

UCSD Library
Mandeville Department of Special Collections

RECORD OF MATERIALS REMOVED FROM THIS FILE

The materials described below have been removed from this file
and placed in a different file in this collection.

Collection # MSS 81
Box _____
Folder _____
Description of
materials: JAN 19, 1922 LETTER FROM
LOUIS J. WILDE DESCRIBING WATER
HISTORY

Removed to: CORRESPONDENCE; LOUIS J. WILDE
(Box 34, FAD #11)

Processor: C. McClurkan Date of Removal: 11 June 91

J. M. Graham
Chief Engineer for the San Diego Flume Company from 1887
to the completion of the flume and pipe line. Address
2510 College Avenue, Berkeley.

"My first association with the San Diego Flume Co. was when they employed Mr. L. M. Clement, who was then chief assistant engineer for the Southern Pacific Company. They employed him to examine and report on the feasibility, cost of construction, and other important items." Moore & Smith were the contractors of the flume, and Mr. Graham thinks he has some estimates of cost, and if so, will send them down.

Q. "Why did you not put in siphons in the South Fork, Sand Creek, and Chocolate?"

A. "I advocated siphons, and the reason they were not put in, was that the directors met me each time with this statement: That Moore and Smith had a contract to build the flume, and they did not have the funds to make the siphons, altho he urged them to build siphons at that time for the reason that Moore & Smith would be compelled to finish the flumes, at any rate, to complete their contract and to be able to demand their pay."

Q. "Why did you not build a dam to impound water at the diverting dam rather than just a small diverting dam?"

A. "We didn't investigate that especially, and we believed that the river would bring so much sediment that it would rapidly fill any reservoir."

Q. "Why was the diverting dam selected at that particular point?"

A. "I cannot answer that, because I didn't select it. They had already begun the construction."

Q. "At the time that you were on that system wasn't it generally understood that the San Diego flume was built to supply water to the city of San Diego?"

A. "It was. That was the primary object; but also to irrigate the lands along the flume. They knew very well they did not have much water to do irrigating along the line of the flume."

①

Interview- Mr. Wm. Llewellyn, 2310 Fifth Street.

I arrived in San Diego in July, 1868. On my arrival here Mr. A. Horton and family, Capt. Dannels and family, Dr. DeWolf and family (altho Dr. DeWolf at the time was absent from town) and two brother named Nudd, who were carpenters and blacksmiths and had a shop at the foot of F Street, were living here.

A man named Richter bought at a bargain the block of ground due east of where the Court House now stands. He bought the ground of Mr. Horton. The block was fenced in and he dug a well, built a cabin and set out a garden. The water from this well furnished most of the families I have mentioned, with water necessary for household purposes, and irrigated Richter's garden as well.

In a short time people came to San Diego-- the steamer was coming about once in three weeks, and of course the population increased rather slowly, but they needed water to drink and they all got it at Richter's well. At first they took their buckets and carried it, and a little later along, as people came to San Diego, a man started a water wagon to deliver water to those who lived some distance from the well. Still later, two men bought carts and started a regular water wagon delivery. They furnished the town with drinking water for several years until the well was drilled in the canyon in (what is now) Balboa Park, and the city was supplied from that until the Flume Company was organized. Richter sold his right to the well to ~~the~~ two men who hauled water in carts, sold water at 3¢ a bucket, or thirty tickets for a dollar. There were other wells dug in town, but the water was not considered very good as it was brackish, and could not be used for drinking. A few built cisterns and of course these furnished water during the seasons when there was rain. One man built a cistern twenty feet deep and twelve feet wide and the water he caught from the roof of his cottage was sufficient to supply his family and several others with drinking water. He built this cistern just after a three-years drouth.

The Richter well was in the direct path of the water which drained from the Park Canyon, and that is probably the reason the water in it was always good. During a wet season the water running down this canyon used to spread out over the lower part of town, for blocks. And before the government built the dike (in the early 70's) at hightide- and in a rainy season, the water used to cover the land between San Diego Bay and False Bay.

The people in Old Town, living nearer Mission Valley, got water from wells. There was Ramona's marriage place, a house adjoining, where Father Eubank lived, and another Spanish family. The two men who sold water from the Richter well got tired of the business as it took a hard day's work to make wages, and they were not sorry when the Company drilled the well in the canyon.

Probably Tasker & Hoke

Interview with Joseph Tasker.

Came to San Diego by steamer from San Francisco, arriving Sept. 6th, 1869. Stopped with Capt Donald, on Union Street. At that time there were two or three board shanties on 6th street, and one small grocery store. No railroad, of course.

The few people who were here had cisterns. Later a man sunk a well over back of the Court house. Water was struck at a depth of 40 feet, and five feet below, a good flow was found. The well was only five feet across. If the drilling of wells was carried farther than a depth of 40 ft it went through a second strata of blue clay, below which the water was salty. The good water did not extend much farther than up to about where the old B Street school house now stands. They could not get good water in wells sunk where the Court House now stands, nor above B Street nor below Union. This well was owned by a man named Hoke and another -- they had a horse and one cart with a cask on it. Hoke was interested in the lumber business with Abbott, and he told me he thought it was a good time to start in the water business-- that there was money in it. They owned a lot on the right hand side of Front Street next to B, 50x100, where the well was. They sunk another well near the street and put up a tank that held 500 gallons. The partner (Mr. Koffer?) drank pretty hard, and wanted to sell out. I asked him what he would take for his interest in the business, and he said \$1200, I think it was. I made a bargain with him, bought him out and then put a pair of animals to a wagon, with a 300 gallon cask. I had a 2" faucet in the cask, and a 2" hose, and we delivered water by the bucket- 16 buckets for 50¢ or 33 buckets for \$1. we furnished saloons, laundries hotels, etc. by the month-\$10 or \$12 per month.

The population increased, so we had to get another team and put on another cask, hauling 535 gallons. We used to deliver water to the vessels that came into the Bay. They used to land at Jorres wharf. They often took 5000 gallons from me, and I pumped the water by horse power into the tank of the steamer. Sometimes they took as high as 15000 gallons.

We had to buy another team and another cask and hired men to do the delivering. We paid the men \$75. a month and they boarded themselves. We furnished water in this way for about four years. Then Grundike who was president of the 1st National Bank, became interested in the water company. They had, in the meantime brought water in from the mountains in a small way and those who had residences and lawns, had the water service put in. They charged \$15 for tapping the main pipe and then so much for putting in laterals. People

who rented their property, bought water from me because the Company charged as much as I did. Most families could get along with about \$3 worth of water a month.

The Water Company pumped water from the San Diego River into reservoirs on 5th Street.

Yes, I made some money. Our receipts in the summer time were as high as \$425 a month for Hoke and I (each) after all expenses were paid. Our business was all cash, tho there were some people we never charged at all-

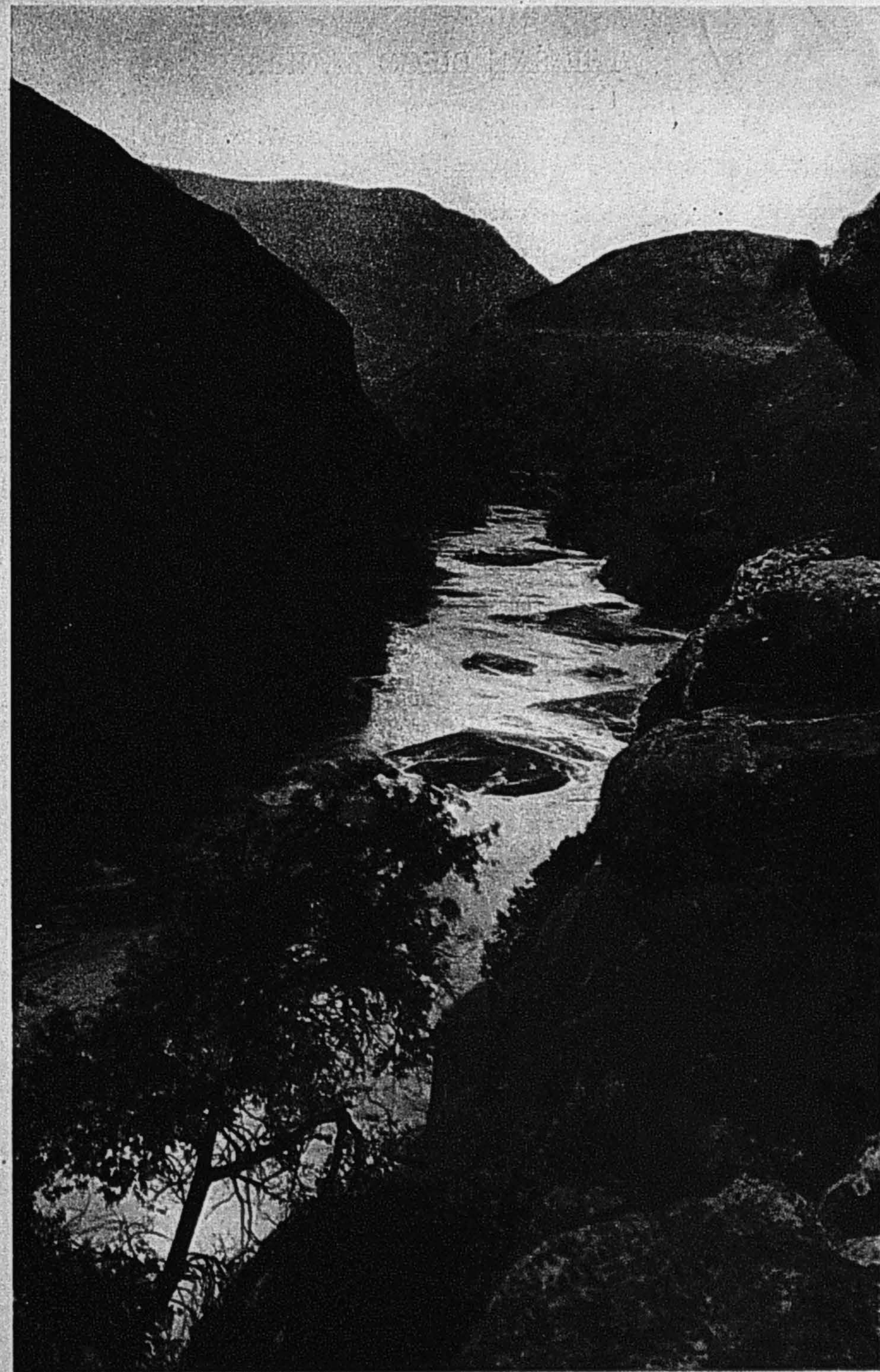
I used to attend to the outside business. Hoke stayed in the office. Later on we built two more tanks, one held 6000 gallons and one 9000 gallons. We sunk two more wells on that same property and the adjoining property. Got the same kind of water. Afterwards, when Horton built the Horton House he sunk a well and pumped water to the Horton house from the next block above us, between 1st and 2nd Street.

After the Water Company came in and began delivering water we could not make much money- either the Company or us. At one time we had 15 horses.

The Water Co. came to me and wanted to know what I would take, said neither of us could make much money. I said I would draw off for \$3000. They thought that was too much for just drawing off the road. I offered to let them have one pair of mules and one cart. They came to me the second time and wanted to know if I could not reconsider. I said that they could not buy for \$2999.999. In about another week or ten days J. S. Gordon came to me, one Saturday and said, "Well, we have concluded to take your proposition, if you will go to work for us." I said "I will work for you for one month for \$100, and no longer." He said "You come down to the Court House tomorrow to the Board of Supervisors room, and we will draw up the papers, that you are to sell no more water, and we will pay you the money." They paid me in greenbacks. I worked for them one month. Elliott took my place-- putting in laterals to houses, etc. They had quite a few men working. A man named Covert, I think it was, a nephew of Grundike's acted as clerk and bookkeeper for a while.

At that time I had a house on the Plaza and lived there. I bought it from a dentist, and paid him \$2700.

people who were hard up.



The rugged-rock, ribbed Gorge of the San Diego River, over which the City Fathers, Taxpaying Daughters, and Wealthy Sons of San Diego, are Contending for Ownership.

The Best Water in the United States

The following letter from Supervisor R. C. Wueste to City Manager Fred A. Rhodes will be of much interest to residents and prospective residents of San Diego as an attractive feature of our resources:

"F. A. Rhodes, Manager of Operation, City of San Diego, California.

"Dear Sir:—Several statements made to me recently are worthy of consideration and promulgation.

"Dr. Carl Wilson, bacteriologist for the city of Los Angeles, and in charge of the algal control on our reservoirs, in a consulting capacity, states that of all the bacteriological analyses from other cities in the United States with which he is familiar, those from the San Diego water supply have shown up continuously lower and superior than any.

"R. F. Goudey, engineer in charge of California state bureau of sanitary engineering, admitted, to the writer last week that no California city was furnishing its consumers with a better quantity of domestic water than San Diego.

"M. M. O'Shaunessy, city engineer of San Francisco, and at one time connected with the development of San Diego's impounding system, while on a visit over the city's system last week, stated to me that San Diego is facing the present drought, the most severe he has recollection of during 39 years' residence in this state, with a better margin of stored water per capita than any other California city.

"These statements, coming as they do from men of the highest standing in the profession, may be interpreted as powerful and unsolicited stimuli for the progress and advancement of our city.

"Very truly yours,
"R. C. WUESTE, Supervisor."

San Diego Leads in Banking Increase

San Diego's growth and the excellent condition of its banks was indicated in a recent statement issued by the chamber of commerce, showing the bank clearings of the 18 largest cities in the state for the week ending April 17 and comparing them with the clearings for the corresponding week in 1923.

San Diego showed a larger proportionate increase than San Francisco, Los Angeles or Oakland.

San Diego's clearings were \$11,884,860, an increase of \$1,597,531.

A COINCIDENCE

She (just kissed by him) "How dare you? Papa said he would kill the first man who kissed me."
He—"How interesting. And did he?"

Remington Portable
Typewriters
AUTHORIZED DEALERS

SUPPLIES
RIBBONS
CARBON PAPER

ALL MAKES

INVINCIBLE FACTORY REBUILT

TYPEWRITERS

SOLD RENTED REPAIRED

AMERICAN WRITING MACHINE CO.
INC.

909 THIRD ST. MAIN 4055

GEORGE F. OTTO & SON

Florists and Nurserymen
New Location—B Street
S. W. Cor. B and 7th

Phones: 668-91, 668-92 San Diego



A Superior
Ocular Service

The only safe and sane way to do, when troubled with
your eyes, is to consult a practitioner of ability and
experience.

DYER BROTHERS

Phone 639-20 510 B Street Near
Fifth

Dr. L. O. Dyer, Oculist — Dr. E. L. Dyer, Ophthalmologist

TAKE ELEVATOR TO
THIRD & FOURTH FLOORS

PHONE 638-23

SUNSHINE RECREATION CO.
624 BROADWAY
OVER SUN DRUG COMPANY

BILLIARDS BOWLING SODA FOUNTAIN LUNCH COUNTER
CIGARS AND CONFECTIONERY

History

September 2, 1924.

Mr. E. H. Schlink, Pres.,
Ramona Chamber of Commerce,
Ramona, California.

My dear Mr. Schlink:

Our engineer, Mr. King, on his return reports that instead of 250 or 300 acres as was suggested to me, there are approximately 450 acres that might be included in the district. This would increase my estimate of cost from \$40,000 or \$50,000 to \$60,000 or \$70,000 for a completed system.

I don't believe the state authorities of California would authorize a bond issue in excess of \$150 an acre, that would be certified to by the State Bond Certification Commission, which is absolutely necessary in order to sell the bonds at or near par.

I am satisfied that the cost of acquiring the water bearing gravels, installation of pumping plant, and building of distribution system, whether it be 250 or 450 acres, will not exceed \$150 an acre. They would probably be twenty forty-year bonds so that only interest would have to be paid for the first twenty years bearing 6%. I would recommend that this be done.

It would take two-thirds of the voters on election day to carry a bond issue. If this cannot be done, I have the following suggestion to make:

That the district build the reservoir and put in the distribution line. Offhand I would say the cost would be about \$75 per acre. In other words, if it is a district of 450 acres, there would be necessary a bond issue of \$30,000 or \$35,000 for the cost of same installed, and it would be necessary to make some arrangements with private individuals owning water bearing lands and pumping plants to furnish the necessary water to the district at a rate to be agreed on under a long-term contract delivered into the district's reservoir.

In my opinion it will be an almost criminal act if the business men of your community do not take some immediate action of some kind that will protect the future water supply of the town of Ramona. Otherwise, some enterprising real estate men in time may lay out a new subdivision, install curbs, sidewalks and street paving, file on the waters of Santa Maria Creek, install a water supply, and you might wake up some day to find that the present town of Ramona has real competition. This has been done in other places.

There is room for one good town in that valley and the quicker your community wakes up to its possibilities, the better for you all.

I have received a letter from State Engineer W. F. McClure as follows:

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Sacramento

August 29, 1924.

"Col. Ed Fletcher,
920 8th St.,
San Diego, Cal.

SUBJECT: RAMONA AND NEEDED WATER SUPPLY.

Dear Colonel:

Yours of August 22d is at hand.

I note your statement that Mr. King has been employed to make a preliminary study of the situation, and that he will probably have some data upon the subject in the next two weeks.

I trust I may be able to meet him about the middle or perhaps a little later than the middle, of September, and if he has the information at that time, I will be pleased to make a visit and take the matter up with Mr. King and those more particularly interested.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) W. F. MCCLURE
State Engineer".

I have interviewed Mr. King, and he says he is putting an engineering crew in the field this week and will have his preliminary report ready for the state engineer on his arrival here the 15th of September.

Under separate cover I am sending you a hundred ballots which I have had printed, the intention being to have a straw vote of voters within the boundaries of the proposed district and get an expression from them immediately by mail or any other way you see fit, the questions being as follows:

First: Are you in favor of the organization of an irrigation district for a supply of water for the town of Ramona?

Second: Do you favor a bond issue of approximately \$150 an acre, and by so doing acquiring a water supply and distribution system complete and owned by the district?

Third: Do you favor a bond issue of approximately \$75 an acre for the construction only of a reservoir and distributing system with a contract for water from private sources?

I hope immediately a meeting will be held of all voters within the boundaries of the proposed district, both sides of the question discussed, and the straw vote taken as above outlined, before the state engineer arrives.

I am glad to be of service to the community of Ramona without compensation, and hope some immediate action will be taken in order that we may get an early expression from the community as to their views on the questions above outlined. Very truly yours,
W. F. MCCLURE

The
San Diego Beach ^{10/24}
County does not
mean must &
San Diego & you
might as well
forget it
Bacon

History

January 17, 1928

Col. Ed. Fletcher,
Fletcher Building,
920 8th St.,
San Diego, California.

My dear Col. Fletcher:

I have your favor of the 11th inst. concerning the outcome of the criminal libel case.

I was very much surprised when I learned that the one verdict that was agreed upon was that of acquittal, nor can I understand the line of reasoning of the jurors who voted for acquittal on the other counts. I know nothing, of course, of any of the matters except what I heard in court, and I am frank to say that if the defendant can print such matter as he did not deny appeared in his columns and escape the penalty of the law for criminal libel, then there would seem to be no limit whatever in what a person may publish against another.

You of course, have heard it said a great many times that you never can tell what a jury will do, and this case certainly demonstrates the correctness of such a comment. It is difficult for me to understand the line of reasoning which the jurors who voted for acquittal followed in the case. There was practically no evidence to support any of the libelous charges. There might perchance have been difficulty in the minds of the jurors in dealing with the legal questions that arose in the count wherein Judge Jennings and Judge Andrews were involved, but aside from any legal question it is inconceivable that any rational mind could have concluded that any of the material charges of fact contained in the articles were supported by the evidence. It is possible, of course, that inasmuch as the jury in this kind of a case, is, under the Constitution, made the judge of the law, that they may have concluded that even if the things charged by Sauer were untrue, they were not criminal libel.

Then again, I find not infrequently jurors will allow their sympathies or prejudices to dull or even override their reason. The fact that Sauer was an aged man may perchance have appealed to their sympathies.

On the whole, I do not recall ever having presided in a case where the evidence so overwhelmingly supported the charge and the jury

acquitted or disagreed, as in that case.

Of course I am not in condition to give an opinion as to what would seem to be the desirable course for either you or any of the others named in the articles. I have not heard whether the District Attorney expects to retry the case. It would seem to me that there would be a great many thoughtful people in San Diego who would be greatly concerned over such a situation, for I assume if Sauer can get away with this, he will continue his tactics and the same persons and others will be made to feel his lash.

I am indeed sorry for the pain and suffering that you and your family must feel over the situation. Not infrequently when it seems that human justice fails, I find some consolation in the old theological belief that everyone who does a wrong will some day receive punishment for the same.

I have just had word from Judge Marsh that he will be up here next Friday to hear a motion for a new trial in a case in which he presided in my department during my absence in San Diego. I shall be interested in getting his viewpoint of the Sauer case.

With kind personal regards, I remain

Very truly yours,

EDWIN F. HAHN

EFH:MP

Personal

From the papers of Ed Fletcher, the following letters were removed to the Alphabetized correspondence file:

"WATER HISTORY"

LINDA VISTA IRRIGATION DISTRICT (LVID):

to LVID from Flume Co., January 28, 1892
to LVID, October 27, 1892
to LVID from WADE, J. R., January 28, 1893 to LVID
from WADE and COOPER, July 5, 1893

BABCOCK, E.S.

February 22, 1895
February 28, 1895
February 7, 1895

to BAKER, FRED, [no date, ca 1895]

BELCHER, jr., F.J., January 12, 1922

BIRD, H.E., February 5, 1932

to CONKLING, Judge M.W., November 20, 1930

COUNTY SUPERVISORS(San Diego), August 19, 1935
January 2, 1922

ESHLEMAN, John, M., May 5, 1913

GATES, C.W., October 13, 1909

GRANT, Jesse R.

December 17, 1894
?, 1895

HARRIS, Lew, April 24, 1919

MARSTON, George W.,
May 1, 1910

February 1, 1932

MCCARTHY, D. O.:

McCarthy to Fletcher, March 4, 1919
McCarthy to Fletcher, March 5, 1919
McCarthy to Fletcher, March 26, 1919
McCarthy to Fletcher, March 26, 1919
Fletcher to McCarthy, April 2, 1919
Fletcher to McCarthy, May 15, 1919
McCarthy to Fletcher, May 29, 1919
McCarthy to Fletcher, May 13, 1919

MORSE, Philip,

December 26, 1918
January 2, 1919

PARDEE, George C., January 28, 1905

PUTERBAUGH, Geo, November 29, 1905

PYLE, Fred D., October 8, 1948

RHODES, F. A., October 21, 1948

SAUER, A.R., January 20, 1922

Memo by Fletcher r.e. Sauer February 2, 1922

SAVAGE, H. N.:

Savage to Fletcher, July 8, 1922
Savage to Fletcher, September 30, 1919
Savage to Fletcher, June 1, 1922
Savage to WHITE, F. M., October 27, 1922

SCRIPPS, E.W., February 7, 1895

TREANOR, John, January 9, 1922

Memoranda dictated by Treanor January 24, 1922

VAIL, Walter,

November 1, 1905

December 5, 1905

VAN DYKE, T. S.:

Dye Canyon, [ca 1919]

Van Dyke to Fletcher, May 2, 1919

WILDE, Louis J., January 19, 1922

From the papers of Ed Fletcher, the following letters were removed to the alphabetized correspondence files:

"WATER HISTORY PRE-1930"

HODGE, E.O., January 24, 1919

HOWELLS, J.M.:

Fletcher to Howells, December 30, 1918

Howells to Fletcher, February 7, 1919

Fletcher to JOHNSTONE, W. A., May 17, 1919

UCSD Library
Mandeville Department of Special Collections

RECORD OF MATERIALS REMOVED FROM THIS FILE

The materials described below have been removed from this file and placed in a different file in this collection.

Collection # MSS 81

Box _____

Folder _____

Description of materials:

① LETTER (AUG 26, 1916): FLETCHER
to HELLER, BOAL & ALVERSON re Cosgrove
& RR COMMISSION

② LETTER (AUG 20, 1914): FLETCHER to
W.H. PORTERFIELD

copies were with materials re water history

Removed to: ① see EL CAPITAN FILING w/ RR COMMISSION
② see PORTERFIELD CORRESPONDENCE

Processor: G. McCLURKAN

Date of Removal: 9 JUNE 91

Ed Fletcher Papers

1870-1955

MSS.81

Box: 72 Folder: 13

Writings and Interviews - Water History - "Oldtimers" interviews and letters re history (see also R. Choate and T. Van Dyke correspondence) - Miscellaneous interviews and notes, correspondence re history



Copyright: UC Regents

Use: This work is available from the UC San Diego Libraries. This digital copy of the work is intended to support research, teaching, and private study.

Constraints: This work is protected by the U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.). Use of this work beyond that allowed by "fair use" requires written permission of the UC Regents. Permission may be obtained from the UC San Diego Libraries department having custody of the work (<http://libraries.ucsd.edu/collections/mscl/>). Responsibility for obtaining permissions and any use and distribution of this work rests exclusively with the user and not the UC San Diego Libraries.