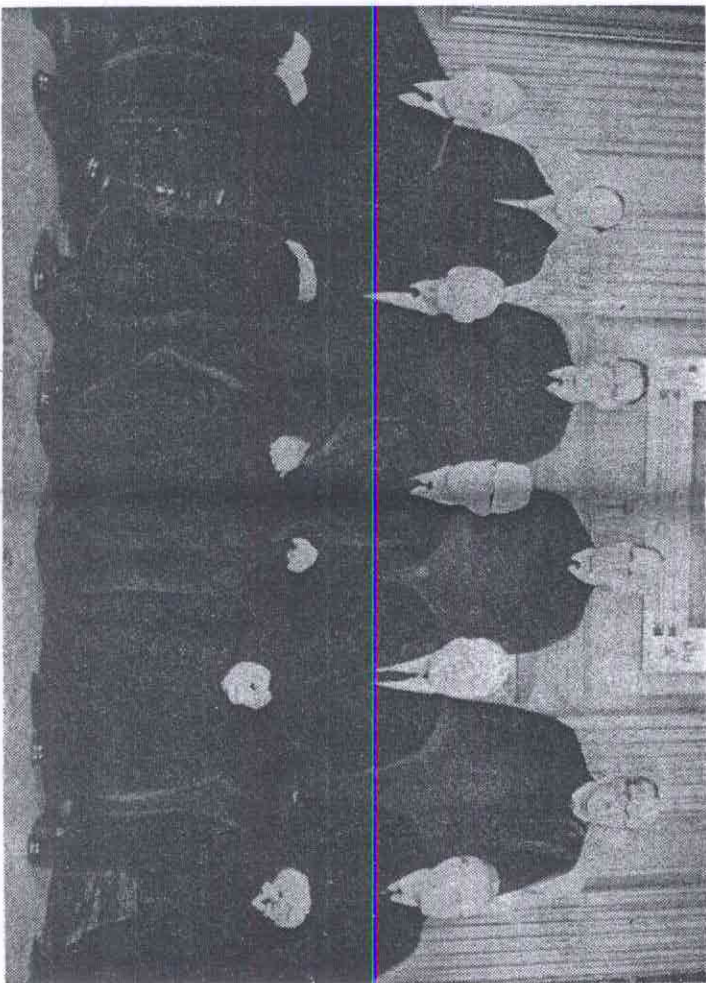
When Warren was appointed Chief Justice by President Eisenhower in September, 1953, a society once overwhelmingly rural in residence and agricultural in occupation had become predominantly urban and industrial.

An important part of the population movement involved great numbers of Negroes uprooted by technological change from the southern cotton fields, where they had worked first as slaves and later as sharecroppers and who now found themselves penned in the decaying slums of inner cities.

These black Americans were clamoring for civil rights and for economic opportunity in this era of dramatic change. It was over that transformation of the American community the Warren court presided.

One of the great controversies of American history came before the court at the very beginning of Warren's chief justiceship: The question whether state-enforced segregation of Americans on the basis of race is constitutionally impermissible because it entails a denial of the equal protection of the laws.

Historically, the court had held that racial segregation was not unconstitutional, provided that the two races were essentially equal. For more than a decade, however, the court had recognized in a series of decisions that the schools, hospitals and other public facilities provided for Negroes were, in fact, markedly inferior to those provided for white persons.



The members of the Supreme Court in 1967, seated—John Harlan, Hugo Black, Earl Warren, William Douglas and William Brennan; standing—Abe Fortas, Potter Stewart, Byron White and Thurgood Marshall.

Brown vs. Board of Education came before the court in Warren's first term. When it was decided on May 17, 1954, the opinion of the court, written by the new chief justice himself, had the unanimous concurrence of his associate justices and represented one of the great landmarks in American jurisprudence.

"We conclude," Warren wrote, "that in the field of public education the doctrine of 'separate but equal' has no place. Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal."

The impact and effectiveness of that decision were diminished, however, by the failure of the Eisenhower administration to give the court moral and political support.

Massive resistance to the decision began to develop in the Southern states, from that time forward the chief justice became the target of vicious attacks by demagogues and reactionaries including even a campaign, sparked principally by the John Birch Society, for his impeachment.

A decade later, in 1964, the Chief Justice wrote opinions for the court in six cases, which the residents of half a dozen states challenged the validity of apportionment in legislatures where sparsely populated rural districts enjoyed the same representation as much more populous urban districts. Under this arrangement, rural residents of the states wielded much more political power than city dwellers.

For a court divided this time 7 to 2, Warren held that this inequally violated the constitutional promise of equal protection.

This decision was quite comparable in importance and in political impact to the school desegregation ruling and evoked an almost equal sense of outrage among those who viewed it as a judicial intrusion into the legislative domain.

The Warren court outlined the strongly held views of the Chief Justice regarding the rights of persons charged with crime found its culmination in what has perhaps the most controversial of all his opinions, handed down in the *Miranda* case in 1966. The decision held that the police must warn any arrested person, before questioning him in connection with a crime, that he has a right to remain silent, that any statement he makes may be used against him, and that he is entitled to consult an attorney (to be provided for him by the state if he cannot afford to hire one himself) before or during any interrogation. Omission of any of those

requirements would make a confession inadmissible. Once he joined the court, the only major interruption in his work came when President Johnson persuaded him to become chairman of the commission to investigate the assassination of President Kennedy.

The Chief Justice undertook that assignment reluctantly. He apparently believed that a member of the court should simply not engage in non-judicial activities but had been convinced by Mr. Johnson that his personal prestige and the prestige of his office was needed to calm public fears about the investigation would be a whitewash.

The report of the commission did much to quash fears that the assassination was part of a large conspiracy.

The whole of Warren's career was devoted to public service in an activist sense of the term. He believed, above all else, in righting wrong. His thinking was robust and healthy rather than subtle or sinuous, and it rested on elementary American values — confidence in the good sense of the people, in the utility of freedom, in the ultimate triumph of truth over error.

"A prime function of Government," he wrote in the only book he ever published — "A Republic, If You Can Keep It"—has always been to protect the weak against the strong."

Warren was a man of clear conviction and of great strength. Once he quit elective office for the bench, he became wholly indifferent to popular favor and to public exhortation. He will be counted, undoubtedly, as one of the titanic figures in the history of the Supreme Court.