

September 13, 1923.

Mr. Sam Porter,  
San Diego Hotel,  
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Sam!

This is probably the last time I am going to ask you for money on national highway work.

I have been, within the last two weeks, over to Arizona on business and while there went over the road situation. Phoenix has been industriously working for a direct highway to Blythe marked in red. A bunch of public spirited citizens of Southern Arizona are determined to outwit Phoenix at her own game and they have prepared a map similar to the one herewith enclosed.

Enclosed herewith find copy of letter from Mr. Hunt that is explanatory. This money must be raised. I am giving \$100 myself toward this expense and ask that you send me \$25 to \$50 for the good of the cause to complete the building of the road Gila Bend to Casa Grande along the Southern Pacific Railroad. It is practically as short a route as the Ajo, and is more attractive to the Eastern tourists on account of its following the Southern Pacific Railroad the entire distance. It gives them a safer feeling.

The highway is already built in good shape from El Paso via Lordsburg to Douglas, Tombstone and Casa Grande. It is all built and in good condition from El Paso via Globe and Superior to Casa Grande. It is already completed or under contract from Gila Bend to Yuma, a magnificent highway, which I went over the other day. The connecting link between Gila Bend and Casa Grande is mostly in Maricopa County, dominated by Phoenix, with the result that not one dollar will be spent by Maricopa supervisors to build the Gila Bend, Maricopa Casa Grande road and it all must be done by private subscription.

San Diego will then get its share of the travel without a doubt, when the road is built, and this is the best money we can ever spend.



Our activities in helping Southern Arizona get a highway direct to Yuma have borne wonderful results. We have many friends and the San Diego & Arizona Railroad is getting a tremendous benefit on account of the friendliness of Southern Arizona toward San Diego.

This money must be raised immediately. We propose to have the work completed in 90 days and I hope to have a check from you by return mail for whatever you can afford to give, made payable to J. E. Franklin, President of the Yuma National Bank, who is custodian of the funds.

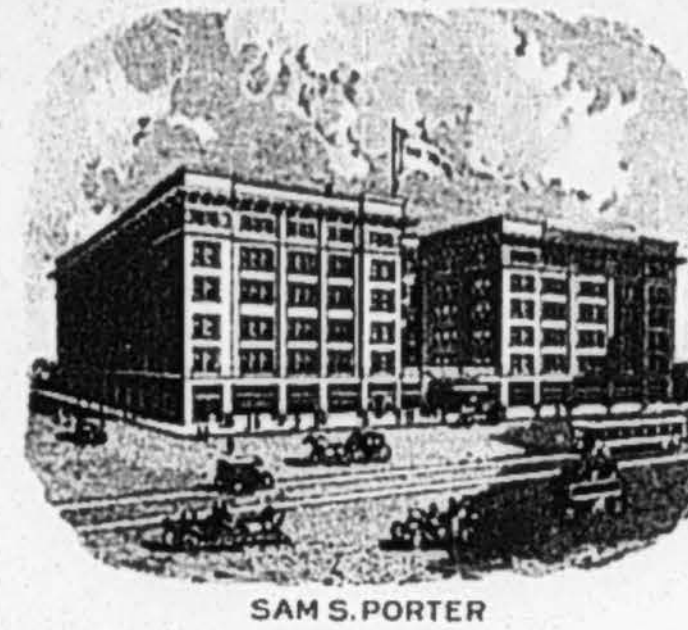
With the completion of a good passable road San Diego to El Paso, my highway work is completed.

I want to thank you for the hearty cooperation I have received from you in the past. Our work is bearing fruit. Nearly 100 machines a day are coming thru Yuma now to El Centro. With the work completed you will soon see three to five hundred machines a day coming thru Yuma to the coast. This is the number of machines that are now coming thru Needles and by Barstow. The Chamber of Commerce should immediately take steps to put up proper signs at advantageous points between Holtville and Phoenix and all the way to El Paso, telling of the advantages of San Diego.

I am Thanking you again for your kind cooperation,

Sincerely yours,

EF:KLM



SAN DIEGO, CALIF. Sept. 14th, '23. 192

Colonel Ed Fletcher,  
Fletcher Bldg.,  
San Diego, California.

My dear Colonel:-

Your good letter of Sept. 13th, with enclosure, read with interest, and I am today mailing Franklin a check for Fifty Dollars. Wish it could be more for this worthy cause, but it is all that can be afforded now.

What would the country do without you? You are certainly helping everybody everywhere, and monuments are found all over this southwestern country, results of your aggressiveness and progressiveness.

With kindest regards and all best wishes for your continued good health and deserved success, believe me, as ever,

Yours very sincerely,

*James*  
THE SAN DIEGO HOTEL.



September 18, 1923.

My dear Sam:

I appreciate your letter of the 14th more than  
I can say. "Nuf sed".

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Sam Porter,  
San Diego Hotel,  
San Diego, California.

**Ed Fletcher Papers**

**1870-1955**

**MSS.81**

**Box: 21 Folder: 24**

**General Correspondence - Porter, Sam**



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