

5 October 1921

Judge J. H. Westover,
Yuma, Arizona.

My dear Judge:

Thanks for your telegram of the 3d.

Please send me over a number of copies of the newspaper notices asking for bids, and I will take it up in San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego and see what can be done.

It is going to be easier for me to assist you in raising the bonus than it is to get bankers to buy. Have you any idea what your Arizona bankers or bond houses will pay for these bonds? About what value do they place on them, and how much money would have to be raised by private subscription per thousand, in order to make up the deficit, and have the bonds sold at par?

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

EF:KLM

SUN PRINTING COMPANY

Morning Sun

Covers Yuma Project
Like a Blanket

Weekly Sun

High Grade Printing
and Binding

J. H. WESTOVER,
Pres. and Mgr.

Yuma, Arizona, October 7th. 1921.

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

Dear Sir:--

Colonel Fly has written you in regard to the sale of Yuma county bonds allocated to the Yuma-Phoenix-Ajo road. I want to emphasize the fact that if these bonds are not sold at this offering that it will probably be six months or a year before we can induce the board of supervisors to readvertise them. When offered some six months or more ago the board received a bid of 92. The bond market has improved since that time and we ought to get a better bid this time.

The board of supervisors were not anxious to advertise them for sale at this time and the farming community is afraid of increased taxes. It took all of the pressure that we could bring to bear and much argument to induce them to advertise the bonds for sale.

If you desire our Chamber of Commerce will send Colonel Fly and one other member over to San Diego to meet with you people and see what can be done and just about how much money will have to be raised. There is small possibility of raising any money here for that purpose as we are suffering greatly from the slump in the price of farm products.

I do not believe that the Northern part of the county will make any effort to sell there bonds or the bonds allocated to them. If we, however, should attempt to sell our bonds, that is, the bonds allocated to the Yuma Phoenix-Ajo road, they would if we accepted a bid below par injoin us.

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J. H. WESTOVER,
Pres. and Mgr.

Page No. 2.

Yuma, Arizona.

In other words, the Northern part of the county which is now getting most of the coast travel does not want us to build this road. So you can see the importance of going to the supervisors with a par bid.

You will advise us what you want us to do and if you want a committee to come to San Diego fix the date.

Respectfully,



10 October 1921

Mr. J. H. Westover,
Sun Printing Company,
Yuma, Arizona.

My dear Mr. Westover:

Answering yours of the 7th, will say I want to see enough bonds sold, even if it is only \$50,000 worth - enough to put the road from Stovall to the Pima County line. San Diego wants paved roads, the one to Phoenix and the one to Ajo, but our best hope is to get the Ajo road at least passable for travel.

It is our intention to raise sufficient funds so that the bonds can be bought in at par. What I want to know is, First - do you think the supervisors will sell \$50,000 worth of bonds at par, on the understanding that the money is used on the road between Stovall and the Pima County Line. Second - can you not give us some idea as to what price the bonds will sell at, if purchased by bond purchasers in Arizona? Third - if they will not sell \$50,000 worth of bonds, what is the least amount they will sell at par, the understanding being that we make up the difference by private subscription.

All plans are made for A. B. Fletcher, the chief engineer of the State Highway Commission and myself to be at Yuma on the 22d or 23d of October, and the matter can be finally determined at that time, but I would like to hear from you by return mail.

Sincerely yours,

EF:KLM

Start
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J. H. WESTOVER,
Pres. and Mgr.

Yuma, Arizona, October 13, 1921.

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

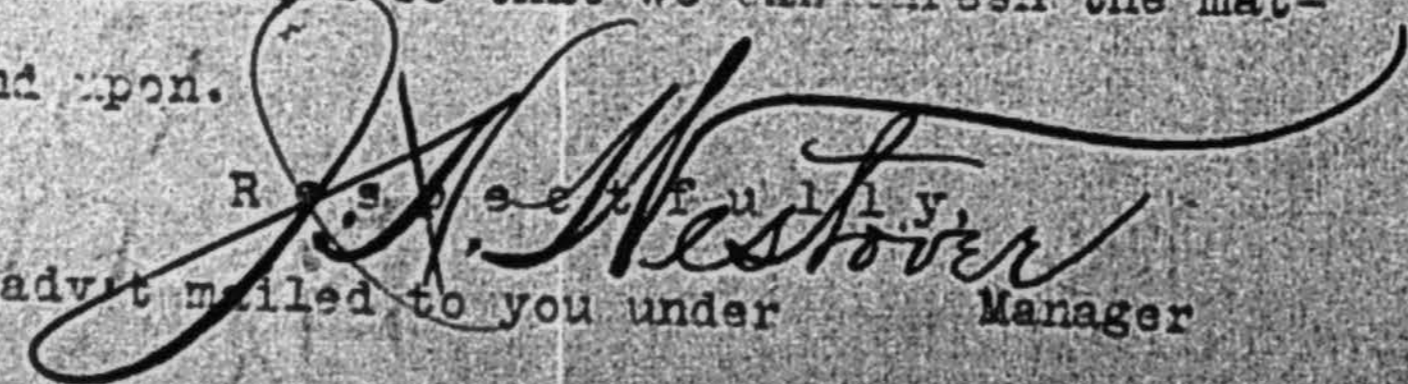
Dear Mr. Fletcher:--

In response to your letter of several days ago about the bond sale.--

The last bid on the Yuma County Highway Bonds when they were offered six months ago was 92 cents. No bids were received from Arizona banks or monied interests. These bids came from Denver, Cincinnati and Chicago. I doubt very much that the board will consider any bid of less than par or 100 %. They will not sell a part of bonds allocated to the Yuma-Phoenix-Ajo road. We must sell that entire \$250,000 and it will be necessary to be in position to make good the difference between the bid price and the par value if the sale is to be effected. I have no idea what the bid will be. The bid ought to be better than 95 cents on the dollar. Really, for the improvement in the bond market, we ought to get a bid of 97 cents. These are the cold blooded facts. There is considerable opposition here against making a sale of these bonds and not selling the other part of the issue. This opposition comes from the Northern part of the county and from the valley farmers.

Be sure and come over at the time indicated so that we can thresh the matter out and know what we may depend upon.

Respectfully,



Manager

Copy of paper containing bond sale advt mailed to you under separate cover.

November 16, 1921.

Mr. J. H. Westover,
Yuma, Arizona.

My dear Mr. Westover:

You don't know what a desperate struggle we had to raise \$8500 to send over to Yuma. If you haven't already done so, your Chamber of Commerce ought to pass a resolution thanking the Chamber of Commerce for this. Write and let me know if everything is o.k. and when the money will be available.

With kind regards,

Very sincerely yours,

EF:AH

SUN PRINTING COMPANY

Morning Sun

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High Grade Printing
and Binding

J. H. WESTOVER,
Pres. and Mgr.

Yuma, Arizona, November 18, 1921.

Colonel Ed. Fletcher
San Diego, California.

Dear Colonel:—

You did not have any harder time in raising the \$3,500.00 in San Diego than we had to raise \$4,500.00 in Yuma. The bonds have been sold and the matter is now in the hands of the attorneys for bond house. As soon as the matter is officially passed on, we get the money I will advise you.

When it came to the point of selling the bonds we found that we had to have the actual cash here in order to complete the deal. A bunch of us borrowed San Diego's quote from the four local banks, putting up as security the pledge of the San Diego Chamber of Commerce and personally guaranteeing its payment. We also had to make up \$100.00 deficiency in Imperial county's quote. We also had to guarantee the attorney's fee and we have collected about \$1,000.00 with which to pay that. So instead of raising only \$2,800.00 we actually raised \$4,500.00 and think we will have sufficient to pay everything including \$200.00 expense money in sending representatives to San Diego and Imperial valley.

If the attorneys pass on the bond matter satisfactorially the money ought to be here within the next thirty days, by January 1st. at the farthest. The bonds are being printed at the cost of the county by order, of

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J. H. WESTOVER,
Pres. and Mgr.

Page No. 2.

Yuma, Arizona.

the board of supervisors. We can do nothing in the matter of actual constructing until the money is in the bank at Yuma.

Pima county is not coming through, apparently with its end of the Ajo road. Some of them want to build to Gila Bend instead of to the Yuma county line.

As soon as the bond money is ready will advise you and think it would be a good idea to call a meeting to be held at Yuma of representatives of the Chambers of Commerce and the highway commissions from San Diego, Imperial valley, Yuma and Pima counties, so that we could talk matters over and see that we have a concrete program.

Resolutions of thanks to the Chamber of Commerce of San Diego and Imperial county have gone forward several days ago.

With regards I am,

Respectfully,



November Twenty-one
Nineteen Twenty-one

Mr. J. H. Westover,
Yuma, Arizona.

My dear Mr. Westover:

Answering yours of the 18th, I thank you for same. You certainly did your part.

The whole fight in Pima County is the question of going to Gila Bend or going direct to Stovall. What we want are results - quick action. I do hope that they can settle their troubles in Tucson quickly as to the route and get busy.

Can you give me an expression of opinion as to what Yuma county is going to insist upon. I assume that you want to go direct to Ajo, if possible, but as a compromise, if it cannot be done, then meet them at Gila Bend. The only danger there is that Maricopa will not fix up that road between Ajo and Gila Bend, but will always keep it in bad shape trying to divert the travel the other way. It is a mess I don't know how to solve, and in a way it is not up to us to butt in.

I would like to hear from you on this subject as the fight is on between Phoenix, Tucson and Ajo on the matter at the present time.

Yours sincerely,

EF:KLM

Sun Printing Company

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Weekly Sun

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AND BINDING

J. H. WESTOVER
PRES. AND MGR.

YUMA, ARIZONA August 5, 1922

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

Dear Colonel:--

In response to your query about Maddox, J. Homer Smith and I met his party as soon as they got in and had a long confab with Maddox. He was very cordial and said that he thought he would be able to advertise for bids for the construction of the state highway from Wellton to Aztec by the 1st. of September. His stop here resulted in some good. Clipping enclosed. With regards I am,

Respectfully,

J. H. Westover

230.7

MADDOCK ABOUT READY TO LET ROAD CONTRACT

State Engineer Expects
Highway To Maricopa
To Be Started In Fall.

Tom Maddock, state highway engineer, accompanied by Mrs. Maddock, arrived in Yuma Sunday night from San Diego, having made the trip over in Colonel Ed Fletcher's car. They remained in Yuma until 1:40 a. m. and took the train for Phoenix. While here Mr. Maddock had a long talk on the progress of the construction of the Yuma-to-Phoenix highway with J. Horn Smith, chairman of the Yuma county highway commission, and J. H. Westover, president of the Yuma Chamber of Commerce. He stated that he would be ready to let contracts for this work about the first of September and that the work ought to be completed to the Maricopa county line by spring.

Linn Shaw, of Imperial county, who is a candidate for sheriff in that county, accompanied Mr. Maddock from El Centro to Yuma, leaving at 11 o'clock with the Fletcher car for El Centro.

August 10, 1922.

Judge J. H. Westover, Pres.,
Chamber of Commerce,
Yuma, Arizona.

My dear Judge Westover:

Don't you think it is the thing to do to have you be sent all over the State of Arizona campaigning against this \$2,500,000 bond issue? Don't you think it would be a mistake for me to come out publicly in any of the papers in Arizona opposing it? It might re-act against us to have an outsider butt in. What do you think of it if all the Chambers of Commerce of San Diego and Imperial counties joined in a circular letter protesting against the building of the highway to Ehrenberg?

With kind personal regards,

Very sincerely yours,

EF:AH

News

Sun Printing Company



YUMA, ARIZONA August 12, 1922.

Colonel Ed Fletcher
920 Eighth Street
San Diego, California.

Dear Colonel:—

The initiative measure proposing a bond issue for \$2,500,000 to build a road from Buckeye, Arizona to Ehrenberg, the cross to Blythe goes on the November ballot and not the primary election ballot of September 12 election. So we will have two months time to campaign against this measure after our primary is over. Our Chamber of Commerce has passed resolutions against this measure and has sent a copy to every chamber of commerce and newspaper in the state as well as to all other civic organizations. Many other chambers of commerce are following our lead. We feel that we will be able to defeat this measure without difficulty as the opposition to it is great.

I doubt the propriety of the San Diego Chambers and the Imperial Valley Chambers taking any active hand in the matter or for you to make protest against the enactment of this law by the people of Arizona. Would suggest however that a letter from the San Diego Chamber and the Imperial Valley Chamber or yourself to all of the Chamber's of Commerce of Arizona and all of our newspapers stating that the paved road to Yuma would be completed this coming winter, without mentioning the bond issue at all, might have a good moral effect.

Sun Printing Company



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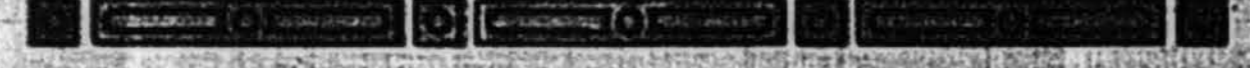
YUMA, ARIZONA

As to my campaigning over the state against the bond issue, making speeches before chambers of commerce etc., that matter need not be determined until after our primary. I do not know that I could spare the time from my business, but will see when the time comes. The urgency of the matter will have something to do with the that kind of program. I have a kind of business that it is hard to leave, but we will see. With kindest regards I am,

Respectfully,

230-2a

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Morning Sun
COVERS YUMA PROJECT LIKE A BLANKET
Weekly Sun
HIGH GRADE PRINTING AND BINDING

J. H. WESTOVER
PRES. AND MGR.

YUMA, ARIZONA August 16, 1922

Colonel Ed. Fletcher
920 Eight Street
San Diego, California.

Dear Sir:—

In reponse to your recent letter I am mailing to you copy of the Arizona Blue Book of 1922—in which you will find a list of all of the Commercial organizations in the state and also a list of all of the Newspapers published in the state. This will serve your purpose in sending out the resolution or letter of which I spoke in my former letter. I have no fear of this bond issue carrying in the general election but it is well enough to take all precautions.

Very Respectfully,

J. H. Westover
Manager.

2 1/2 - 2 1/2

October 18, 1922

File 230-2A

Judge J. H. Westover,
Yuma, Arizona.

My dear Judge:

What is being done toward the campaign to kill the bonds, Hassayampa to Ehrenburg and what expense are you going to, and what are your plans? We are willing to dig up part of the money to help in the campaign.

Let me hear from you, please, by return mail.

Yours sincerely,

EF:KIM

October
Twenty-Four
1922

230-2A

Judge J. H. Westover,
Yuma Chamber of Commerce,
Yuma, Arizona.

My dear Judge Westover:

Answering yours of the 20th, will
say I have instructed the Chamber of Commerce to
send you \$250.

Keep me posted on how things are
going. I am leaving today for San Francisco,
but if you do not kill that two and a half million
dollar bond issue to Ehrenburg, I am coming over
there and lick you within an inch of your life.
I hope to see you over there before election day.

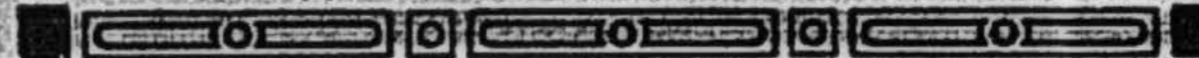
With kind regards, I am

Yours very truly,

EF:M:H

230-2

Sun Printing Company



Morning Sun
Weekly Sun

J. H. WESTOVER
PRES. AND MGR.

YUMA, ARIZONA October 20, 1922

Colonel Ed Fletcher
920 Eighth Street
San Diego, California.

Dear Colonel:—

I have just returned from Tucson where, in company
with Bert Caurdry, attending a meeting of representatives from the Southern
part of the state called to devise ways and means of defeating the \$2,500,000
bond issue for the Ehrenberg road. I find your two letters on my desk on my
return. Now we adopted some pretty strong resolutions at Tucson and will
have them published in every county in the state, i. e. in every daily
newspaper in the state. We also ordered two 40" advertisements written to
be run in two issue of all of the newspapers of the state the week before
the election. The cost of this advertising campaign will be about \$1,500.00.
The various chambers of commerce in the counties will finance ~~in~~ the adver-
tising in their own county. We will have to pay for our advertising in
Maricopa, Gila and Greenlee, as we do not expect much from them. That is we
will have to pay for the advertising out of a general fund which will
have to be contributed by individuals or by the various chambers of commerce.

Notice that you will help to bear the expenses of this campaign. If you
will send me a check for a substantial contribution I will see that it goes
where it will do the most good.

We did not think it advisable to have San Diego or Imperial valley attend
this meeting as they are outsiders in this matter and it might have provoked
criticism.

P. O. BOX
346

The Great Yuma Project

THE

Yuma Chamber of Commerce

TELEPHONE
216-W

HEADQUARTERS, ROOMS 2 AND 4 SHIELDS BUILDING
321 MAIN STREET

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A. J. Eddy
J. H. Westover
J. Homer Smith
Bert Caudry
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C. H. Kent

Ways and Means
Bert Caudry, Chairman
T. L. Lane
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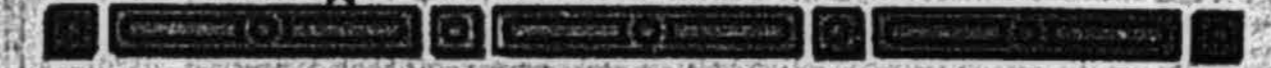
If the proponents of the bond issue put on a speaking campaign during the last ten days of the fight we will have to do so also and that will be quite expensive. We can not see what the other people are doing and really don't know what their plans are but, we hear from them in an underground way from time to time.

If you can make us a contribution for expenses send it at once as the time until the election is short.

I will send you a copy of The Morning Sun with marked copy of resolutions and will keep you advised of the progress of the fight.

Respectfully,
J. H. Westover
Manager.

Sun Printing Company



Morning Sun
Weekly Sun

COVERS YUMA PROJECT
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HIGH GRADE PRINTING
AND BINDING

J. H. WESTOVER
PRES. AND MGR.

YUMA, ARIZONA November 14, 1922

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

Dear Colonel:--

I have faith, yet, that when the official count of the vote cast in the recent election is made next Monday, that it will be found that we have defeted the two and a half million bond issue by from 500 to 1,000 votes. I believe this from what I know about the vote cast in various counties and in spite of the Phoenix claims.

The Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce delegation and the Phoenix bunch had a great celebration when the Los Angeles representatives reached there last week. They said we gave them the greatest reception that they had ever had. However, the went on to Phoenix and put on a big dance with Phoenix.

If it should turn out that we are beaten on the face of the returns then I think we had better have a recount, at least, of the entire state. I am of the opnion personally that there was fraud in Maricopa county. Also that we will gain several hundred votes around over the state.

If they beat us on the recount we can law them over the constitutionality of the putting over the proposition the way it was done. There are some grave legal questions which we can raise. All of this can be done later and I will keep you advised of the matter as we proceed and we will call on you for help if needed.

Respectfully,
J. H. Westover

2302A

November
SEVENTEEN
1922

Judge J. H. Westover,
Yuma, Arizona.

My dear Judge:

I thank you kindly for your letter of the 14th, and glad to know that things are looking so much better for us.

Enclosed find copy of letter from W. W. Patch, in answer to Mr. McStay, of the Automobile Club, lie, that is explanatory.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

EF:KLM

Ed Fletcher Papers

1870-1955

MSS.81

Box: 33 Folder: 22

General Correspondence - Westover, Judge J.H.



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