

FRANK LYNCH, PRESIDENT
O. J. EVENSON, SECRETARY
F. M. WHITE, TREAS. AND GEN. MGR.

THE ONLY LUMBER
"MADE IN SAN DIEGO"

Benson Lumber Company

MANUFACTURERS OF LUMBER
AND OTHER
FOREST PRODUCTS

GENERAL OFFICES
SAW MILL, PLANING MILL AND YARDS
FOOT OF SIGSBEE (So. 21st) STREET

San Diego, California.



ONE OF OUR OCEAN RAFTS
ENTERING SAN DIEGO HARBOR
"THE HARBOR OF OPPORTUNITY"

June 10, 1922.

Col. Ed. Fletcher,
920 Eighth Street,
San Diego, California.

Dear Mr. Fletcher:--

I have your letter of June 9th and note the progress you are making with the S L Studio matter.

Mr. Lynch, of the Benson Lumber Company, has left this matter for me to handle, and wish to advise you if the organization of this matter is to be directly under your supervision so that it will be safeguarded as much as possible- and you pronounce the organization all right and reasonably safe- we will abide by your decision in the matter and carry out the verbal agreement made, to furnish up to \$2500.00 in this organization. We would do this in the furnishing of the lumber and anything beyond this amount furnished, would be paid for in cash.

As outlined above, you may proceed and count on the Benson Lumber Company carrying out its part of the program.

Yours truly,

F M White

Ed Fletcher Company
FLETCHER BUILDING
920 EIGHTH ST.
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

[RE: WHITE] csm

AGENTS
PINE HILLS
DEL MAR
GROSSMONT

August 31, 1922

White.

280-26

Mr. George Stone,
San Diego, Calif.

Dear Sir:

The favor that I ask of Mr. Sawyer is this, that the Benson Lumber Company be given the business, if their price is the same or less than any other dealer, and in consideration of that the Benson Lumber Company will agree, in case they get the order, and are paid for the lumber included in the first unit, that they will immediately buy \$1,000 worth of stock and pay cash for it, getting the same consideration that others get for buying stock, or, if it is desired, \$1,000 can be deducted from the purchase price of the lumber, and in lieu thereof \$1,000 worth of stock delivered to the Benson Lumber Company.

I hope you will use your efforts to get this matter straightened out along these lines, and I personally will guarantee that \$1,000 worth of stock will be purchased by the Benson Lumber Company and paid for, in case they get the order for the first unit and are paid for what lumber they may deliver.

Yours very truly,

E Fletcher

Approved:
S. L. Studios - San Diego

By [Signature]
Pres. Board of Trustees

yellow carbon sent
to F M White

280-76

San Diego, California,
September 1, 1922.

Mr. F. M. White, Mgr.,
Benson Lumber Company,
San Diego, California.

Dear Sir:

We appreciate your check for \$1,000 in the matter of purchase of S. L. Studios-San Diego stock, which has been handed me thru Colonel Fletcher, and I wish to say that it is our intention to buy all our supply of lumber from San Diego contractors, providing we get at least the wholesale rate, and all things being equal, we intend to give the Benson Lumber Company the business.

Very truly yours,

S. L. STUDIOS-SAN DIEGO

By _____ President

280-76

3

Nov. 14, 1922.

S & L Studios,
Spreckels Bldg.,
City.

Gentlemen:

Attention Mr. A. H. Sawyer.

Wish to advise you I am very much pleased with the progress you have made in the building of the first unit of your studios, and with the present progress it will only be a short time until this unit is completed.

It is gratifying to know you have been successful in financing your company in San Diego, and I trust when the time comes for an addition of the second unit, you will have no trouble in financing the same.

I became interested as an investor in your company because I wished to do what I could to see established in San Diego an operation along the lines of the S & L Studios, knowing that if successful, it would mean the establishment in San Diego of the moving picture industry, which is one of the largest in the United States, and such an industry established in San Diego would mean a large amount of business for the business firms in and around the San Diego territory.

Your Mr. Sawyer stood so high in the producing end of the moving picture industry, and his reputation as a business manager was so good that it made what I considered a safe investment, and one which no doubt will result in a very satisfactory return.

Yours truly,

F M White

FMW-S

280-280
January 4, 1924.

Mr. F. M. White, Mgr.,
Benson Lumber Company,
San Diego, California.

My dear Mr. White:

Confirming your telephone request today, I suggest the following wording, first approved by your attorneys, covering escrow to the Southern Title Guaranty Company:

"Gentlemen:

Inclosed herewith find assignment of mortgage to Benson Lumber Company, also check for _____ . You may deliver this money to Eekles, Lowerison & Wolstencroft whenever you can furnish us a certificate of title at the expense of Eekles, Lowerison & Wolstencroft showing the Benson Lumber Company has a first mortgage in the sum of \$8800 on the following described property:

All that Real Property situated in or near Grossmont County of San Diego, State of California, bounded and described as follows:
Lots 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24, 33, 34, 35 and 36, also a strip or piece of ground adjoining the above described lots and included between the same and a line made up of the following courses and distances to-wit: beginning at the North West corner of Lot 25, thence South-easterly along the northerly line of said lot 25, 60 feet to a point; thence southerly to the intersection of the division line between lots 29 and 30 with the southerly line of lot 25; thence southerly along the division line between lots 29 and 30, 40 feet; thence due west 295 feet; thence due south 40 feet; thence due west 140 feet; thence due south 60 feet; thence south 45° west, 50 feet; thence due west 40 feet more or less to the eastern line of Lot 33; also a strip or piece of ground adjoining the above described lots and included between the same and a line made up of the following courses and distances to-wit: beginning at a point on the westerly line of lot 33 distant from the northerly corner of said lot 33, 200 feet; thence due west 45 feet more or less to eastern boundary of lot 40

and thence due north 320 feet more or less to the South West boundary line of Lot 35, all being included in the Brier Tract, San Diego County, California, as per map No. 1475 recorded in the office of the County Recorder, San Diego County, the 11th day of September, 1912.

Said certificate is to show all taxes paid to date, also subject to rights-of-way heretofore granted and subject also to a reversionary clause to the Grossmont Park Company in case the property is not used for twelve months continuously as a studio.

This escrow to be completed within thirty days from date."

The above escrow to be signed by Benson Lumber Company or whoever the mortgage is assigned to at your option, also to be signed by the contractors.

Attached hereto is copy of a suggested letter or agreement which the Grossmont Park Company will sign. I suggest that you have your attorneys draw up the necessary papers to protect your interests, but under no conditions do I want to give up the right of foreclosure on account of the violation of contract on the part of the S. L. Studios crowd not having lived up to their agreement.

Yours very truly,

EF:AH

San Diego, California,
July 1, 1924.

Ed Fletcher Company,
920 Eighth Street,
San Diego, Calif.

Gentlemen:

Referring to the line of insurance we wish to carry on the S. L. Studios, situated at Grossmont, California, wish to advise you that this property is in the hands of five trustees picked from reliable business men of this city who have recently leased this studio to reliable parties for five years.

The first year's rental is \$800 per month; the second year, \$1,000 per month, and the three following years at \$1,200 per month.

Arrangements will be made at once to have this property connected with the new water system of the Cuyamaca Water Company which will provide ample water, and the property has been and will be under a night and day watchman.

Under all of these circumstances we think that this risk is desirable, and would be glad to have you place the policies covering the same up to \$30,000, \$20,000 of which has already been ordered thru your company, and the additional \$10,000 we wish to now order.

Yours truly,

S. L. STUDIOS

By JM White Pres

Deed is made out to

Arthur H. Sawyer, David S. McCann,
Chas. J. Hundt, George H. Stone and A. J.
Hughes, trustees of the "S1 Studios-San
Diego", a Trust Estate, unincorporated

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July 1, 1924.

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920 Eighth Street,
San Diego, Calif.

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The first year's rental is \$800 per month; the second year, \$1,000 per month, and the three following years at \$1200 per month.

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Yours truly,

S. L. STUDIOS

By JM White

FMW:AH

July 9, 1924.

Mr. F. H. White, Pres.,
S. L. Studios,
San Diego, California.

My dear Mr. White:

I saw Mr. Winfield of Winfield-Kerner Co. yesterday.

I find that the contract with S. L. Studios calls for twenty-five cinema twin studio lamps, also six 120 ampere spot lights, the purchase price being \$2450 - payments made as follows:

On 8-14-1923 payment was made of \$1143.34
On 9-1-23 \$380 - making a total of \$1523.34.

S. L. Studio notes were given for the balance signed by S. L. Studios - A. H. Sawyer President. I saw the notes.

Mr. Sawyer then turned the property back to Winfield-Kerner Co. excepting three lamps which were sold to the Colonial Theater in San Diego. Mr. Winfield had no written agreement, or at least he showed me none, whereby he took the material back for the balance of the debt, and would give me nothing definite in relation thereto. In fact, he refused to tell me to whom he sold the material that had been returned or what price he sold it at. I have a hunch that Mr. Sawyer, directly or indirectly bought the property back.

It would seem to me that having accepted these notes of the S. L. Studios, the material belongs to the S. L. Studios, and Winfield-Kerner should look to S. L. Studios and Sawyer for the payment of the balance of those notes.

Winfield would make no adjustment whatever. He said he had been lied to and things had been misrepresented

Page Two

to him, and that he had made three trips to San Diego to protect his interests, and the only concession he had to make was that if we purchased from him again he would allow a ten percent discount from the regular price for cash.

I talked with the Cinema people over the phone. I could not see them in person. I got very little encouragement from them. In fact, they were bitter against the whole outfit and said they had made a big loss. The next time I am in Hollywood I will see the Cinema people and get down to brass tacks with them.

Yours very truly,

EF:AH

cc - Judge Chambers
Mr. Wm. R. Wheeler
Mr. Raymond Welles

Mr. White - Hazelhurst

August 8, 1924

Mr. F. M. White,
206 Upas Street,
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Mr. White:

Inclosed find letter from Hawkins that is explanatory. Before we get thru these are the only people that we will be able to do anything with.

Yours very truly,

EF:ME

1 Inc.

Ed Fletcher Papers

1870-1955

MSS.81

Box: 33 Folder: 35

General Correspondence - White, Frederick M - S-L Studios



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