

C. F. WILLARD
RAMONA, CAL.

Aug 31, 1913,

Col Ed Fletcher,
San Diego, Cal.

Dear Sir,

As once before I called your attention to a method by which you could attain your purpose, so I take the liberty of calling your attention to a way out of your present difficulties in supplying water to the people along the lower course of the San Diego river.

The catchment area of the Cuyamaca system is so small compared with the demands on it that it will be necessary to reinforce it with a supply from some other water-shed. While under the law it is contrary to the public good to take the ordinary flow from one water-shed to another, this does not apply to the flood waters. The flood waters of the Santa Ysabel in some winters amount to from 80,000 to 100,000 inches. By taking up the Sawday proposition and utilizing the tunnel and ditch already built at a slight extra cost the ditch could be carried down to the Wash Hollow reservoir site where storage for at least two billion gallons can be had, according to an English engineer whose report I have, by throwing up an earth bank only 20 feet high, which can be heightened when necessary to impound a much larger quantity of flood waters. This would be just above the head of my placers, where it would be possible to drop it down into the San Vicente creek and thence down into the San Diego river if you did not want to go to the expense of a flume for the present. Certain portions of the water could be allowed to go down through my placers to irrigate Ramona and the Santa Maria Valley or dropped down the Pamo grade into the Pamo dam. This gives you a chance to turn the water either way you want it and in times of scarcity you could supply the La Mesa people and others adjacent if desired. Of course I am interested to the extent that I want to get water to work my placers but this same water could be impounded below, settled and sold to the Ramona people if desired. I might have called the attention of the State public utilities commission and the La Mesa people to this additional source of supply after your failure to consult with me on the matter as you stated you would but I have taken into consideration the many annoyances to which you have been put as well as the forces that have been consistently working against you, and so decided to again call your attention to the matter. I feel that the Wash Hollow reservoir is the strategical key to the whole situation and you will perhaps remember that I stated over a year ago that we were entering on a cycle of dry years again and it behooved you to acquire all the reservoir sites possible.

If you will come up here quietly and go over the ground with me I think that you will realize that I am again doing you a favor. There are other ways in which I think I could assist you.

Very truly yours,

C. F. Willard

C. F. WILLARD
RAMONA, CAL.

Sept 7, 1913,

Col Ed Fletcher,
San Diego, Cal.

Friend Fletcher,

I received your letter of Sept 3, and was pleased for your sake to learn that you had been successful in obtaining remunerative rates from the State Public Utilities Commission.

I was not aware that there was a placer mining proposition in Wash Hollow and I live only about 4 miles away. It has always been known, however, as a fine reservoir site and in it can be stored two billion gallons of the flood waters of the Santa Ysabel at small expense and from that up to five billion gallons, depending on height of retaining dam. The head of the San Vicente creek, a tributary of the San Diego, is just below it so that these waters can be turned into the natural channel of this creek without any difficulty, the only thing being to let the water run down hill, which water has the habit of doing. You can let the water run down the San Vicente almost to Foster and then run it by a short flume to your big flume between Lakeside and Foster. From the intake on the Santa Ysabel to Wash Hollow there is a fall of 200 to 250 ft.

The benefit would be almost entirely on your side as I do not see where I would derive any benefit or get anything out of it excepting to have a little nearer me a source of water supply during the summer months (having a good supply during the winter) as I would not suppose that you would be so altruistic as to furnish me water for nothing, altho' the information I have given you is worth to my mind what little water I might use, having plenty during the winter time.

When you get ready to make your plans it would be well for you to come out here as it is evident that you are not so familiar with the ground as I thought,

It does not seem to me that it should be hard work to interest "your people" in something that will enable them to tie together these two disjointed systems and allow one to reinforce the other.

However, I have given you the benefit of the knowledge I have accumulated on this matter and it is up to you to act or not as you see fit.

I notice that that drunken sot, Boone, has been paying his respects to you and while I do not believe much in that sort of thing yet in this case, you could not expend money better than to pay a good stiff fine for poking him in the eye. I can understand how he hates you as you are a Mason and he is tied up with a Catholic wife and other Catholics.

Fraternally yours,

C. F. Willard

FILE

Sept. 9, 1913

Mr. Post:

Enclosed find two letters from
Mr. C. F. Willard which are explanatory. Look
up this cave proposition and see if there is
anything to it.

Please let me hear from you.

Yours very truly,

F:B

August Fifth,
1 9 2 9

Mr. Cyrus W. Willard
621 West Ivy Street,
San Diego, California.

Dear Mr. Willard:

I thank you kindly for your letter of the thirtieth
and appreciate your interest in the matter.

Yours very truly,

EF:AK

5-9-11-112
CYRUS FIELD WILLARD
621 WEST IVY STREET
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
MEMBER
AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

July 30, 1929.

Dear Ed:

Your circular letter with brief received.

From my published letter on water bonds you know how favorable I am to a fair and equitable settlement of the water question. It was generally agreed when we bought the Spreckels system that the Flume system should be bought next. As I said you made the fairest kind of an offer but the council turned it down. It seems to me that Cosgrove had some ulterior motive in trying to establish the succession of old pueblo rights to the municipality organized in 1850 and only asserted in the 1920's. As a Roman Catholic, he has perhaps a motive in having these old rights established to give color to some future claims by that church. As a Mason, you are anathema to that hierarchy.

Knowing as I do your hard work and sleepless nights in building up the Cuyamaca company and the acquiescence of the city to your claims and buying water from you, I am certainly in favor of your being justly treated. If the negroes by a recent decision of the U.S. Supreme Court are allowed to use the Shrine emblems because the white Shriners acquiesced too long, why are you not entitled to your full rights to the beneficial use of the water of the San Diego river because the modern municipality of San Diego has acquiesced too long? This is a point for your attorneys to consider.

My good wishes always go with you. You were one of the few to call on me when I lost my legs.
Cordially yours
Cyrus W. Willard

Do you know anything about the Willard, Lancaster or Lancaster, Mass.?

Ed Fletcher Papers

1870-1955

MSS.81

Box: 34 Folder: 15

General Correspondence - Willard, Cyrus Field



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