

August 24th, 1928.

Mr. Clarence Sprigg, President
San Elijo Gun Club
San Diego, California.

My dear Mr. Sprigg:

Twice I telephoned you and told you that I desired to be present when the San Diego Gas & Electric Co. application to the San Elijo Gun Club for right of way came up.

None of the girls in my office received a telephone notice, neither did I receive a written notice of this meeting.

Today you informed me that a meeting had been held and that Mr. Wetroll told you he notified me of the meeting. You also informed me that the application of the Gas Company had been rejected.

As one of the largest stockholders in the Club, I feel that I had a right to be heard.

I also at this time wish to protest against any hold-up proposition as the action of the Board of Directors clearly indicates. No possible harm can come to this club by putting the power line along the west line, a reasonable compensation can be secured, and I wish to register most emphatically against the attitude of the Club in this matter.

That country must be developed. Power lines must be put somewhere and I feel in refusing to submit a definite proposition, putting the power line at some point along our west line is not one for the general good and is against public policy and fair play.

You say that they can go ahead and condemn. My answer is that I'm not playing the game and I refuse to be a party to any such attitude that the Board of Directors of the San Elijo Gun Club has taken in this matter.

Yours very truly,

BT:GMF

August 28th, 1928.

Mr. C. D. Sprigg, President
San Elijo Land Company
Federal Building,
San Diego, California.

Dear Mr. Sprigg:

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of August 25th and refuse to be insulted by your letter. Having reached the mature age, both of us should hold our temper.

First, I want to say I did not make the remark over the phone of "damned hold-up scheme". Instead, I told you I would not be a party to any hold-up scheme against the Gas Company.

My understanding of the situation is as follows:

Two or three times, formally and informally, the Gas Company has taken the matter up with the Board of Directors of the San Elijo Land Company for rights of way. Although one of the largest stockholders, I have never been consulted or invited into the discussion.

As a stockholder, I was approached by Mr. Ruffin of the Gas Company who asked me why the San Elijo Gun Club did not cooperate with the Gas Company in giving a right of way along or near the west line. My answer was that I felt the San Elijo Gun Club didn't understand the situation. I asked him if he would pay anything, and he said he would pay any reasonable sum as well as put electricity thru the property for local service, which service alone could not be installed today at a cost of less than \$3000 or \$4000.

I had no personal interest in this matter whatever, only had the interest of the Club at heart, which I have been working for from the beginning.

My development at Solana Beach has made the San Elijo Gun Club property more valuable. I have worked with them in every way, giving permission for rights-of-way, etc.

San Diego, California,
August 28th, 1928.

Mr. C. D. Sprigg, President

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You say this is a duck club. You are not aware that recently Barney, Richards and Wetsell have all agreed that the property should be sold and I have looked upon it wholly as a real estate investment.

I have never had the pleasure of hunting at the Club with you or anyone else so you don't know whether I am a good sportsman or not.

When Ruffin spoke to me the last time, I rang you up twice and asked for a conference. Your answer was sharp and decisive, you would do nothing until a written proposition was submitted by the Gas Company. I telephoned to Ruffin to write you a proposition. I never received a copy and do not know what it was, but I rang you up and told you I wanted to be present when the matter was presented as I thought I might be a go-between that would get results. You promised me that I would be notified and could present my views.

After waiting two weeks, to my chagrin, I rang you up and found that the meeting had been held, the proposition had been turned down, and I had not been notified.

A matter of this importance should have called for a regular meeting of the stockholders. No written notice was sent out according to law and upon asking each employee in my office I found none who had ever even been notified by telephone.

Knowing the interest I have taken in this matter, to say the least, the entire action was discourteous and looked like a high-handed proceeding to me.

What I would have recommended to the stockholders was this, that we accept \$1000 or \$1500 for the right of way, that the Gas Company build the power line to and thru our property and local service without any expense to us. We would have received actual value to the extent of \$4000 or \$5000, based on what I am paying in the development of the balance of my property around that section, and not alone that, it would have been a big factor in helping us sell the property.

San Diego, California,
August 28th, 1928.

Mr. C. D. Sprigg, President

Page three

Your statement is entirely erroneous when you say with the possible exception of myself all are sportsmen and adhere to the original idea. We have been unanimous with the exception of yourself in trying to sell this property for \$150 an acre for the last year and a half, so in reality it is a real estate proposition, except to a limited number who may shoot there.

The building of a power line to and thru our property is an invaluable asset and a selling point as all of the stockholders except possibly you may appreciate.

A power line along our west line or adjacent thereto and 1000 feet from our nearest duck pond could no more interfere with the flight of ducks than the present power line half a mile west.

The very fact that you have turned this and all other propositions down cold and have not submitted any proposition in return shows a lack of cooperation and in my opinion not the proper spirit. The Gas Company is one of our biggest factors in the development of this community. They were entitled to a proposition from you of what you considered equitable and fair. This you have not done. I wash my hands of the whole affair.

I am sending a copy of this letter to our secretary for his permanent file and have it made a matter of record at the next meeting of the stockholders.

Yours truly,

ED FLETCHER

EF:GMF

August 28th, 1928.

Mr. C. D. Sprigg, President
San Elijo Land Company
Federal Building,
San Diego, California.

Dear Mr. Sprigg:

Copy of this
letter forwarded to
those on attached
list.

Barney — P.C. — 47 C.
Barney — Geo L 101 Broadway
Rife — T. A. Rife 101 "
Dr Crattee — E.H. Medico Dental
Wetzell — O.B. 104 University
Richards C. Q. — 140 W Kalmia
" Herbert S. — 240 W Kalmia
Kew — Q. M. 355 E. — C.

December 5th, 1928.

Mr. Clarence Sprigg,
Federal Building,
San Diego, California.

Dear Clarence:

I appreciate your kind letter of the 3rd.

Before that letter was written to the San Elijo Gun Club by the Gas Company, I had a talk with one of its organization and he told me that in his opinion, rather than the company going over another route they would pay \$1,000 or \$1,500 besides furnishing free electric service to the property. You requested a letter before you called a meeting or would take the matter up so I asked them to write a letter and if possible make an offer of \$1,000 or \$1,500. The Gas Company felt they were doing all they could by furnishing electricity to the property.

It was necessary, as you know, for the Gas Company to furnish a new transformer and build a power line to the Club House and it mean't an expenditure, as near as I can understand, of \$1,500.00 putting electricity to the center of our property which we would get for nothing except paying for the electric lights.

I am sure I could have gotten the Company to pay \$1,000 or \$1,200.00 in cash and get the electricity delivered to the Club House without any expense and have the power line put along the San Elijo Gun Club's west line if I could have only attended the meeting and explained matters.

But the Gas Company sent the letter without any cash consideration, as is their usual policy and they expected us to come back with a counter proposition.

I had no personal interest in the matter whatever. None of my property is interested directly or indirectly. I was getting no consideration directly or indirectly in trying to solve the problem but it was disappointing that I never had a chance to attend the meeting after initiating the matter.



OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR
DISTRICT No. 25
ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS
FOR THIS OFFICE TO THE COLLECTOR
REFER TO FILE No.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

UNITED STATES CUSTOMS SERVICE

SAN DIEGO, CALIF.

January 3, 1929.

Col. Ed. Fletcher,
1020 Ninth Street,
San Diego, Cal.

My dear Ed:

Replying to your inquiry of the 29th ultimo, I have to advise that the sale option given Simmons expired on the fifteenth of December last and, as far as I know, no application for extension or renewal has been made.

With best wishes for the New Year,
Sincerely yours.

C. D. Sprigg

There is no use to claim the water that has gone over the dam. The money appropriation has been expended. I understand they have adopted another route next year and it will be more advantageous to me as it will pass through 500 acres of my land that has not electricity today and I am mighty glad to give them the right of way free in consideration of their installing the transformer at their own expense and giving service to my land.

The main thing is, I want you for a friend. I don't want any differences between us and as far as I am concerned, the incident is forgotten.

Again thanking you for your kind letter, and with best wishes and compliments of the season, I am

Sincerely yours,

EF AU

January 16th,

1 9 2 9

Mr. Clarence Sprigg,
Federal Building,
San Diego, California.

My dear Clarence:

I was up in Los Angeles yesterday, attending a directors meeting of the Rancho Santa Fe Corporation which has taken over all the Whitney lands from Rancho Santa Fe to the Ocean and will probably take over the holdings of Rancho Santa Fe, including the hotel, golf links and 2800 acres of unsold land.

I was surprised to have the President of the Corporation tell me that three different people had been in to see him the last week trying to sell him the San Elijo Gun Club property. He knew I was a stockholder and brought the matter up.

It is a mistake to have this property hocked around this way.

I have been at it for a long time - working up a syndicate to buy the Whitney property and the Rancho Santa Fe property.

You will remember nearly a year ago I started on this work and if the matter had been left in my hands the Gun Club property would have been sold today in connection with the rest of the property but when the time came to close on the sale of the Whitney property the Club had given an option to others which failed to materialize and I am of the opinion that the option that the San Elijo Gun Club gave was secured on the idea of hoping to sell at a profit to the new corporation that we have lately organized. However, I know you people have been sincere in giving the option, and joined in with the rest of you and signed the original option agreement as that seemed to be what the San Elijo Gun Club directors wanted to do.

February 7th,

1 9 2 9

Mr. Clarence Sprigg,
Federal Bldg.,
San Diego, California.

My dear Sprigg:

Enclosed find bills which we had to pay according to Ed Fletcher, Jr.

It seems to me this is highway robbery. I don't know why we had to do it.

I took the matter up with Mr. Woolman and he said that there would be no charge if they came to San Diego.

Is there no way to get a refund? The above refers to two automobiles and a trailer which came by boat from Santa Rosalia to San Pedro.

Is this a legitimate charge and if not is there any way of getting a refund?

Yours truly,

EF:AK

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If you will pardon my butting in with only one thought in mind - the best interests of the Gun Club - I would suggest that you cancel any options that you have given and let the matter rest in abeyance until we get thoroughly organized and then give me a chance to sell the San Elijo Gun Club lands to a new corporation at the opportune time. I believe this way we will get more money out of it.

Wishing you the Compliments of the Season, I am

Sincerely yours,

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K



TREASURY DEPARTMENT

UNITED STATES CUSTOMS SERVICE

SAN DIEGO, CALIF.

February 9, 1929.

Deputy
OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR
DISTRICT No. ~~26~~ 27.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS
FOR THIS OFFICE TO THE COLLECTOR

REFER TO FILE NO.

Mr. Ed. Fletcher,
1020 - 9th Street,
San Diego, California.

Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of the 7th instant, with inclosure: two receipted bills from Guy B. Barham Company, Custom House Brokers, in Los Angeles, in the amount of \$32.00.

It is noted from the bill that the United States Government made no charges or received any of the \$32.00, apparently being an entire charge by the Guy B. Barham Company. Therefore as it does not pertain to the Custom House, it is a matter between you and the Guy B. Barham Company as to the proper amount to charge. It appears to be rather excessive in view of the fact that the Government has received none of the \$32.00. An automobile returned at this port under similar circumstances would be passed without any charge.

Inclosures are returned herewith.

Respectfully,

C. S. Spring
Deputy Collector in Charge.

WHW-REW.

Inclosures.

Ed Fletcher Papers

1870-1955

MSS.81

Box: 27 Folder: 10

General Correspondence - Sprigg, Clarence



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