

F. M. White, former Water Commissioner of the City of San Diego gave an interview to a Reporter of the Union ~~and is~~ ⁱⁿ expressing his views as to the value of the Cuyamaca Water system ~~It~~ says, there are some facts the people of San Diego should know ^{in regard to the water problems of this City -}

The properties of the Cuyamaca Water Co have been misrepresented and criticized ^{in the past 15 yrs} to such an extent for political and personal reasons, for the past fifteen years, ^{that} the public in San Diego considers this system of little or no value to the City.

I wish ^{to} advise the people of San Diego that a careful analysis of the value of the Cuyamaca water Co's properties, shows that this system is one of the most valuable water properties in Southern California, both from its actual water producing value and also from the position it holds as a water supply for the City of S. D. and

and the adjoining County. At the present time such only an out-put of about four million gallons per day, which is practically one third of its producing capacity, this system is earning about 6% on a valuation of 1,500,000 \$: without further development this system is capable of producing six million gallons of water per day which would ^{earn} ~~earnings~~ ^{6%} on an invested capital of - - -

The option price ~~of~~ ^{on} this property, given to the City in 1922, was ~~at~~ ^{\$} 1,400,000.00. The cost of further development of the system by building Fletcher dam, South Fork dam and doubling the pumping capacity of the El Monte bands would be about another million dollars - The City would then have a property costing \$2,400,000 which would provide water even to twelve million gal. of water per day during the driest years known.

As part of the property included in the option given the City in 1922 was Murray ^{Reservoir} ~~dam~~ holding two Billion

gal. This Reservoir alone ~~has a reserve~~³ supply of water for the City of S. L. is worth the option price of \$1,400,000. At the present time in case of an accident to the 25-year old wooden pipe line connecting the Clay Dam to the City (on which the City depends entirely for its supply of water) Murray Reservoir could supply the City with water for a number of months as it did in 1916. This option also included about 75 miles of distributing pipe lines and the dam site No 3 in Mission Luge worth at least \$500,000.

The completed system producing 11 million gal per day ~~of water~~ at ten cents per thousand gal. would have paid in twelve years for the entire investment, with interest, and would have provided a sinking fund of three quarters of a million dollars to rebuild the entire 30 miles of flume and left the City with

an income from these properties of ~~\$400,000~~^{to \$500,000} per year worth figures showing over a third of its income ~~producing~~ revenue developed. you will find business men in the City of S. L. who still hold the idea that the Cuyamaca Water Co. properties would be a liability instead of an asset to the City.

If the City had purchased this property when they had the opportunity, they could have given the La Mesa and Lemon Grove District Five Million Dollars per day in place of the Three Million they ~~now give~~ and still have had from Six to Seven Mil - Gal - 11 for the City's use - ~~per day~~ ^{per day} ~~per day~~

At the present time, if ~~the~~ City could obtain the option now held by the La Mesa Lemon Grove District ~~the~~ ^{the City} could afford to pay a bonus of 1,500,000.00 a man to take the option. The District ~~now~~ holds on this property & would be the best trade ~~that~~ ^{that} could be made for a water supply.

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
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Night Message	Nite
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If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

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Day Letter	Blue
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NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

RECEIVED AT 936 5TH ST., SAN DIEGO, CALIF.

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1920 JUN 28 PM 12 42

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ED FLETCHER

240

SANDIEGO CALIF

I AUTHORIZE YOU TO SIGN WATER DISTRICT PETITION FOR ME

F M WHITE.

130-5
Callison
City Water Commission

December 29th, 1922.

Mr. H. N. Savage, Hydraulic Engineer,
City Hall,
San Diego, California.

Dear Sir:--

It would appear, from reading your report and the opinions expressed in the recommendations of the Water Commissioners to the Mayor and Common Council, (copy of which has been sent to you) that we will be unable to work harmoniously together. For this reason it would seem to us advisable that you resume your original position as Hydraulic Engineer with the City and we will appoint some one else to take charge of the Water Commission Office. It might be well for you to take a few days to complete unfinished work. If so, this change could be made some time during the coming week.

While we may differ materially on what is best for the city in future water development, we wish to thank you for the careful attention you have given to the work entrusted to your care by the Water Commission. Will you kindly keep in separate file any letters which may come to the Water Commission Office referring to recommendations just published.

Wishing you the compliments of the season, we remain

Yours truly,

FREDERIC M. WHITE

CHAS. T. CHANDLER

Board of Water Commissioners.

February
Sixth
1922

Mr. F. M. White,
206 Upas St.,
San Diego.

My dear Mr. White:

I enclose herewith a suggested telegram that you send to Mr. Weymouth, Chief construction engineer of the U. S. Reclamation Service, who built the Shoshone and Pathfinder dams, and numerous other dams for the government.

This telegram, if sent the way I have written it, makes it a personal matter between you and Mr. Weymouth. You could then show a copy of this telegram to Mr. Chandler, also the reply from Mr. Weymouth, and then have a private conference with the city council and ask them to approve of employing Mr. Weymouth to make an investigation on the San Diego River. The above is simply a suggestion for your consideration.

No one can question the unbiased opinion of Mr. Weymouth, who will come here, make a personal investigation on the ground and put his own men in here to check up the detailed reports. It may not be necessary for them to make any surveys on the ground as this data is already secured by the city and ourselves.

Yours sincerely,

EF:KLM

May 15, 1922.

Mr. F. M. White,
Benson Lumber Co.,
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Mr. White:

I suggest, for your consideration, that you write this letter to Mr. Weymouth and see what his reply will be. He is the construction engineer of the U. S. Reclamation Service.

We would turn over to him all the net safe yield reports of Savage, Earle, U. S. Reclamation Service, King, Post, O'Shaughnessy, etc, and I am sure you can get something from him that will crystallize sentiment and eliminate opposition that now exists.

I hope that you will write this letter immediately; if he cannot come as consulting engineer for the city of San Diego, he certainly can come at the invitation of the citizen's committee, and as a representative of the U. S. Reclamation Service, and will ask nothing but his expenses. That is what I believe it will eventually come to, and after we get a letter from him along those lines it is an easy matter for the citizens' committee to extend the invitation.

Yours sincerely,

EF:KLM

May 16, 1922

Mr. F. M. White,
Benson Lumber Co.,
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Mr. White:

Enclosed find report of Savage which is
explanatory.

His game now is to build just a diverting
dam at El Capitan, or at the upper Mission Gorge site
and divert the water by gravity, without building any
dam at all, just building a pipe line and taking the
flood waters, and in this way get a entering wedge
holding a job for himself and ultimately accomplishing
by indirect methods at some future date what he cannot
now do directly, ie: build either El Capitan or the
Mission Gorge No. 2.

Yours sincerely,

EF:KLM

May 19, 1922

Mr. F. M. White,
Benson Lumber Company,
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Mr. White:

Enclosed find statement of the city officials
which is explanatory.

Mr. Weitzel, as you note, states that the city
council did ask for the Earle report. You can notice
the animous of Heilbron thru it all, and his statements
made in the city council meeting coincide with the
statements made by Mr. Earle as to the domineering
policy of the city council, demanding that they want
irrespective of facts and fairness of the proposition.

Yours sincerely,

EF:KLM

May 25, 1922

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

My dear Mr. White:

Enclosed find copy of letters which are explanatory, to the State Railroad Commission and the State Engineer.

I am sure that one of them will respond, if not both. I would wait, if I were you, until I got an answer from both. One may report favorably and one may not. If both report favorably then I would arrange, if I were you, for a joint examination by a representative from each department.

I wish you would get Wangenheim to write to Mr. Weymouth regarding the San Diego River investigation.

Yours sincerely,

EF:KLM

May 29, 1922.

Mr. F. M. White,
Benson Lumber Co.,
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Mr. White:

Enclosed find run-off, actual and re-stored of Morena, Barrett and Lower Otay. Also the following is the net safe yield of Mr. Savage and Mr. Earle:

Morena	3.2	million	gallons	per	day
Barrett	4.2	"	"	"	"
Otay	1.8	"	"	"	"
3 Reservoirs combined	9.2	mil.	gals.	per	day.

Please examine carefully the Lower Otay and you will see that there is a super-abundance of storage there, so that the proper manipulation of the present system by keeping Morena down and storing the water in Lower Otay absolutely gives control of the flood waters in Morena and does not warrant the building of the dam 5 ft. higher for in the particularly wet years if there is a little wastage it means nothing, because if Morena does over-flow it will be picked up by Barrett and diverted directly thru the flume into Lower Otay. If you keep passing the Morena and Barrett water into Lower Otay, neither Barrett nor Morena will ever spill more than once in 30 years.

Mr. O'Shaughnessy told me, and told Mr. King, that Morena dam should never have been built, and was built against his protest. Only a major dam should have been built at Barrett. Morena dam did not go out in 1916, the greatest flood of record, and since then the spillway has been enlarged to double its capacity of 1916. My private opinion is that the city council is right, and that \$15,000 or \$20,000 spent at Morena is all that is necessary as an outside figure, however, the state authorities are the ones in my opinion who should decide this question, and they should be furnished the data, which I am furnishing you, and the stream flow measurements so they may have all of the facts before them.

Yours very truly,

EF:KLM

P.S. The present capacity of Morena dam is 40,329 ac. ft.; Barrett- 35,460 ac. ft.; Lower Otay - 49,050 ac. ft. Please compare the total capacities of each dam with the run-off by years on attached sheet.

Same to Chandler

6

May 31, 1922

Mr. F. M. White,
Benson Lumber Co.,
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Mr. White:

Enclosed find opinion from Crouch, which is explanatory and for your information. From this it would seem that it is the duty of the commission to recommend future water development, and they can spend this 25% for anything they wish, without the authority of the city council, and my opinion is that the city council is now usurping the duties of the City Water Commission in planning new development of water.

Yours sincerely,

EF:KLM

320-6

June 30, 1922.

Honorable Shelley J. Higgins,
City Attorney,
San Diego, California.

Subject: Board of Water Commissioners Jurisdiction
and Responsibility.

1. A legal opinion is desired from you, outlining the scope, extent and limitations if any, of the exclusive jurisdiction and control and responsibility of the Board of Water Commissioners for the operation and maintenance and determination and construction of extensions of the Municipal impounding and carrying water system--dams, reservoirs, conduits, filtration plant, pipelines and general sanitation.

2. Especial reference is had to the construction of required betterments and enlargements of any and all features of the constructed works; and all investigations, surveys, determinations, estimates, drawings and specifications for all required extensions of the present works; and for the construction of all new works, to the fullest extent required justifiable and possible with the funds allocated by the City Charter and Amendments thereof to the Board of Water Commissioners, for the conduct of the work under their responsible supervision.

3. Examples: Enlargement by 20% of the Lower Otay Filtration Plant work accomplished.

Clearing trees, shrubs and other objectionable matter from the Lower Otay and Barrett storage reservoir basins work accomplished before they filled.

July 19, 1922.

Mr. H. N. Savage,
Hydraulic Engineer,
San Diego, California.

Dear Sir:

In answer to your letter of June 30th, 1922, asking for an opinion from this office outlining the scope, extent and limitations of the exclusive jurisdiction and control of the Board of Water Commissioners for the management, operation and development of the municipal impounding and carrying water system, permit me to advise you as follows:

In August, 1921, the Supreme Court of this state had occasion to construe the Charter of San Diego with respect to the jurisdiction of the Common Council and Board of Water Commissioners over the expenditure of bond moneys voted by the citizens of this community for the construction of Barrett Dam. This opinion construes various sections of the Charter defining the powers and duties of each board of the municipality, and in my judgment clearly defines and limits the jurisdiction of each. As the decision passes squarely upon the question of bond moneys in favor of the Common Council, that question may be considered safely settled, and not involved in any way in the present discussion. Bond moneys and general taxes are entirely within the jurisdiction of the legislative body of the city, and therefore removed from the control

Enlargement of Morena Reservoir Spillway, contemplated, using either Water Commission Funds or prespective Bond Funds, or both.

Enlargement of Morena Reservoir Dam storage capacity, contemplated, using either Water Commission Funds or prospective Bond Funds, or both by utilizing for increasing the height of Morena Dam the rock which will be excavated for the spillway enlargement, and which otherwise would be wasted.

4. The Board of Water Commissioners are making investigations, surveys, determinations and estimates for additional water supply to be appropriated from the unappropriated water of drainage areas tributary to Dulzura Conduit, and also for the projected enlargement ultimately of the storage capacity of the present Barrett Reservoir, and also investigations, surveys, land appraisals, determinations, estimates and drawings comprehending all additional water supply resources tributary to San Diego in San Diego County, and adjacent thereto on the South.

5. Definition is also desired from you establishing the line of demarcation between the jurisdiction of the Board of Water Commissioners and of the Common Council in the matter of investigations, surveys, determination, estimates and drawings and specifications for expenditures requiring projected future bond funds providing such are voted for the construction by the enlargement of present works, or for any and all new works required for the impounding and carrying features of the Municipal Water System of the City of San Diego.

Respectfully,

H. N. Savage.

HNS:EF

of the Water Commission. This opinion deals and treats only with the moneys set aside by the Charter in what is known as the Water Development Fund.

Section 4, Chapter I, Article V of the Charter provides that

"The Board of Water Commissioners shall have exclusive charge and supervision of the conservation and impounding of water by said City and of the water, water rights, water works, water impoundment system, and other properties of said City used in the development of said water impounding system."

Section 7 of said Article creates a Water Development Fund, and provides that "said fund shall be used for the management, maintenance and development of the water development system."

Under these two provisions of the Charter there is little doubt but that the water development system already constructed and now in operation is under the exclusive control and jurisdiction of the Board of Water Commissioners, and that one-fourth of the revenue derived from the sale of water shall be used by said Water Commission for the upkeep and maintenance of said system. When, however, we come to the language "development of the system," it becomes necessary to construe this language with other sections of the Charter relating to the construction of public work of the City.

Subdivision 52 of Section 1, Chapter II, Article II provides that

"The Common Council shall have charge, superintendence and control of all public work of every kind, where not otherwise provided for in this charter, to be done for the City, or for any board or department thereof, and also of the furnishing of all labor, work, materials, and supplies for said City. This charge, superintendence and control of public work shall be subject, however, to such ordinances as the Common Council may from time to time adopt."

September 7, 1922.

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

My dear Mr. White:

I return your letter of Savage and S.
J. Higgins' answer in reply.

On the last page of Mr. Higgins' letter it is unquestionably wholly the Water Commission's duty to make investigations, surveys, determinations, and estimates for additional water, and out of the Water Development Fund. It is perfectly plain. Mr. Higgins says, "Investigations, surveys, determinations, estimates and drawings and specifications for expenditures requiring bond funds for the enlargement of the present completed system may be under the jurisdiction of the Water Commission until such time as the matter is submitted to the people for the authorization of bonds."

The development of the San Diego River is an enlargement of the present completed system. There is no question but what the City Council have complete jurisdiction over the expenditure of any bond moneys for the construction of a new system or enlargement of the present system. The game of the City Council now is to take out of your fund the money to enlarge Morena Spillway and raise Morena Dam, and by so doing, cripple you financially for any investigations, after the City Council have taken over the management of the enlarging of the Morena Spillway and the raising of Morena Dam. The least the City Council should do is to put up half the expense, and the Water Commission the other half out of the Water Development Fund, in my opinion.

Yours very truly,

EF:AH

Subdivision 29 of said Section 1, provides that the Common Council shall have power

"to adopt, enter into, and carry out means for securing a supply of water for the use of the city, or its inhabitants or for irrigating purposes therein, and along the line of its water supply."

This provision "confers upon the Common Council power to use all means necessary for securing a supply of water. It would, therefore, include the power to contract for the construction of a dam, and to use the money of the City and supervise its expenditure for such construction to impound the water necessary for city use."

Heilbron v. Sumner, 186 Cal. 651.

Furthermore, Subdivision 52 as herein quoted, authorizes the Common Council to take charge of all public work of every kind or character, either to be done for the City, or for any board or department thereof. Any development of the water system, therefore, which may be classed as public work, undoubtedly falls within the language of subdivision 52, and would be under the control and supervision of the Common Council.

If the development of the water system may be classed as public work, subdivision 52, as quoted above, and Section 7 of the Water Commission amendment, seem to be in conflict, but as said in the Heilbron case, 186 Cal. 652, the various provisions of the charter should be harmonized if possible, and if a construction which produces such harmony can be had, that construction should be adopted.

Ordinance 5051, known as the People's Purchasing ordinance, and which was adopted by vote of the people on April 8, 1913, regulates the employment of labor and the purchase and checking of

September 21, 1922.

File 320-6

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

My dear Mr. White:

I return papers and thank you for same.

Am glad you put it up to him.

Yours sincerely,

EF:KLM

--4--
material and supplies for the city. This ordinance provides that the employment of all labor, and the purchasing of all supplies for the use of the city shall be done in accordance with the terms and provisions of said ordinance. It also provides in section 6 thereof that no contract which shall involve an expenditure of more than \$500.00 shall be made by or on behalf of the City, or by any board, commission or officer thereof, except by a public contract after advertising for bids, etc., unless authorized otherwise by an ordinance of the Common Council. I believe that the public work mentioned in subdivision 52 is such public work as is outlined by this people's ordinance. In other words, where the work involves the employment of labor and the purchasing of material, and the letting of a contract for the expenditure of more than \$500.00, that such work then becomes public work within the meaning of subdivision 52, and is directly under the jurisdiction and control of the Common Council. Where, however, the work of improving the water system is done by the regular employees of the Water Commission, and paid for out of the Water Development Fund, such work would be under the exclusive charge and control of the Board of Water Commissioners.

If, therefore, the enlargement of the Lower Otay Filtration Plant is done by the regular department employees of the Water Commission, such work would be under the control of the Board of Water Commissioners. If the work to be done is done by contract which involves the expenditure of more than five hundred dollars, such work must be under the control and jurisdiction of the Common Council.

370-4
October 11, 1922

Mr. F. M. White,
Benson Lumber Co.,
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Mr. White:

I met Heilbron the other day and he said that Savage's report would recommend the construction of Mission Gorge No. 2, and we might as well prepare for it. If you will give me those questions you want, I will get busy on the answers.

Yours sincerely,

EF:KLM

--5.

The work of enlarging Morena Spillway, if done by the regular force of the Water Commission and not by public contract, can be done under the jurisdiction of the Water Commission and paid for out of the Water Development Fund. This is also equally true of the enlargement of Morena Reservoir Dam storage capacity, if the expenses of the same be taken from the Water Development Fund. It is otherwise if bond moneys or the general taxes are used.

Investigations, surveys, determinations and estimates for additional water, if done for the purpose of developing the present completed system, and properly charged against the Water Development Fund, and are under the jurisdiction of the Water Commission.

The securing of additional water supply for the City, and the construction of new impounding systems are matters primarily for the Common Council.

Investigations, surveys, determinations, estimates and drawings and specifications for expenditures requiring bond funds for the enlargement of the present completed system may be under the jurisdiction of the Water Commission until such time as the matter is submitted to the people for the authorization of bonds.

Trusting that the foregoing fully advises you as to the law concerning the jurisdiction of the Water Commission and the Common Council, and may, therefore, be of some service, I am,

Yours very truly,

(Sgd) S.J. Higgins,
City Attorney.

October 18, 1922

File 320-6

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

My dear Mr. White:

Harry Weitzel, the councilman, was in to see me and said he was anxious to have a talk with you over water matters and he had been thinking of approaching you. I told him I was sure you would be glad to talk with him, and I would suggest to you that you get in touch with Weitzel and have a little talk with him on Mission Gorge No. 3. I suggest that you invite him to lunch up to the club some noon and have a little talk with him.

Yours sincerely,

EF:KLM

October 21, 1922.

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

My dear Mr. White:

Inclosed find copy of clipping from
the "Sun" of October 3rd.

Mr. Shropshire, our engineer, says
that there is no official report on record, and it must
be in the files of the Water Commission or with the mayor.
I am very anxious to have a copy of this report. Will
you please get it for me? Find out whether it has ever
been filed officially or not, and with whom.

Yours very sincerely,

EF:M:H

October 23, 1922

File 320-6

Mr. F. M. White,
Benson Lumber Co.,
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Mr. White:

Enclosed find copy of letter which is
important and for your information. I thot I had sent
you a copy.

Yours sincerely,

EF:KLM

October 21, 1922

Mr. F. M. White,
Benson Lumber Co.,
San Diego, California.

My dear Mr. White:

I return papers as per your request.

Yours sincerely,

EF:KLM

*Inventories of
city system*

370-6

November
Ninth
1922

Board of Water Commissioners,
San Diego, California.

Gentlemen:

White
Attention Mr. D. E. Chandler

When Mr. King and I were invited by your Commission to meet Mr. Savage and Mr. Klauber, it was on the basis of an informal discussion of the different views covering the development of the waters of the San Diego River. I know the invitation was extended in good faith by your Commission and entered into in good faith by Mr. King and myself, and in order to further assure Mr. Savage that any conversation would be treated confidential, I voluntarily made that statement at the beginning of the session.

Mr. King and I concealed nothing, showed our whole hand, and do not regret it. On the other hand, Mr. Klauber during the entire evening said not one word and Mr. Savage only when forced so to do. The fact is, Messrs. Savage and Klauber came over there with the distinct program of refusing to talk, but to draw us out and get all the information they could. This was clearly proven. If Mr. Savage had any of the instincts of a gentleman he would have refused on one excuse or another to have attended the meeting. If he were not a "boob" he would, after arriving at the meeting, have explained his position before Mr. King and I were invited to present our side of the case.

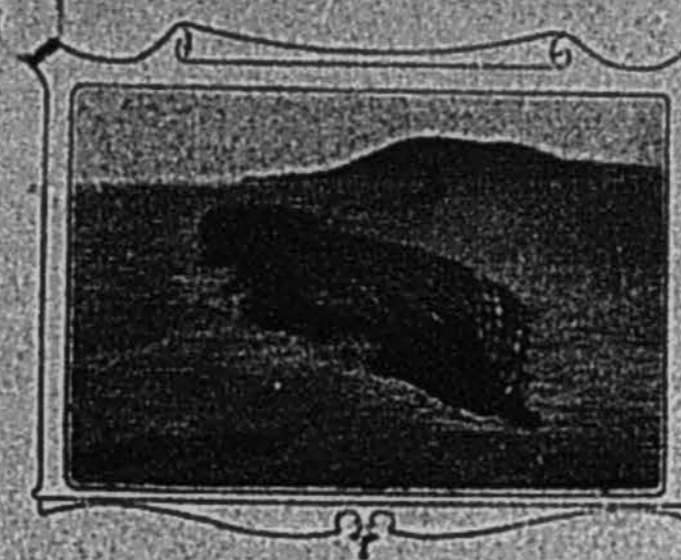
I do not know whether his attitude was more of an insult to the commission than to me, for he stated to the City Council that he had not taken up the matter of his report with the Water Commission and feared to do so, for the reason that the information he might give out would be immediately in the hands of Ed Fletcher. Any information I have received, however, has come from a member of the City Council. As far as Mr. Savage is concerned, I shall expect none and neither will I give any quarter from now on.

I am deeply grateful to the Water Commission for having made this attempt to harmonize the situation and I was glad of the opportunity of telling Mr. Klauber a few things that he has heretofore refused to listen to.

Thanking you again for your kindly interest, I am
Yours sincerely,

EF;KIM

370-6
FRANK LYNCH, PRESIDENT
O. J. EVENSON, SECRETARY
F. M. WHITE, TREAS. AND GEN. MGR.



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

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.

Nov. 10, 1922.

Ed Fletcher,
920 - 8th St.,
City.

Dear Mr. Fletcher:

I would like for the use of Mr. Chandler and myself, information as to the Sutherland dam. This to cover height of dam that you have already figured on, storage capacity with net safe yield, acres flooded in the reservoir, and probable cost of dam and the pipe line from this dam to the Cuyamaca flume on the San Diego River.

Yours truly,

FMW-W

F M White

370-6

November 10, 1922.

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

My dear Mr. White:

The inclosed chart issued by the State of California graphically shows the growth of irrigation districts. There are no more saleable bonds in the State of California than the bonds of irrigation districts, and I repeat again what I have been advocating for years - that the real solution of our water problem is the formation of a municipal water district, the acquisition of all the available dam sites and reservoir sites in the county through the issuance of bonds, and their construction as needed.

Yours very truly,

EF:AH

Same letter to:

C. T. Chandler
Virgil Bruschi
John Held
Harry Weitzel
Fred Heilbron
Don Stewart

Mayor Bacon
Fred Stearns
Frank Belcher
Jack Thompson
Melville Klauber
Fred Rhodes//
Albt. Mayrhofer

November
FOURTEEN
1922

File 320-6

Mr. F. M. White,
Benson Lumber Co.,
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Mr. White:

I have been interested in Mr. Savage's letter to you of October 27th. My understanding is you asked for the cost of the impounding system complete. This statement which Savage sent you is wholly erroneous. What you want is the cost to the City of San Diego of the physical structures, together with the reservoir lands and rights of way, while our friend Savage injects a valuation of \$4,150,000 for water which is now in the reservoirs, at 10 cts. a thousand gallons. Before it can be used one-half of it will have evaporated, therefore it means 20 cents a thousand gallons.

I wish your Commission would insist upon Mr. Savage making a complete inventory, showing the total cost of the impounding system of the city, and it should include the repairs of the 1916 flood; it should include an investigation as to the amount of money that has been paid in re-building the Sweetwater syphon as well as all bond issues for new construction, including the pipe line from the Jamul damsite to Upper Otay reservoir, and the pipe line from Upper Otay to Lower Otay. It should include the cost of the filtration plants; it should include the cost of the condemnation proceedings against Wilde in the construction of that dam. It should include the cost of the proposed construction for raising Morena and Barrett dams, and Lower Otay, with the gates being installed.

In fact, the records should be checked over showing the amount of money each year since 1910 that has been from time to time taken out of the General Fund, and spent in the development of this system, including the cement conduit from Morena to Barrett that is now under water practically the entire distance. Include the \$100,000 and some odd dollars that were spent at Pine Creek dam, half completed and now under water. When we get all these figures then we are in a position to compare the cost of water per thousand gallons from the

-2-

city's system as compared to the like investigation as to cost in comparison with other systems.

Yours very truly,

EF:KLM

320-6

November 29, 1922.

Messrs. F.M. White and C.T. Chandler,
San Diego, California.

Gentlemen:

Inclosed find copy of report made after months of study by our chief engineer, Mr. King, covering the Cuyamaca System net safe yield.

With a net safe yield from the Cuyamaca System fully developed of 10.5 million gallons daily as compared to the City of San Diego 9.2, with the knowledge that the Cuyamaca System could have been purchased and completely developed for a cost of less than \$3,000,000, including reconstruction of the flume in concrete with a capacity of 40,000,000 gallons a day as against over \$9,000,000 as the cost of the City's system, or in other words developing Cuyamaca water for nearly one-third the cost per thousand gallons of the present City water, it will give you some idea of the real situation.

Also inclosed find report of our engineer, Mr. King, showing that all of Mission Gorge #3 water will be used by the City without the necessity of pumping.

Yours very truly,

EF:AH

San Diego, California
May 21st, 1923.

Colonel Fletcher:

Attached please find a blue print of a graph showing the fluctuations of the underground water plane in the lower end of the Monte Basin from Nov. 1912 to May 19, 1923. This record is without a break - the observation well is located about 400 ft. east of the San Vicente Creek bridge near Lakeside.

The mean normal elevation of the water level is 10.7 ft. below the ground surface. Last year it stood 2.14 ft. above normal, and this year indications are it will average about 1 ft. above normal, with an abundance of water in the gravel beds throughout the summer.

The gradually falling level following 1916 was largely due to evaporation losses and tree and plant growth on the bottom lands. Much of this wasted water could have been saved by pumping from the basin until the water level had been lowered to the normal point of ten or eleven feet below the surface.

In other words, the water in the Monte gravel basin at the present time is two feet above normal, and, this summer it will average about one foot above normal so that a large portion would be conserved by pumping.

Respectfully,

Fred E. Green

Hydrographer.

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

AGENTS
PINE HILLS
DEL MAR
CROSSMONT

May Twenty-two
1923

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

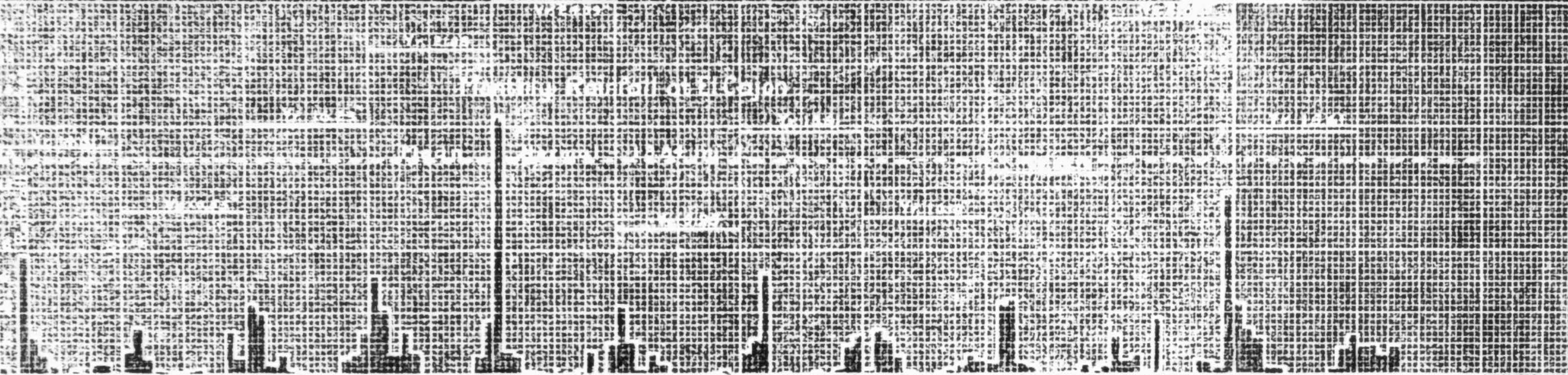
My dear Mr. White:

Enclosed find report of our hydrographer that will be of interest and which you may keep.

Yours sincerely,

Ed Fletcher

EF:KLM



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

AGENTS
PINE HILLS
DEL MAR
GROSSMONT

September 12, 1923.

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

My dear Mr. White:

Enclosed find copy of letter I have
received from John R. Freeman, which may be interesting.

Yours sincerely,

Ed Fletcher

KLM

JOHN R. FREEMAN
Consulting Engineer,
Room 815, Grosvenor Bldg.,
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND.

September 4, 1923.

Colonel Ed Fletcher, Manager,
Cuyamaca Water Company,
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Colonel Fletcher:

I am back at my desk this morning with a big pile of mail and other matters awaiting attention and on top as the latest I find your letter of August 25 covering that of friend Harritt dated August 24, enclosing a map of the districts supplied with water by the Cuyamaca Company, showing the original boundaries of San Diego and the progressive acquisition of different territories.

I thank both you and Mr. Harritt for this communication.

The general trend of municipal history in the United States in recent years would plainly confirm Mr. Harritt's suggestions, but we have a habit in New York, Boston, Providence and Los Angeles, and many other places - sometimes I question if it is altogether for the good. We find the tendency resisted around San Francisco Bay and Brookline, and other municipalities around your own homw have resisted going into "greater Boston", much to their own benefit, I believe.

In Boston the case has been solved by the organization of the Metropolitan Water District and I happen to have been one of the original three members of the Metropolitan Water Board and thus familiar with conditions.

I firmly believe the San Francisco Bay District would be benefited by copying the Boston plan of a Metropolitan Water District, which should wholesale water to the several communities.

I am not at all clear that this might not be best for the suburbs of San Diego because to some extent those districts which you supply have an individuality and will tend to develop up into districts of garden farms, on which the bungalow owner will have the pleasure of growing his or her own fruits and vegetables with a small surplus for pin money, under conditions somewhat different from those prevailing in the more densely populated city.

My purpose in all of this "thinking out loud" in your presence is to find the best possible amicable solution for difficulties and it occurred to me that this particular suggestion about the Cuyamaca might perhaps be worked out on a line which would make happy all who participated.

With many very pleasant memories of my trip and assuring you that I will get at the work of sorting, classifying and digesting all this mass of data that was showered on me, just as rapidly as possible, I remain

Very truly yours,

JOHN R. FREEMAN

October
Fifteen
1923

Mr. F. M. White,
c/o Benson Lumber Co.,
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Mr. White:

Enclosed find copy of letter which is explanatory
and for your information.

Yours sincerely,

Ed Fletcher

EF:KLM

(Copy)

SAN DIEGO COUNTY WATER COMPANY

724 South Spring St.

Los Angeles, Calif.

October 9, 1923.

Col. Ed. Fletcher,
San Diego,
California.

My dear Ed:-

Mr. Treanor has just requested me to write you concerning the right of a city to condemn the property of a corporation or company already dedicated to public use and to refer to the comparatively recent effort of the city of Los Angeles to condemn certain property of the Southern Sierras Power Company in the Owens River Valley country.

I have not seen the text of the decision in the case last referred to but it is my understanding that certain lands which were owned by the Power Company and which were already devoted to its use as a public utility, supplying light and power to the public, or which the Power Company contemplated so using in the near future, were sought to be condemned by the city of Los Angeles. The Power Company made the defense that the property in question was already devoted to a public use within the meaning of the law and that the use to which the city proposed to put the property was not a greater one within the meaning of the law which would permit its condemnation. This case was probably decided upon the well recognized principle in the law of eminent domain, that where property is already appropriated for a public use it may not be condemned by another company or agency of the State except upon showing a "more necessary public use than the one to which it has already been appropriated", which rule finds expression in our own Code of Civil Procedure, Section 1240, Subdivision 4.

Mr. Treanor has asked me to give you my off-hand impression as to whether or not the city of San Diego would have the right to condemn the property of the Cuyamaca Water Company which is now devoted to public use or for which there will be such use in the comparatively near future. As to any land, water, or other property which is now used by the company for the purpose of supplying water for irrigation or domestic purposes I would say that the city of San Diego would be unable to condemn such property which, while not now in actual use, would probably be needed on account of the growing demands upon the company for an increased supply of water in the near future. As to what would be considered "the near future" would of course depend upon the facts in each case. Without attempting to be precise I would say that the court would hold that a public utility company would be justified in acquiring and holding property which it would seem would be reasonably required to meet its future demands for serving the public, considering the constantly increasing population and the increasing demand for water consequent thereon, and in determining how far such a company should anticipate the future a court should be guided by what would be considered reasonable and prudent foresight

Col. Ed. Fletcher, #2.

as a public agent serving a public need. I do not know that it is possible to state the proposition in a less general way without a knowledge of the precise conditions to be considered.

Many years ago I had occasion to defend an action brought by the Southern Pacific against the Pacific Light & Power Company for the purpose of condemning land for a spur track across the Power Company's Third and Los Angeles Street property and we defeated the action by showing that the reasonable future necessities of the Power Company justified it in holding the property sought to be condemned and that the use for which the property was sought by the Railroad Company was not greater than that to which it was expected to be devoted by the Power Company. I have run across some notes of authorities which I used in that case which I hope it may not be amiss for me to cite you.

1. There must be a liberal consideration of the future needs of the defendant in an action to condemn lands already devoted by it to public use.

Western Union vs. Penn., etc., 120 Fed. 378.
L.S. & M. etc. vs. New York, etc., 8 Fed. 859.
Appeal of Pittsburg, etc., 9 Amer. State, 130.
C.P. Ry. vs. Feldman, 152 Cal. 308.
Nic. Boon Company vs. Boon Company, 82 Pac. 415.

2. In order to warrant taking property already devoted to public use the necessity therefor must be absolute.

Scranton vs. Railway Company, 73 Amer. State, 800.
citing Pittsburg Appeal 9 Amer. State 128, 9 Amer. State 133.

I have not read these cases for many years and hence can make no comment on them. They are taken from some notes that I had in the Southern Pacific case and I am simply giving them to you for what they are worth and with the thought that perhaps they might be of some value to Mr. Crouch or whoever else may represent you.

Since dictating the foregoing I have ascertained that the Sierras Power Company case is reported in 284 Fed. page 784, but I have not the volume before me and am not taking the time to read it before sending you this letter.

With my very kindest regards, I am,

Yours very truly,

HENRY J. STEVENS

HJS-ES

CARBON COPY
For Mr. *White*'s information
ED FLETCHER.

November 3, 1923.

Mr. E. B. Gould,
Union Building,
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Jay:

Inclosed find copy of a letter from the City of La Mesa to the Railroad Commission, and a copy of the Railroad Commission's answer in reply, stating that if the City of San Diego bought the Cuyamaca system, the Railroad Commission would not have jurisdiction, and San Diego City would establish all rates on the Cuyamaca system both for irrigation and domestic purposes inside and outside municipalities.

I see Mr. Higgins did not tell all the facts in this morning's Union, and inferred that the old water right contracts might be revived. He did not tell the public that the Supreme court of the state unanimously approved the decision of the State Railroad Commission that the contracts were invalid as far as the rates were concerned. He did not tell the public that there was a clause in every one of the original contracts which stated that the rate was to be that fixed in the contract until changed by competent authority; that the Railroad Commission by a vote of the people of this state and act of Legislature, conferred that authority or power to the Railroad Commission; that the contract holders in seventeen formal and informal hearings before the Railroad Commission from 1913 to 1921, by not appealing to the courts, acquiesced in increased rates and terms and conditions as laid down by the Railroad Commission; and it is only recently that the case was appealed to the Supreme court, with the result as above stated.

The fact is Mr. Higgins wants all the litigation possible. It helps to hold his job and that of Mr. Cosgrove.

Certain individuals are trying to get the case into the Federal court on appeal from the decision of the Supreme court of the State of California, but so far they have not even been recognized, and it is almost impossible to get a state matter of this kind into the Federal court.

We have never taken away from any of the contract holders any water; we have furnished them all they asked for, but we have collected for the water at rates established by the Railroad Commission, and not according to the original contracts.

Page Two /

There is no question but what if the City acquires the Cuyamaca system, it will be in a position similar to Los Angeles, which compels early annexation on account of the city's control of the water resources.

Yours very truly,

ED FLETCHER

EF:AZ

Nov. 16, 1923.

CARBON COPY
For Mr. *White*'s information
ED FLETCHER

Mr. John D. Spreckels,
Union Building,
San Diego, California.

My dear Mr. Spreckels:

Enclosed find copy of the offer of the Cuyamaca Company to the government and copy of Admiral Robertson's letter to the city, all for your files.

Yours very truly,

ED FLETCHER

EF:KLM

(Copy)

W-D

HEADQUARTERS ELEVENTH NAVAL DISTRICT

San Diego, California

Nov. 13, 1923.

Colonel Ed Fletcher,
Manager Cuyamaca Water Co.,
916 - 8th Street,
San Diego, California.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of November 3, 1923, covering offer to furnish water to the Government activities in San Diego through arrangement with the City authorities, has been received and I thank you for your interest and cooperation in this matter.

I am referring your letter to the Mayor and City Council with a request for favorable consideration of the proposition. A copy of my letter to the City is inclosed.

Very truly yours,

A. H. Robertson,
Rear-Admiral U.S. Navy
Commandant.

(Copy)

300-2

November 3, 1923.

Admiral A. H. Robertson,
Commandant Eleventh Naval District,
San Diego, California.

Dear Sir:

Answering your inquiry of October 29th, re: the Cuyamaca System supplying water to the government activities in San Diego will say, with the City of San Diego's consent, and reading the meters at the property line of each activity of the Navy, a complete record of the navy's use for water can be determined each month. The writer will be glad to recommend to the owners of the Cuyamaca Water Company that we furnish into the city's mains at Boundary Street and Cajon Avenue, the easterly city limits of San Diego, an equal amount of water to offset the water used each month by the government; the price of the water to the government to be ten (10) cents a hundred cubic feet, or approximately thirteen (13) cents a thousand gallons, subject to confirmation by the State Railroad Commission.

The advantages to the city by an arrangement of this kind are as follows:

1. We would furnish gravity water under pressure from Murray dam, which will eliminate the necessity by the city of boosting the water by means of pumping plants in University Heights and Mission Hills, thereby saving many thousands of dollars annually to the city, under the present arrangement and constantly increasing expense.
2. It will eliminate the necessity of spending the \$85,000 bond money for an additional standpipe.
3. Mr. Savage's net safe yield study of the city's water supply is 9.2 million gallons daily, while the average consumption is 11 or 12 million gallons daily. By making this arrangement the city will be husbanding its supply to that extent - an extra factor of safety.
4. A direct connection with Murray dam is invaluable, as proven in the 1916 flood, when for two months we furnished

practically the entire city's needs. It also would be of inestimable value in case of any emergency that might arise.

We will be pleased to make a twenty-year contract for the Navy's needs on the basis above outlined and the water we furnish the city will be chlorinated and filtered. It will cost us an investment of \$60,000 or \$75,000 to install the filtration plant and extend our 16" cast iron pipe line to the city limits near University Heights reservoir.

If this offer is accepted we should have a reasonable time to install the above mentioned improvements.

Indirectly it would be of tremendous benefit to all of East San Diego, Normal Heights and Kensington Park to also get the advantage of filtered water.

Yours very truly,

CUYAMACA WATER COMPANY

Ed Fletcher

Manager

EF:KLM

The Honorable
Mayor & City Council,
City of San Diego,
California.

Gentlemen:

I inclose herewith a copy of letter dated November 3, 1925, from the Cuyamaca Water Company, offering to supply chlorinated and filtered water, in an amount equal to the consumption of the Government activities in San Diego, to the City water system at Boundary Street and Cajon Avenue, with the understanding that the City shall accept such water as an equivalent of that supplied the Government and shall furnish water to the Government activities at the price named - that is, 10¢ per 100 cu. ft.

This letter is the outcome of numerous investigations which have been made with a view to obtaining a separate supply of water for Government activities at a lower price than is now charged by the City. The other propositions involve the construction of independent pipe lines at a considerable cost and resulting in no benefit to the community in general other than a slight lessening of the demand upon your present system, which is understood to be taxed to its full capacity at present.

It appears from this letter that the proposed arrangement will be beneficial to the City of San Diego in that it will not only augment its present supply at a price considerably less than that which water now costs the City, but will obviate the immediate necessity for a large expenditure for storage as well as an increase in the cost of pumping.

The advantage to the Government is, of course, the considerable reduction in price over the present cost which will undoubtedly react favorably upon the City in that it will permit an increased consumption of water for irrigation, thereby permitting further planting of lawns, flowers and trees which will greatly enhance the attractiveness of the Government stations.

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

AGENTS
PINE HILLS
DEL MAR
GROSSMONT

will undoubtedly react favorably upon the City in that it will permit an increased consumption of water for irrigation, thereby permitting further planting of lawns, flowers and trees which will greatly enhance the attractiveness of the Government stations.

An early and favorable consideration of this matter is solicited. I shall be glad to furnish you with any further information you may desire and will appear before you in person to discuss the matter.

Very truly yours,

A. H. Robertson,
Rear-Admiral U.S. Navy
Commandant.

December 4, 1923.

Mr. F. M. White,
Benson Lumber Co.,
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Mr. White:

Enclosed find copy of letter from
Chickering & Gregory that will be interesting.

Yours sincerely,

F. Fletcher
m-

EF:KLM

COPY

Law Offices
Chickering & Gregory

Merchants Exchange Building.

(EW)

SAN FRANCISCO Nov. 24, 1923.

Mr. John Treanor,
724 S. Spring Street,
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Sir:-

You have asked me to consider whether the City of San Diego has the power to condemn the properties of the Cuyamaca Water Company, a public utility serving irrigation districts and municipalities other than the City of San Diego.

I believe that this question is determined by the case of Mono Power Co., et al v. City of Los Angeles, 284 Fed. 784. The questions raised and decided in this case are so similar to the questions that I discussed with you, that I think the best way to answer the matter is to give you the gist of the decision of the Circuit Court of Appeals in that case.

The Mono case finally developed into a proceeding brought by the City of Los Angeles against the Southern Sierras Power Company, to condemn certain property of the Power Company situate in what is known as the Owens River Gorge. The Owens River has a fall passing through this gorge of approximately 2200 feet, and this fall gives the land that was sought to be condemned its chief, if not its entire, value.

Prior to the commencement of the action, the City of Los Angeles, as you know, had been operating an electric system for the use of the City of Los Angeles and its inhabitants. The Power Company had likewise been operating an electric system and rendering electric service to certain communities other than the City of Los Angeles, and to such service its properties had been appropriated and dedicated. The Power Company contended, and the facts disclosed, that the property sought to be condemned was a necessary part of its electric system, and that the power it had available at the time was not sufficient to meet the maximum demands of the territory served by it. Apparently the property sought to be condemned was not actually in public use at the time, but was simply property which controlled the water of the river, which was to be used at some later period for the generation of electric power. The City contended that the sections of the Code of Civil Procedure relative to condemnation gave it the right to condemn the property of a private corporation whose property had already been appropriated to the public use of other communities. The Power Company, on the other hand, disputed this contention, and relied upon the following language contained in Section 1240 of the Code of Civil Procedure

and also that contained in Section 1241 of the Code of Civil Procedure, to sustain its position.

~~"XXXXX~~But property appropriated to the use of any county, city and county, incorporated city or town or municipal water district, may not be taken by any other county, city and county, incorporated city or town, or municipal water district, while such property is so appropriated and used for the public purposes for which it has been so appropriated."

~~XXXXX~~But private property appropriated to the use of any county, city and county, incorporated city or town, or municipal water district, may not be taken by any other county, city and county, incorporated city or town, or municipal district, while such property is so appropriated and used for the public purposes for which it has been so appropriated."

The Circuit Court of Appeals held that the above mentioned provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure governed, and that there being no evidence to indicate that the present and future needs of the City of Los Angeles were a more necessary use than the public use to which the property of the Power Company was then devoted, the judgment would have to go in favor of the defendant. The Circuit Court of Appeals further relied upon the provisions of the Public Utilities Act, which, as you know, prevents the transfer of the property of an electric corporation without the consent of the Railroad Commission. In this connection, the court stated in effect that if the Power Company could not sell or dispose of its property without the authority of the Railroad Commission, it was difficult to see how its property could be condemned by another corporation unless such authority were first secured from the Commission. The judgment of the lower court, allowing the City of Los Angeles to condemn the property of the Power Company, was therefore reversed.

It would seem to me that the situation of the City of San Diego with regard to the Cuyamaca Water Company is exactly the same as the City of Los Angeles in the Mono case. If the Cuyamaca Water Company is now rendering domestic, irrigation and other water service to communities other than the City of San Diego, it is difficult to see why such service is not as necessary to such communities as it would be to the City of San Diego. Therefore, such being the case, the City of San Diego would not be able to condemn the properties of the Cuyamaca Water Company that are now devoted to such public service, nor would the City be able to condemn any other property of that Company that might be reasonably necessary to continue such service.

Yours very truly,

Evan Williams.

December 19, 1923.

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

My dear Mr. White:

Enclosed find revised letter to Messrs.
Chandler, Clark and Woodruff, on which I would like
your comments.

Yours sincerely,

Ed Fletcher

EF:KLM

December 17, 1923.

Messrs. Chandler, Clark & Woodruff,
Los Angeles, California.

Gentlemen:

Confirming our recent conversation re: the
formation of a syndicate to acquire the Cuyamaca System,
the following, to the best of my ability, is a synopsis
showing what the Cuyamaca System consists of, its valuation
and its possibilities for the future.

The Cuyamaca System consists of:

- A Cuyamaca dam, caretaker's house, approximately 1074 acres of land.
- B Murray dam, caretaker's house and grounds, and perpetual floodage rights to approximately 239.71 acres.
- C Grossmont dam and 6.16 acres.
- D Eucalyptus dam and 6.43 acres, superintendent's house and grounds.
- E 5 reinforced concrete distributing reservoirs.
- F Fletcher damsite and approximately 1500 acres, water filings recognized by the State Water Department with five years' time in which to complete dam; complete surveys, core drillings, etc.
- G El Capitan damsite, complete core drillings, surveys and between 400 and 500 acres above and below the proposed dam, also water filings.
- H South Fork damsite acquired from the U. S. Government within the Indian reservation, also approximately 80 acres to be flooded.
- I El Monte pumping plants, 10 acres of land for installation of pumping plants and unquestioned pumping rights on the San Diego River, probably the most valuable asset the Cuyamaca Water Company has, with between 9 and 10 billion gallons of underground water available according to U. S. G. S. reports, Chas. H. Lee.

- J Mission Gorge damsite No. 3, complete surveys, core drillings and between 300 and 400 acres that will be flooded to the 340 ft. contour, approximately one-third the acreage to be flooded.
- K Water rights and riparian rights on the San Diego River, also complete rights of way.
- L North Fork concrete diverting dam, 30 miles of transmission line, including 1½ miles of tunnel, 26 miles of flume line, including 34 steel flume trestles, and approximately 2½ to 3 miles of concrete and steel pipe line, capacity 40 million gallons daily; the flume line capacity 22 million gallons daily.
- M Approximately 85 miles of distribution line, 2 additional complete booster pumping plants; four caretakers' houses and complete repair equipment; personal property and records and surveys of all kinds, 7 automobiles and 2 trucks, as well as all personal property that goes to operate and maintain the Cuyamaca System.

The last official valuation of the system, made by any state authority, was made to the La Mesa Irrigation District for sales purposes at their request, as of date of August 12, 1919 by the state engineer of California, according to law, said valuation being \$1,451,850.00.

The above valuation did not include El Capitan damsite, work completed or lands that we own within the reservoir site.

Since that valuation was made no dividends have been declared. All profit has been left in the company and since that valuation was made we have expended and added to capital \$365,578.95.

The following statement as to receipts and operating expenses may be of interest:

	<u>Total Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Total Revenue</u>
1921	\$ 92,289.99	\$177,921.23 (this includes \$78,868.53 sold to the city)
1922	74,168.95	120,330.68
1923 (estimated)	70,905.88	150,853.32

In 1921 we spent in excess of \$20,000 operating our pumping plants. We spent nothing for pumping in 1922, but charged to "operating expenses" something like \$12,000 or \$15,000 for repairing our flume. In 1923 we operated our pumping

plants for one month at a cost of approximately \$2500.00. We had an excess of water but that it good policy to pump a little just as a protection to our water rights. You will notice in 1921 we sold \$78,868.53 worth of water to the city of San Diego, but nothing in 1922 or 1923.

The last twelve or fifteen years our average sales to the City of San Diego have been approximately \$35,000 annually. The normal increase in sales of water for the last three years is between 20 and 30 percent annually, excluding the sales to San Diego.

Attached hereto is a map showing the Cuyamaca System which we control, showing a net safe yield of 15.2 million gallons daily when fully completed during the seven driest years of record, and a normal yield of the same system of 25.4 million gallons daily, as made by our chief engineer, Mr. T. H. King. This is practically in agreement with the safe net yield study of such prominent engineers as F. M. Faude, hydraulic engineer for the State Railroad Commission, Francis L. Sellev, W. C. Earle, former city engineer of San Diego, and other prominent engineers. The U. S. Reclamation Service made a partial report on the San Diego River and our engineer's report is practically in agreement with that of the U. S. Reclamation Service.

The total present demands on our system are only between 3 and 4 million gallons daily. Our El Monte pumping sands are the most valuable asset we have, for we can pump in an emergency 6 or 8 million gallons daily for an indefinite period, during years of drought, by the expenditure of \$50,000 installing an additional pumping plant; and the cost of pumping is between 4 and 5 cents a thousand gallons, the pumping gravels being within a thousand feet of our main flume.

We have completed core drillings, prepared plans, have estimates of cost and have definite bids for the building of Mission Gorge dam, Fletcher dam and South Fork dam. Mission Gorge dam plans have been approved by the hydraulic engineer of the State Railroad Commission. This also applies to Fletcher dam. Mission Gorge dam can be completed for approximately \$800,000; Fletcher dam \$500,000; South Fork dam \$150,000. All of the above concrete multiple arch or radial cone type. In other words, including a liberal allowance for overhead, and acquiring some additional floodage lands, for \$2,500,000 the three dams above mentioned can be built and connected up into one system.

The cheapest and logical development of water on the San Diego River is the construction immediately of Mission Gorge dam No. 3, and Fletcher dam. This is the report of our engineer, T. H. King, and it is also the official report of Messrs. M. M. O'Shaughnessy, chief engineer of the city of San Francisco and F. M. Faude, chief hydraulic engineer of the State Railroad Commission; also the report of the Water Commission of the City of San Diego. Attached hereto is copy of official report of Mr. Faude, also official report of the City Water Commission. Mr. Freeman, the engineer who is now making a report for the city has tentatively recommended the construction of Mission Gorge No. 3 and El Capitan dam. Our opinion is that the construction of El Capitan dam should be last. It will cost a large amount of money and that question can easily be determined, as to whether it should be built, after Fletcher and Mission Gorge dam No. 3 are completed.

Assuming for argument's sake that our present Cuyamaca System is worth \$2,000,000; that we rebuild the present flume in concrete for \$500,000 eight or ten years hence, and spend \$2,500,000 more to build the dams above described, our total investment would be \$5,000,000.

We would have a net safe yield in the dryest years of record of 15.2 million gallons daily, while the City of San Diego, according to its own official records, has spent nearly \$9,000,000 already in the purchase of the Spreckels system and its re-construction, including Barrett dam, the city's system having only a net safe yield of 9.2 million gallons, according to the official report of the city engineers. In other words, the completed water development of the Cuyamaca Water Company is approximately \$300,000 per million gallons daily as against the city's cost of nearly \$1,000,000 per million gallons daily. The city made a mistake in developing the most expensive water first. It got into politics and, as usual, the city had to pay.

Attached hereto is a copy of the report of the city auditor, made recently, giving the cost of every drop of the city's water to be between 19 and 20 cents a thousand gallons delivered to the city, while we can sell Cuyamaca water at 10 cents a thousand gallons wholesale at the city limits at a handsome profit.

With the growth of San Diego City and suburban section, which is bound to come, I am personally of the opinion

that the Cuyamaca System, ten years hence, will be paying a six percent net profit on an \$8,000,000 to \$10,000,000 investment. The subdividers of lands suburban to San Diego are glad to build their own distribution systems on their own property and turn them over to us free of charge. This we can capitalize and the Railroad Commission now allows. The Railroad Commission cannot force us to install new lines, so we are in a position to dictate where the water shall go and on what terms, to a very great extent.

Regarding the litigation -- In 1921 or 1922 the city filed a suit claiming the waters of the San Diego River under an old pueblo or Spanish right grant. The city's attorney has stipulated in court that they do not claim any waters that we have put to beneficial use, but it is only the flood waters that we have not put to beneficial use which they claim under this old right. We have been in undisputed possession on the San Diego River for forty odd years. It is only the surplus water that we are fighting over. The city claims that San Diego is a pueblo, and under the laws of Spain and Mexico, when they need the water they can take it. The truth is we can develop the water thru our present system and deliver it to the city at a profit at 10 cents a thousand gallons, where, according to their own engineers, it will cost them to build El Capitan dam and deliver water to the city, 16 to 17 cents a thousand gallons.

We have absolute proof, however, that San Diego is not a pueblo or Mission, but is a Presidio. We have the original document, certified to as to its authenticity by the best authorities in the United States, wherein the Viceroy of Mexico in 1771 ordered Father Serra to build the Mission and Pueblo outside the Presidio of San Diego, and his instructions were carried out in every detail. The city could not acquire any water rights thru a Presidio. Another law of Spain was that no Mission or Pueblo could be established within four leagues of any seaport.

The case has not yet come to trial. The city is talking compromise and my opinion is it never will come to trial, altho it may be tried in the superior court. Besides our own attorneys, Crouch & Sanders, Senator Flint of Los Angeles is thoroly familiar with this case and I will be glad to have you go into this matter with him.

The history of the Cuyamaca Water Company is as follows:

In 1885 the San Diego Flume Company built what is now known as the Cuyamaca System. They spent \$1,280,000 in building same. They bonded the property for \$800,000 to an English Syndicate. They had sold a certain amount of water rights at low prices. The boom busted, the company went broke and we purchased the property from the bond holders for \$150,000 on June 1, 1910, Mr. Murray and I. Mr. Murray and I proceeded to build up the system. Mr. Henshaw bought in in 1913 - a one-twelfth interest.

Neither Mr. Henshaw, Mr. Murray nor I have ever taken out a dollar in dividends.

When the system was purchased by us there were only about 5 or 6 miles of old distribution lines. We now have between 85 and 90 miles of distribution lines, a considerable portion of which is cast iron pipe. We have raised the diverting dam 10 feet, built South Fork, Sand Creek and Chocolate siphons, cutting out 4 1/2 miles of flume; have built the 39' concrete Sweetwater siphon; have built Grossmont dam, Murray dam and the system is rapidly getting on a paying basis.

Regarding the old cheap water right contracts, the Railroad Commission ignored same on the grounds of justice and equity and confiscation of property, etc, and increased the rates. There was no appeal from their decision during 17 formal and informal hearings covering a period of eight years. The case was then appealed to the supreme court to test the validity of said contracts and the supreme court unanimously sustained the Railroad Commission, knocking out the contracts. We have never deprived anyone of water, but have charged all alike at rates established by the Railroad Commission.

James A. Murray owned a five-sixths interest in the system, and including his original investment of June 1st, 1910, to the date of his death, May, 1921, he had for his five sixths interest, an actual cash investment, plus 6 percent interest, \$1,019,480.08.

I purchased Mr. Henshaw's one-twelfth interest in the Cuyamaca System, August 1923, at his actual cost plus 6 percent interest, which amounted to \$113,000.

In order to determine a reasonable value of the property, let us take the state engineer's value of August 1919 - - - - -	\$1,451,850.00
Capital Expenditures since that time - - - - -	365,578.95
El Capitan Damsite, Mission Gorge damsite, and lands to be flooded that we control, arbitrary value . . . - - - - -	200,000.00

(We have informally made a price on these two properties of \$500,000 to the city providing the city's suit is cancelled satisfactory to us)

\$2,017,428.95

Please remember the above valuations have been based on a depreciated unit cost as of 1885 to 1900. The reproduction value of this system today, at today's unit costs, would be in excess of \$3,000,000.

My suggestion is that we form a syndicate of ten to acquire this property. I will take two-tenths. Mr. Stern was here yesterday and has agreed to take one-tenth. I am satisfied Mr. White will take one-tenth and possibly Claus Spreckels will take one-tenth, making 5/10ths or one-half. I would like to see you people take the other one-half of the syndicate.

The payments that we would require would be as follows:

- \$50,000 January 1st, 1924;
- \$200,000 June 1st, 1924
- \$200,000 June 1st, 1926
- \$400,000 June 1st, 1928
- \$400,000 June 1st, 1930 and the balance, whatever is agreed upon as the final amount, June 1st, 1932, with interest at 6 percent on deferred payments, interest payable quarterly.

I am satisfied that we will never have to pay into the syndicate in excess of the first three payments, amounting to \$450,000, or \$45000.00 for each one-tenth interest. It is probable that we will only have to pay in \$250,000 or \$25,000 each one-tenth interest. As the

property is not encumbered we will undoubtedly be able to deed it to a corporation under some agreement protecting the syndicate, issue bonds in sufficient quantity to pay off all of the indebtedness or a large part of it, at any rate.

The foregoing is a resume of the situation. I want you people to decide what you think is a fair value to the syndicate under all the circumstances.

You may be interested to know that the Cuyamaca Company, being a public utility, the City of San Diego cannot condemn all or any part of said system. This was decided in the recent case of the City of Los Angeles v. Mono Power Co. or Southern Sierra Power Company, by the supreme court. We are furnishing three municipalities with water and are putting our water to just as high use as the city. This puts us in a much stronger position to dictate to San Diego or any irrigation district, if we desire to sell.

I again repeat, this Cuyamaca Water Company, in eight or ten years, will pay 6% interest on \$8,000,000 or \$10,000,000 with the natural growth of this community and we need the control of this water, particularly in order that part of the surplus may be put on six, or eight, or ten thousand acres of land between El Cajon and La Mesa, which I showed you, and on terms very advantageous to us. I am satisfied eight or ten thousand acres of this land can be acquired at a cost not to exceed \$65 to \$75 an acre on the average, and the lands of the Murray Estate can be taken in or not as the syndicate sees fit. The cost of same will be somewhere around \$150 to \$200 an acre. There are only about 300 acres of the Murray Estate lands, however, which adjoin Grossmont. This property can be bought on very easy terms and long time.

I will take a one-tenth interest in the land syndicate; Mr. Stern has agreed to take a tenth, and I am sure we can put the land deal over on a basis that is satisfactory as to terms and price.

Will be glad to go into this matter in as much detail as you desire, and the report and valuation of the state engineer of California, covering 72 pages, is available for your investigation. I have only one copy, but will be glad to lend you that.

I never was so certain in my life as I am today of the possibility of successful development of those two syndicates, with a large profit to all of us, and sincerely trust you will each take an interest in same. I will look upon this as the crowning achievement of my life.

Yours very truly,

ED FLETCHER

EF:Klm

January 5, 1924.

My dear Mr. White:

Please read the enclosed letter from
Walter C. Smith and return, as we have not made a copy
for our files.

Yours sincerely,

EF:KLM

Mr. F. M. White,
Benson Lumber Co.,
San Diego, Calif.

January 9, 1924.

Mr. F. M. White,
c/o Benson Lumber Co.,
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Mr. White:

Enclosed find letters from Walter C.
Smith, under date of Jan. 5th and 7th, which
kindly return after reading.

Yours very truly,

EF:KLM

Rhodes

July 12, 1924.

Mr. and Mrs. F. M. White,
Hazelhurst, Wisconsin.

My dear Mr. and Mrs. White:

Enclosed find the Salome "Sun", that may be of interest.

Something new is developing here every day. John Forward, Jr. came over and said he could be of assistance to me and wanted to settle the fight between the city and Fletcher and the district and the city; that he controlled Fred Rhodes, John Held and Don Stewart and could get their votes to help out, and wanted to know what he could do.

Having in mind that he has one of the three men who asked \$125,000 to sell the Volcan System some years ago to the city, I let him talk, and he said before he did anything he would have to get J. D.'s consent. He said Rhodes would do anything he asked him to. I asked Rhodes last night whether John Forward, Jr. could be of any assistance in helping to settle this problem and Rhodes said absolutely no, that he was a dead one, altho John Forward, Jr. told me that Rhodes had run him up and wanted to discuss the water question with him, and asked John Forward's advice. So you see it is a question complex.

We held a meeting last night, Claus Spreckels, Jack Thompson, Halley, Rhodes and myself. Rhodes said he had investigated the matter and found out that the La Mesa District was claiming nearly all the water that was there, and he could not find the water at El Capitan that Savage had found.

Rhodes tried to run a bluff on us, but Mr. Halley called him. Rhodes demanded the water supply be cut down nearly one-half to the district. Halley stood pat and as a last resort Rhodes and Halley told Jack Thompson and me to draw up a tentative agreement between the district and the city along the lines we have been talking, ie: the district to build a dam 150 feet high, get what water they could from Fletcher, in addition to their present supply, also the city would have to protect the El Monte gravels.

-2-

It looks as if the city would insist upon buying El Capitan and Murray dam. We are going to prepare a tentative agreement this afternoon, Thompson and I.

Higgins has gone off on a two weeks' vacation. We don't know yet whether the city is going to appeal from Judge Andrews recent decision or not. I am of the opinion they are going to. According to Crouch it will take a year and a half to get the question settled thru appeal.

The State Bonding Commission and the state engineer are ready to formally approve the \$2,500,000 bond issue of the La Mesa district, but we find out now that the original bond issue must either be certified to or declared invalid, and it is going to take a month to clean up this situation in court, at least.

Mr. Sweet is very sick and Stearns is the attorney and he goes to Los Angeles, with Halley, for a conference with the bond attorneys next Tuesday to decide on the final steps. I hate the delay but it cannot be helped.

Ed Sample has come out for Congress against Phil Swing. It is going to be a pretty fight. Sheriff Byers with-drew.

The Pacific Telephone Company is going to put up a \$400,000 building at 9th & C Sts. You know my property is 9th & Broadway, and it will help to bring increased values.

Tell Mrs. White that I hope today to sign a contract to put all the lands that are not sold, excepting where the trees are, into winter vegetables, on the basis of \$30 an acre cash rent. We must level the land preparatory to irrigating at our own expense, and get some second hand pipe up there to irrigate with. This I am going to do and have completed by the 1st of September. I have promised to lend them \$500 with a crop mortgage. Mrs. White said she would lend \$1,000 with a crop mortgage as security. I feel sure it is a safe investment, and it is the only way we can get those lands put into crop this year. The land is rough and uneven and must be leveled and put in condition to be irrigated for all practical purposes before we can get any reasonable rental. I hope this arrangement is satisfactory to Mrs. White. It is the best I could do.

The lease is only for a year, but it will help in the sale of property materially, and we can sell subject to giving possession of the property at the expiration of the lease. It will demonstrate what can be done in that section and these boys are thoro farmers.

Real estate is picking up a little again and there is every indication of some good sales soon.

Charles leaves tomorrow for San Pedro and boards the ship Melba, working his passage, he and his friend, to New York and Europe. We hate like the dickens to have him go. Edward will be married on the 16th at Cuyamaca. Judge Cary unexpectedly had to leave town and Judge Andrews is going to marry them - a private wedding at Cuyamaca.

I hope you are having the time of your young lives, and this is to let you know that we miss you both.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely your friend,

EF:KLM

dictated 7/10/24



Ed Fletcher Company
Fletcher Building
920 Eighth St.
San Diego, California

August 1, 1924.

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

My dear Mr. White:

Inclosed find copy of letter to Mr. Rhodes and copy of hydrographic study compiled by Mr. Green, which are explanatory.

Yours very truly,

Ed Fletcher

EF:AH

San Diego, Calif.,
July 22, 1924.

Mr. Fred A. Rhodes,
City Manager,
San Diego, California

My dear Sir:

As per your request, I have prepared the attached graphic illustrations of the operation of a 90,000 ac. ft. reservoir at El Capitan and also a 90,000 ac. ft. reservoir at Mission Gorge Site No. 3, starting with full reservoirs in 1893 and extending the study up to 1923. The seasonal stream flow data on which these computations and drawings are based are from the measured flow records of the San Diego River by the U. S. Geological Survey and the Cuyamaca Water Co. The depth of the seasonal evaporation subtracted from the contents of each reservoir under each condition was four feet net. The gross evaporation we know from observation will average about five feet per season and the rainfall about twelve inches. In obtaining the seasonal evaporation losses, the average reservoir content for each season was first obtained, applying which to the area and capacity curves, the average area of the water surface exposed to the atmosphere was thus obtained. The average area in acres multiplied by the four feet net, represents the seasonal evaporation losses in acre feet.

In the El Capitan diagram it is seen that with a dam built at the Fletcher site providing 17,000 ac. ft. storage for the Cuyamaca System, the 90,000 ac. ft. reservoir at El Capitan would lose very little water through spills, although no draft were

July 26, 1924.

Mr. F. A. Rhodes,
City Manager,
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Mr. Rhodes:

By my son Lawrence, I am sending you a hydrographic study and letter re Fletcher, El Capitan, and Mission Gorge No. 3 reservoirs, as prepared by U. S. G. S. Hydrographer F. B. Greene, all for your information and as per your request.

Please take note that no allowances have been made for releases of water to care for the riparian owners, and that will be a mighty big factor if the paramount right suit is not determined isverably to the City.

The City will be fortunate if they acquire riparian rights from El Capitan to the ocean for a million dollars, if and when they lose the paramount right suit.

I want you to take particular notice that a dam built to the 330 foot contour at No. 3 delivers practically the same amount of water as a dam built to the 350 foot contour owing to the tremendous additional evaporation losses. If you build at No. 3 you will have no riparian owners to contend with below.

Yours very truly,

ED FLETCHER

RF:AH

made on the reservoir, while with a draft of 7 million gallons daily the reservoir would have spilled a small amount during three seasons out of the last thirty. In other words, with a storage of 17,000 acre feet at the Fletcher damsite, a 90,000 ac.ft. reservoir at El Capitan would practically control the river at that point and furnish a net safe yield of 7 million gallons daily. No allowance was made in this study for releases of water to care for riparian owners below El Capitan including the pumping rights of the Cuyamaca Water Company at their El Monte plants.

In the Mission Gorge Site No. 3 diagram, under the second, third and fourth conditions as per the attached exhibit, it was assumed that Fletcher Dam had been built to a capacity of 17,000 ac. ft., while El Capitan Dam was assumed as built to a capacity of 121,000 ac. ft. in place of 90,000, as a study already had been made using this larger storage, and also the yield from a 90,000 ac. ft. reservoir at Mission Gorge would be exactly the same in each case, the only difference being in the amount spilled during the three wet seasons of the thirty year period. Also, the yield at Mission Gorge reservoir would not be affected by any changes in the draft on El Capitan reservoir, as the entire runoff of the river was assumed as caught and held at El Capitan except for the spills during the three wet seasons referred to, during which the Mission Gorge reservoir would also spill. These spills at Mission Gorge 90,000 ac. ft. reservoir would be very small except for the season 1915-16.

In the Mission Gorge diagram, the dotted line marked No. 3 indicates the reservoir stages of a 90,000 ac. ft. reservoir, under an annual draft of 6,000 ac. ft., with Fletcher and El Capitan dams built. While the lower line marked No. 4 gives the reservoir stages under the same conditions and with the same annual draft of 6,000 ac. ft. for a

45,000 ac. ft. reservoir. The critical season in each case is 1904-05, at the beginning of which the 90,000 ac. ft. reservoir contained 10,000 ac. ft., and the 45,000 ac. ft. reservoir 3,500 ac. ft. This identical yield from two reservoirs, one of which has twice the capacity of the other, clearly illustrates the effect from evaporation losses. The 90,000 ac. ft. reservoir floods 3100 acres, which would mean an average annual evaporation loss of 12,400 ac. ft., while the 45,000 ac. ft. reservoir floods but 1440 acres, with an average evaporation loss of 5760 ac. ft. The larger reservoir wastes into the atmosphere 6640 ac. ft. annually more than the smaller reservoir, and its greater storage of 45,000 ac. ft. serves no other purpose than to provide water for these excessive evaporation losses. Or, in other words, there would be 5.9 million gallons of water wasted daily from the larger reservoir which would be saved from the smaller reservoir, as the spills from the smaller reservoir would go to recharge the gravel beds below in Mission Valley, and thus become available for the pumping plants of the City of San Diego and other riparian owners. These excessive evaporation losses are much greater from the Mission Gorge No. 2 reservoir, as the No. 3 reservoir has about 30,000 ac. ft. storage in the deep narrow gorge, while the No. 2 storage is almost entirely within a flat basin.

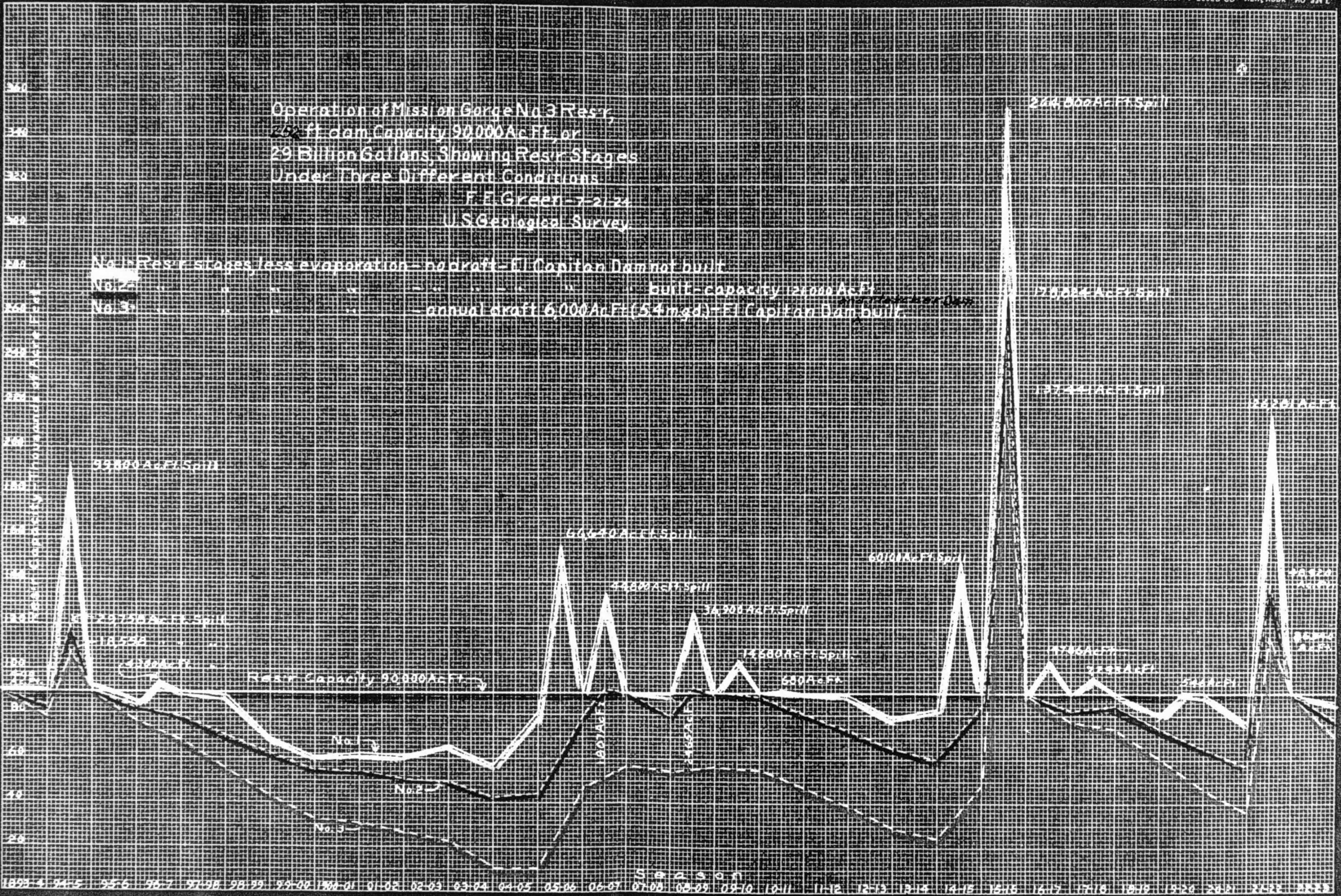
The City of San Diego has several hundred thousand dollars invested in its Mission Valley Pumping Plant, which at times has pumped as much as 4 million gallons daily. The amount pumped at this plant increases by that much the available yield of the river. That is, to the yield from the surface storage reservoir should be added the yield from the underground reservoir. This ground water is a valuable asset in San Diego County, as all our river valleys are underlaid with water

bearing gravels. While these gravels are not extensive compared with the great gravel beds of the Santa Ana, San Gabriel and Los Angeles Rivers, which furnish almost the total supply for a population of several hundred thousand people, besides irrigating thousands of acres of land, however, the San Diego County gravel beds will assist materially in increasing our water crop. Evaporation from underground water ceases when the water plane has dropped to about eleven feet below the ground surface, while avaporation from an open lake surface never ceases.

Respectfully yours,

F. E. Green

Hydrographer, U.S.G.S.



1898-4 94-5 95-6 96-7 97-8 98-9 99-00 1900-01 01-02 02-03 03-04 04-05 05-06 06-07 07-08 08-09 09-10 10-11 11-12 12-13 13-14 14-15 15-16 16-17 17-18 18-19 19-20 20-21 21-22 22-23

Oct. 7, 1924.

La Mesa Scout,
La Mesa,
California.

Gentlemen:

I take pleasure in enclosing an article I have written on the water situation of your District. I trust this article will meet with your approval and in no way conflict with any moves you are now making in different ways, for your coming Bond election.

In case it is necessary for you to reach me I will be at home this evening, and my phone number is Hillcrest 311.

Yours truly,

F. M. White

Copy
FAW/D

F. M. White, former Water Commissioner of the City of San Diego, in expressing his views in regard to the option the La Mesa, Lemon Grove Irrigation District now holds on the properties of the Cuyamaca Water Company, says:- These properties have been misrepresented and criticised for the past fifteen years to such an extent, for political and personal reasons, that the public in San Diego and vicinity considers this system of little or no value.

I wish, however, to advise the people of the Irrigation District that a careful study of the value of the Cuyamaca Water Company's properties show that this system is one of the most valuable water properties in Southern California, both from its actual water producing value, and also from the position it holds as a water supply for the city of San Diego and the adjoining Country.

There is no doubt that at the present time the Irrigation District holds, thru its option, the key to the water situation on the San Diego river - Only thru the acceptance of this option which they now hold, can the District obtain the water necessary to make it one of the most prosperous communities in Southern California. Your Irrigation District is to be congratulated upon holding the option on this property, which I am sure you will take up within thirty days. When this is done the District is in a position to hold and protect their present water rights and ^{obtain} the additional water needed to supply their eighteen thousand acres of residential and ranch lands.

There should be no question among the people living in this District as to the advisability of obtaining the water supply that is absolutely necessary for the growth and prosper-

ity of the territory embraced in the District. The people should be a unit on this question, and if this option is favorably acted upon by the District, then the people should unite in protecting the valuable water rights that are vested in the Cuyamaca Water Company's properties.

At this time your District is no doubt informed of the proposed Bond issue to be voted upon by the people of San Diego next month, as to the question of erecting a dam at El Capitan. Do not forget that this Bond issue, if carried, strikes at a vital point in the water supply of the District - I refer to the El Monte sands which ^{are} ~~is~~ estimated to contain Ten Billion Gallons of water, capable of supplying four million gallons of water per day to the District. If it becomes necessary for the District to take legal action against the City of San Diego to protect their interest in the proposed erection of the El Capitan dam, they should stand together in taking whatever action is necessary to protect this part of their water supply which is vested in the properties of the Cuyamaca Water Company.

The most unfortunate thing that has ever happened to San Diego has been the knocking of the Cuyamaca Water Company's properties. This has been done to such an extent that the City has missed the opportunity of purchasing this property. It is however, a most fortunate thing for the La Mesa, Lemon Grove Irrigation District, for they now have the opportunity of taking this property and reaping the benefit of a supply of water sufficient for their needs. Without this supply, or with a supply that the City of San Diego perhaps would dole out to them - their growth and prosperity would never materialize. The people of the District have for a long while been on-lookers at the

tragedy of errors put on the stage by the representatives of the City of San Diego, who have attempted to obtain a supply of water that would take care of the rapid growth of the City. In the coming election the people of La Mesa, Lemon Grove Irrigation District will decide whether or not it is policy for them to put themselves in the hands of men who have made such a failure in the handling of the water problems for the City of San Diego.

Now as to values - If the City of San Diego could obtain from the District the option they now hold for the properties of the Cuyamaca Water Company, they could well afford to pay a bonus of Two Million Dollars for this option. Murray Dam alone is worth to the City as a reserve supply of water the entire price of this option. The Riparian and property rights, without ^{which} the City can make no move for water development, would be worth today Two Million Dollars or more, to the City.

It costs the City One Million Dollars to produce One Million Gallons of Water per day - then how much is the Cuyamaca System worth - now capable of producing Six Million Gallons per day, and how much will it be worth when developed to its full capacity of producing Eleven Million Gallons per day.

When the Mayor and Council of San Diego failed to take any action in placing before the voters of San Diego the purchase of the Cuyamaca System under the last option obtained through the efforts of Mr. J. D. Spreckels, they demonstrated that their power was strong enough to block any move that might be made to solve in an intelligent manner the water problems of the City. The Mayor and Council had the backing of a few men holding influential positions in the community, one of these men told the writer within a week that he would rather

see the city without water than that the City purchase the Cuyamaca System. Is it any wonder San Diego has failed to make progress in its water development.

I am convinced that as soon as the La Mesa Lemon Grove Irrigation District owns the Cuyamaca System, a majority of the people of San Diego will force a compromise through the City Council with the District.

If the City Council does not take favorable action, the business men, will by initiative petition call an election in San Diego and affect a compromise of the waters of the San Diego river, with the District, thereby eliminating any further litigation.

Find a suggested article if you decide to say anything

INTERVIEW OF F. M. WHITE and CHARLES T. CHANDLER

Former Members City Water Commission.

After nearly two years' careful study of the proposed water development on the San Diego River, and having at our command thoroly competent engineering talent, it was our opinion that Mission Dam No. 3 should be built by the city -- not No. 2 as recommended by Mr. Freeman, for the following reasons:

No. 2 to the 360 ft. contour, as per compromise plan, floods 3320 acres.	No. 3 to the 330 ft. contour floods 1424 acres.
Net safe yield No. 2 -- 5,000,000 gallons daily	Net safe yield No. 3 --- 7,100,000 gallons daily
Bottom land flooded by building at No. 2 -- 2500 acres.	Bottom land flooded by building at No. 3 --- 604 acres.
Estimated cost of lands flooded by dam built at No. 2 -- \$1,800,000.00.	Estimated cost of lands flooded by dam built at site No. 3 \$550,000.00.
Towns destroyed if dam is built at site No. 2? Santee	Towns destroyed if dam is built at Site No. 3? NONE

Freeman's estimate of the cost of a gravity arch dam at site No. 2 to the 365 ft. contour is \$1,001,000, while his estimate of the cost of a dam at site No. 3 is \$4,708,000. This estimate of cost for a gravity arch dam at No. 3 is the "nigger in the woodpile". Freeman reports site No. 3 as the best damsite on the river, calls site No. 2 a "cow pasture", yet, because he is wedded to the idea of a gragity arch type of dam, recommends site No. 2.

Definite bids have been made for a multiple arch or radial cone type of dam at site No. 3, to the 330 ft. contour, to cost \$600,000, similar to Lake Hodges and Murray dams. A single arch type of dam, such as is built by the U. S. Government, can be built in Mission Gorge No. 3, to the 330 foot contour, at a

cost of \$1,270,000. The highest dam in the world, built by the U. S. Government, is the Shoshone dam, ^{a single arch structure} height 305 feet, cost \$515,730.00.

The Mission Gorge No. 3 dam would only be 230 feet in height and would have as great, or greater factors of safety than any gravity arch type that might be built. We see no reason for building ~~any dam~~ a gravity arch type of dam in Mission Gorge No. 3 when a single arch type will serve the same purpose at a much less cost.

Mission Gorge site No. 3 is the first place to build on the San Diego River; has been approved by M. M. O'Shaughnessy, Francis L. Sellev, U. S. Reclamation service Engineer; State Engineer W. F. McClure; city hydraulic engineer, F. M. Faude; John S. Eastwood; L. Jorgenson; former San Diego City engineer, W. C. Earle and T. H. King, chief engineer for the San Dieguito, La Mesa and Lakeside Irrigation Districts.

The City Water Commission recommended the purchase of the Cuyamaca System, the condemnation or purchase of Sutherland and the building of Mission Gorge No. 3. The day after our report was filed we were fired for making that recommendation. HOWEVER, WE STILL BELIEVE THAT OUR COMMENDATION WAS BEST FOR THE CITY'S INTEREST. We believe that a mistake was made that the city did not follow out our recommendations at that time.

We would further add that with the acquisition of the Cuyamaca System, the building of Fletcher, Mission Gorge No. 3 dams, if it could be shown that the water was not all conserved, at a later date possibly El Capitan dam should be built.

By building at site No. 3 an evaporation loss of 2,000,000 gallons of water a day is saved as compared to evaporation at No. 2.

By building at Mission Gorge No. 3 the city can save easily \$1,500,000 and get 2,000,000 gallons a day ADDITIONAL WATER SUPPLY over No. 2.

WE URGE THAT THE CITIZENS OF SAN DIEGO VOTE "NO" NEXT WEDNESDAY.

SAN DIEGO REALTY BOARD

CARBON COPY
For Mr. *White*'s information
ED FLETCHER.

525 Electric Building
San Diego, Calif.

RESOLUTION

Whereas, the plan to build a dam at site No. 2 in Mission gorge has been rejected by a vote of the people of San Diego., and

Whereas, the continued growth of our City and the bay region will be seriously impeded unless great quantities of water are impounded within the next few years, and immediately begun., and conservation and impoundment should be on the San Diego river and its tributaries, and

Whereas, this development should be comprehensive enough to look to the best possible use of lands contiguous to our city suited to growing diversified fruits and vegetables, and the placing of families on such half and one acre plots particularly, and to this end the water supply must be certain and copious, and at rates conducive to production of food products which are quite as important to the prosperity and welfare of the community as the manufacturing of clothing and other necessities of daily use., and

Whereas, the people are faced with extended litigation over conflicting claims and rights on the San Diego river and its water shed. These vexatious law-suits are always uncertain as to their termination, and they tend to divide the people and prevent harmony and progress., and

Whereas, the Cuyamaca Water Company will shortly be compelled to enlarge it's capacity if it is to continue to serve the ever increasing patrons in it's territory., and those people's interests must be served and their properties protected and the time is rapidly approaching when the very necessity of the case will compel settlement of this matter and unless it is settled in an equitable manner to all parties in interest, dissension and bitterness and perhaps even violence such as prevails between one of our neighbor cities and settlers whose prior use of water are attacked, may convulse our own community., and

Whereas, the sale of the Cuyamaca Water Company to a water district of owners and users would further complicate matters, insofar as the City's plans of development on the same watershed in concerned; Now Therefore,

Be It Resolved, that the San Diego Realty Board earnestly recommends that the citizens of San Diego, the District which now holds an option to purchase the Cuyamaca Water Company., and the water company aforesaid unite upon the following points, to wit:

1st-: That Normal Heights, Kensington Park, La Mesa, Lemon Grove and all intermediate territory come into the City of San Diego by annexation.

2nd: That the so enlarged City vote bonds for (a) purchase of the Cuyamaca Water Company's physical holdings, (b) and construction of a dam high enough up on the San Diego River to provide water by gravity flow for the enlarged City area. Be it further

Resolved, that copies of these Resolutions be sent to the San Diego City Council; to all committees and organizations acting for the interurban settlements in the matter of the existing option to purchase the Cuyamaca Water Company; to the Cuyamaca Water Company., and to the daily press.

Signed: SAN DIEGO REALTY BOARD

BySTEPHEN.BARNSON.....
President

.....JOHN.N.D.GRIFFITH.....
Executive Secretary



Ed Fletcher Company
 Fletcher Building
 920 Eighth St.
 San Diego, California

December 31, 1924.

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

My dear White:

Please read the inclosed and return.

The City rigged up a phoney condemnation suit against the Indians. A scrub lawyer for the government represented the Indians, did nothing to protect their interests, and Judge Andrews rendered a decision of \$75,000 valuation for condemning 2000 acres of land in the El Capitan, five miles of riparian rights, a \$10,000 or \$15,000 water system which the government had built for the Indians, including schools, houses, church, farms, etc. But I put a spoke in their game as this letter will portray.

Now I see Higgins is working with Secretary Work, Senator Shortridge, and Phil Swing to get that reduced again - nothing but robbery of the Indians. The property is worth really a half to three-quarters of a million, and San Diego is in on the steal - thanks to our political officials - but some day the poor, innocent public will know better - I don't know when or how, but I have faith.

Kindly return this copy at your convenience.

Yours very truly,

Ed Fletcher

EF:AH

January 18th,
 1929

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

My dear F. M.:

Enclosed find copy of Savage's report for your information.

Will talk it over with you later, after you have read it.

Yours truly,

EF:AK

Ed Fletcher Papers

1870-1955

MSS.81

Box: 33 Folder: 34

**General Correspondence - White,
Frederick M - Water commission**



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