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RECORD OF MATERIALS REMOVED FROM THIS FILE

The materials described below have been removed from this file
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Collection # MSS 81

Box 34

Folder 26

Description of
materials: ORIGINAL OF THIS LETTER

SEC TO PRINCE OF WALES TO FLETCHER

Removed to: MSS RESTRICTED FILE

Processor: G. Mc CLURKAN Date of Removal: JUNE 91



March 31st, 1921.

ST JAMES PALACE S.W.

Sir,

I am desired by the Prince of Wales to
acknowledge your letter of March the 15th, enclosing
a photograph of your family, and to thank you for the
good wishes you express.

His Royal Highness has very pleasant memories
of his visit to San Diego; he is glad to hear that
you are getting over your accident, and I am to
send you the enclosed photograph with his best
wishes.

Yours faithfully,

Asst. Private Secretary.

E. Fletcher, Esqre.,

Col. Fletcher's Offer ¹⁹³⁶

It was the old time Ed Fletcher whom we all know and admire that made that unusual offer of an estate, free of charge, to David Windsor, ex-king of England.

In the first place it was bona fide and generous. In the second place, even if the offer isn't accepted, it got a mighty fancy advertisement in most of the American daily newspapers free of charge.

Any man, looking for a home in the west, who reads that offer, will note what it says about its proximity to a highway and the easy availability of electricity and water. It overlooks a valley—in fact the offer reads like a booster folder. We wonder if it won't really tempt the ex-king.

Assuming that this story made page one in five hundred newspapers and an inside page in five hundred more we'd estimate the total cost at display rates at \$15,000 or more—all for the price of a cablegram to London.

Knowing the Colonel as we do we know that he would just as gladly offer that land to homeless working people. In fact he has made some such offer in times past. But had he repeated that offer now the story would not have gone outside southern California. But when it is made to a king—that's a case of the man biting the dog, or something.

Leave it to the Colonel to think of these things. San Diego would be a mighty dull place without him.

Fletcher Offers 500-Acre S. D. Estate ^{12/13/36} To Former King for Permanent Home

Autographed Photo



Autographed photo of David Windsor, abdicated king of England, sent to State Sen. Ed Fletcher by the former monarch in 1921, when he was H. R. H. Edward, Prince of Wales, and in appreciation of courtesies extended to him by Col. Fletcher during his visit to San Diego in that year.

Royal Visitor of 1921 Loved City; May Be Resident on Site Near El Cajon Valley.

Offer to give England's former King Edward VIII a 500-acre country estate on Highway 80, 20 miles east of the city and overlooking from its oak-dotted heights the El Cajon valley, the sea and the mountains, was radiogramed yesterday by Sen. Ed Fletcher, who first met the former ruler when he visited San Diego as the Prince of Wales in 1921.

In his message, addressed to David Windsor, Ft. Belvedere, London, England, Senator Fletcher said:

"Congratulations and much admiration for your splendid radio address. I remember your enthusiasm for southern California, particularly San Diego county, during your visit in 1921. We would heartily welcome you as one of our residents. We make you a definite offer with clear title to a 500-acre estate adjacent to our national highway, overlooking El Cajon valley, 20 miles from San Diego. It is ideally located with oak trees, vista of ocean, mountains and valley, (Continued on Page 8, Col. 1)

FLETCHER OFFERS EDWARD ESTATE

(Continued from Page 1)

with water supply and electricity available. Nothing would make San Diego city and county happier than to have you with us. An early and favorable reply will be gratefully appreciated. Kindest regards.

"ED FLETCHER."

For 15 years Senator Fletcher has cherished an autographed photo of the former king, sent to him by Edward, then Prince of Wales, following his visit to San Diego in 1921, and in appreciation of hospitality extended him by Senator Fletcher at that time. A personal letter came with the photograph.

Ed Fletcher Papers

1870-1955

MSS.81

Box: 34 Folder: 26

General Correspondence - Windsor, Edward, Duke of



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