

July Ninth,  
1 9 2 9

Mrs. Edith Williams,  
"Hilltop"  
California Hot Springs,  
Tulare County, California.

My dear Mrs. Williams:

Answering yours of July third will say I made a price of a million dollars on the property. It is worth that if it is worth a nickel.

My advice would be to hold it at a million dollars any way and let's see what kind of an offer we can get. I will go after my party again and try and get a definite offer.

Am leaving in fifteen minutes for Los Angeles on important business.

It was a pleasure to have you with us, if only for a short visit.

Don't you, under any conditions give up your San Diego residence is the prayer of your many friends including the Fletcher family.

I will go the limit to see what I can do about selling the springs.

With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

EF:AK

August Ninth,  
1 9 2 9

Mrs. Edith Williams,  
California Hot Springs,  
Hotel Porterville, Calif.

My dear Mrs. Williams:

I suggest that under a classified ad you place an ad in the San Francisco and Los Angeles papers reading something as follows:

**FOR SALE BY OWNER**

One of California's most famous Hot springs completely equipped, located by automobile seven hours from Los Angeles and nine from San Francisco. This property has remarkable opportunity for development. Comprises \_\_\_\_\_ acres, controls splendid stream of water ideal for both resort and sanitorium. Good hotel, \_\_\_\_\_ rooms, \_\_\_\_\_ cottages swimming pool, store, garage among pines and oaks, elevation \_\_\_\_\_ feet, splendid highway facilities, etc. Easy terms to responsible party. For further information write box \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ paper.

The above is just a suggestion for your consideration.

I want you to know that I will leave no stone unturned in disposing of your property. Don't hesitate to call on me if and when you think I can be of service.

Anything I do for you will be a pleasure and without charge.

Sincerely your friend,

EF:AK

PORTERVILLE, CAL.

September 4, 1929.

Col. Ed Fletcher,  
Fletcher Building,  
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Colonel Fletcher:

Your letter, containing the suggestion for an advertisement in the Los Angeles and San Francisco papers, concerning sale of the California Hot Springs, came while I was in the North with Helen, so it is somewhat late for me to be thanking you for what you have done for me.

I have not as yet put the advertisement in the papers, but shall do so probably next week.

We have had a rather busy time over the holidays, though, as usual, the people left more or less in a company and the place seems quite deserted now. However, we still have a good many people in the cottages and more coming in. The weather is delightful at the 'Springs,- to me it is much finer than in the summer when the heat is so great, and I always think it is such a pity that people have to leave before the really pleasant weather begins.

I certainly appreciate your doing this for me, and I only hope that your client will think favorably of the place, if he can be induced to come up and look it over.

As I told you when I was there, we are very anxious to dispose of it, and will take a much less price than you gave him,-even as small a price as would let us out without a loss.

There is another matter which I would like very much to present to you. I was really very earnest in my remarks to you about the sale of my home in San Diego. Even should the 'Springs be sold, I doubt very much that I should want to re-occupy the house down there. It is all together too large and with my family so small, it is too much care. Should I return to San Diego, I would much prefer having a small place. Amelia returns very shortly to Egypt, Margaret is planning a trip to Manila and next summer to the Passion Play; Philip is still in college, so there would be only Helen and myself at home, and a house of the size of that one is quite too large.

2-E.F.-9-4/29.

I understand there is a railroad man, who has been spending the winters in San Diego, who might be in the market for a home. I do not know his name, but I understand that he has an invalid wife, and must have either a one-story house, or a house into which an elevator could be built. With a little change in the steps under the port cochere, an easy entrance could be made and an elevator put in where we now have a lavatory down stairs and a closet directly above, and it seems to me that it would work out in an almost ideal manner. I have placed a price of \$100,000. on the house, but because it now seems to be a "white elephant" I would take less, even as low as \$80,000.00 and still be able to pay the regular Board commission.

I know you have a large acquaintance among people of means who might easily buy such a place, and I know there is no one else in San Diego, who would be as apt to dispose of it for me as you. I wish to make a sale of both of these properties through you on a strictly business basis, just the same as though I knew you only very slightly.

I received a letter from Mary, written just a few days ago. It is such a marvel to me, that she-with all her cares-can find time for letters;-while I, with very much less to do, seem to be always too busy. I shall write her in a very few days.

I am sure you will be glad,-and Mary will also, to know that Helen is out of the hospital. She is staying with the Carr's in Palo Alto for a week until her strength has returned, before she attempts the drip down.

We have had our share of sadness, also, as Mr. Carr, Katharine's father-in-law, who has been for so many years a close friend of ours, was taken suddenly ill while in Palo Alto, and died after only a few days illness. Because he was such an active man and interested in so many projects, it has seemed doubly sad. Fortunately the children are all grown, so they have many memories of their association with him.

Give my love to Mary and remembrance to the different members of the family.

I know this is the beginning of the Community Chest work and you, as generous as ever with your time, are deep in details of the coming campaign. I wish you all success, and I know, of course, you will have it.

EHW/C.

Yours sincerely,

*Keith H. Williams*

September Tenth,  
1 9 2 9

Mrs. Edith H. Williams,  
Porterville,  
California.

My dear Mrs. Williams:

I acknowledge receipt of yours of the fourth and contents noted.

I am glad to know that the weather is delightful and that business is holding up in the cottages.

We have had foggy weather for a week. It is very foggy today and cold.

Regarding your home here I am asking four or five of my friends to try and sell the place and do all that I can to dispose of it.

I saw the party the other day who spoke about buying the springs. He is interested now in a real estate deal and has made an offer but he says that if it is not accepted he will take a look at the springs. There is no use in trying to push him. We just simply have to wait.

I am glad to hear that Helen is out of the hospital. You have certainly had your share of trouble lately.

We had all the family here yesterday and I am going to send you a picture of the seven boys and the family. They were only together for a day and will be separated for another year.

The Community Chest is keeping me busy and taking a good deal of my time but it is wonderful - the wonderful cooperation I am getting.

If you happen to see Worlds Work for September you will see five pages on the Old Spanish Trail and Ed Fletcher. It pays to advertise.

With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

EF:AK

# 2

Mrs. Edith H. Williams

9-10-29

P. S. John S. McKnight who owns the house across the street from you is offering his house for \$75,000.

E.F.

**Ed Fletcher Papers**

**1870-1955**

**MSS.81**

**Box: 34 Folder: 17**

**General Correspondence - Williams, Edith**



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