

Department of Water  
City of San Diego, California

HERBERT R. FAY, SUPERINTENDENT  
MEMBER COMMON COUNCIL

MAIN OFFICE CITY HALL  
SHOPS, 11TH AND BEECH STS.

July 8, 1913.

Col. Ed. Fletcher,  
Ed. Fletcher Company,  
City.

Dear Sir:

As the water question is of the greatest importance to the people of San Diego at the present time, and as the Department of Water desires to discuss this question with the various interests of the City of San Diego, I respectfully request, on behalf of the present city administration, your presence at a conference upon this subject, to be held in the chambers of the Common Council on the 4th floor of the City Hall, Thursday, July 10, 1913, at 7:30 P. M., at which time the Department of Water desires to place before you and the other gentlemen present the actual situation of the water question of the City of San Diego.

Very respectfully,

  
SUPERINTENDENT, DEPARTMENT OF WATER

[H. R. FAY]  
CSM

HRE-J.

August 1, 1913.

Major H. R. Fay,  
Superintendent Water Dept.,  
San Diego, California.

Dear Sir:

As an emergency proposition the Cuyamaca Water Company can put its flume in condition from the diverting dam to La Mesa and put in a pipe line from La Mesa Reservoir to the city limits of San Diego, having same completed by the 1st of January, 1914, so as to furnish flood waters to the city of San Diego. This expense will cost between three and four hundred thousand dollars.

I am heartily in favor of the Cuyamaca Water Company making this improvement now providing we can sell our surplus flood waters to the city of San Diego for 12¢ a thousand gallons.

The elevation at the end of the flume where the water would enter the pipe at La Mesa is 620 feet. This would give a magnificent pressure all over the city of San Diego to the highest levels without the present necessity of pumping and heavy expense, and I am satisfied we can furnish at least a full four months' supply to the city of San Diego under ordinary conditions. This means the holding in reserve in the Otay Dam of the amount of water which the San Diego system furnished, thereby increas-



Major Fay

-2-

ing your reserve supply to that extent. We would naturally want to furnish all the water we possibly can during the flood season.

The Cuyamaca Water Company should have in my opinion at least a five year contract if we went to this expense at the present time.

If this proposition interests you, would be pleased to take the matter up with Mr Murray and do my best to get Mr Murray to accept the proposition; I am of the opinion that it will be satisfactory to him.

Awaiting your early reply,

Very truly yours,

CUYAMACA WATER CO.,

By

F:K



November 12, 1913.

Maj. H. R. Fay,

San Diego, Cal.

Dear Sir:-

As per your suggestion, I am furnishing you a list of the properties controlled by Mrs. Henshaw, Murray and myself which could be turned over in case the city or a district, including the city, desired to purchase same for water development in San Diego County. The Henshaw proposition would include the following:- Three or four thousand acres of the Warner's Ranch as a reservoir site. Also the Warner's Dam. This land I consider worth One Hundred to One Hundred and Twenty-five Dollars an acre. All the riparian rights on the San Luis Rey River, <sup>condemned</sup> excepting four or five, which can probably be conveyed for an amount probably not to exceed twenty or thirty thousand dollars. I do not believe the riparian rights which Mr. Henshaw owns could be secured today at a cost of less than six or seven hundred thousand dollars. We have the consent of the United States government and the Escondido Mutual Water Company to the diversion. We have spent already Seventy-five Thousand Dollars on Warner's Ranch dam site, the cut-off wall, surveys, engineering reports, etc. We own all the rights of way from Warner's Dam to the Pamo site. The costs of these rights of way alone are probably <sup>Five</sup> ~~Four~~ or ~~Five~~ <sup>Ten</sup> Thousand Dollars. Mr. Henshaw's proposition also includes the Sutherland Reservoir site and dam site, the Pamo reservoir site and dam site, the Santa Maria dam site but, not the reservoir site. We have secured a number of riparian rights on the Pamo and

H.R.F.#2

Santa Ysabel River, which will be included. The Henshaw proposition also includes the San Clementi Reservoir site and dam site. One or two small pieces of land in the last mentioned reservoir sites, we do not own, but we can easily acquire them if necessary. If anything comes of this, it would be a good idea for your engineer to decide on what elevation of dam in every particular case would be necessary and have Mr. Henshaw agree to deed all necessary lands that would be flooded in the event of the construction of said dam to said elevation agreed upon.

If you will have your engineer consult with our engineer,

Mr. Post will furnish the necessary information as to quantity of water that can be impounded in every reservoir, for all surveys of all reservoirs have been made at a cost of many thousands of dollars and we have a deed to all properties in the reservoir sites which we have acquired, so after yesterday's trip, you can realize we have spent a good deal of money already. If any sale is made to the city, I am satisfied Mr. Henshaw will want to keep the lands which are not used or necessary for reservoir purposes and this will materially lessen the price of the project.

Referring to the Cuyamaca System, this would include the Cuyamaca Lake with about one thousand acres of land which the Railroad Commission have appraised at a valuation of Seventy-five Dollars an acre. Also the dam site which costs about Fifty Thousand Dollars. The diverting dam which costs as much more. The entire flume line, La Mesa dam, and flooded lands which lies <sup>up</sup> to 100 <sup>foot</sup> elevation, our entire distributing system, Eucalyptus Reservoir, Murray Hill Reservoir and pipe line, for which the Railroad Commission gave us 100%



H.R.F.#3.

*Powerty Gulch*

efficiency and full valuation, Conejos Reservoir, ~~Canada~~ dam site, thousands of dollars which we have put into surveys, improvements, etc., water rights, in fact, everything that we secured from the San Diego Flume Company, together with improvements from that time. We have put over Sixty Thousand Dollars into a distributing system in Normal Heights alone in the last eight months. I have no authority to agree that Murray and Henshaw will today entertain a proposition, but I am satisfied that they will, and if it is your desire that I get a price from them, I shall be pleased to do so and submit same to you. I will be pleased to see your engineer and go into the rest of the details, etc., at any time that you desire.

Yours very truly,

EF-BK

FORM 48 8-11



DEPARTMENT OF WATER  
PUEBLO LANDS AND FORESTRY  
CITY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

HERBERT R. FAY, MEMBER COMMON COUNCIL

MAIN OFFICE, CITY HALL  
SHOPS, 11TH AND BEECH ST.

PHONES: HOME 2239  
PACIFIC MAIN 706

*Part*

May 25, 1914.

Col. Ed. Fletcher,  
%Cuyamaca Water Company,  
Fletcher Bldg.,  
City.

Dear Sir:

I am requested by the Superintendent to furnish you with the following information:  
Capacity of Morena at spillway, 13,215,000,000 gallons.  
Acres flooded at this height, 1370.  
Capacity of Lower Otay at spillway, 11,679,413,652 gal.  
Acres flooded at this height, 1000.

Trusting this is the information desired,

I am

Very truly yours,

*N. A. Whitney*  
HYDRAULIC ENGINEER.

HAW-J.  
C/C to Supt.



*City of San Diego*

June 4, 1914.

Major H. R. Fay,  
San Diego, California.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find copy of letter to the Water Commission, which is explanatory. Please do not make this public. It is simply for your information. This is along the lines of our telephone conversation, and it may bear fruit.

Very truly yours,

CUYAMACA WATER COMPANY,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Manager.

F-S

Not reviewed after dictation.

*City of San Diego*

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, Sept. 21, 1914.

Major H. R. Fay,  
City Hall,  
San Diego, California.

My dear Major:

Enclosed find letter from P. E. Harroun's office, which is explanatory.

Yours very truly,

F-S



~~Copy  
City of San Diego~~

Nov. 10, 1914.

Major H. R. Fay,  
Dept. of Water,  
San Diego, California.

My dear Major:

We have received another letter from Britton & Gray, our attorneys at Washington, asking me to get action by the City Council on this Choate matter.

It is only fair that the City either make a formal protest or notify the Department of the Interior at Washington that Mr. Choate was not acting on behalf of the City of San Diego. Will you not please secure the authorization of the City Council and write Mr. E. B. Merritt, Assistant Commissioner, Dept. of the Interior, Office of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C. and notify him that Mr. Rufus Choate was not authorized to act on behalf of the City in the matter of the application of Messrs. Murray and Fletcher for the Conejos Reservoir site within the Capitan Grande Indian Reservation, and oblige.

Very sincerely yours,

F-8

COPY

January 23rd, 1915.

Major H R Fay, Supt.,  
Department of Water,  
San Diego, Calif.

Dear Sir:-

We are ready to deliver water to you at Highland Avenue, and find that the city has not made the connection. We will be glad to furnish you with water, if you can make the connection today or tomorrow, without any meter, if you have no meter at the present time, and will be willing to allow you to estimate the quantity of water turned in after the meter has been installed. We sincerely hope that you can arrange so that we can commence delivery of water at Highland Avenue today or tomorrow as our flume is running full and the water is wasting over the Diverting Dam.

Yours very truly,

CUYAMACA WATER COMPANY

By \_\_\_\_\_

Manager

EF:BB

CUYAMACA WATER CO.  
FILE No. 37  
DO NOT REMOVE  
ANY LETTER  
FROM THIS FILE.



~~City of San Diego~~

Feb 1, 1915.

76

Major H. R. Fay,  
Superintendent of Water,  
San Diego, Calif.

Dear Sir:

On January 28th we handed to Mr. Amweg  
at his request, the quantities for  
Murray Reservoir  
Webster Reservoir  
Enclosed find telegrams that are explanatory.

Very truly yours,

Manager

EF:

Feb. 4, 1915.

Major H. R. Fay,  
City Water Department,  
San Diego, Cal.

Dear Sir:-

I am transmitting herewith schedules of  
quantities for appraisalment of Cuyamaca Water Company.  
These schedules are the same as the ones handed to  
you, and are being given to you so that you may furnish  
Col. Amweg one copy if you wish.

If you have sent Col. Amweg any parts of  
your copy, you can complete your own copy from this set.

These schedules are as follows:

- Real Estate and Rights of Way
- Pump Station No. 4 ( At Diverting Dam)
- Diverting Dam
- Cuyamaca Reservoir
- Grossmont Pump Station
- Miles Reservoir No. 2
- Miles Pump Station
- Grossmont Reservoir
- La Mesa Ditch Line
- Distributing Mains
- Murray-Eucalyptus Siphon
- Main Flume- Section 1 to 10 inclusive
- Murray- 36" Supply Line
- Sand Creek Pump Station
- La Mesa Pump Station (No. 1)
- La Mesa Dam Pumping Plant
- La Mesa Reservoir
- Telephone Lines
- Chocolate Pump Station
- Eucalyptus Reservoir
- Monte Pump Station
- Miles Reservoir No 1.

76

Yours truly,



*City of San Diego*  
76

Feb. 4, 1915.

Major H. R. Fay, Superintendent,  
City Water Department,  
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Major:

Answering yours of February 2nd,  
will say that we will get out an extra copy of  
engineering quantities and send same to your engineer  
Colonel Amweg, or deliver same to you to be forwarded  
to him.

Yours very truly,

CUYAMACA WATER COMPANY

\_\_\_\_\_  
Manager

EF:BB

*Mr. Matthews*

February 8, 1915.

Mr. H. R. Fay, Superintendent,  
Water Department,  
San Diego, Cal.

My dear Sir:-

I have been going over the papers of the Volcan  
Company and do not find the full stipulations and agreements  
that have been entered into between the Volcan Water Company  
and the Interior Department. On the last page of the sched-  
ule there is copied a paper signed by Walter L. Fisher,  
Secretary of the Interior, in which he says that the right  
of way, or permit, is given in consideration of the promises  
of said Volcan Land & Water Company made and set forth in  
the foregoing amended application, and again the expression is  
used - "subject to the terms and conditions in the foregoing  
amended application set forth". I would like to have a full  
statement as to what all the conditions as to the permits  
or rights of way are. The Department frequently issues  
these permits with the express stipulation that no price  
shall be put upon them in case of sale to a municipality.

Very truly yours,

(SIGNED) J. B. Lippincott.

JBL-w





DEPARTMENT OF WATER  
PUEBLO LANDS AND FORESTRY  
CITY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

HERBERT R. FAY, SUPERINTENDENT  
MEMBER COMMON COUNCIL

MAIN OFFICE, CITY HALL  
SHOPS, 11TH AND BEECH STS.

PHONES: HOME 2239  
PACIFIC MAIN 706

February 9, 1915.

Ed. Fletcher, Manager,  
Volcan Land and Water Co.,  
924 8th Street,  
SAN DIEGO, CALIF.

V. L. & W. CO.  
FILE

Dear Sir:

I am this day in receipt of a communication from Engineer J. B. Lippincott, copy of which is hereto attached.

Will you kindly furnish Mr. Lippincott with the information that he desires regarding the stipulations and agreements entered into between the Volcan Water Company and the Department of the Interior.

In furnishing Mr. Lippincott with this information will you kindly have copy of same mailed to this office.

Very respectfully,

*H. R. Fay*  
SUPERINTENDENT.

HRF-F  
Encl.

*City of San Diego*  
Feb. 18, 1915.

Major H. R. Fay,  
Supt. Dept. of Water,  
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Major:

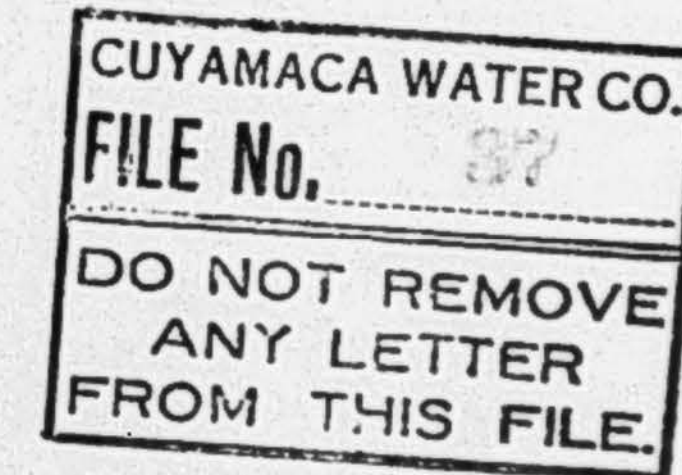
My understanding with you was that if we would put in that pipe line on Highland Avenue you would put in the meters, but I see that under date of February 17th you have rendered a bill for same. Goodness knows, we have done enough by spending eight or ten thousand dollars to furnish you with excess water. Let us talk this matter over.

Yours very truly,

CUYAMACA WATER COMPANY.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Manager.

F-S





February 24th,  
1915

Major H R Fay,  
San Diego, Cal.

V. L. & W. CO.  
FILE

My dear Major:-

Replying to your letter of February 9th transmitting a request for stipulations entered into by the Volcan Company with the Department of the Interior, I enclose copies of these stipulations which have also been sent to Mr Pippincott and Mr O'Shaughnessy.

Yours/very truly,

Ed Fletcher

WSP-BK

*City of San Diego*

San Diego, California, March 8, 1915.

Major H. R. Fay,

Dept. of Water,

San Diego, Calif.

Dear Major:

Have Lewis do everything he can to get our bill thru for water for February. Am busted, and can't pay my Cuyamaca bills until I get it. Will be home Wednesday.

Everyone concedes your election. Congratulations!

Yours very truly,

R-S



*Cuyamaca  
City of San Diego*

April 2, 1915.

Major H. R. Fay,  
Supt. of Water,  
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Major:

We are about \$600 overdrawn at the bank.

Regarding the February bill for water, amounting to something over \$7,000, cannot you put it through this coming week, so that we can get our money? I will hold back the March bill for awhile.

Yours very truly,

CUYAMACA WATER COMPANY,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Manager.

F-S

December 1, 1915

Maj. H. R. Fay,  
City Hall,  
San Diego, Cal.

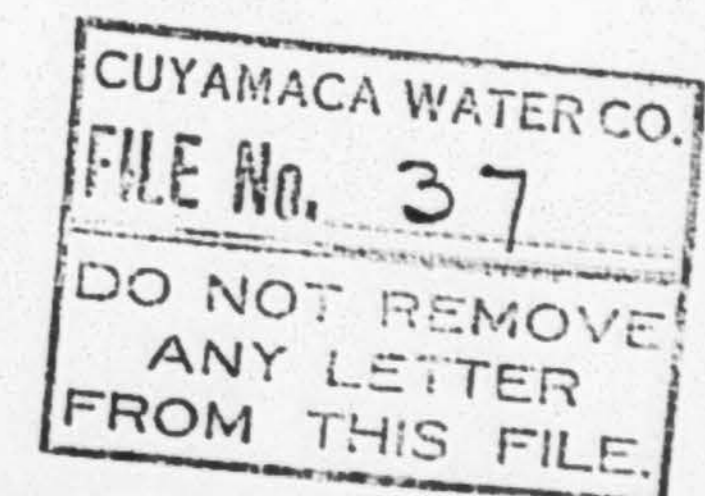
Dear Sir:-

I enclose a copy of letter to the Mayor and Common Council regarding our bill for water furnished during the month of June. This letter is written along the lines that you suggested the other day and we would greatly appreciate it if you will do what you can to put the matter through.

Very truly yours,

Assistant Manager.

FME-K





CUYAMACA WATER CO.  
FILE No. 84  
DO NOT REMOVE  
ANY LETTER  
FROM THIS FILE.

Dec. 16, 1915.

Major H. R. Fay,  
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Major:

Can you get me a copy of Whitney's report to the city on the El Capitan Dam, showing the cost of the construction, the cost of the pipeline, and the cost of acquiring the riparian rights? This is important. It is a matter of official and public record with the city, and I would appreciate it if you could get this information for me.

Yours very truly,

EF-S

(This letter to be delivered by Mr. Post.)

March 11, 1916.

Col. H. R. Fay,  
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Colonel:

The bill for water delivered to the city last June has been declared a valid claim against the city, by City Attorney Cosgrove, and the matter has been referred to the Finance Committee to decide on ways and means to pay same. Certainly your committee can take this money out of the \$45,000 fund which is now available according to Clerk Holzmann, and Holzmann has said that he will do everything he can to help collect the money.

Don't fail us in this matter, and oblige,

Yours very truly,

F-S

102  
CUYAMACA WATER CO.  
FILE No. 37  
DO NOT REMOVE  
ANY LETTER  
FROM THIS FILE.



Sept. 7, 1916.

Col. H. R. Fay,  
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Colonel:

Answering your telephone inquiry, will say that the following is what we have collected from the city of San Diego for water for the years 1914, 1915 and 1916.

1914.....	\$16,046.24
1915.....	34,884.64
1916.....	51,054.14

\$ 101,985.02

There were no sales of water to the city in 1913.

Yours very truly,

CUYAMACA WATER COMPANY.

---

Manager.

F-S

102

Sept. 14, 1916.

Col. H. R. Fay,  
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Colonel:

Enclosed find copy of letter to Mr. Heller, together with copy of Sellers' report to the State Railroad Commission, which will be of interest, for your personal benefit. Please return the copy of my letter to Messrs. Heller, Boal and Alverson, at your convenience.

Yours very truly,

F-S

102



*Philip Cooper*

August 13, 1917.

Major H. R. Fay,  
c/o Adjutant General,  
Sacramento, Calif.

My dear Major Fay:

I regret that the City officials of San Diego have not realized the situation and taken advantage of our offer to sell water to the City. I do not feel under any moral or legal obligation to sell the city any water whatever, at the present time; but I do consider it almost criminal that the City Council of San Diego cannot see the point; i.e., that the Cuyamaca Water Co. is going to dispose of its surplus water and if it cannot sell it to the City it is going to sell it for irrigation. Once this water is attached to lands and used for irrigation purposes, it can never be taken away. We are every month attaching water for irrigation purposes to new lands. Every drop of water sold for irrigation purposes for new lands reduces to just that extent the amount of water that we can furnish the City of San Diego, and within the next few weeks we shall probably dispose of all our surplus water.

You can readily understand that we are not going to furnish water to the City and take a chance of suit for damages from our consumers. If it comes to a point where we are taking any chances, we will force the City of San Diego to put up a satisfactory bond to protect us, before the city will get



any water from this system. I am thoroughly convinced that a series of dry years are ahead of us, and that this condition will arise in the near future, with the growth of our city and the added demands for the Cantonment.

If the City of San Diego wants to make a contract with us, for one or two million gallons of water a day for the next twelve months or two years, at six cents (6¢) a thousand gallons, delivered to the city limits, we securing from your Health Officer, Dr. Banks, a proper certificate as to the quality of the water, I am willing to recommend that the Cuyamaca Water Co. take on an obligation of this kind. If the city of San Diego only wants to buy a small amount of water from us from time to time, the price will be ten cents (10¢) a thousand gallons, but the City cannot expect us to hold ourselves in readiness at all times to furnish the city with water; with no assurance of the sale of any water to the city.

It has been proven once that the Cuyamaca Water Co. saved the situation for sixty days, after the floods of 1916. If the fact that we are in position to take care of the City's needs in an emergency is not worth anything, the quicker we find it out the better, and we will dispose of our water elsewhere, but as a matter of insurance alone, in my opinion, the City of San Diego certainly should tie up our surplus water rather than have it attached to lands and be lost forever, except at a prohibitive figure.

I am sending a copy of this letter to a few of the citizens of San Diego. It is not my desire to make this letter public, but it is a frank expression from one man to another of the water situation, as I see it.

Kindly treat this letter as wholly personal.



-- COPY --

August 13, 1917.

Mr. Ed Fletcher,  
Manager Cuyamaca Water Co.,  
San Diego, Calif.

Dear Sir:

I feel that I should call your attention to the increase in consumers of irrigating water on the Cuyamaca system, which are as follows:

For the month of	May,	200
" " " "	June,	196
" " " "	July,	44

Some of the above are domestic consumers, who have taken advantage of the emergency irrigation rate. However, there is a decided increase in the demand for irrigation water.

I feel it my duty to call your attention to an order of the Commission, giving us authority to sell only 40 inches additional water for irrigating purposes, as shown on page 16 of decision No. 4058. As you are aware, there are applications in our office for nearly 100 inches of irrigation water, and over 40 inches from one organization alone in Spring Valley, which will soon be ready to demand all of our surplus water in question.

Very sincerely yours,

CUYAMACA WATER COMPANY,

(Signed) Lou. B. Mathews

Secretary



June 7, 1918.

Col. H. R. Fay,  
c/o Adjutant General's Office,  
Sacramento, Calif.

My dear Colonel:

Enclosed find copy of  
telegram of the 6th, from Mr. Wheeler  
and my answer in reply.

Yours very truly,

F-S



**Ed Fletcher Papers**

**1870-1955**

**MSS.81**

**Box: 8 Folder: 3**

**General Correspondence - Fay, Major H.R.**



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