

GARDEN OF EDEN IN GULF OF CALIFORNIA

Las Cruces Truly Idyllic Spot, Says Fletcher

By ED FLETCHER

When Bill Jack of the Bill Jack Scientific Instrument Co. of Solana Beach invited me as his guest for a trip to Las Cruces for marlin fishing, I accepted immediately.

Las Cruces is owned by Capt. Abelardo Rodriguez, Jr., oldest son of ex-president of Mexico, Abelardo Rodriguez, a personal friend of the family. I had been to La Paz, 30 miles away, but Las Cruces, on the water's edge, is certainly the beauty spot of the Gulf of California, within a short distance of Cape San Lucas, with a beautiful 20-mile island 15 miles away in the Gulf.

BEAUTIFUL VALLEY

French scientists received a concession in 1888 from the Mexican Government to plant this beautiful little valley to every variety of tropical fruits and it was only five years ago that Capt. Rodriguez purchased the property. I understand he now owns approximately 14,000 acres, with some remarkable land for the growing of vegetables; a mountain 6000 feet high, from which comes a bountiful water supply, and a climate unsurpassed, with the Pacific Ocean only a few miles away.

The 15 or 20 acres where Capt. Rodriguez and his dear wife live with their three children has the greatest collection of tropical plants—coconut trees 80 to 100 feet high; I never saw more mangos on a tree in my life; papaya, cherimoya, sapota, bananas and flowers of every hue—the Quis Qualis Indica grows in profusion—the splendid homes, the American food, swimming pool, everything from tennis to croquet and all kinds of athletic equipment are available. But the charm of it all is that beautiful Senora Rodriguez, for six years a famous Hollywood actress—Lucille Bremer—now the mother of three fine children.

EIGHT IN PARTY

But back to Las Cruces! There were eight of us in the party—Bill Jack had his dear and noted friend, Dr. R. W. Scott, the heart specialist of Cleveland, (who caught a 212-pound marlin) also five heads of departments in his company—Carl Nyman, Dr. Charles F. Brass, Joseph Dudley, Edward T. Dercar and J. B. Round. In a chartered plane we flew direct from San Diego to Las Cruces in less than five hours for five days of fishing.

Four boats, two men in each boat, competed, and to me it was the excitement of a lifetime. My partner was Joe Dudley, who did



Scene along Las Cruces waterfront, on the Gulf of California, 30 miles from city of La Paz.



BILL JACK

with 184-pound marlin caught on fishing expedition in gulf.

the heavy work for me, in five days of fishing, eight to ten hours a day, with nothing to worry about except to win the prize. With two splendid Mexican fishermen to each boat, a canopy top and a soft tropical breeze we all forgot the troubles of the world and never by radio

ahead for a short distance full steam and the most fascinating fish of the sea is hooked—when the marlin feels the steel, into the air it goes. Then the struggle with a 9 to 12-foot marlin commences, probably the most powerful fish of the sea. It runs out 500 to 600 feet of line, then jumps 10 to 15 feet straight up in the air, trying to throw the hook out of its mouth. Time and again this happens, but a taut line saves the day! Then the marlin sinks to the depths below and sulks and we follow it by boat. Sometimes it pulls us, whichever way it goes. Once more it will probably jump into the air nearer the boat, but in the end it tires out, we have reeled the huge fish in and it eventually is gaffed and landed.

NEVER AGAIN

I went to a bull fight and prize fight once—but never again. After catching marlin my sympathies were always with the marlin—the remarkable fight it makes to gain its freedom—I have no more desire to catch another!

My son, Ferdinand, has been to Mazatlan, Guaymas, San Felipe and La Paz marlin fishing, never to catch a fish.

There are three kinds of swordfish—broadbill, marlin and the sailfish.

Another party of 16 were there as guests of W. F. Nelson, contractor in San Diego. During their five-day stay they caught 62 marlin and a 150-pound sailfish.

The sailfish has a round fin two to three feet high. It was a beautiful sight to see, as we did, a school of sailfish jumping out of the water—an entirely different movement from the marlin.

Plenty of money was exchanged each day between the Jack party and the Nelson party

as to the number and weight of the marlin caught.

Mr. Nelson's party consisted of: Tommy Bowles, George Scott, M. C. Wells and son, Cliff Sharp, Glen Whitlock, Ray Swanne, Mace McKinney, Walt Lindsey, Walter Bollenbacher, Ralph M. Alexander, Al Bjorklund, Truman Brownie, Fred Edwards and Frank Sheldon—mostly friends from Los Angeles and Blythe.

Capt. Rodriguez is rapidly developing his property. He flew me in his own plane down to Cape San Lucas and to his farming property. I saw where he and our good citizen, Donald Briggs, were raising 100 acres of gladiolus, 100 acres of castor beans for oil, and vegetables of all kinds. I was amazed at the underground water supply with a couple of lakes on the surface as well.

ALSO FLEW TO LA PAZ

He also flew me to La Paz, now a beautiful city of 10,000 with paved streets, up-to-date taxis, beautiful flowering trees and two miles of promenade on the waterfront shaded by coconut palms. I met our dear and beloved friend, General Olachea, formerly governor of the northern district of Baja California and now governor of the southern district of Baja California.

It was a remarkable crowd—nothing to mar the happiness of it all and I look upon it as one of the happiest fishing experiences of my life.

BEST DEAL

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or newspaper received a word from the outside, nor were we interested in receiving it. The plane makes weekly trips and we were happy to let the days go by.

CAUGHT A DOLPHIN

I caught the first fish—a most beautiful golden dolphin, weighing 12 pounds—one of the finest fish to eat the ocean produces. Joe and I landed 10 marlin altogether. In an hour after commencing fishing we had our first marlin, weighing 120 pounds. I hooked and Joe landed for me three marlin, the largest weighing 182 pounds. It took us an hour and 20 minutes to land it and what an experience!

We used flying fish and mullet for bait, with an extra heavy pole and tackle with steel leader and 2-inch hook; our seats are screwed down, the pole fitted into a large holster with an extra 15 or 20 feet of line fastened in another 15-foot pole and an outrigger on each side in the air where our fishing line is held by a clothes pin. When the marlin strikes 15 or 20 feet of slack line comes unfastened from the clothes pin.

The thrill of it all—first to see the upper fin of the marlin zigging and zagging around our bait, then alongside our bait comes the marlin and up comes his two-foot bill. He strikes our bait hard, being dragged at four miles an hour by the boat, forcing the line from the clothes pin attached to the outrigger giving time so that it can then swallow the bait.

MARLIN IN ACTION

It is the most thrilling thing of all to see that marlin in action. The boat has stopped, we wait for 10 or 15 seconds, then go

RODRIGUEZ DAM READY TO SERVE BY NEXT JANUARY

Will Impound Enough Water At 60-Foot Height to Put 4000 Acres Into Crop.

By ED FLETCHER.
Few citizens in the United States realize the marvelous possibilities of water development that can and some day will be made by our neighbor to the south, Mexico.

Baja California has a larger acreage of practically frostless land and a greater amount of water which can be conserved than the combined acreage and water development to date in southern California. This gives you some idea of the future possibilities of development in Baja California.

Southern California's backbone of mountain range extends into Mexico nearly 300 miles with an average elevation of 4000 to 6000 feet while the San Pedro Martir range, 150 miles below the line reaches an elevation of 10,000 to 11,000 feet, snow-capped nearly the year round. These mountains furnish approximately the same rainfall and snow as compared with our southern California range, according to elevation.

MANY SOURCES OF SUPPLY

There are marvelous possibilities of water development not alone on the Tijuana river, but the Las Flores, Guadalupe, San Domingo, Santa Tomas, San Quentin, Del Rosario and many other streams while the Colorado river and the under ground water bearing gravels to be developed on the eastern slope and adjacent to the gulf are almost inexhaustible.

Nothing much has been said about it but less than 25 miles from San Diego, one of the most interesting dams ever built on the Pacific coast is under construction.

This year will witness the completion of the first unit of Rodriguez dam, world's largest water-impounding project of the Ambursen type, located in the Garcia canyon of the Tijuana river, 11 miles southeast of Tijuana.

Representing an immediate investment of more than \$2,500,000, and a potential investment of more than \$8,000,000, Rodriguez dam constitutes one of the continent's major structural developments. Further, it emphatically refutes an oft-advanced theory that Baja California plays no part in California's major public-utility development, for to the contrary Rodriguez dam constitutes one of the continent's most important agricultural, colonization and structural projects.

READY NEXT JANUARY

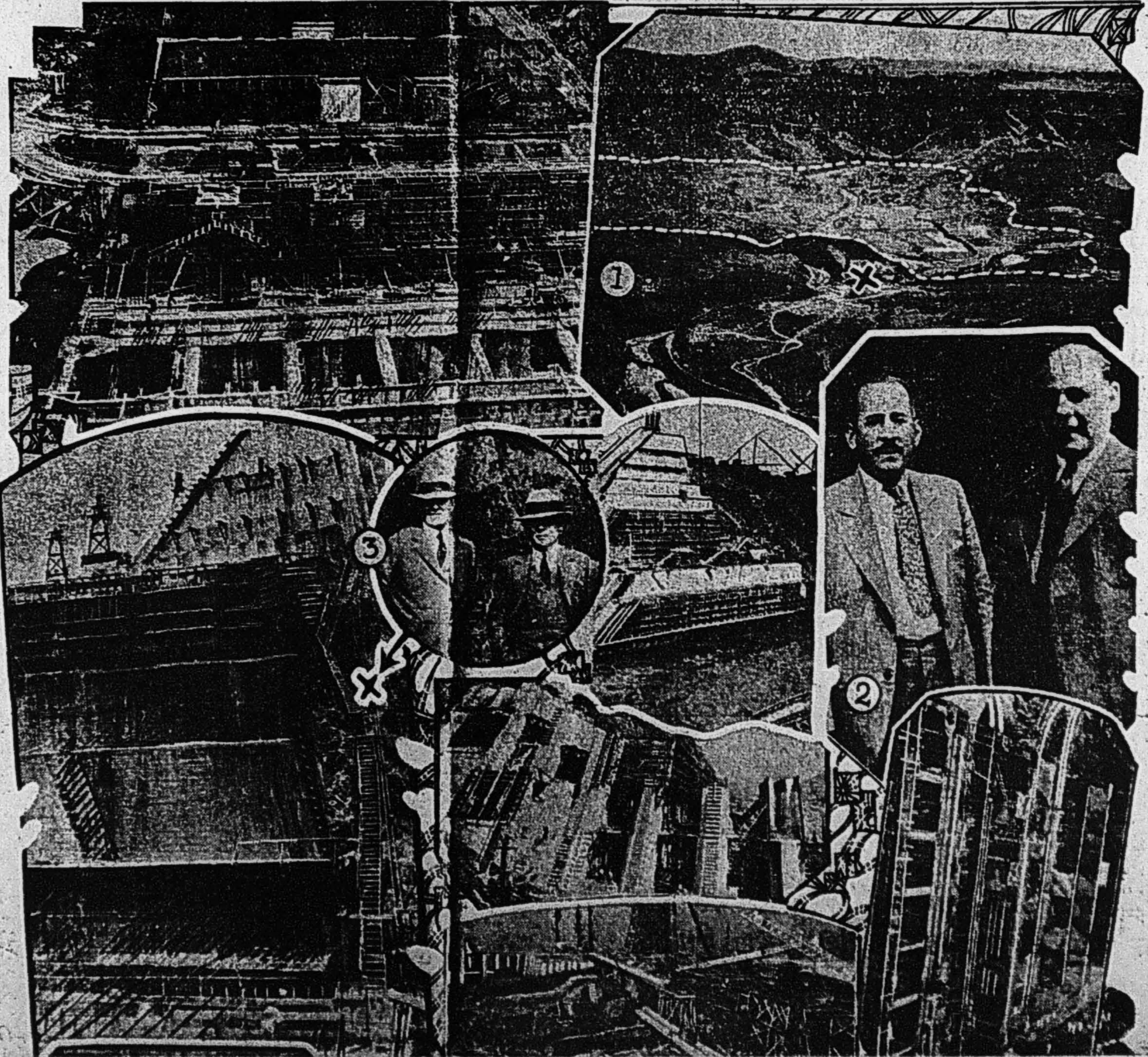
By January, 1933, the dam will be completed to a 60-foot height and be ready to impound sufficient water to serve Greater Tijuana's domestic needs during four consecutive dry years. It will be 80 percent filled by a single downpour like that of February, 1923, and completely filled within eight hours by such a rain as in 1916, reports Jose L. Favela, engineer, general agent of the department of agriculture in Baja California.

Rodriguez dam has a drainage area of 940 square miles with an extreme seasonal flow featuring large and flashy floods; thus the project serves as an important protective as well as agricultural development measure for the Tijuana valley.

Where Tijuana River Will Be Harnessed to Public Use

These pictures are of Rodriguez dam, 11 miles southeast of Tijuana, and officials interested in its construction. 1—Dotted line marks limits of impounding basin. 2—Gov. Agustin Olachea (left) of Baja California and Gen. A. L. Rodriguez, governor when the dam was started in 1929. 3—Col. Ed Fletcher (left) and Rodriguez. Picture was taken at "X" in No. 1.

4—Mexican inspection party including (left to right), Col. Petronile Flores, mayor of Tijuana; Alberte V. Andrete, manager of the Agua Caliente company; Jose L. Favela, supervisor of dam construction as representative of the Mexican government; Gen. Elfridie Velasquez, military commander at Tijuana, and S. B. Renchi, Mexican newspaper man.



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as an important protective as well as agricultural development measure for the Tijuana sector.

A dam 60 feet in height will net an annual profit of \$30,000 which it is the intention of the government to put right back into helping finance the completion.

An additional 4000 acres of fertile lands particularly adaptable to growing of avocados, citrus fruits and winter vegetables will be made available, increasing the Mexicali-Tijuana irrigated agricultural domain to more than 300,000 acres.

Conceived by Gen. Abelardo Rodriguez in 1929 when he was governor of the northern district of Baja California, Rodriguez dam was started by its creator, who now holds the office of secretary of war for the Republic of Mexico. While occupying various major governmental posts in Mexico City, including that of secretary of industry, commerce and labor in the cabinet of President Pascual Ortiz Rubio, General Rodriguez never has lost interest in Rodriguez dam.

OLACHEA SPEEDS PROJECT

Recognizing the importance of the project to the northern district of Baja California, Gen. Agustin Olachea, upon assuming the governorship of the northern district of the territory, threw whole-hearted support to rushing completion of the dam. In fact, Governor Olachea named Rodriguez dam as the first of five major developments on his territorial improvement program; the other four projects include expansion of public education, paving of the Tijuana-Ensenada highway, extension of Tijuana's sewage system and paving of Tijuana streets.

Governor Olachea's support of the Rodriguez dam construction is no less enthusiastic than that given by Gen. J. M. Tapia, governor of the district for 10 months during 1930. General Tapia appropriated \$60,000 a month for Rodriguez dam construction during his reign as governor.

Rodriguez dam is being built by the national government of Mexico and the northern territory of Baja California, as a joint irrigation development. Ignacio Lopez Banclari is chief executive of the national commission of irrigation and is represented in the district and on the Rodriguez project by Jose L. Favola, Charles P. Williams, Los Angeles, is consulting engineer for the national commission and is assisted by Jose Gomez Tagle as resident engineer for the Mexican government. A. J. Wiley and F. A. Noctall with Mr. Williams have acted as a consulting board on problems of foundation and design.

HIGHLIGHTS OF STRUCTURE

Highlights of the dam follow:

1. Location: Garcia canyon in the Tijuana river, 11 miles southeast of the town of Tijuana, Lower California, Mexico.

2. Reservoir capacity: 111,000 acre feet, or 38,191,000,000 gallons.

Area to be covered by the lake; 2240 acres.

Length of the lake, 4 1/2 miles.

3. Safe yield: 8000 acre-feet per year, or 2,906,000,000 gallons a year.

Use of water: Domestic supply of the city of Tijuana and suburban development through irrigation of the valley located between the dam site and Tijuana.

4. Type of dam: Hollow, reinforced concrete; bulkhead formed by deck slabs simply supported by buttresses. Height of dam: 180 feet above the stream bed.

Depth of foundation in the river bed: 50 feet; foundation consists of arches of 90-foot maximum span and 7 feet maximum thickness at the crown, which transmit the pressure to the sidehills, all along the river bed.

Length of dam along its axis: 1800 feet.

Cut-off wall: In the river bed it is being built from the top downward through 10 shafts. Its maximum depth in a small section will be 300 feet.

Spillway: May safely handle flood

SAN DIEGO ROUTE URGED FOR WATER

(Continued from Page One)

would follow a canyon in San Diego county eight miles which would lodge it behind a \$25,000,000 dam capable of impounding about 8,500,000 acre feet, or enough to supply Los Angeles, the speaker said, for two years.

"From San Diego to Los Angeles county Mr. Francisco sees no reason to expect impossible engineering features. He said San Diego county has agreed to make a preliminary engineering survey, and the work already is under way.

"The proposed aqueduct would have less than 50 miles of tunnels against more than 100 miles for the Parker route, the speaker said. Not only that, but it would cross all faults at right angles, and would pass through the major tunnel sections at a point where the mountains are solid and not influenced by earthquakes.

TO REPLACE FORWARD PLAN

"Mr. Francisco declared he has lived in the district traversed by his proposed route, and that he knows every mile of the country involved. He said his hope is to delay letting of a contract on the Parker route until his plan can be given an engineering examination. He argues that his route is shorter than that of the Parker route, and that it involves far less difficult engineering features than does the northern project.

"The speaker hopes to bring together officials of interested cities some time next week to further discussion of his plan."

The Parker plan has been "accepted" by Los Angeles, but financing is far from complete. Francisco's plan is designed to replace it as well as the Allison-Forward plan, which called for co-operation of the Mexican government.

of 180,000 second feet. Its total length is 351 feet. It will require nine gates 30 feet square. The apron extends 355 feet below crest.

Outlet works: Water will flow through a concrete-lined tunnel under spillway and then will flow through a pipeline.

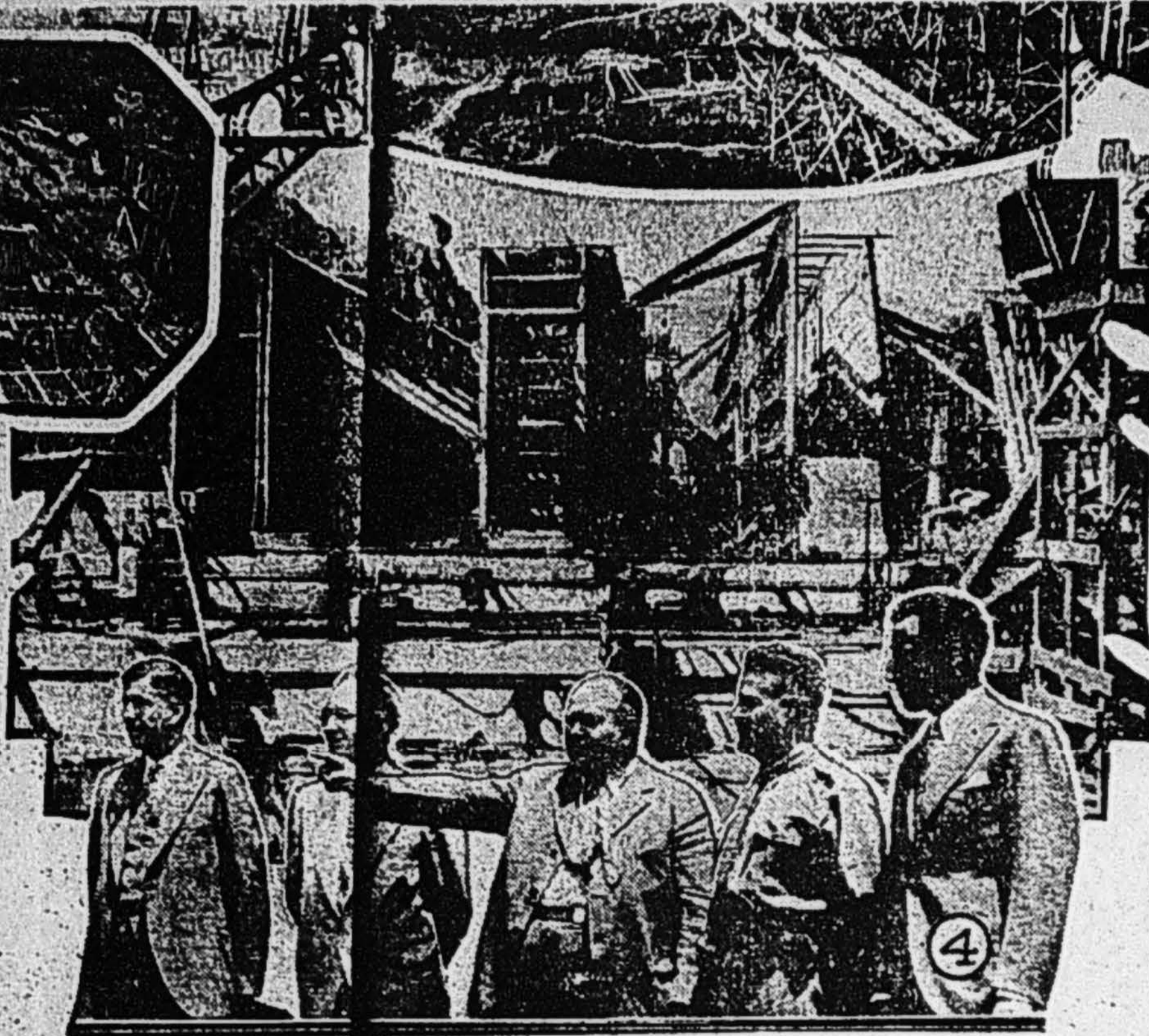
5. Concrete: 804,000 cubic yards will be placed. Designed in accordance with the water-cement strength theory. Production, placing and curing is controlled. Samples of each and every pour are tested at 28 days.

Steel: 8450 tons will be used.

6. Total estimated cost of construction, \$3,500,000, United States currency.

7. Organization: The work is being built on a pay-as-you-go basis by the government of the northern territory of Lower California. The contractors are the Ambursen Dam company of New York.

Two strips of newly-laid pavement were stolen during the night at Toledo, O.



—Official Mexican Government Photos.

Second Largest Carillon in World Is Expected to Ring Out Its Debut

CHICAGO, Aug. 6 (A.P.) — Chicago, bereft of its Ravinia outdoor opera, and with the existence of Civic opera uncertain through financial difficulties, will have music on a grand scale.

Sometime in October citizens who for four years have been wondering about the University of Chicago's belfry without bell, the open space in the institution's chapel tower will receive an answer in a autumnal symphony—the voice of a musical instrument weighing 220 tons.

At that date, University officials said today, the world's second largest carillon, a cluster of harmonized bells, will ring out its debut. Workers have for several weeks been getting the tower ready, machinery has been arriving regularly, and the bells, produced in England, will end their transatlantic, cross-country trip Aug. 10.

Donated to the university by John

D. Rockefeller, Jr., in memory of his mother, the carillon will be surpassed in size only by that the Riverside church in New York City.

A supreme noise maker—is this gargantuan and refined cousin of a cowbell, multiplied manifold. Here are some of the specifications:

Seventy-two bells, ranging in weight from 10 1-2 to 36,926 pounds—all pitched to peal forth in melodious chords. It will be music in the most modern, motorized manner. Compressed air pistons and electrically-operated valves will take the place of flying fingers and educated lips. Total cost—around \$200,000.

The intricate music mechanism will be operated from a console several stories below—a keyboard arranged for sharps and flats as for a piano. The individual keys are oak pegs which the artist strikes with his fists.

ROBBED AND SLAIN BY CHINESE BANDITS

SHANGHAI, Aug. 6 (I.N.S.)—Henry Ekvall, American missionary formerly with the Chinese inland mission, missing since July 23, is reported to have been robbed of \$20,000 and then slain by Chinese Communist bandits. Gustav Thrownvall, a Swede said to have been with the American, also is believed killed.

'GREEN PASTURES' MANAGER DIES

Former stage and theatrical executives of San Diego were shocked yesterday to learn of the sudden death in Denver of Howard Smith, general manager of "The Green Pastures" company, seen here a few weeks ago on Savoy stage. Smith died in his sleep in a Denver hotel a few days ago, according to word from that city.

He had been a frequent visitor to San Diego for 25 years, according to Jack Dodge, and had formed a large acquaintance here. He was manager of the "Bird of Paradise" company that played here several years ago.

W. B. Frisbie, division passenger agent for the Santa Fe, said yesterday that Smith, before leaving San Diego with "The Green Pastures" company, made arrangements to return here with his wife from the eastern coast for a vacation, planned for some time this month. He was an ardent lover of San Diego and never ceased to spread good reports about this city in his nation-wide travels, said Frisbie.

WALNUT CROP INCREASES
California Walnut Growers' association estimates the crop this year will be 27 percent larger than that of 1931.

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	Ballantine.....	3 lbs. 53c		
	Budweiser, 3-lb. can.....	51c		
	Budweiser, 2 1/2-lb. can.....	45c		
	Rainier, 2 1/2-lb. can	28c		
	Rainier No. 6, 3-lb. can	39c		
	Old Heidelberg	59c		
	Old Homestead.....	35c, 3 for \$1		
	Pioneer.....	33c, 3 for \$1		
	Bottle Caps	Gross, 15c		
Bottle—Ginger Ale (12 or 16-oz.) or small Ambers				25c Doz.

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MEXICO WILL CONTINUE ISSUING FISHING PERMITS AT S. D. OFFICE

Definite assurance that the Mexican government will continue to accommodate masters of American fishing boats operating in Mexican waters by issuing fishing permits at offices maintained in San Diego and San Pedro was received here yesterday.

The news, of utmost importance to the large tuna fishing and canning industry here, was received by Sen. Ed Fletcher from Miguel Adquevedo, Mexican secretary forestry, fish and game, in the form of a telegram.

Six weeks ago the Mexican government, under orders from President Cardenas, ordered its fishing offices here and at San Pedro

closed, and announced that all fishing permits would be issued at Ensenada, Mexican port 70 miles south of here.

Two weeks later, Secretary Adquevedo came here and, after an (Continued on Page 2, Col. 5)

Where to Find It

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JAN. 2,

MED AT

MEXICO TO ISSUE FISHING PERMITS HERE, SAN PEDRO

(Continued from Page 1)

Investigation, confirmed the order that had come from Mexico, D. F.

Fishing interests, faced with a situation that would have forced some boats out of the Mexican fishing industry and that would have put all units of the large tuna fishing fleet to great inconvenience, loss of time and added expense, to say nothing of the hazard to their highly perishable cargoes that might be caused by delays, sought the aid of Sen. Fletcher in seeking modification of the order.

The senator enlisted cooperation of Mayor P. J. Benbough, Edgar F. Hastings, chairman of the board of supervisors; the chamber of commerce, Sen. Robert Olsen of Los Angeles and various city and county officials in a campaign to acquaint Mexican officials with the hardships closing of San Diego and San Pedro offices would impose.

Telegram Quoted
As a result, Sen. Fletcher yesterday received from Secretary Adquevedo a telegram reading:

"Replying to your communication of the 16th to President Cardenas regarding change of offices from San Diego and San Pedro to the port of Ensenada for purposes of issuing fishing permits, I wish to state that in order not to deny the wishes of America, our authorities will continue to issue permits to the interested parties at San Diego and San Pedro. However, at higher rates than at Ensenada. Also, we will do away with concessionaires who have doubled the cost to those interested parties. The Mexican government reciprocates the courtesies and concessions which the American government has heretofore extended to us. Affectionately,
"MIGUEL ADQUEVEDO."

Senator Fletcher said last night that confirmation of the telegram will be contained in a detailed letter of explanation which is to follow. He said he was certain that the arrangement will work out very satisfactorily for all parties involved.

"This is the greatest bit of news southern California fishermen could hope for," said Frank Buono, general manager of the San Diego Fishermen's association, when a copy of the telegram was read to him last night by The Union.

Big Saving Cited

"Continuance of the present arrangement will save San Diego fishermen untold expense that would have been incurred if they had been required to put into Ensenada every outgoing and incoming trip. When the boats are returning with cargoes of fish, every hour that they are delayed in getting to port where they unload creates that hazard that the fish will not arrive in the best condition.

"Many of the boats would have been forced out of Mexican waters entirely, because of their limited capacity for oil and fuel. In seeking Sen. Fletcher's very able aid, I stressed that most tuna clippers would not operate at a profit if called upon to lose time and mileage putting into Ensenada."

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SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, TUESDAY

OFFICIAL ANGLERS TELL OF BIG ONES MISSED IN MEXICO

After a totuava fishing trip in the Gulf of California as guests of State Sen. Ed Fletcher, state officials including Lt. Gov. George J. Hatfield were back in San Diego yesterday spinning yarns about "the big ones they missed." The party, traveling in four trucks and autos, carrying their own water, food and other supplies, left Friday morning and were joined at El Centro by Hatfield and George Stout, California liquor administrator, who flew from San Francisco.

Also in the party were Ralph Seely; Merle Templeton, state liquor administrator here; State Sen. Leonard J. Difani; State Sen. Ben Hulse; J. S. Oswald, El Centro chief of police; Charles Fletcher, Charles Smith and State Sen. Sanborn Young. The party drove to Yuma and then went south through Sonora to Santa Clara.

The party caught 81 totuava, the largest of which weighed 162 pounds and was caught by Hatfield. The smallest fish caught weighed 50 pounds.

Hatfield was warm in praising the outing. He said: "The trip to the gulf is the most unusual on the North American continent. George Stout and myself left San Francisco by plane at 3:30 a. m. Friday and four hours later joined the party at El Centro. At 5 p. m. the same day we were at Santa Clara, on the gulf, a most remarkable change.

"I have seen nothing that approaches the peculiarities of the delta of the Colorado. The primitive life is picturesque and most interesting. The courtesy and friendliness of the Mexicans was outstanding and the delight of the trip is something that always will be remembered."

The party brought five of the fish back to San Diego. One of them which weighed more than 100 pounds was given to the Children's Home.

LT. GOV. HATFIELD IN FISHING PARTY



Lt. Gov. George Hatfield and other state officials have returned to San Diego from the Gulf of California, where they went totuava fishing as guests of State Sen. Ed Fletcher. Top (left to right): Ralph Seely, Merle Templeton, Hatfield, Sen. Fletcher, State Sen. Leonard J. Difani, State Sen. Ben Hulse, George Stout, J. S. Oswald, Charles Fletcher, Charles Smith and State Sen. Sanborn Young. Below: (left) Lt. Gov. Hatfield with a big catch and (right) Merle Templeton, state liquor administrator here, with a totuava he hooked.

Subscribed March 20, 1936
PAGE FOUR

NEW SCHEDULE ON FISHING TARIFF

Sen. Ed Fletcher announces receipt from the department of fish and game of Mexico, Miguel A. de Quevedo, of the new tariff signed March 13 by President Cardenas affecting the Mexican fishing industry on the Pacific coast. The San Diego and San Pedro fishermen will not be compelled to go to Ensenada, and Mexican offices will continue to be open in San Diego and San Pedro. New rates follow:

Register on tonnage, annual fee, 3.00 pesos; permit for fishing for each boat, 18 pesos; for each ton of capacity and for every voyage, 25 pesos per ton; inspection of nets, each meter in length, 15 centavos; annual permits to residents and non-resident foreigners, 2 pesos per year.

If the above permits are secured in Ensenada, there is some reduction in cost but not sufficient to warrant making Ensenada the port of entry. Frank Buono, general manager of the San Diego Fishermen's association, said, "Under all conditions, our organization is satisfied with the new tariff, and appreciates what Ambassador Daniels has done in rendering his vital assistance. Sen. Fletcher should be given the credit for taking the lead with the organization in securing the reduction of rates from 35 pesos to 25 pesos per ton import duty.

"There is one condition that we feel is unfair, the demand of a cash bond. It should be changed to a surety bond, otherwise the fishing industry will be greatly curtailed if not almost entirely paralyzed."

Ed Fletcher Papers

1870-1955

MSS.81

Box: 74 Folder: 14

Personal Memorabilia - Miscellaneous clippings re Mexico



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