



WALTER W. COOPER  
CITY MANAGER

**THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO**  
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

July 25, 1941

Honorable Ed Fletcher  
1020 Ninth Avenue  
San Diego, California

Dear Senator Fletcher:

I am enclosing a memorandum prepared for me by the Hydraulic Engineer in answer to your request of June 30th concerning Hodges and the runoff at Sutherland.

I assume that this is the information you desire.

Sincerely yours

*Walter W. Cooper*  
Walter W. Cooper  
City Manager

WWC/L  
Enclosure - 1



CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMUNICATION

RECEIVED  
DATE July 23, 1941

FROM Hydraulic Engineer

City Manager

TO City Manager

NO. \_\_\_\_\_ SUBJECT San Dieguito System, Hodges Dam, Spillway Gates

HYDRAULIC ENGINEER'S OFFICE

Consideration has been given to letter dated June 30, 1941 from Senator Ed Fletcher requesting certain elevations at Hodges Dam, capacities of Hodges reservoir and runoff at Hodges and Sutherland.

The spillway crest of Hodges Dam is at elevation 315. The top of the dam is at elevation 350 and Bernardo Bridge on the Inland Highway is also about elevation 330.

The following tabulation indicates the capacity in acre feet and in billion gallons of Hodges Reservoir as now constructed and of the reservoir basin above the present spillway level:

Elevation	Acre Feet	Billion Gallons	Remarks
200	0	0	Streambed at Dam
315	37,698	12.284	Spillway crest
318	38,867	12.665	
327	40,233	13.110	
315	41,629	13.565	
319	43,062	14.032	
320	44,526	14.509	
321	45,024	14.997	
322	47,558	15.497	
323	49,136	16.008	
324	50,754	16.532	
325	52,576	17.067	
326	54,065	17.614	
327	55,767	18.172	Probable maximum top of gates
328	57,517	18.742	
329	59,303	19.324	
330	61,126	19.918	Top of Dam
340	86,200	28.088	
350	114,800	37.211	
360	154,000	50.151	
370	193,400	60.415	
380	229,900	74.516	
390	354,100	122.374	Maximum storage level

Date of reply \_\_\_\_\_

The following tabulation shows the runoff reaching Hodges Dam and the flow passing over the spillway since completion of the dam in 1918:

Season	Runoff		Passing over Spillway	
	Acres Feet	Billion Gallons	Acres Feet	Billion Gallons
1883-04	376,000	122,520		
84-85	19,000	6.191		
85-86	77,000	26.091		
86-87	19,000	6.191		
87-88	17,900	5.833		
88-89	44,800	14.598		
89-90	70,200	22.875		
90-91	64,100	20.887		
91-92	26,100	8.505		
92-93	29,900	9.743		
93-94	8,100	2.965		
94-95	160,800	52.397		
95-96	5,000	1.629		
96-97	21,500	7.006		
97-98	3,400	1.108		
98-99	2,400	.782		
99-00	2,100	.684		
1900-01	12,000	3.910		
01-02	6,500	2.118		
02-03	10,800	3.529		
03-04	4,000	1.303		
04-05	34,200	11.144		
05-06	82,640	26.928		
06-07	45,730	14.901		
07-08	12,690	4.135		
08-09	61,040	19.690		
09-10	45,270	14.100		
10-11	26,700	8.700		
11-12	19,820	6.341		
12-13	5,780	1.883		
13-14	24,360	7.944		
14-15	78,700	25.644		
15-16	104,550	33.496		
16-17	34,060	11.098		
17-18	28,090	9.153		
18-19	6,250	2.037		
1919-20	19,830	6.462		
20-21	4,130	1.352		
21-22	121,480	39.575	80,285	25,725
22-23	17,130	5.592	9,153	2,965

Season	Runoff		Passing over Spillway	
	Acres Feet	Billion Gallons	Acres Feet	Billion Gallons
1923-24	5,660	1.818	7,814	2.506
24-25	3,690	1.202		
25-26	36,000	11.731	13,813	4.501
26-27	159,150	51.839	147,843	48.165
27-28	9,880	3.219	2,424	.790
28-29	9,850	3.210		
29-30	17,150	5.588		
30-31	5,930	1.932		
31-32	72,830	23.732	49,151	15.016
32-33	12,710	4.097	4,956	1.615
33-34	1,550	.505		
34-35	8,522	2.777		
35-36	11,045	3.599		
36-37	162,876	53.073	129,906	42.330
37-38	92,566	29.837	78,923	25.088
38-39	40,147	13.082	27,672	9.017
39-40	18,070	5.880	4,606	1.501
40-41	200,000	66.170	156,900	51.125

Serious consideration has not been given to the placing of gates on the spillway of Hodges Dam because of the high cost of the type of gates required and the danger to the dam and to life and property below the dam in the event of floods such as occurred in 1916 and 1937.

The cheaper type of gates now in use on a number of the reservoirs would be entirely inadequate for use on Hodges spillway. Largely because of the results of studies made by the Army Engineers and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District and observations made by them of floods during the past five years, it has been deemed proper to remove the gates from the spillway at Morena and to construct the San Vicente Dam without spillway gates.

Installation of gates on the spillway at Hodges Dam would release the obligations of the San Diego County Water Company to supply water from Menhew Reservoir to make up certain deficiencies that may occur due to severe drought conditions and to the small holdover capacity of Hodges Reservoir. Owing to the small capacity of the pipe lines for delivering water from Hodges Reservoir to the City of San Diego and to the terms of the contracts between the City and those having rights to receive water from the San Dieguito system, the installation of gates on Hodges spillway would not materially increase the amount of water the City might receive from that source.

The following tabulation shows the runoff at Sutherland damsite:

Season	Runoff Acres Feet	Billion Gallons	Season	Runoff Acres Feet	Billion Gallons
1883-84	114,000	37,147	1913-14	10,450	3,405
84-85	8,600	2,802	14-15	31,130	10,144
85-86	25,000	8,146	15-16	95,250	31,037
86-87	8,600	2,802	16-17	15,750	5,474
87-88	8,400	2,737	17-18	7,360	2,398
88-89	18,900	6,159	18-19	4,810	1,567
89-90	27,800	9,059	19-20	12,520	4,080
90-91	25,800	8,407	20-21	3,170	1,033
91-92	11,700	3,812	21-22	47,160	15,367
92-93	13,200	4,301	22-23	9,560	3,115
93-94	4,800	1,564	23-24	2,740	.893
94-95	55,300	18,020	24-25	3,470	1,131
95-96	3,000	.978	25-26	15,310	4,989
96-97	9,800	3,193	26-27	49,550	16,146
97-98	2,200	.717	27-28	3,820	1,180
98-99	1,600	.521	28-29	4,890	1,595
99-00	1,500	.489	29-30	8,040	2,620
1900-01	6,000	1,955	30-31	3,090	1,007
01-02	5,800	1,858	31-32	51,250	16,793
02-03	5,600	1,825	32-33	7,600	2,476
03-04	2,600	.847	33-34	1,176	.383
04-05	14,900	4,865	34-35	4,638	1,511
05-06	33,650	10,965	35-36	6,148	2,003
06-07	19,060	6,211	36-37	47,570	15,501
07-08	5,990	1,952	37-38	29,640	9,658
08-09	25,110	8,182	38-39	10,850	3,535
09-10	18,080	5,891	39-40	6,980	2,274
10-11	11,900	3,878	40-41	60,000	19,561
11-12	8,690	2,832			
12-13	4,520	1,473			

I trust the above data are sufficient for your purpose in answering Senator Fletcher's letter.

*Fred D. Pyle*  
 Fred D. Pyle  
 Hydraulic Engineer

FDP/1



WALTER W. COOPER  
 CITY MANAGER

## THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

March 5, 1942

Colonel Ed Fletcher  
 1020 Ninth Avenue  
 San Diego, California

Subject: Mission Gorge Damsite No. 3, Road

Dear Col. Fletcher:

With reference to the road passing Mission Gorge Damsite No. 3, known as San Diego County Route 20, Division 1, which extends through the damsite and connects on both ends to the present County Road Survey No. 627 and also passes through some property recently sold by you to V. R. Dennis, please note that the present road past the damsite will serve satisfactorily for construction use if and when the work is undertaken. The road is still an established County road and has not been vacated by the County.

It appears that the public interest will be best served if you make application to the County of San Diego requesting the Board of Supervisors not to vacate the portion of Route 20, Division 1, between Station 187+50 and Station 288+50.

The road is an established one and as such, if kept open and not vacated by the County, will provide access to your property at all times and will prevent the closing of the road through Mr. Dennis' or anyone else's property.

Enclosed is blue print showing the above roads and their location relative to Mission Damsite No. 3.

Sincerely yours,

*Walter W. Cooper*  
 Walter W. Cooper  
 City Manager

WWC/f  
 encl.

March 6, 1942

Mr. Walter Cooper,  
City Manager,  
Civic Center,  
San Diego, California.

My dear Mr. Cooper:

Answering yours of March 5th, I am wondering if you or your representative went on the ground, re the problem in connection with bringing a pipe line out of Mission Gorge from Mission Gorge No. 3 thru the Dennis property.

The road that you mention is 100 to 200 feet above the floor of the valley and would be entirely too high for any outlet for pipe line. Without the road all the way up the valley we would have no practical method of approach to the foot of the dam. This county highway that you speak of, R. S. 627, must be kept open in any event, but the lower easement or right-of-way must also be secured, and under our contract with Mr. Dennis we are entitled to it.

Our opinion is that the easement should extend from the lower entrance to the Dennis quarry, go over practically the present road to the bridge which crosses the river, and then instead of the survey crossing the river keep on the south side all the way up to the Easterly end of Mr. Dennis' property. I have marked in red the tentative location. If you care to have this verified and in a general way approved, we will, ourselves, make the survey on the ground, and get the legal description. The damsite is approximately where the double red line is marked on the map herewith enclosed which you sent us.

May we have an early reply from you in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

EF M

March 21, 1942.

Mr. Walter Cooper,  
City Manager,  
Civic Center,  
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Mr. Cooper:

The City's Hydraulic Engineer, Fred Kyle has furnished me the following information:

"MISSION GORGE in order to control the runoff of the San Diego River drainage basin below El Capitan and San Vicente dams, there is requirement for the construction of a dam in Mission Gorge to form a reservoir having a capacity of about 30,000 acre feet. Two good damsites are available, known as Mission No. 2 and No. 3"

By building the Mission Gorge No. 2 to an elevation of 336 ft. above sea level, holding approximately nine billion seven hundred million gallons of water it floods 1550 acres. As a matter of fact with flood conditions and the liability of damage re. high water we will have to buy about 2,000 acres to take care of the above amount of storage in No. 2. While at No. 3, the dam built to 316 ft. elevation above sea level, practically all of it in the gorge where it belongs, it only floods 778 acres.

By building in No. 3 we will have the largest amount of water stored with the least surface evaporation per acre foot of any dam in San Diego County, while the evaporation loss in No. 2 will be twice as much as No. 3, losing thereby at least a million gallons daily by evaporation which will be saved by building No. 3 in my opinion. With the State Engineers approval of the constant angle type of dam at Mission No. 3 I am sure the complete investment including reservoir lands and dam will be less if Mission No. 3 is built. For if you build No. 2, you will have to acquire 1500 or 2,000 acres of land, most of the valley land at high cost, make Santee a bog, drive out the County Poor Farm, lose the additional watershed area as

compared with No. 3 and double the surface evaporation at least. Therefore, I am sure that building No. 2 will mean an added investment of one to two million dollars at least as compared with No. 3.

The United States Government is now condemning between 800 and 1,000 acres of land for air field in El Cajon Valley that would be either within the flooded area or just adjoining Mission Gorge No. 2 if built. There are two 250 ft. parachute masts already installed and application has been made to the city for water for this field from El Capitan Dam.

With the State Engineers approval of the constant angle type of dam at Mission No. 3 as compared to a gravity arch and with the necessity of the city, if No. 2 is built, to acquire all the 1500 or 2,000 acres of land that will be flooded in El Cajon Valley, I am sure the total cost of the two projects in the acquiring of the lands alone and the building of the dams will be less for No. 3. The net safe yield from No. 3 will be greater on account of the ~~of the~~ additional watershed and less surface evaporation.

San Diego County is losing out on income on taxable property by the condemnation of the 31,000 acres for an artillery range at Camp Elliott by the U. S. Government and the condemnation of millions of dollars of property in the city and county for government purposes and permanently taken off the tax roll. By building Mission No. 3 we will save at least seven hundred to a thousand acres of tillable farm land in the El Cajon Valley. The products from it will be saved which would be lost if No. 2 were built, and if No. 2 were built this additional seven hundred to a thousand acres would be off the tax roll, a loss of revenue to the county which would otherwise be saved if No. 3 were built instead.

By building No. 3 you save two or three miles of major pipeline to the city as compared to No. 2. You might answer that there is a difference in elevation which is valuable in favor of No. 2 as compared to No. 3, the difference in elevation being approximately 100 ft. If the water was taken to the higher level of the city it would have to be pumped in, in any event from either No. 2 or No. 3.

In talking with Fred Fyle, he admitted that by building an eight mile pipeline to Old Town connecting up with the lower level or lower distribution system of the city most, if not all of this water would be used by gravity from No. 3 and it would relieve the crowded condition of the water being compelled to go through the upper system on the higher level. In other words, it would be a big relief and save tremendous expense in enlargement of pipe lines, if the lower levels could be taken care of by water from Mission No. 3 to Old Town.

I am writing this letter in the most friendly spirit asking you to keep an open mind and in the hopes that an early date we can get the United States Government to come in here without expense to the city, solve the water problems of San Diego County including the completion of Sutherland, building of Pamo, raising of Hodges, building No. 3 and give us our share of water out of the Tijuana. The United States Government should also give us facilities for bringing Colorado River water to San Diego only in an emergency for our San Diego County water on the Western slope is by far better in quality and can be developed at less cost per thousand gallons than any water we can bring from the Colorado River no matter which way it comes.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

EF/LK



WALTER W. COOPER  
CITY MANAGER

## THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

April 8, 1942

Honorable Ed Fletcher  
1020 Ninth Avenue  
San Diego, California

My dear Senator:

A. The outstanding water problem of San Diego City and County is the requirement for a standby water supply for use in the event of a drought such as occurred from 1897 to 1904, when there was practically no runoff for seven consecutive years. This drought resulted in the abandonment of many ranches, farms and homes, decreased property values and hindered growth of the City and County.

San Diego and the surrounding area, even with full reservoirs, is not now prepared to face such a drought again and will not be prepared until Colorado River water is available as a standby so that at least a year's supply of water can be maintained in the reservoirs at all times.

This problem has grown tremendously during the past two years, due to the increase in population of San Diego from 200,000 in 1940 to 300,000 in 1942, and the definite possibility of further increase. In 1937 it was not anticipated that a population of 300,000 would be reached before 1956 and of 400,000 before 1970. To further complicate the situation the City is hard pressed to secure funds to meet the requirements for other activities, such as schools, sewers, police, fire, and public works.

To meet this water problem, complete and detailed studies, surveys, plans and cost estimates must be made to determine the best and most economical route for bringing Colorado River water to the San Diego reservoirs; the method of financing must be worked out and where required, contracts completed; a program as to when construction should be commenced and completed should be planned so that in the event the water supply in the reservoirs is depleted to a predetermined amount construction can be undertaken and completed in time to avoid possibility of a water shortage.

It is estimated that the above studies and surveys will cost \$150,000, and will require eighteen months time to complete.

It is also estimated that the construction of the required works for making Colorado River water available to the City will cost upwards of \$10,000,000 and will require at least two years after contracts are awarded.

B. The second major water problem of the City of San Diego is the construction of additional local resources to further conserve the water resources of the Cottonwood, San Diego and San Dieguito watersheds and thus about double

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the reservoir capacity of the City's water conservation works and increase the safe yield by 40 per cent.

The safe yield of the City's existing resources is 26.6 m.g.d. which is sufficient for a population of 212,500. After the completion and partial filling of San Vicente Reservoir, the safe yield will be increased to 31.9 m.g.d. or sufficient for a population of about 255,000.

When all the flow of the streams controlled by the City, except for Marron Reservoir, is conserved by the construction of additional reservoirs, the safe yield will be 51.8 m.g.d. which will be sufficient for a population of 415,000. There is a possibility that this population may be reached by 1950.

In 1937 the estimated cost of completing the remaining water conservation works, not including pipe lines to the City, or water purification plants, as reported by a Board of Consulting Engineers employed by the City, was as follows:

Super Hodges, additional safe yield 9.7 m.g.d.	\$4,760,000
Heightening Barrett Dam " " 4.5 "	2,990,000
Mission Gorge Reservoir " " 5.7 "	1,900,000

The cost of construction work has increased at least 25 per cent since the report was made. Under normal conditions five years would be required to do the work after the program has been approved.

C. Another major water problem of San Diego is the control of major floods in the lower sections of the San Diego River, especially from Presidio Point to the ocean at the outlet of Mission Bay.

A major flood such as occurred in 1883 and 1916 would endanger and perhaps destroy the railroad, State highway and gas mains where they cross the present river channel, and in the event of failure of the existing inadequate dike on the south side of the San Diego River would flood the Marine Base and portions of Consolidated Parts Plant and the Naval Training Station, and would deposit much silt in San Diego Bay.

Studies, plans and cost estimates have been made by the Army Engineers but no program for doing the work has been approved by the Congress. The estimated cost of the work in 1939 was \$3,800,000.

Anything you may do to effectively bring the above major water problems of the City of San Diego to the attention of the State and National legislators will be appreciated.

Very truly yours

*Walter W. Cooper*  
Walter W. Cooper  
City Manager

WWC/L

April 10, 1942.

Mr. Walter Cooper,  
City Manager,  
Civic Center,  
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Walter:

That's a splendid letter, yours of April 8th, which I have just received. I have forwarded a copy of it to U. S. Army engineers. I am in sympathy with your program and will go the limit to help, but I don't agree in some respects.

There's much more water in San Diego County to be developed than you have stated and which is available for San Diego. With the building of Pamo Dam I see no reason why San Diego should not get five to ten million gallons of water a day from pumping from the San Pasqual gravels and pumping it into pipeline from Pamo Dam to the city. I see no reason why San Diego should not get from five to ten million gallons of water a day from the San Luis Rey River by acquiring the San Luis Rey water bearing gravels on the Pauma ranch, pumping the water to sufficient level and running it to a connection with the Pamo-San Diego pipeline. There's a super abundance of water in the San Luis Rey watershed and still leaving sufficient water for the development of the country below.

I consider it a serious mistake to build Super Hodges Dam and furnish an evaporation pan that will lose the net safe yield of three to four million gallons a day from that watershed which could be conserved by the building of Sutherland and Pamo. It would cost no more to build Sutherland and Pamo and raise Hodges to sufficient height to control the watershed than it would to build Super Hodges and throw away the present dam and build a new one. The most expensive water would be the raising of Barrett Dam and it should be done last. I question if the water is there.

Page 2.

If Mission Gorge Dam 3 is built it is the cheapest stored water that can be developed in the county by the city and with the least evaporation surface per acre foot stored of any lake in the county. The flood problem in the lower sections of San Diego River especially from Presidio Point to the ocean at the outlet of Mission Bay will be materially reduced and much of the proposed expense eliminated. I would say that you should add the raising of San Vicente Dam as one of the main improvement projects for conservation of water and storing therein El Capitan's surplus and completing and bringing over Sutherland into San Vicente.

Speaking of water from the Colorado River, the Joint Water Committee of the Legislature investigated the Metropolitan Water District in a body two weeks ago from the Parker Dam to the Filtration Plant with directors, representatives and engineers of the Metropolitan Water District. Upon investigation you will find that San Diego County will have to pay for a hundred million gallons of water a day ten percent of the original cost of the Metropolitan system, or approximately twenty million dollars. There are approximately two hundred million dollars' bonds outstanding drawing 4% interest. This would mean San Diego's interest charges alone would be \$800,000 per year, add to that \$200,000 San Diego's share of the annual maintenance of the system, this would mean San Diego's interest charges alone will be a million dollars a year whether we used it or not, and paying in addition for the water.

We found out that practically no one is using the water in Southern California and as I wrote you recently, the water is costing approximately two cents a hundred cubic feet just to soften and treat it to make it fit for human consumption and to meet State Board of Health requirements through a filtration plant. They are using only thirteen million gallons a day according to the superintendent and during the heat of the summer they were not using this year over sixty million gallons a day. They have their own water supply so much cheaper and the water on the western slope is so much better in quality as compared to the water in the Colorado River, so that's why no one will use it unless they have to.

I feel all the water in San Diego County should be developed first and the government be asked to make possible only the delivery of Colorado water in times of dire emergency when our local supply is depleted. It's a serious question in my mind and I know San Diego would never vote to load itself down with a yearly tax of a million to a million and a half for the privilege of getting water and pay for the water in addition from the Colorado River at least until the water in this County had all been developed in practically so.

It is my understanding the Army Engineers are now investigating and will report the most feasible way of bringing Colorado River water to San Diego County and are considering two routes from the Metropolitan

Water District and from the All-American Canal. If we could get the government to assume the obligation without expense to San Diego County of getting water from the Metropolitan Water District and financing the building of the pipeline to San Diego, San Diego County only paying for such water as it uses even though at a high price, that would be a God Send, or if the U. S. Government would dig the ditch ten or twelve miles west from Kane Springs where the All-American Canal now ends and install the pipeline and pumping plant at government expense, that would put the water into the San Diego River ready for delivery when we need it. It would be a splendid contribution from the United States Government. Either way, as far as I am concerned, the final decision of the Army Engineers which way the water is to go will be satisfactory to me, personally. Any obligation to put a million to two million dollars a year additional taxes on San Diego County just for the right to get the water will never be voted by the people of San Diego County by two-thirds vote in my opinion, not until they have suffered a severe drought through a period of dry years.

I now feel and always have felt that we should bring the water through the All-American Canal, put ten or fifteen thousand acres of Colorado River water to beneficial use in the Borego Valley section getting sufficient revenue to pay for the cost of the water and only bring it over the hill as soon when the proper conditions demand. Putting in use the Colorado River water would be only temporary and transferrable when the municipality needs it and put to a higher use. This letter is just a suggestion and coming from a common layman.

Sincerely Yours,

EF/LK

STABLE FOR WATER FLOW PRODUCEING INTO CANAL... (mirrored bleed-through text)

...of the... (mirrored bleed-through text)

Mr. Walter Cooper,  
City Manager,  
Civic Center,  
San Diego, California.

My dear Mr. Cooper: I am enclosing... (mirrored bleed-through text)

With the completion of San Vicente dam assured, for a small amount of money - not to exceed \$250,000 or \$300,000 in my opinion - you can get the consent of the riparian owners below to complete Sutherland dam and divert the water originating east of that dam into other watersheds; also included 50 ft. gate at Lake Hodges, electrically operated, that can store an additional 15,000 acre feet of water and make absolutely safe your obligations to the irrigation districts as well as your three million gallons of water a day you are now using through the pipelines to LaJolla.

As I understand, you have two or three hundred thousand dollars in the bank now that can be spent for the above purposes. By building a ditchline with a capacity of thirty or forty million gallons of water a day, five or six miles in length, using wooden pipe for syphons and keeping the pipelines filled with water, you can put the entire summer flow of Sutherland River into San Vicente drainage by gravity and a big part of the winter flow without completing Sutherland.

You remember a year ago in the middle of July when I showed you the summer flow of Sutherland dam - twelve million gallons a day was then going into Hodges which could have been diverted into San Vicente if only the conduit was built.



Three to four hundred thousand dollars should do this work immediately of putting water into San Vicente from Sutherland by a combination of ditchline and wooden pipeline thereby getting away from practically all priorities. There's a redwood pipeline there at Hurro Dam that has been in use for over forty years - which has been kept full of water and therefore in good condition. Check up with the U. S. Government records to see what is running past Sutherland Dam today. The Sutherland watershed is the most regular in its runoff of any watershed in San Diego County year in and year out.

For seven hundred fifty thousand to a million dollars, as outlined above, you can do eight or ten million gallons a day of safe yield to the city by the method proposed and by diverting much flood water in the winter through from Sutherland into San Vicente, storing it there and the balance of it into El Cajon or Otay. Vote a million or a million and a half dollars later and complete Sutherland, then consider raising Hodges or building Pató running the water right across the Linda Vista Mesa to the city; also Mission Gorge, but public opinion is going to demand that you do something and immediately. The largest amount of water for the least cost which you can finance and possibly without a bond issue is the acquisition of the riparian rights necessary to divert the water from Sutherland to San Vicente, building the pipeline to take the water from Sutherland over into San Vicente. As a matter of public policy you should show that the city is on the job and on their toes, actually preparing for a dry period of years within the limits of its finances - then for heavens sake this work should be undertaken this summer and completed before the first of January, if possible; but, if San Vicente cannot handle it this year, let's get started now anyway and be ready a year from this fall to be putting Sutherland water into the city. The above is my suggestion and I can't charge you a penny for it.

The Fletcher children own the property known as Prentice and the Morse Construction Company options on Hickey property - free and clear of incumbrances. The city once took an option on the Prentice property for \$125,000 paid \$25,000 to the former owners leaving \$100,000 still to pay and then threw up the contract. The city also took an option of \$25,000 on the Hickey property of Morse Construction Company property, several hundred acres, paying \$5,000 with a balance of \$20,000 to be paid and then threw up the contract. I am sure you will have no trouble in getting together on a purchase or acquisition in the matter of the sale of these properties at and when needed.

If you raise the water over 10 ft. in Lake Hodges Dam there are children of the will be flooded within the river channel. On the other hand, if you want to go ahead with the Sutherland proposition I am sure you can work out a satisfactory arrangement whereby you simply acquire the right to divert the water from Sutherland into other watersheds along with the other

riparian owners of the river whose riparian rights or lands you have not yet acquired. I just want you to know, Mr. Cooper, that it will be a pleasure to co-operate with you and the City Council if I can be of any service in any of the water problems of this county. I don't own a share of stock in the Ed Fletcher Company who own these properties. Naturally, blood is thicker than water and I am doing all I can in behalf of the children but keeping in mind a fair deal to the city as well.

While president of the San Dieguito system, I had the official approval by the former state engineer of the installation of 10 ft. Tainter gates and a definite bid at that time, the complete installation costing \$28,600. If you desire me to, I am sure that I will have no trouble in getting the official approval of the State Engineer, Ed Hyatt, to the installation of 10 ft. gates on Lake Hodges, automatically controlled by electricity.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely Yours,

EP/LK

March 2, 1943

Mr. Walter W. Cooper  
City Manager  
San Diego, California

My dear Walter:

Enclosed find map of all the holdings, marked in red by Mr. Fyle. There is more land than shows on the map, very materially, but it is on a very small scale.

The road should be closed, and when it is closed one-half the road goes, too. Anything below the 395 foot contour to be deeded to you. We will help you get the road closed. There is something like a mile and a half strip that you will get.

This offer of Mr. Marston's should be accepted soon. I have no financial interest in the matter, and am only doing it as a favor to Mr. Marston and the different interests, who put up \$15,000 in cash for this property about 12 years ago, when the Board of Supervisors agreed to buy it for a park and then fell down. There are a number of interests involved, and several of the parties are dead and their estates have taken charge.

It would seem to me the quicker this is cleaned up the better, if the city is interested in acquiring the property at all.

Yours sincerely,

EP M

June 17, 1943

Mr. Walter W. Cooper, City Manager,  
Civic Center,  
San Diego, California

My dear Walter:

Answering yours of the 15th will say I have sent your letter to Mr. Marston. He informed me that he would recommend the \$2500.00 settlement and on his behalf I thank you for same. I have written him today to expedite matters at the earliest possible moment. Mr. Marston is out of town but should be back this week.

My advice to you is to prepare the deed for signature at the earliest possible moment. It is my understanding that all expenses pertaining to the transfer by the Title Company will be paid by the city and that the syndicate will net the \$2500 on a \$15,000 investment of 12 years ago.

You, of course, to get deed that gives title without encumbrance, excepting easement for right of way of record, if any.

Knowing values as well as I do this is a terrific loss, but as between the city and the syndicate it is the wish that the settlement be made and I am glad to be able to donate my little part in helping to bring the city and the syndicate together.

Thanking you for your friendly cooperation and knowing you have made no mistake, I am,

Sincerely yours,

EF:mg

June 11, 1943

Mr. Walter Cooper, City Manager,  
Civic Center,  
San Diego, California

My dear Walter:

I had a talk with Mr. Marston before he left town and he told me that he would recommend, and I also will recommend, to the rest of the partners that we accept \$2500 for all the properties in yellow—25 of 26 acres, also goes with it a title to the old county road which would bring it up some additional acreage. If you can see your clear to do this. Personally I am opposed to it. If the property isn't worth \$200 an acre it isn't worth a nickel, but if you say that you will recommend it to the City Council, Mr. Marston and I will recommend it to the other partners and clean the mess up.

Mr. Marston will be back inside of a week.

This refers to the syndicated property which I showed you on the map the other day at Lake Hodges.

Kindly let me know about this and we can get an answer from all over the country within thirty or forty days and get the deeds in escrow.

With kindest regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

EF:mg

**Ed Fletcher Papers**

**1870-1955**

**MSS.81**

**Box: 5 Folder: 17**

**General Correspondence - Cooper, Walter W.**



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