

LAURENCE H. SMITH  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL BANK BUILDING  
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

December 15, 1930.

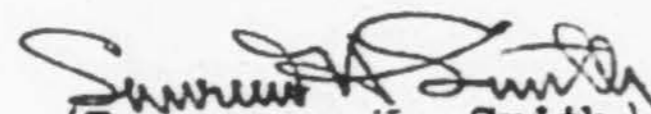
Mr. Ed Fletcher,  
c/o Ed Fletcher Company,  
1020 Ninth Street,  
San Diego, California.

Dear Mr. Fletcher:-

In reference to your letter of recent date,  
relative to Lot C, in block 70, Rancho Ex-Mission:

If you care to give me the price at which you are  
proposing to sell your own interest in this prop-  
erty, I will submit that information to the direc-  
tors of the Sam Ferry Smith Company, and will  
give you a prompt answer as to our decision in  
the matter.

Yours truly,

  
(Laurence H. Smith)

LHS/GR

December Seventeenth,  
1 9 3 0

Mr. L. H. Smith,  
U. S. National Bank Bldg.,  
San Diego, Calif.

Friend Laurence:

Answering yours of the fifteenth  
will say that before the Paramount Right Decision went  
against us I was asking \$150,000 for my holdings which  
consists of 554 acres including the damsite up to the  
330 foot contour. My price now is \$40,000.

I spent \$28,000 in surveys,  
core drillings and other expenses and the property  
today stands me about \$60,000.

I would say that a price of  
\$100 an acre to the 330 foot contour is the most that  
you can expect for your half interest in Lot C, Block  
70, Rancho Ex-Mission.

It is devoid of any water rights.  
I don't think there is any chance to do anything but  
it is worth while working on as the council are getting  
the idea now that they want to get us off the river and  
take everything so I think this is the last chance.

My suggestion is that you make  
a price of \$100 an acre for your acreage up to the  
330 foot contour.

The party that is handling this  
thing for me will want 10% if any sale is made.

I will know within ninety days  
whether the deal is going thru or not.

Yours very truly,

EF:ASK

January 17, 1941.

Mr. Lawrence H. Smith,  
U. S. National Bank Building,  
San Diego, California.

Dear Mr. Smith:

You are probably aware of the fact that our present City Engineer, Mr. Hiram N. Savage, has recommended a dam at Mission Gorge No. 2. In the event that this dam is built, the property which you own in the San Diego River will be of very little value.

I am making every effort to transfer this recommendation to Mission Gorge No. 3 and, if I take an option on your property for the next ninety days, there is a good possibility of disposing of it, either to the city or private individuals.

Will you please give me an option, if possible at \$100.00 an acre, for the purchase of same, and terms, as it looks as though it is now or never.

Whatever the option price, it will be necessary for me to have a commission of 10%. I am paying from 10% to 15% for country property, myself, for the sale of real estate today.

An early reply will be appreciated.

Yours very truly,

RF/RC

February Fourth,  
1 9 4 1

Mr. Lawrence Smith,  
U. S. National Bank Bldg.,  
San Diego, Calif.

Friend Lawrence:

Confirming our telephone conversation, there is one chance out of a hundred that we will make a deal with the city but the understanding over the 'phone is that if within a reasonable time we can sell your lands both below and above the 300 foot contour on the north side of the river, Lot C, Block 70, Ex-Mission, for \$100 an acre, cash, you will take it, allowing a 10% commission for selling.

Our maps show that you own an undivided half interest in 621.82 acres and on that basis you would be getting \$31,091 gross. Deducting a 10% commission it would be \$28,000.01. Will you please confirm this.

I ought to have an option until the first of July. I am only getting about \$50.00 an acre for my land as most of my money was put in to core drillings and surveys, state fees, etc., but I appreciate your giving me an opportunity to work on the proposition and see if it can be cleaned up for the good of the city.

Please drop me a line confirming the above.

Yours very truly,

RF:ASK

**Ed Fletcher Papers**

**1870-1955**

**MSS.81**

**Box: 25 Folder: 31**

**General Correspondence - Smith, Laurence H.**



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