

Feb. 15, 1931

Dear Dad,

I received your letter of February eleventh, and want to straighten out a few misconceptions. No one has said that the driver was drunk. I smelled liquor on his breath and knew that he had something to drink, but his actions did not particularly indicate to me that he had drunk too much. Dan also told me that if he believed that the driver was drunk, he would not have let him drive.

To my knowledge Wilson had not been drinking, and neither was I.

I appreciate your view on the responsibility for the girl, but I would feel much more responsible if I

had been driving the car. As it was, I was not guilty of any negligence in the care of the girl I had unless it was that I did not drive myself; when I knew that Mason had been doing a little drinking.

It was certainly a shock to hear that Mary-Louise had that accident, but it was certain relieving to hear that it was no worse than it was.

I am enclosing a clipping that shows the two Fletcher boys in the finals of the school volleyball tournament, for which title we lost in a hard three game decision.

I certainly hope that every thing turns out all right.

Your loving son,  
Derd

[W 1935]  
com

Sept 2nd

Dear Dad;

Tomorrow is the start of the big day. I only hope I can come through for you as well as myself. I'll try my best.

The job of which I spoke looks good. I'll know for sure on the 6th of June. Now I have a request to make.

My request is not my own idea, but comes from one who knows the kind of business I am going into if I get the job.

My work will be connected with surety bonds and related subjects, and many of them will involve surety bonds for work done under public works appropriations. In such cases it is essential that I know and understand the statute under which the public work was done. Therefore I want to ask

you if you can secure for me  
from the State Printer, Two  
copies of each "Statute for the  
performance of public works"  
which has been passed since  
1929. If you think that it  
is too much to ask the  
State Printer for two copies  
but will ask for one, then I  
would appreciate that. I told  
my friend I would get him  
a copy if I could.

I noticed that the Federal  
Government, through Hiram  
Johnson, bought 21,000 acres of  
land between Sequoia and  
General Grant Parks, 15,000 of  
which had been cut, for price  
approximating \$200,000. Does  
that affect your land deal?  
I hope not.

Much love.

Your loving son,

Ferd

Send letter or statute to  
Walter Hetherington's office. I don't know my  
future address yet.

Nov. 18th

Dear Dad;

The enclosed letter from John Holt is self-explanatory.

To be perfectly frank, I think the District Attorneys office would fit in with my plans a little better, but my main objective is to get back to Annapolis and to begin the practice of law. It will be easier to work out the future when I am on the ground floor.

Of course this letter from John Holt is no assurance of a job as I can readily understand, but I certainly do appreciate your effort in my behalf and I only hope it won't compromise you.

The job I have now could be a very good experience, but I am getting all of the small cases, mostly automobile stuff, and it is more or less routine once you get on the knack of it. I feel as though I want to get out of it

by the first of the year if I can.  
The company I am working for,  
while a large casualty Co. went  
on the rocks and borrowed  
five million from the R.F.C., and  
also from stockholders. Several of  
the adjustors in our office have  
been working 50% years and are  
still working for \$80 per month,  
same as salary at which I started.  
It is an obsolete service for them,  
and not much hopes for future  
because company is going to pay  
off stockholders first. So my  
reaction is, that it is experience only,  
and if I don't get some worth  
while cases soon, I am wasting  
my time.

I have a strong conviction that  
if I can get in San Diego, on the  
ground floor, I can land a  
job soon. I got a tip on  
Ralph Journey from Guil  
Garrison and I am going to  
write him.

Your loving son,  
Ferd

*Ed Fletcher Company*  
*Real Estate*

1020 Ninth Avenue Franklin 6204  
San Diego, California

February 24, 1939

Mr. Ferdinand T. Fletcher  
Bank of America Building  
San Diego, California.

Dear Ferd:

I am enclosing all papers, also Mr. Jewett's written statements. We paid in full for everything that went into our job and on equity grounds alone no court on earth is going to stick us for all the materials that went into other jobs. We paid more than the amount of money coming to the Industrial Supply Company than mentioned in my letter. That letter was written on these premises: That by telephone conversation between us that we would pay for all the material that went into our job and it was on that assumption that I wrote the letter. I did not guarantee any of Mr. Jewett's accounts, excepting for material that went into our job which I agreed to pay for.

You can tell the industrial Supply Co. that we will fight this thing to the last ditch on the grounds of equity.

Lovingly,

*E. Fletcher*

EF M

March 7, 1939

Senator Ed Fletcher,  
State Senate Building,  
Sacramento, California.

Re: Industried Supply Co. vs. Fletcher

Dear Dad:

I have gone thoroughly into the above entitled matter. As near as I can ascertain, all of the equities which you set up in your favor based on diversion of materials by Jewett to jobs other than the Seaside Camp occurred prior to your writing a letter to them on June 22nd, in which you state that you will pay the balance of \$236.34 as soon as you can get the money from Mr. Lynch of the Benson Lumber Company after the houses are completed but in no case later than August 1, 1938. There is no showing on your part that the materials for which you guaranteed the sum of \$386.34, on which sum you paid on account the sum of \$100.00, did not go into the Seaside Camp. Whether that be true or not, there is no duty on the Industries Supply Company to follow their materials and see that Mr. Jewett puts them into your houses. That is something between you and Jewett alone and you are going to be protected to the extent that you can set off against Jewett for which you have a perfect right, but, as between you and the Industries Supply Company, they advanced materials in the sum of \$386.34 on your personal credit alone and your guarantee to see that they were paid and you haven't got an out in the world.

Industries Supply Company claim the sum of \$236.34. You sent them a check in the sum of \$139.95, leaving in their opinion, a balance due of \$146.39. Their attorney, Charles Fox, Jr., has stated to me that they will accept the sum of \$115.00 in full settlement of the balance due, which compromise settlement gives you the benefit of \$31.39.

If you do not have the money and cannot pay them that is a good excuse for telling them you are going to fight the thing on equitable grounds and then we will stall them off as long as we can but you are going to have to pay in the long run and it will probably cost you about \$100.00 more than it will cost you now. Please let me hear from you.

Sincerely,

FTF:M

SACRAMENTO ADDRESS  
STATE CAPITOL

HOME ADDRESS  
1020 NINTH AVENUE  
SAN DIEGO

ED. FLETCHER  
FORTIETH SENATORIAL DISTRICT  
CHAIRMAN  
COMMITTEE ON CORPORATIONS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS  
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE



FIFTY-THIRD SESSION

March 10, 1939-

COMMITTEES—  
AVIATION AND AIRCRAFT  
CIVIL SERVICE  
COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION  
MILITARY AFFAIRS  
MOTOR VEHICLES

Ferdinand Fletcher,  
620 Bank of America Building,  
San Diego, California.

Dear Ferdinand:

Write to Jewett and tell him to come in and bring all his papers and go over the matter with him. He claims he paid them cash which they have not credited on my account and for goods that went into our job. No one can settle this matter until you bring Jewett and the Industrious Operating Co. together and get them to agree. Will you please do this immediately, then I will make an offer of settlement. See the letters that Jewett has written to me which Miss May has, if not, in your file, showing everything, and get Jewett to sign a letter showing how much he owes the Industrious Operating Co. and then add that amount to what the latter claims from us and see if they tally. Then I will make an offer of settlement, tell Fox.

Sincerely,

EF/rt

*Sorry to hear your accident  
hope all OK 186 letters 22 telegrams  
today mother OK*

March 27, 1939

Senator Ed Fletcher,  
State Capitol,  
Sacramento, California.

Dear Dad:

Ed tells me that Jewett has gone to Long Beach and that it will be impossible to get him in to go over this Industries Supply case. Ed further tells me that Jewett owes us about \$65.00 or \$70.00 from which account we can deduct the balance of our fixtures that he used in his own work.

But as I stated to you in my last letter your liability in this case does not depend on what Jewett did with the fixtures he received from the Industries Supply Company. Your liability depends upon a written letter in which you obligate yourself in the sum of \$386.34 upon which sum you paid \$100.00 leaving a balance due of \$286.34. If Jewett owed the Industries Supply Company money for goods purchased between June 22nd when you wrote your letter guaranteeing the payment, and July 1st when delivery was to have been completed under the terms of your guarantee agreement with the Industries Supply, and if Jewett had made payments on account of purchases made between those dates, then there would be some contention to your arguments, but your own letter of October 21, 1938 indicates that that is not the case. You state "The material furnished from your company for the Seaside Camp job is as follows: June 22, invoice No. 13003 - \$386.34." You then refer to items that have no bearing on this item at all. You mention charges of June 15, June 18, July 1 and July 12.

You are placed in this situation. You are absolutely liable for \$262.34. However, if they brought suit for that amount you would have the right to set off any over payments which you had made on prior purchases, but if purchases were made by Jewett for your account and were paid by you and you subsequently learned that Jewett had not applied the purchases to your job but had applied them to other jobs of his, your action would be against Jewett not against the Industries Supply Company, and you would not have a legal set off against their claim.



Page 2 - 3/27/39  
Senator Ed Fletcher

Naturally, if we settled with the Industries Supply Company on the basis which I suggested, that is, \$250.00, we would expect a release in full from them of all accounts of every nature and description. You have already given them your check for \$159.95 which leaves a balance due under our compromise settlement agreement of \$110.05. I think you are going to save money in the long run if you pay them and close the matter.

After you have read Ed Jr.'s letter and mine, advise me what action you want taken in this matter. I have today talked with Charles Fox and told him I would get in touch with him the first part of next week so give me your advice in this matter by that time.

Your loving son,

ETF:M

Page 2 - 3/27/39  
Senator Ed Fletcher

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Your loving son,

Ferd

FTF:M

*P. S. Laura arrived this morning and she looks awfully good to me. Ferd you have not got the thing at all. Jewett has receipts for money paid that for material on my job but the Industrial Co. appeal it on his personal overdraft. Instead of I have seen the Receipts now that Jewett*

DEWITT A. HIGGS

FERDINAND T. FLETCHER

SHERWOOD ROBERTS

HIGGS AND FLETCHER  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
SUITE 620 BANK OF AMERICA BLDG.  
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA  
TELEPHONE-MAIN 4110

May 15, 1940

Dear Dad:

Have talked to Joe Dryer who was not aware that the State Park Commission had adopted a resolution authorizing the removal of Cabrillo Statue to Golden Gate Exposition. For his benefit have confirmed same with Matthew Gleason

For your information, I do not believe that we are in a position to ask for an injunction as yet. Assuming that the legislative counsel is right in their opinion, and that the state legislature has the right to determine the location and disposition of gifts, we are confronted with the fact that your S. C. R. No. 2 has never been adopted by the Assembly. On Jan. 31, 1940 your resolution was read and adopted in the senate. On the same date it was transferred to the assembly and ordered on calendar without reference to committee. Feb. 21st it was referred to a special committee and it has never come out of that committee.

As I understand it the special session is to consider unfinished business of regular session. Your first move should be to get S. C. R. No. 2 out of special committee in the assembly, have it passed by the Assembly and sent to the Governor for his signature. The Governor will not sign the resolution. Your move then would be to try and get an immediate veto by the Governor and get the resolution adopted by both houses over the veto.

As I understand it, the gift of the Cabrillo Statue was not subject to the condition that it be located in either San Diego or San Francisco. That was merely the request or the desire of the donors of the gift. If the gift of the statue was subject to certain conditions then the State of California must accept the gift subject to those conditions, or reject it. If conditions are not imposed, but merely the desire stated with reference to disposition of the gift, then the State of California in accepting the gift may be influenced in their location and disposition of the gift by those desires, but are not bound by them.

has failed me pretty  
as best you can  
I wrote her  
Mad house up here

Love to  
Laura  
Dad

*[Faint, illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]*

The only effect the letters you have from various Portuguese officials and officers of various societies, is to influence the legislature of the State of California, or thru offices of the state who have jurisdiction over this matter where the statue will be located. If the gift is not conditional they are not bound by it. Until the legislature by an official act of both houses adopts, according to law, a legislative act directing the location of the statue you have no grounds for enjoining the removal of that statue from any location where it is placed to some other location where it is designated.

By the same token, if the opinion of the legislative counsel is correct, neither does the Governor of the State of California have the right to determine the location of the statue. That rests solely with the legislature. It is, therefore incumbent upon you to get an official act of the legislature, both houses concurring thereunder in the manner provided by law, before you can be sure of the location of the statue in San Diego.

If there is anything in this letter that is not clear take it to Mr. Wood, the legislative counsel and I believe he can explain to you the points I am trying to make.

Your loving son

*Ferdinand*

*FFM*

May 16, 1940

Mr. Ferdinand T. Fletcher  
Bank of America Bldg.  
San Diego, California

Re:-CABRILLO S TATUE

My dear Ferd:

I had a good laugh over your letter of the 15th. Are you telling me? You have not read the letters carefully for the Acting Consul of Portugal on July 11, 1939 definitely said in his letter to the Governor "the location for this statue has not been selected, however, it will be either in San Francisco or San Diego." The Governor of California accepted it under those conditions; the Senate of California have unanimously selected San Diego and in your injunction the presumption will be in our favor when those two things get into the record.

I know as well as you do that it is much better to get the Assembly committed, however, a half-loaf is better than none. On the other hand, all the moral obligation is on our side. You have not a single thing to show that the statue was ever intended for Oakland. Our whole game is one of delay and with possession being nine points of law, you are a h--- of a lawyer if you cannot delay things until after the Golden Gate Exposition is over and keep the statue in San Diego. If we can win delay, we win in any event.

In the meantime see Joe Dryer, have the papers all ready to file in an emergency, get Joe to sign same, but before you do anything, consult Ed Austin of the Union - he knows all about it. The only thing I do not want is to have the State Park Commission steal the statue from the warehouse or let the City officials and City Manager go in and take it. Ring up Fred Rhodes and get his reaction as to what he intends to do. Tell him I beg of him to keep the statue at least until we get a decision in Court.

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I have started something up here that will  
burn Governor Olsen's tail and may get him to reverse  
himself and reverse the official action taken by the  
Park Commission.

Lovingly

DAD

EP/jv

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DeWitt A HIGGS

FERDINAND T FLETCHER

SHERWOOD ROBERTS

HIGGS AND FLETCHER  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
SUITE 620 BANK OF AMERICA BLDG.  
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA  
TELEPHONE-MAIN 4119

December 19, 1940

Mr. Charles F. Stern  
634 South Spring Street  
Los Angeles, California

Dear Mr. Stern:

You and the old Ed Fletcher Company have an undivided interest in Lot "D", Cuyamaca Rancho. The Ed Fletcher Company has been merged into the Grossmont Park Company. All of the stock of the Grossmont Park Company is now owned by the Fletcher children and I am the attorney for the Company.

It is our desire to partition our respective interests in the above described property. Please advise me if you are interested in entering into a partition agreement. If you are I shall be glad to arrange a conference at which time the division can be discussed and arrived at.

If you are not interested in a partition agreement, I have been instructed to prepare the necessary papers and file a court action for partition of this property, which, of course, will be very expensive to all parties concerned.

May I hear from you by return mail?

Very truly yours

HIGGS & FLETCHER

By

FTF:M

DeWitt A HIGGS

FERDINAND T FLETCHER

SHERWOOD ROBERTS

HIGGS AND FLETCHER  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
SUITE 620 BANK OF AMERICA BLDG.  
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA  
TELEPHONE-MAIN 4119  
January 2, 1941

Mr. Charles F. Stern  
634 South Spring Street  
Los Angeles, California  
Suite 400

Re: Lot "D", Cuyamaca Rancho.

Dear Mr. Stern:

I am in receipt of your letter of December 20 and have communicated the contents to the Grossmont Park Company.

At my request Miss May prepared a financial statement of our Lot "D" account. The Grossmont Park Company has advanced for taxes and other expenses \$1529.47. There is a credit against the account in the sum of \$982.33. The Grossmont Park Company has therefore, advanced \$547.14. Your one-fourth share is \$136.78. In addition to the above Lot "D" is delinquent in taxes for the second half of the 1939 taxes and all of the 1940 taxes.

As I am informed there are approximately 825 acres in Lot "D" with an assessed value for taxes of \$2060.00.

I am authorized to submit to you the following proposition:

Grossmont Park Company will deed to you one-hundred acres of land, the boundaries to be mutually agreed upon. This land will be deeded to you free and clear of all encumbrances. In addition thereto we will give you a receipt in full for the balance due us of \$136.78, and we will assume and pay the second half of the 1939 taxes and all of the 1940 taxes.

So that you may have some basis on which to judge the advisability of accepting this offer, I am going to give you some additional information regarding adjacent properties. I am informed that the State bought the Cuyamaca Grant adjoining Cuyamaca Lake on the South for ten dollars per acre including the best timber land and also the mountain tops of Cuyamaca. There were approximately 22,000 acres in this purchase, and the State is furnishing camping facilities for very small sums, and I think that people can get cabin sites and water for a rental of five dollars a year.

Mr. Stern

-2-

January 2, 1941

As you undoubtedly know, Lot "D" has no trees on over half of it. Our only source of water supply for the tract is high on the mountain. This water supply has been furnished free to the people who have purchased lots and built cabins. Before any extensive developments could be started, it will be necessary to install a real pumping plant with a five or six hundred lift, which involves the expenditure of twenty-thousand to thirty thousand dollars. Of course, such a development would be necessary before any extensive subdivision could be developed on that property.

If the above proposition appeals to you, or you have any counter proposition that you would care to make, please advise me at your earliest convenience.

Very truly yours,

HIGGS, FLETCHER & GLEN

*Ferdinand J. Fletcher*

FTF:J  
c.c. to Ed Fletcher Company

EUGENE W. MILLER      DEWITT A. HIGGS      FERDINAND T. FLETCHER      WILLIAM A. GLEN

MILLER, HIGGS, FLETCHER AND GLEN  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
SUITE 726 BANK OF AMERICA BUILDING  
SAN DIEGO 1, CALIFORNIA  
TELEPHONE MAIN 4110

February 11, 1946

Senator Ed Fletcher  
Senator Hotel  
Sacramento, California

Re: Fred R. Salter vs. San Dieguito Irrigation  
District, Ed Fletcher Company, et al  
Superior Court Action - Bond Foreclosure

Dear Dad:

The above entitled matter is the foreclosure action on the bonds covering the property in the San Dieguito Irrigation District.

I find that the action was filed on the 29th day of December, 1943 about four days before the action was barred by the Statute of Limitations. I further find that nothing further has been done with the action. The record does not disclose that anyone has been served with a copy of the complaint and no judgment has been entered.

We have two alternatives, one, we can open negotiations with the owner of the bonds through his attorney to settle. It is my understanding that Fred Salter has been holding out for the full principal, penalties and interest on his bonds which in our case totals around \$5,000.00. On the other hand he must by the 29th day of December, 1946, serve the Ed Fletcher Company and Mary C. B. Fletcher, or the court must, on my motion, dismiss his complaint in which case he would then be barred by the Statute of Limitations from filing a new complaint. This would not wipe out his bonds and we could not quiet our title without settling with him on the bonds but we would be in a much better position to deal with him on a more reasonable basis than he apparently deals now.

The matter resolves itself to this, do you want to wait until December 29, 1946, or do you have prospective sales now that justify opening negotiations to settle the bonds as well as the taxes.

I will await your reply in the matter before taking further action.

*Love to you and mother.*

FTF:ms  
cc Stephen G. Fletcher

Your loving son,

*Ed*

San Diego, California  
July 17th, 1946

Mr. Ferdinand T. Fletcher  
San Diego, California

Dear Ferd:

Regarding my conversations with Davis and Stowers, the following is exactly as I remember it.

On the 5th day of April Mr. Stowers who was then a drillman for Walter Barber went to the top of Mt. Helix with me to drill four holes. While there he told me he was leaving Barber's employ within a few days and was taking delivery of some new compressors and was going into the drilling business himself and asked me to turn over as much business as possible and direct people to him, that he was going to charge only \$4.00 per hour instead of \$5.00 that Barber charges and would have new equipment.

I had known Mr. Stowers for several years as a good driller and like him personally. Two or three days later I happened to be in the office of the Ed Fletcher Company when Davis was there and he asked me about a compressor. I did not know what he wanted it for or anything about it at the time but I told him Mr. Stowers had just got some new compressors and was going into business for himself, and I would try to get hold of him and get him to call on Mr. Davis.

Stowers had given me some of his cards but I have misplaced them, and it was several days before I happened to meet Stowers at the Signal Oil station in La Mesa and told him that Mr. Davis had some drilling to do and I thought there was a job for him if he contacted him. This must have been about the 15th to 18th of April.

On April 30th I was in the Ed Fletcher Company office at a birthday party and Mr. Davis came barging back into Dad's private office, and as I remember it said that Mr. Stowers had called on him but had failed ever to return. As you know Davis is very deaf and it is very hard to carry on a conversation with him.

As you know I have not been with the Ed Fletcher Company in any capacity for over three years, am not on the Board of Directors or an officer of the corporation and have absolutely no authority to have hired Mr. Stowers. I was merely trying to do a friendly act for him in directing him to where I thought there was some work.

Regarding the rock in question I measured it and found it to be 15 feet by 18 feet by approximately 10 feet high, 2700 cubic feet, or 100 cubic yards of rock. Under normal conditions of excavation of solid rock you can have it removed by a contractor who will furnish all materials, drilling, powder and equipment for in the neighborhood of \$1.00 per yard, where the haul is not

DEWITT A. HIGGS  
FERDINAND T. FLETCHER  
HENRY PITTS MACK  
WILLIAM E. SOMMER  
PAUL V. PIERIK  
MICHAEL C. HEALEY  
JOHN W. BURNETT, JR.

HIGGS, FLETCHER AND MACK  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
SUITE 720 BANK OF AMERICA BUILDING  
SAN DIEGO 1, CALIFORNIA  
TELEPHONE BELMONT 0-0104

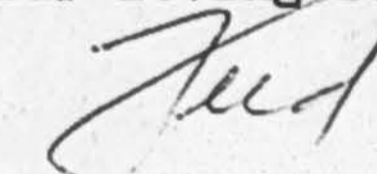
December 30, 1954

Mr. Ed Fletcher  
Ed Fletcher Company  
1020 Ninth Avenue  
San Diego, California

Dear Dad:

A friend of mine found this old Bank of Commerce check in favor of Fletcher, Doyle & Co., dated June 15, 1893, signed by C. A. Scott. It appears to bear the endorsement of Uncle Jarvis Doyle that I remember so well. I thought you would like to have it as a memento.

Your loving son,



FTF/nk

Enc.



too great. Because of this particular rock location even \$1.50 per yard to remove same would have been exorbitant.

You have asked for my qualifications as an explosive engineer and expert and will say that I have been engaged in all types of construction since 1917. Starting out originally as blacksmith's helper and later jackhammer man in the construction of Lake Hodges Dam for the San Dieguito Mutual Water Company. I later had charge of construction of Eagles Nest Dam at Eagles Nest and a little later on I was assistant superintendent in charge of construction of Pine Hills Dam for the Pine Hills Mutual Water Company. I have been distributor of explosives for the Trojan Powder Company in San Diego City and County since 1924, and during nearly all of this period have been engaged in explosive engineering work, working with all contractors and the U. S. Government in all blasting operations where advise was necessary or desirable.

I have engineered a great many well drill and coyote tunnel shots for such contractors as H. G. Fenton, R. E. Hazard, Calvera Material Company at Oceanside and a great many others. In 1911 was appointed explosive technician for the City and County of San Diego and have been called and qualified as an expert witness in many cases in court. During the early part of the war I was appointed by the City Manager as as chief bomb reconnaissance agent for San Diego City and County and my services were requested by the United States Navy and they flew me up to San Clemente Island to work out problems for them.

This will give you something to start on.

Sincerely,

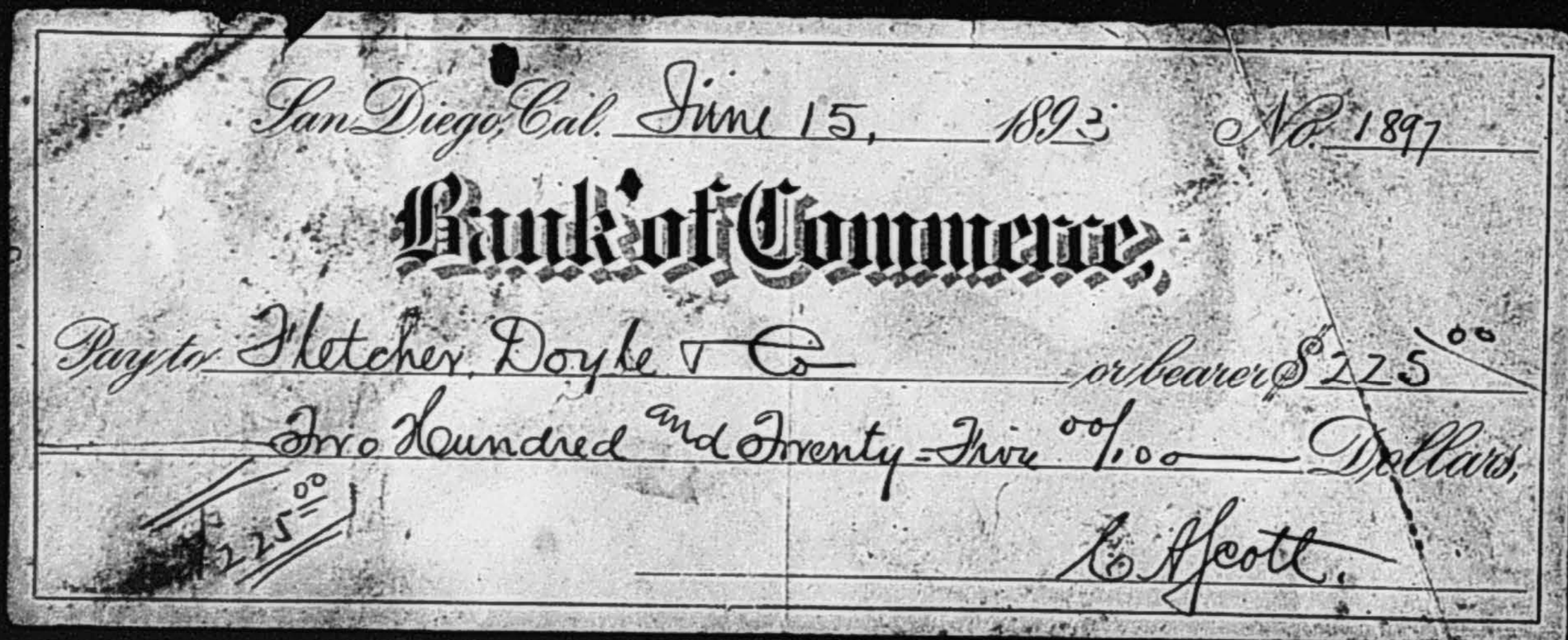
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DEWITT A. HIGGS  
FERDINAND T. FLETCHER  
HENRY PITTS MACK  
WILLIAM E. SOMMER  
PAUL V. PIERIK  
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JOHN W. BURNETT, JR.

HIGGS, FLETCHER AND MACK  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
SUITE 720 BANK OF AMERICA BUILDING  
SAN DIEGO 1, CALIFORNIA  
TELEPHONE BELMONT 8-0104

June 13, 1955

Mr. Ed Fletcher  
Ed Fletcher Company  
1020 Ninth Avenue  
San Diego, California

Dear Dad:

I am returning herewith newspaper clipping of the State Engineer's statement regarding the Feather River project. I made a photostatic copy of the clipping for my file.

Your loving son,

FTF/nk  
Enc.

Walter S. ...

Faint, illegible text on a large sheet of paper, possibly a letter or document, with a horizontal fold line visible near the bottom.

# County's Ultimate Water Use Set At Over Million Feet

## State Engineer Urges Immediate Start On Feather River Project To Meet Need

By HENRY LOVE

San Diego County's ultimate water requirement will be 1,200,000 acre feet, or 200,000 more than previously estimated, A. D. Edmonston, state engineer, said here yesterday as he urged an immediate start on the Feather River project.

"We cannot afford to accept a philosophy that would provide too little water too late," he told a meeting of the Hi Hatters in the San Diego Club.

Edmonston said estimates show San Diego County by 1960 would reach the limit of its presently available water supply, about 250,000 acre feet. By 1980 the requirement would be 500,000 acre feet, and would go to 800,000 acre feet in the year 2000, on the basis of San Diego County Water Authority estimates.

### RIGHTS EXPLAINED

To meet these expanding requirements San Diego presumably would get only its share of what Edmonston said would be 400,000 acre feet of uncommitted supply available to the entire Metropolitan District area. San Diego's preferential right to Metropolitan District water is estimated at 10 per cent of the available amount.

Edmonston said the Feather River project should be started at once "so you can have it down here when you need it. He said problems of watershed protection, water title and even the routing into Southern California can be worked out while the project is under way in the north. The engineer said there would be little difficulty in working out a plan that would protect counties where the water originates. The amount of water available in the Sacramento-San Joaquin system is 10,200,000 acre feet greater than the future needs of the counties of origin, he said.

### ROUTE OUTLINED

Edmonston said his high level route proposal for delivery of water into Southern California, would be more economical than a coast route 150 miles longer, or a low-level tunnel plan that would be "difficult, costly and hazardous."

His high level route into San Diego, via Henshaw Reservoir, Sutherland Reservoir, the upper San Diego River and Barrett Reservoir would put water where it could be stored in existing reservoirs and distributed by gravity, Edmonston said.

High pumping costs of the route would be offset to some extent by power recovery and use of off-peak power supplies, he said.

In making public the new 1,200,000 acre feet ultimate total water requirement for the county, Edmonston said this means San Diego must plan to bring in an additional 933,000 acre feet.

### RESOURCES NOTED

He said presently available water resources could supply 141,000 acre feet from the Colorado River and 126,000 from county water developments.

Edmonston said water from

## NAVY GETS CHECK

### CWA Pays 1st 2nd Barrel Installment

The San Diego County Water Authority made its first payment on the second barrel of its aqueduct yesterday in a transaction the CWA said would reduce annual installments and save the taxpayers \$493,536.

A check for \$1,156,407.56 was handed to Capt. K. A. Godwin, public works officer of the 11th Naval District, in CWA offices by Fred A. Hellbron, CWA chairman. The Navy built both first and second barrels of the aqueduct and receives the repayments from CWA. The check was \$950,968.57 larger than the Navy's bill for the second barrel's first repayment installment. The excess will be used to reduce the debt.

It will lower annual payments by \$24,000, and result in a total saving of \$493,536 in interest over the life of the repayment contract, Hellbron said.

The payment made yesterday was accumulated during several years to reduce the fiscal shock expected when second barrel payments would come due. The accumulation was possible because a revocable agreement with the Navy had, for a time, halved payments due on the interest-free first barrel. By law the CWA was at the same time required to levy a tax for the full amount of the payment, Charles L. Royer, CWA controller, said.

the Sacramento-San Joaquin system that includes the Feather River would be of better quality than that from the Colorado River.

He said plans of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California call for use of Colorado River water by San Diego, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, with Los Angeles and Orange getting the supplies from the Sacramento-San Joaquin basin. Metropolitan engineers have been critical of some of the state engineer's planning on the Feather River project, particularly in connection with the aqueduct route and the level at which water would be brought into Southern California.

Col. Ed Fletcher was program chairman yesterday and took delivery of a barrel of Feather River water which was trucked here.

**Ed Fletcher Papers**

**1870-1955**

**MSS.81**

**Box: 8 Folder: 15**

**General Correspondence - Fletcher, Ferdinand T.**



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