

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, August 20, 1914.

Mr. W. H. Porterfield,  
c/o San Diego Sun,  
San Diego, California.

Dear Sir:

At the suggestion of Mr. Grisell, I write you the following on the water question for your information:

For nine years, I have devoted nearly all of my time to the water development of San Diego County, having only one thing in mind, the acquisition of all the water in the County by the City of San Diego, and giving to my principals and myself a reasonable profit for this work. I have never received a cent in pay to date only my expenses for all the work accomplished.

You did not go down the San Luis Rey River. For 45 miles to the ocean from the Warners Dam, we have had to buy up several hundred ranches, over 30,000 acres, and also water rights where we did not purchase the land, and I have been nine long years in picking it up piece by piece.

In addition, we had to buy the Warners Ranch of 47,000 acres, which will cost \$700,000. Its net income today is only \$15,000, and after paying the taxes you can see it is not paying 2% interest on its investment. We have controlled this ranch for nine years.

We have spent \$150,000 in surveying alone.

Think of the fifty miles of right-of-way that we have

had to acquire.

Bed rock has been absolutely found by our core drill at every reservoir site. It would take years for the city, if it started in now, to gather up these different odds and ends, as well as determine the feasibility of the project. There is much more to it than anyone has any idea of.

We couldn't do a thing with the Pamo and Santa Maria Reservoirs until we bought the bonds of the Linda Vista District. We had to dig up \$168,000 through compromise with those in the district and get that district dissolved. That was the biggest individual job that I ever had in my life. Without dissolving the district this water development could not take place today, as it was a cloud on the title of all the property, and the Supreme Court of the state had declared the bonds good.

My only object is to see the City control all the water supply. I can make three times as much money, if it was money I was after, by continuing the development of these properties privately, in conjunction with the sale of real estate and water together. What annoys me more than anything is that I stand in my own light, in a way, and my statements do not have the force they otherwise would if I was not personally interested, but this is the psychological moment for the City of San Diego never again will have the opportunity at anything like this price and terms. With all the force that I can put in, I make this statement, and I ask you to believe me when I say that

never again will conditions arise as favorable to the city as at the present time. When it is all over with I want the people of San Diego to say "Fletcher did something for the city!" and I know they will not be able to say "Fletcher handed us a lemon!"

That you may understand this proposition thoroughly, I must go into detail.

Henshaw had no idea the City would want our system, so he interested Harold Payne Whitney, of New York, and others, and if you will go with me to the Southern Title Guaranty Co., you will find that they own 11,000 acres of land being held in trust for Harold Payne Whitney and his bunch. The idea was to buy 30,000 acres of land, attach all the water of the San Luis Rey River and the Carroll, Pamo and Sutherland Reservoirs to these lands in the form of a mutual water company, and when you have sold all the land you have sold the water. Just as sure as God makes little apples, Porterfield, the city never will condemn that water without paying the difference in price between \$50 and \$60 an acre, and from \$400 to \$1000 an acre for it, according to the location of the land, after the mutual water company has been formed. If it had not been for the hard times the last six months, etc. I could never have persuaded Mr. Henshaw to let me submit an offer to the city, and I am sure that the city will never be able to get it again if the option expired.

Think of what it means to the City of San Diego. Look at the past history of San Francisco. They could have bought

their water system from the Spring Valley Company for \$10,000,000 eight years ago. Today they are paying \$34,000,000, and losing as well 10,000 acres of land worth \$10,000,000, in the City of San Francisco, which eight years ago was included in the original deal.

Do you realize the fact that the Cuyamaca system and the Henshaw system will furnish more water, even according to Harroun's figures, than is being furnished to the City of San Francisco with 450,000 inhabitants? Think of it! Our two systems will furnish a safe net yield in excess of the present needs of the City of San Francisco, and I will tell you that Henshaw's figures are 25% lower as to a safe yield than any of the following engineers:

- J. B. Lippincott,
- H. W. Hawgood,
- W. S. Post,
- T. S. Vandyke,
- C. S. Alverton, or
- J. G. White & Co., the largest hydraulic contractors on the coast.

Again, did you notice that in Harroun's statement he only allowed us \$1000 an inch for water and we can quote you eight cases in California that it is worth \$2000 to \$3500, actual court decisions and decisions of the Commission.

Again on page 26, the Spring Valley Water Company water per million gallons cost \$800,000, the Volcan Water Company \$336,500 per million gallons, while our present water supply owned by the City of San Diego \$688,000 per million gallons safe yield. In other words, when the Henshaw system is fully

completed, the water will be less than one-half the cost of the present water supply of San Diego or as compared to San Francisco.

Again, on page 26, the City of San Diego has paid \$5,160,000 for a safe net yield daily of 7,500,000 gallons. The Volcan Land & Water Company system fully completed will cost \$7,739,000, or less than one-half as much <sup>again</sup> and will deliver a net safe yield of 23,000,000 gallons daily, or three times as much water for less than one-half as much again as the cost of our present system in San Diego.

Mr. Post, in his estimates furnished this company, said the water water could be furnished for 5¢ a thousand gallons delivered to the City of San Diego, by the Volcan system. I still believe this can be done. Mr. Post has been for six years on the job, doing nothing but figuring out this proposition. Harroun's estimate is 5½¢ per thousand gallons, but he brings his water around by La Jolla, at a cost of \$200,000 or \$300,000 in excess of Post's figures.

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Now regarding the Cuyamaca system, we have put between \$400,000 and \$500,000 into the system since we acquired it. We are furnishing right now the full supply of water to our consumers. We are raising our sideboards, so as to be able to deliver 22,000,000 gallons of water a day on the first of December next to La Mesa. We will be in position to furnish the City of San Diego with its total supply for five months during

the flood season this coming winter, in addition to our present consumption, and at the same time fill La Mesa Lake, at 10¢ a thousand gallons. This will give the Cuyamaca Water Company an income of \$75,000 next winter, for five months supply, being 5,000,000 gallons of water a day at 10¢ a thousand gallons.

In addition to that we shall be able to put at least 5,000,000 gallons a day into Otay Lake.

The greatest value of the Cuyamaca system is as follows: Its elevation is so ~~great~~ high above sea-level that, by gravity, we can put water into the City of San Diego, eliminating two booster pumping plants now being operated. The elevation of the end of our flume at La Mesa is 640 feet. By building three or four miles of pipe line over to Chollas Reservoir the water rushes right into the Otay, by gravity, the outlet tunnel being only 400 feet, and the top of the dam or spillway being 510 feet. In other words, we have 130 feet pressure head.

This means that we bring the value of Otay Dam up to 100% efficiency. Together with the water coming down from Morena and Barrett reservoirs, we can always fill the Otay Lake each winter, if the city owns the Cuyamaca, with flood waters. This relieves the necessity of building many large dams on the San Diego River, particularly as La Mesa Dam can be raised to 100 feet in height to hold several billion gallons, and can be filled with flood waters. We have the floodage rights on La Mesa Dam to 100 feet, and La Mesa Lake is only a few miles

from the City, and covers all points in San Diego by gravity.

The flume is good for six or eight years yet, and the city can then, at an expense of one-half million dollars, make a concrete conduit out of it.

Three or four small dams should be built in the mountains to hold back the flood waters and then convey them thru the conduit to La Mesa and also Otay.

I would recommend the diverting dam being raised about 40 feet. Now the riparian owners on the San Diego River will agree to development of this kind, while they are going to litigate forever if a dam is built away down close to them, like El Capitan. And another thing, it isn't right - those riparian owners should get a square deal, so that they can get enough water to take care of their crops.

Attached hereto is inventory of the Cuyamaca system and what we offer to furnish. Please go into the matter thoroughly.

Conclusions: I have arranged so that the value of the Cuyamaca system is to be determined by the Railroad Commission of this state, to which value is to be added \$150,000 for intangible values, and on account of the easy terms at which we are selling. Just look up John D. Spreckels' record, and you will see that he got something like one million dollars over what the Railroad Commission ever valued his system at.

Our water rights come first on the San Diego River by thirty years' usage. In addition to that on June 1, 1910 we filed all the water on the river, and have spent \$400,000 perfecting our rights.

It means litigation forever if the city ever should try to steal this water away from us.

Now we are satisfied to take \$50,000 or \$100,000 down and \$10,000 a month until paid. This can be done without a bond issue of any kind whatsoever, as our water rates are so low that they intend to raise them immediately, increasing the income of the Cuyamaca Water Company \$20,000 or \$30,000 a month, so that takes care of the purchase of the Cuyamaca system.

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Arrangements can be made whereby if Henshaw is paid \$1,000,000 for an option on all his properties he will go ahead immediately and build the Warners and the Carroll dams and put 10,000,000 gallons of water a day into the City of San Diego, under a contract of 15¢ a thousand gallons, say for five years, the purchase price of the system being \$2,500,000, plus any moneys he puts in, as per option given to the city.

The result is this: By voting \$1,000,000, and taking over the Cuyamaca without a bond issue, the city of San Diego ties up forever practically all the gravity water in San Diego County. Then it can complete same unit by unit, as conditions require, and it keeps anybody else from ever attempting to take the water away from the city, and if the City wants to take over the Volcan system before the five years is up that can easily be arranged.

Henshaw will have to raise \$1,500,000 probably to bring in the water from Warners and Carroll, but he is in position to do that.

I am only given authority until the first of September to sell the Cuyamaca Water system at these terms. After the first of September everything is off. The City Council are favorable to this proposition right now, with the exception of one member, but they want someone to give them a little back bone. I can see the city dilly-dallying along, their option expiring, and the opportunity lost forever. This is what is going to happen if the San Diego Sun does not come out and quickly, and protect the interests of the city.

I will lay every card of every kind whatsoever on t'e table, answer any and all of your questions, and am in position to convince you. I pledge, on my word as a brother Mason, that every statement I have made is true, and that it is a crime if the city does not take action to protect its interests, for Lord knows where they are going to get the water if they lose the Henshaw system. Over half the water of the San Diego River is already utilized.

Please excuse this long letter, but I want you to have it in black and white.

Enclosed find copy of Harroun's report. Also offer to the City of San Diego of the Cuyamaca system, for your information, as well as offer of Henshaw's system.

Yours very truly,

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, September 1, 1914.

Mr. W. H. Porterfield,

San Diego, California.

Friend Porterfield:

Enclosed find copy of Harroun's report. The maps are not enclosed. If you desire one of the original reports kindly let me know.

The Union has stopped its knocking, and commenced to see the light of day. A committee of nine men will be appointed by the city council to make recommendations on the Harroun report.

I can't thank you enough for the interest that you have taken in this proposition. You never did the city a greater kindness in the world, as time will show. I am not overlooking the fact that you are also helping me, but the city should come first, and having that in mind, with all the power that is in me I will work toward having the city take over every dam site and every water supply in the county, for it means millions to the city to do it now.

With kind personal regards,

Very truly yours,

April 28, 1916.

Mr. W. H. Porterfield,  
San Diego Sun,  
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Mr. Porterfield:

you have told me that several reports have come to you to the effect that this bond issue is for the benefit of Ed Fletcher, etc.

In regard thereto, I wish to make the following statement:

Neither directly nor indirectly did I ask the Board of Supervisors for anything excepting the paved highway San Diego to Julian and for the following reasons:

First: The development of the back country for the general good.

Second: Because the Julian country has not had a fair representation, and by looking at the map you will see that 95% of all the concrete highways in the county lie between the Riverside County line and Tia Juana. This statement is made on the assumption that the bonds carry. You will notice that the only paved highways that we are getting in our back country is twenty miles from the top of Muzzy Grade to Santa Ysabel; while the balance of the paved highways, approximately 130 miles I believe, is in the Coast section.

John Forward Sr. in his article says that it is damnable ~~that~~ that the supervisors included \$15,000 for the road Warners to the Riverside County line, and \$16,000 for a bridge over the San Luis Rey; also \$41,000, I believe for the road from a point near Wynola, rebuilding down the Banner Grade to the Grape Vine Junction with the San Felipe Wash.

I am personally accused of getting this into the budget, when I give you my word I never asked for it; never knew it was in until it was read at the hearing when the Board of Supervisors made a statement as to their demands. All you have to do is to write out to Supervisor Joe Foster, at Fosters, to find out that this matter did not originate with me at all but from the Julian people themselves, who demanded it, and for the following reasons to wit:

The Mesa Grande, Julian, Pine Hills and Warners Hot Springs

hotels get nearly three-fourths of their patronage from tourists who come from Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside. Not one-third of the patronage of those hotels comes from the City of San Diego. On the other hand every one of those merchants and hotels buy all their supplies in San Diego. Now, Porterfield, is it against San Diego's interests to help that section of the country? When fighting for San Diego's interests, does it mean just the narrow boundaries of San Diego City, or San Diego's back country as well? I know what your answer is.

There is already a paved highway from Riverside to Hemet, thirty-four miles. It is only twentyodd miles from there to the San Diego County line, and the road is in fine condition. This \$15,000 to fix up the Warners-Riverside County line road that is in the bond issue is needed; it accomplishes the purpose of increasing our tourist travel. It is shorter in distance from Hemet Valley and San Jacinto to come by Warners Hot Springs and Santa Ysabel to San Diego rather than by Perris, Elsinore and Temecula; and the greatest asset is that tourists can motor down the ~~xxxx~~ coast to San Diego and go home via Warners Hot Springs or Temecula, as the case may be, and vice versa. While, as you know, the trip via Warners Hot Springs and Santa Ysabel is a more interesting one than through the Temecula Canyon route or the coast trip.

Now, regarding the \$41,000 from Wynola down the Banner Grade to the San Felipe Creek, there are 96 dangerous turns on the Banner Grade. George Marston's machine ran off the grade last year, and two people were killed. The grade is all washed out. There are 30,000 acres of fine land capable of development in the San Felipe and Vallecitos Country. The road is a county road and should be rebuilt, as there are something like fifty families directly tributary and using this road all the time. There is a construction of two miles of new road, but that is to cut out eight miles of road over the hills. There is not a dollar being spent from the Grape Vine Junction down the San Felipe to the Imperial County line or a dollar included in the bond issue for that purpose, the distance being something like thirty miles.

The great howl being made by several people is that this money is to bring in an opposition road into San Diego, and divert travel from Imperial Valley to Los Angeles. Of all the jokes, this beats anything I ever heard of. The State Highway Commission has officially adopted the state highway from Brawley to Mecca, at the same time that they adopted the highway from El Centro via Holtville to Yuma, and today the State Highway Commission are building a concrete road from Brawley to Mecca -- one contract for nine miles having already been let and almost

completed. Riverside County two years ago voted \$1,500,000 in bonds and have completed approximately the entire distance a concrete highway from Riverside to Mecca. When the State Highway Commission have completed their concrete highway from Brawley to Mecca and the Riverside Highway Commission will have completed their highway Riverside to Mecca we are then in this position:

San Diego has a concrete highway from El Centro to San Diego. Los Angeles has a concrete highway from El Centro to Brawley via Mecca to Los Angeles. If a concrete road is ever built from Julian or Warners Hot Springs down the San Felipe to Brawley, it will strike the State highway now being built from Brawley to Mecca at a point six miles east of the San Diego County line in Imperial County, and will traverse the Brawley-Mecca highway a distance of 38 miles. The question is then: "Does or does not San Diego County want to divert some of the Brawley-Mecca travel into San Diego County for the benefit of the hotels and merchants at Warners Springs, Mesa Grande, Santa Ysabel, Ramona, Julian, Cuyamaca Lake and Pine Hills?" If we want no business in the mountains, and if the City of San Diego alone is to be thought of; and we are so narrow-minded that we can't appreciate the fact that what helps the back country helps San Diego, then we want only one road from Imperial Valley to San Diego -- the present state highway. But this fact may surprise you: That that road built up the San Felipe in only 68 miles from Brawley to Julian; and it is four miles shorter from Brawley via the San Felipe to San Diego than from El Centro to San Diego over the State Highway. Therefore, San Diego City alone will get many benefits by the construction of a highway tapping the Brawley-Mecca road at the junction of the San Felipe. In addition thereto, it will build up our back country, all of which trade comes here.

If you will read the San Diego Sun of January 19, 1916, you will find there an interview by Mr. Witter the editor and owner of the Brawley News, in which he says that if we had a good road this summer connecting Brawley to Julian we would have 5000 people from the Imperial Valley in the Julian section this coming summer, as it is the shortest distance to the mountains and pine timber, which Imperial Valley people longs for so much, and only a two or three hours' ride. If this road is not built, they will go to Mecca, San Bernardino and into the San Bernardino mountains, and we will lose all their business. Mr. Witter says that over 40% of the taxable property of Imperial Valley is included in Brawley and that section to the North of Brawley, none of which country would think of going to the coast by doubling back to El Centro and thence to San Diego, but would go via Mecca and San Bernardino, unless we had a road directly to the mountains via San Felipe. Please remember it is only 40 miles of desert Brawley via the San Felipe Wash to the Julian country, as compared to over 100 miles of desert via Mecca, Indio and Banning.

However, this is not a question at issue, but is being made



one by certain enemies of the bond issue who are trying to make me the goat.

I again repeat that I have not been associated with the South Coast Land Co. since two years ago last September; that I don't

...the fact that the San Felipe road is only 33 miles from Julian to Julian; and it is four miles shorter from Julian via the San Felipe to San Diego than from San Felipe to San Diego over the State Highway. Therefore, San Diego City alone will get many benefits by the construction of a highway tapping the Julian-Mesa road at the junction of the San Felipe. In addition thereto, it will build up our back country, all of which needs some here.

...you will find there an interview by Mr. Witter the editor and owner of the Julian News, in which he says that if we had a good road this summer connecting Julian to Julian we would have 5000 people from the Imperial Valley to the Julian section this coming summer, as it is the shortest distance to the mountains and pine timber, which Imperial Valley people long for so much, and only a two or three hours' ride. If this road is not built, they will go to Mesquite San Bernardino and into the San Bernardino mountains, and we will lose all their business. Mr. Witter says that over 40% of the taxable property of Imperial Valley is included in Julian and that section of the North of Julian, none of which country would think of going to the coast by doubling back to San Felipe and thence to San Diego, but would go via Mesquite and San Bernardino, unless we had a road directly to the mountains via San Felipe. Please remember it is only 40 miles of desert Julian via the San Felipe road to the Julian country, as compared to over 100 miles of desert via Mesquite, India and Mountain.

However, this is not a question at issue, but is being made

one by certain enemies of the bond issue who are trying to make me the goat.

I again repeat that I have not been associated with the South Coast Land Co. since two years ago last September; that I don't own a dollars' worth of stock in the company excepting one share that was given me so that I might qualify as a director. I resigned, but they refused to accept my resignation. I own two houses in Del Mar and a few lots. I don't own a dollar's worth of property directly or indirectly between Del Mar and Escondido, and yet I am being blamed for all of that.

Please don't mention my name in this matter. I have no desire to be attacked personally in the newspapers, or to give the other side a chance to attack me personally; but if it does come to an issue and Ed Fletcher is to be made the goat, there will be more fur flying than San Diego has ever seen in a given length of time.

In closing and in relation to the question of there being entirely too much money voted to repair the roads, will say that I am satisfied in my own mind that we shall have at least \$200,000 of that \$500,000 to turn back into the treasury. The committee is a unit in this matter, our aim being to get as many paved roads as we can, for that is permanent work.

Don't forget that Riverside County has just completed 150 or 200 miles of concrete roads, and has given us one from Riverside to the county line. Orange county, out next door neighbor to the North has built over 200 miles of concrete roads. The main roads to Los Angeles County are now all paved, and the question is: "Is San Diego County going to keep up with the procession or not?" You can rest assured that the Advisory Committee are pulling no chestnuts out of the fire for the Board of Supervisors, and they are going to run this thing themselves or you can rest absolutely assured there will be a recall in this matter.

I write this letter in explanation, as John Forward, Sr., as per article herewith attached, has made this attack on these particular items and I feel it should be answered.

Yours very truly,

F-S

Sept. 27, 1916.

Mr. W. H. Porterfield,  
San Diego Sun,  
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Mr. Porterfield:

I have tried a dozen times to see you but you are a hard man to get hold of, so the only way I can get you is to write.

When the City of San Diego purchased the Spreckels system, I was under the impression, and I believe many others were, that the Jamul Ranch went with the deal; but when the transfer was made only the water rights on the Jamul Ranch were deeded and a 200-ft. right of way through the ranch. It was stipulated and one of the conditions of the agreement that the City of San Diego within sixty days from date of transfer was to make a survey and determine where the 200-ft. right of way was to be located, and a map filed of record covering same. This survey was never made within the time stipulated; nor, as a matter of fact has it ever been done.

Later on - a few months ago - Jamul Ranch was deeded to Louis Wilde. Someone in the City Hall woke up after the property had been deeded to Wilde and made a survey of this right of way; went to the Spreckels interests and got a deed from the Coronado Beach Co. covering this 200-ft. strip, and not alone that, but the deed recites, so I am told, that it is a sort of "floating" deed, in that as the channel of the stream changes location the right of way also changes. This matter can easily be looked up of record.

The fact is that the channel through the Jamul Ranch has changed its location over 500 feet in one particular instance, so you can imagine what value a 200-ft right of way is on some particular location if the river goes 300 feet off the right of way and fluctuates with the floods.

Now this Coronado Beach Co. deed is a cloud on Mr. Wilde's title to the land; is an injustice to him, and it is ridiculous for the Spreckels interests to go and record a deed from the Coronado Beach Co. after Wilde has been deeded the property and has a certificate of title showing that the property is free and clear in him name at the time the Coronado Beach Co's. deed was filed.

Another thing, the power alone purchased from the Gas Co. for the pumping of the Otay water cost \$3043.98 in the month of August, according to statement of Chas. Holzmann. The Operation & Maintenance and Depreciation cost must easily amount to \$4000 a month, and yet they have lost a month since the Wilde decision. The whole thing will take a year to a year and

a half to thresh out, and they are going to spend \$60,000 of the people's money the next year for pumping, when they had better pay Wilde up his \$18,000 judgment and put in the pipeline to Upper Otay in thirty days, so that all the water will come by gravity.

I am just sick at heart the way things are being run in this town, and it seems to me that yours is the only paper that dares to show it up.

Enclosed find criticism from even the evening Tribune of last night.

They have not included in this cost any overhead expenses whatsoever. Neither have they included the cost of the building of the sump and crib dam at Lower Otay, which will be abandoned as soon as they stop pumping, and which cost over \$2000, to say nothing of the value of their pipeline which they will have to take up. They do not even mention the \$10,000 that they paid out for the power line in order to get power, as well as a hundred different small items to numerous to mention.

Yours very truly,

F-S

Feb. 23, 1918

Mr. W. H. Porterfield,  
Editor "Sun,"  
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Mr. Porterfield:-

Please, without fail, read the telegrams as published in the Sun on Wednesday, sent by Cosgrove to the City Council, and compare them with his testimony before the Public Lands Committee. You will see that they don't jibe a little bit. Certainly strong emphasis should be brought on this point. He is simply playing horse with all of us: Anything to win.

Yours very truly,

EF/bm

September 16, 1918.

Mr. W. H. Porterfield,  
San Diego Sun,  
City.

My dear Porterfield:

I am enclosing herewith  
copy of letter I have written, under date of  
September 14th to City Manager F. M. Lockwood,  
and one to A. P. Johnson, Jr. Please do not  
make this public - simply for your information.

Yours very truly,

F-S

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

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

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

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.

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

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SAN DIEGO CALIF

PLACE MY NAME ON PETITION FOR WATER DISTRICT GOOD LUCK

W H PORTERFIELD.

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Mr. W. H. Porterfield,  
c/o The Sun,  
San Diego, California.

My dear Porterfield:

As you are aware, the business men of this city are forming a Community Welfare Council, with the idea of systematic support of the charities of this city thru the budget system. The funds will be apportioned to the organizations given on the enclosed list.

Approximately \$175,000 will be needed to properly maintain the twenty-one charities mentioned in this list.

I am a member of the committee soliciting funds for this purpose. The committee has arbitrarily determined upon the sum which they hope you can see your way clear to subscribe, the sum being \$400.00. It is our idea to raise the first \$100,000 from the large subscribers, and the balance in small amounts. It may be your wish to give more, or less. We hope you will be as liberal as you feel you can be.

I enclose subscription blank and would appreciate it if you would sign same and mail to me what subscription you feel that you can afford to give. In making this subscription to the Community Welfare Council, you are being relieved of the necessity of being called upon by any of the charities mentioned for further subscriptions. Many of the larger cities in the East have very successfully handled their charities in this way.

Hoping to have an early reply and for your hearty cooperation, I am

Very sincerely yours,

EF:KLM

LARGEST DAILY  
CIRCULATION OF  
ANY NEWSPAPER  
IN SAN DIEGO  
COUNTY.  
MEMBER A.B.C.

# The San Diego Sun

Established 1881

;- Community Chest Subscription;-

JAMES G. SCRIPPS  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD  
W. H. PORTERFIELD  
PRESIDENT  
GEO. H. THOMAS  
EDITOR  
W. S. DAYTON  
BUSINESS MANAGER

San Diego, California, Nov 30, 1920

Col. Ed. Fletcher,  
#820- Eighth street  
San Diego, Calif

Dear Ed;- Enclosed is my personal subscription to the San Diego Community Chest for 1921 for \$300 instead of \$400 as requested in assessment. But on the other hand I have instructed Mr Dayton to increase The Sun's subscription from the \$500 requested to \$600, making the combined subscription of The Sun and myself \$900 ~~xxxxxx~~ according to assessment made.

You see folks like you and me have to think of the church, Sunday School and our own private benevolences, while a corporation does not.

Wishing you all success in the drive, I am

Very Sincerely

*W. H. Porterfield*

January  
Twenty-four  
1922

Mr. W. H. Porterfield,  
1400 New York Avenue,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Porterfield:

As a member of the committee of the  
Community Welfare Council, your name has been  
assigned to me in the matter of the Community  
Chest subscription.

It is hardly necessary to explain the  
necessity of this welfare work, but it is being  
handled in a businesslike manner and everything is  
put on the budget system and a check kept by a  
responsible committee.

Your subscription last year was \$300.00.  
The committee asks that you increase it to \$500.00  
this year.

Hoping to get a favorable reply from  
you, I am

Sincerely yours,

EF:KLM

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Telegram	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired; OTHERWISE THE MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FULL-RATE TELEGRAM

# WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Form 1206

Receiver's No.

Check

Time Filed

Send the following message, subject to the terms  
on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

San Diego, Calif., June 24, 1922

Mr. W. H. Porterfield.  
1400 New York Ave.,  
Washington, D. C.

We are building Warner dam three hundred men at work. Earth dam and  
must be completed before next winter rains. Will hold when completed  
two hundred thousand acre feet of water. Vitally necessary in develop-  
ment of Northern San Diego County. We secured temporary permit to  
build power line across La Jolla Indian Reservation as we need immedi-  
ately five hundred horsepower electricity to expedite work. Practically  
completed when Indian agent revoked permit. Situation desperate. Must  
have temporary permit to proceed with construction power line first  
of week. Our people will put up reasonable bond for damages if desired.  
Urge you get immediate action on Indian Service to grant temporary  
permit.

ED FLETCHER

Chg Fletcher Co

ASSIGNMENT CARD—CONFIDENTIAL		ASSIGNED TO	TEAM
Porterfield, W H Mr & Mrs		<i>Fletcher</i>	
BUSINESS		PREVIOUSLY SECURED BY	
S D Sun 7th & C		Ed Fletcher	
HOME		CODE	REQUEST
4411 Hermosa Way		Sub-300	500.00
REMARKS			
INSTRUCTIONS TO SOLICITORS:—This card is your authority to solicit the above prospect. To prevent duplication you should solicit nobody without first securing his card. If you find a prospect whose name is not listed, requisition his name at campaign headquarters where a card will be issued to you. If unable to secure this subscription turn this card over to some other worker or return in daily report with reason. If subscription is secured destroy this card.			
REPORT			
SIGNATURE OF WORKER		TEAM NO.	

*Keep this  
for office copy*

October 21, 1924.

Mr. W. H. Porterfield,  
c/o San Diego Sun,  
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Hon:

You have asked me to give you the reasons why the city should not build El Capitan at this time. Following are the reasons, but I do not want to be quoted, as I am keeping out of the newspapers entirely, however, I can absolutely vouch for the accuracy of the following statements and will furnish proof, if desired.

The city has only a limited bonding margin of four or five millions of dollars. Assuming that they owned the El Capitan damsite and lands flooded, which they do not, it is unwise for the city to spend \$4,500,000 and use up all its bonding margin when it can get more water for less cost, without endless litigation by building Mission Gorge No. 3 dam. El Capitan may be built some time, but should come later. The city should build Mission Gorge No. 3 first.

Mr. Rhodes wrote the following letter to Mr. Savage under date of September 1, 1921:

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

Dear Sir:

In answer to your request of August 16th for estimated percentages of present and prospective water consumption at various levels in the city, I beg to submit the following:

ELEVATION ABOVE SEA LEVEL  
Present Consumption

100 feet	40%
150 "	60%
200 "	80%
250 "	95%
300 "	100%

"It is not anticipated that the consumption in the business district will increase materially within the next ten years. An estimate of the probable increase in consumption follows:

ELEVATION BELOW RESERVOIR SURFACE

100 feet	30%
150 "	45%
200 "	70%
250 "	90%
300 "	100%

"The water supply from Lake Hodges has not been considered in the above estimate.

"Trusting this information will be of benefit to you, I am

Very truly yours,  
F. A. RHODES  
Manager of Operations"

The above shows that any water developed from Mission Gorge No. 3 can flow by gravity into the city for the lower levels under pressure, without pumping, and in time of emergency the Mission Valley pumping plants are there in any event to pump water into the high levels, a pumping plant already installed in Mission Valley, and which can be used either to pump water out of the sands, or to pump Mission No. 3 water into University Heights Reservoir, at an additional expense of not to exceed 2 or 3 cents a thousand gallons.

In other words, all of Mission Gorge No. 3 water can be used for the lower levels of the city without pumping, for the top contour of Mission No. 3 will be 330 feet above sea level. It will hold 15 billion gallons, as much as Otay, Morena or Barrett, and while the bottom of the reservoir is only 100 feet above sea level, three-fourths of all the water will be between the 250 and 330 ft. contour, under pressure to the city.

The highest dam in the world is the Arrowrock Dam, 315 feet high, a single arch type, built by the United States Government. This is the ideal type for Mission Gorge No. 3 only 230 feet high and plans for a single arch dam have been made by Mr. Jorgensen. We have the approval of state authorities, and the dam can be built for \$1,280,000, to the 330 ft. contour. General Goethals has also approved this type of dam for No. 3.



A multiple arch type of dam could be built there for about \$800,000, approved by state authorities to the 330 ft. contour, or a gravity arch type of dam, as per plans and specifications made by O'Shaughnessy, who recommends Mission Gorge Site No. 3 as the logical site for the city to build on on the San Diego River, could be built for \$2,400,000, and a rock fill dam for approximately \$1,900,000.

In fact, the following engineers have approved Mission Gorge No. 3 as the logical place for the city to build: H. M. O'Shaughnessy; Francis L. Sellow, former U. S. Reclamation Service Engineer; W. C. Earle, former city engineer of San Diego; W. F. McClure, state engineer of California; F. M. Faude, hydraulic engineer for the State Railroad Commission and T. H. King, chief engineer of La Mesa Irrigation District.

Assuming that we put a gravity arch type of dam there at No. 3, costing \$2,400,000, to the 330 ft. contour. It would flood only 1400 acres, which is less evaporation surface for the amount of water stored than either Barrett, Otay, or Morena. The 1400 and some odd acres can be easily purchased or condemned for \$700,000 or \$800,000. The pipe line to the city, connecting up with the city's mains at Old Town, can be built for \$600,000 or \$700,000, making a total cost of \$3,500,000 to \$4,000,000 for a gravity arch type. \$2,500,000 to \$3,000,000 for a single arch type and around \$2,000,000 for a multiple arch type of dam --- with a net safe yield of between 5 and 6 million gallons daily, during the 7 dryest years of record, and between 7 and 8 million gallons of water daily based on the run-off for the last 20-year period.

Mission Gorge No. 3 also has the advantage of being close to the city, with no riparian owners below to contend with and the least complications on the river to contend with.

It has an additional 240 square miles of watershed as compared to El Capitan, which is invaluable. In other words, there are 240 square miles of watershed below El Capitan dam that would flow into No. 3.

I am unalterably opposed to Mission Gorge No. 2 for the reason that the reservoir lands alone will cost \$2,000,000 to acquire, as compared to \$700,000 or \$800,000 for No. 3.

No. 2 built to the 360 ft. contour would flood nearly 4,000 acres of our best valley lands for taxable purposes, as against 1400 acres for No. 3, of which 1400 acres only 700 or 800 are good valley land.

No. 2 would wipe out the town of Santee, even if built to the 360 ft. contour, and practically all of the land in No. 2 would be forever lost for taxable purposes to the county -- but, the worst and vital feature is that No. 2 built to the 360 foot contour has a net safe yield, during the 7 dryest years of record of only 5 million gallons a day, and owing to the extreme

evaporation surface, exposed, there would be a perpetual loss of an additional 2 million gallons of water a day if No. 2 were built, which would be saved if caught by the building of No. 3 now, and later on thru the construction possibly at El Capitan or San Vicente.

In other words, when our limit of water supply is reached, we will have 20,000 people less in San Diego if No. 2 is built, as compared to eliminating No. 2 and conserving the water elsewhere, and all owing to the stupendous evaporation loss of No. 2, an extraordinary exposed, shallow pond.

By building at No. 3 we will keep within our bonding margin without straining our credit, and develop the cheapest water in San Diego County.

The cost of Mission No. 3 water, if a multiple arch or radial cone type of dam is built, is between 5 and 6 cents a thousand gallons delivered at the city limits. If a single arch type of dam is built in Mission Gorge No. 3, the cost will be between 6 and 7 cents. If a gravity arch type of dam is built, the cost will be between 8 and 9 cents. The above is approximate, but if you would like to have the actual figures, I will have my engineer make a complete report in relation thereto.

Now regarding El Capitan: Mr. Savage has shown in his report that the water costs approximately 17 cents a thousand gallons - anything developed at El Capitan. Let posterity develop this expensive water later! El Capitan will be built some day, but why make the same mistake that we made before-in purchasing the Spreckels system we developed the most expensive water in San Diego County first. The lowest estimate of cost made by the city officials, according to my understanding is something like 19 cents a thousand gallons, delivered at the city limits, while Mr. Earle, former city engineer of San Diego, made the cost 27 cents, according to my recollection.

However, the following complications are going to arise, and the citizens of San Diego, as well as the city council, do not appreciate what the real situation is. Here are some of the facts:

That the Cuyamaca Water Company now owns and the La Mesa Irrigation District will be its successor to the ownership of the land on which El Capitan dam will be built.

That the district will own approximately a mile of lands within the reservoir site that will be flooded.

That by building the dam South fork and Chocolate siphons,

which the district will own, will be flooded 100 feet deep with water and costing the city at least \$150,000 to build conduits around to bring our water from Cuyamaca Lake to the district.

That it will cut off our underground supply of water at El Monte pumping plant, from which the Cuyamaca Company has been pumping approximately 3 million gallons daily for the last six months and which pumping plants have been in operation for the last 20 years, as needed as an auxiliary supply to the Cuyamaca System.

That the City of San Diego cannot condemn property belonging to the district, without the district's consent.

That by building the dam, over one-third of the supply of water to the district would be cut off, for the net safe yield of the El Monte pumping plants is 4 million gallons daily and can be increased in emergency to 6 or 7 million gallons daily.

That the city will have to pay the United States Government nearly \$400,000 to remove the Indians before the Indian lands can be flooded.

That 6 miles of county highway will be flooded and the city will have to spend at least \$100,000 to build a public highway along the mountainside to take the place of the present road.

That all the riparian owners on the river below must first be taken care of in accordance with the Act of Congress, Senate Bill No. 3646, which reads: "Sec. 2 ---That no private right, title, interest or claim of any person, persons, or corporation in or to any such lands shall be interfered with or abridged, except with the consent of the owner or owners, or claimant or claimants thereof, or by due process of law and just compensation paid to such owner or claimant."

Section 5 of the Bill says, in part -- "That said reservoir, when constructed, shall be --- for the use and benefit of riparian owners along the San Diego River below the lands herein described, and for the benefit of persons, corporations, or municipalities situated along or adjacent to the pipe lines of said city of San Diego for the conservation and storage of water for irrigation, domestic or municipal uses."

Section 6 says -- "That this Act is a grant upon certain express conditions specifically set forth herein, and nothing herein contained shall be construed as affecting or intending to affect or in any way to be construed as affecting or intending to affect or in any way to interfere with the laws of the State of California relating to the control, appropriation, use, or distribution of water used in irrigation or for municipal or other uses or any vested rights acquired thereunder, and the Secretary of the Interior and the city of San Diego in carrying out the provisions of this Act shall proceed in conformity with the laws of said State."

In conformity with the laws of the State of California, the Cuyamaca Water Company has filed on the waters of the San Diego River, has been in undisturbed and undisputed possession for 30 or 40 years and under the laws of the State of California, the State Water Commission has recognized the water filings of the Cuyamaca Water Company and issued a certificate of due diligence, authorizing the construction of Fletcher dam and giving 5 years in which to complete the construction of said dam after all litigation with the city of San Diego shall have ceased.

On November 7th, in my opinion, the district will vote 3 to 1 in favor of buying the Cuyamaca System. The city must recognize and arrange for a compromise with the district, or there will be endless litigation for the next 8 or 10 years with the city doing nothing on the San Diego River, for the district means business and proposes to protect its rights.

I do hope that the Sun can see its way clear to oppose the issuance of \$4,500,000 bonds for El Capitan for the best interest of the city, and if it cannot consistently oppose it, at least remain neutral.

It is true that No. 2 is a poor compromise. I think your policy was bad in ever coming out in favor of No. 2 at all. You can get more water for less money at No. 3 than at No. 2. There is only 30 feet difference in surface elevation when both dams are full, but two vital things in favor of No. 3 are the saving for taxable purposes, in perpetuity, that 3,000 acres of valley land and the saving of 2 million gallons of water daily - every day of the year - that will be lost in evaporation at No. 2 as compared to building at any other point on the river.

I invite you to put any questions to me that you desire where you are not clear on this subject.

As you know, the Fletcher damsite is up at the diverting dam. It only lessens the net safe yield of El Capitan 1.1 million gallons daily when built, as compared to the present diversions of the Cuyamaca System. Mr. King's report covering same is herewith attached, and I plead with you to go the limit in bringing about a compromise between the city and the La Mesa District immediately, whereby the La Mesa district is allowed to build Fletcher dam and protect its own water supply, the city buy El Capitan damsite and interests of the district both in Mission Gorge No. 3 and El Capitan, and an equitable division of the waters between the city and the district.

I know the temper of the people between here and La Mesa, and if an equitable settlement is not made, it means not alone endless litigation but retards the growth of Greater San Diego for many years to come. La Mesa should, and will, in

-7-

the next ten or fifteen years, in my opinion, naturally become a part of the city by fair dealing.

Excuse this long letter, but I have tried to give you my impressions as I see them.

Yours very sincerely,

ED FLETCHER

EF:KIM

**Ed Fletcher Papers**

**1870-1955**

**MSS.81**

**Box: 21 Folder: 25**

**General Correspondence - Porterfield, W.H.**



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