



CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nits
Night Letter	N L

# WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM



NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT  
 GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, VICE-PRESIDENT      BELVIDERE BROOKS, VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nits
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

RECEIVED AT

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HEMET CAL 1110A MAR 20 1916

CUYAMACA WATER CO  
 SANDIEGO

WIRE RAILROAD COMMISSION AMOUNT WATER IN LAMESA EUCALYPTUS AND  
 MURRAY HILL AND WHEN FLUME REPAIR WILL BE COMPLETE

R W HAWLEY

11:34 AM  
 CUYAMACA WATER CO.  
 FILE No. 126  
 DO NOT REMOVE  
 ANY LETTER  
 FROM THIS FILE.

# FEDERAL TELEGRAPH COMPANY TELEGRAM

W. HOPKINS, VICE-PRES.      JOHN L. DEAHL, PRES.      H. P. VEEDER, VICE-PRES. & GEN. MGR.

RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK	INDICATE BY	X	RATE DESIRED

Send the following message, subject to the terms and conditions printed on the back thereof, which are hereby agreed to.

San Diego, Calif., Mch. 20, 1916.

State Railroad Commission,  
 833 Market St.,  
 San Francisco, Calif.

Attention R. W. Hawley.

La Mesa Lake storage One Hundred

Twenty-Three Million gallons; Murray Hill and Eucalyptus  
 Thirty-Five Millions. Three Million gallons daily coming  
 down flume to Murray Hill and within week or ten days  
 Fifteen million daily. Within three weeks Twenty ~~Million~~  
 to Twenty-five millions daily, unless heavy rains prevent  
 completion of work.

**Poulsen System**

Cuyamaca Water Co.

Chg. Cuyamaca Water Co.

CUYAMACA WATER CO.  
 FILE No. 126  
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MAX THELEN, COMMISSIONER, PRESIDENT  
H. D. LOVELAND, COMMISSIONER  
ALEX GORDON, COMMISSIONER  
EDWIN O. EDGERTON, COMMISSIONER  
FRANK R. DEVLIN, COMMISSIONER

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO  
RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Railroad Commission  
of the  
State of California

TENTH FLOOR, COMMERCIAL BUILDING  
838 MARKET STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO

CHARLES R. DETRICK, SECRETARY  
W. P. GEARY, RATE EXPERT  
RICHARD SACHSE, CHIEF ENGINEER  
L. R. REYNOLDS, AUDITOR  
P. A. SINSHEIMER, BOND EXPERT  
DOUGLAS BROOKMAN, ATTORNEY

TELEPHONE—BUTTER 2260

May,  
First,  
1916.

Cuyamaca Water Co.,  
916 Eighth St.,  
San Diego, Calif.

Gentlemen:

Another complaint has been filed by the President of the Board of Trustees of La Mesa, alleging that many of your consumers receive inadequate service, which is growing worse due, it is alleged, to your continued sale of water to San Diego.

Please again report the stage of water in your various reservoirs, the amounts that you are carrying and the amount that has been sold during the last month and that you anticipate selling in the future to San Diego.

Respectfully,

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF CALIFORNIA,

By

*Charles R. Detrick*  
Secretary.

✓ RWH.MR

CUYAMACA WATER CO. FILE No. 176
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May 5, 1916.

Mr. Faude:

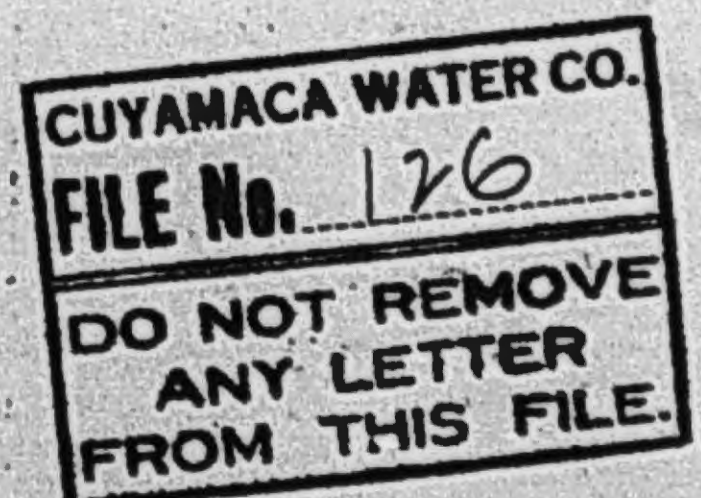
Write to the State Railroad Commission, and let me see it before sending same, in answer to that letter of May 1st. After giving them a report on Cuyamaca Lake, and telling them that we are not drawing on any water from Cuyamaca Lake, then give them the height of La Mesa Dam; tell them that we shall soon have it full; that we are bringing 20 million gallons of water a day to La Mesa; give them the height of Eucalyptus Res; explain that in the City of La Mesa they are building houses higher and higher on the hillsides, and that there is only a difference of 10 or 15 feet elevation between our Eucalyptus Res. when full and those houses on the hills in La Mesa; that we sell to the town of La Mesa at wholesale; that we do not guarantee the pressure; that they have a booster pumping plant, which they can operate at \$50 a month, and they are simply neglecting it, or trying to save this expense to themselves, and would like to have us pay it; that our suggestion is that one of their engineers come down and make an investigation and report on the situation.

That we will not establish a precedent of pumping on the higher levels for the town of La Mesa. That it is only a question of time when they will be building houses in the town of La Mesa at a point higher than Eucalyptus Res. and that if we sell to them at wholesale it is up to them to do the pumping.

You may tell them that we expect to be cut off from the city of San Diego in a few days, after giving them the amount that we have sold the city the last three months. You can tell them that our flood damage is between fifty and sixty thousand, or whatever it is, making sure that it is large enough.

After drawing up this letter, I will sign it.

Ed Fletcher.



**CUYAMACA WATER COMPANY**

SUCCESSORS TO

**THE SAN DIEGO FLUME COMPANY**

OFFICE: FLETCHER BUILDING

916 EIGHTH ST., BET. BROADWAY AND E  
P. O. BOX 1412

ED. FLETCHER, MANAGER

F. M. FAUDE, ASST. MANAGER

LOU B. MATHEWS, SECRETARY

C. HARRITT, SUPERINTENDENT

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA. May 8, 1916.

Mr. Ed Fletcher,  
Mgr C W Co.

Dear Sir:-

I have your letter of May 5th enclosing Railroad Commission's letter of May first regarding complaint of the President of the Board of Trustees of La Mesa alleging that many of our consumers have received inadequate service.

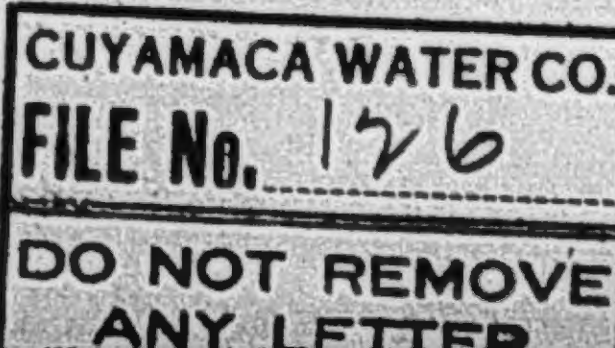
First of all, I will call your attention to the fact that the Board of Trustees of the City of La Mesa is not numbered among our consumers.

We have endeavored in the past and will continue to give the La Mesa Mutual Water Company a pressure about 35 pounds at their connection with our line. During the past few months there have been times when the pressures have been lower than this, but this has happened very seldom. ~~During the times that the pressures have been low, all of the people on the hillsides around La Mesa have failed to receive adequate service.~~

I think that every one who is at all familiar with the facts will admit that a pressure of 35 pounds is all that we are obligated to furnish and that if the people in La Mesa continue to build higher on the hills, the time will come when we will be unable to furnish them a supply without pumping. And if any pumping is required, it is certainly up to the La Mesa Mutual Water Company to do the work as we furnish the water to them at wholesale rates and they distribute it through their own pipe lines and we do not in any way guarantee them any pressure except a normal pressure at their connection such as we furnish to any other consumer in that vicinity. On last Thursday, May 4th I looked at the gage at this connection and found the pressure was 37 pounds.

The La Mesa Mutual Water Company has a booster pump which they can operate themselves, but which they have failed to do either through neglect or because they are trying to shake the expense off onto this Company. This Company should not and can not afford to establish any precedent by pumping to serve these people on the high levels around La Mesa.

Our service to all our consumers along El Cajon Ave. between Eucalyptus and the City Limits has of course been subject to some interruption during the past month. This has been because



CUYAMACA WATER CO.  
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Mr. Ed Fletcher,  
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of the large supply we have been furnishing to the City of San Diego. As you probably know, the City, by reason of break downs on their pumping plants, has been in a very serious situation so far as water supply is concerned. During the past week they had on hand an available supply for only four days and if anything had happened to our system, they would soon have been absolutely without water, and every insurance policy in town would have been canceled.

Under these circumstances we operated our system so as to do the greatest good to the greatest number and during this period some of our consumers suffered some inconvenience. Since you have provided a booster pump at La Mesa, we have been able to give good and satisfactory service to all our consumers and to supply the City such quantities of water that their shortage is temporarily relieved.

In spite of the extremely large amounts of water which we have furnished to the City and our own irrigation consumers, La Mesa Reservoir is gaining at the rate of about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  million gallons a day which should satisfy anyone that our service is 100% efficient.

I understand that the City will soon discontinue taking water from us and as soon as this happens we will be putting into La Mesa Reservoir at least 13 million gallons per day and will have the reservoir filled within 30 days.

Cuyamaca reservoir is now full and we are not drawing any water from it. La Mesa Reservoir now has 250 million gallons in storage. Eucalyptus and Murray Hill have about 20 million gallons. We are diverting into the main flume about 18 million gallons per day and there is every indication that we can continue to divert this much water for at least 30 days. The streams this year will drop very slowly in spite of the extremely dry weather we have had for the past few weeks.

There is absolutely no question that we are able to furnish and are now furnishing an adequate supply to every one of our consumers. The principal complaints so far from our consumers have been from the people in La Mesa and a few of our irrigators who pay us  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cents a thousand gallons for water and expect the best possible domestic service in return. Those of our consumers who are reasonable and understand conditions, have made no objection to the service we have rendered and in talking the matter over with them, they have been perfectly satisfied that our method of operation was the only one possible under the circumstances.

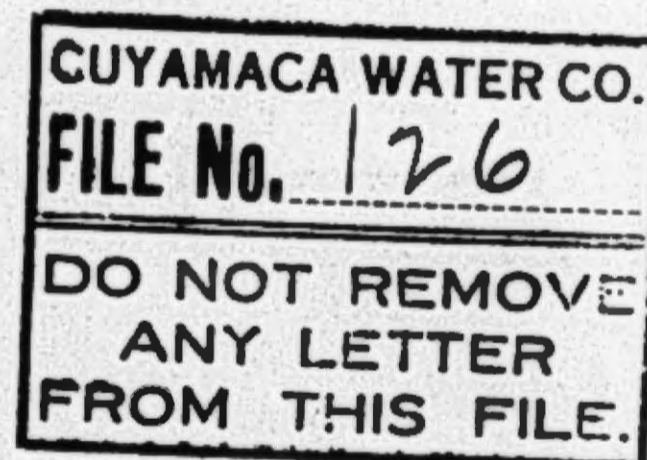
Mr. Ed Fletcher,  
page 3.

I would suggest that you ask the Commission to send an Engineer down here to investigate conditions so that they can satisfy themselves that we are giving the best service to be had in the County or even in the entire southern part of the State and that our consumers should consider themselves lucky to be on our system and not on the Sweetwater system or the City system outside of the City limits.

Yours very truly,

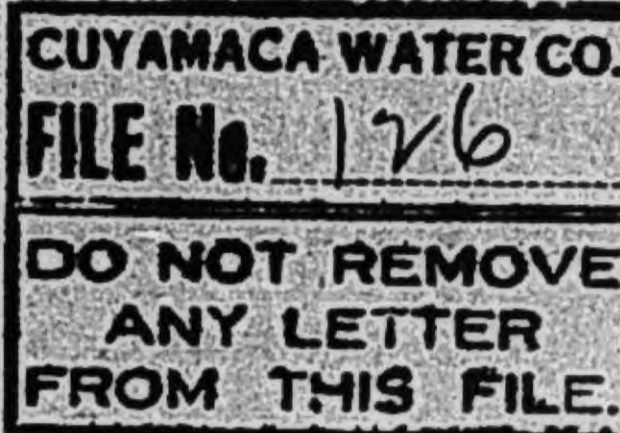
F. M. Faude.

FMF:K



May 10, 1916.

Railroad Commission  
of the State of California,  
833 Market St.,  
San Francisco, Calif.



Gentlemen:

Answering yours of May 1st, regarding complaint of the President of the Board of Trustees of La Mesa, alleging that many of their consumers have received inadequate service, I wish to call your attention to the fact that the Board of Trustees of the City of La Mesa is not numbered among our consumers. We sell to the La Mesa Mutual Water Co. We have endeavored in the past few years, and will continue to give the La Mesa Mutual Water Co. a pressure of about 35 lbs. at their connection with our line. It is possible that the pressure has been lower than this, but it has not happened very often. On Thursday May 4th, Mr. Faude looked at the gauge at this connection, and found that the pressure was 37 lbs.

The trouble is that the La Mesa people are continuing to build higher and higher up on the hills. The time will shortly come when we shall be unable to furnish them a supply of water by gravity. It will have to be pumped. It is certainly up to the La Mesa Mutual Water Co. to do the work of pumping, as we furnish the water to them at wholesale rates, and they distribute it through



their own pipe lines. We don't guarantee them any pressure excepting a normal pressure at their connection.

The La Mesa Mutual Water Co. have a booster pump of their own, which they can operate themselves, but which they have failed to do, either through neglect, or because they are trying to shake the expense off into this company. This company should not be expected and cannot afford to establish any precedent by pumping to serve these people on the high levels in La Mesa, particularly when we have not for five years taken in enough money to pay operating expenses, to say nothing of depreciation and interest.

For a short duration, say of a few hours, it is possible that between Eucalyptus and the city limits there may have been a shortage, owing to the fact that our new man did not know how to operate the valves. It was absolutely necessary for our Superintendent, Mr. Harritt, who has full charge of the valves on our system, to be up the San Diego River for a short time, but when we had complaint we immediately called in Mr. Harritt, and there has been no complaint turned into our office since. We are furnishing water to the City of San Diego, and have installed a booster pumping plant at La Mesa, so as to be able to take care of any emergency, and I don't believe that there will be any more kick from anyone.

I understand that the City of San Diego will soon discontinue taking water from us, and as soon as this happens we will put into La Mesa Reservoir at least 13,000,000 gallons of water per day. We are now putting in between six and eight million gallons per day. Cuyamaca Reservoir is full; La Mesa Reservoir has 53' 6"

CUYAMACA WATER CO.

FILE No. 176

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of water in it; and Eucalyptus and Murray Hill Reservoirs contain about 20,000,000 gallons. We are now diverting into the main flume between 18 and 20 million gallons per day. The streams this year will drop very slowly, and we expect a big head of water for the next thirty or thirty-five days. There is no question but <sup>are</sup> what we/able to and are furnishing an adequate supply to every one of our consumers. There are two or three fellows on the high levels that are buying water for a cent and a half a thousand gallons that are doing the most kicking, and they are demanding domestic water in the second stories of their homes at wholesale prices. Those of our consumers who are reasonable and understand the conditions have made no objections to the service we have rendered. And after talking the matter over with them, they have been perfectly satisfied that our method of operation is the only one possible under the circumstances. I mean by that the furnishing of part of San Diego's water supply, as well as our own supply.

When you realize the fact that we are the only people who have for months been furnishing a full supply of water to our consumers in San Diego County; that the Escondido people have had their troubles and are not furnishing water to their consumers yet; that only water for domestic purposes has been furnished by the Sweetwater system; and no one knows when the City of San Diego will be able to deliver water to its consumers from Morena Dam. I would suggest that you send an engineer down here to investigate conditions and satisfy yourself that we are giving the best service to be had in the

CUYAMACA WATER CO.  
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county, if not in the entire southern part of the state; and that our consumers should consider themselves lucky to be on our system, and not on any other system in San Diego County.

Yours very truly,

CUYAMACA WATER COMPANY,

---

Manager.

F-8

**Ed Fletcher Papers**

**1870-1955**

**MSS.81**

**Box: 55 Folder: 11**

**Business Records - Water Companies - Cuyamaca  
Water Company - Cuyamaca Customers - Customer  
correspondence - La Mesa Board of Trustees, complaint of**



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