

W. E. Hughes, Manager

Daily and Weekly

The Emporia Gazette

W. A. WHITE, Editor and Owner

Emporia, Kansas. 1/8/14

Dear Mr. Fletcher:

I know of no other spot in the world where climate and scenery and civilization are so delightful as they are in Grossmont. Mountain and sea, city and field, are all found mingled in the wonderful view. It is an ideal home location and I only wish that I could have a home there.

Truly and sincerely yours,

Mr. Ed Fletcher,

San Diego, Cal.

W. A. White

THE EMPORIA GAZETTE

DAILY AND WEEKLY

W. A. WHITE, EDITOR AND OWNER

W. E. HUGHES, MANAGER

EMPORIA, KANSAS

Mrs. Fletcher

January 8, 1920.

Dear Ed Fletcher:

I am returning the account of the Mexican trip on today's mail. It was a good story, and I enjoyed every word of it. I am sorry that I didn't return it sooner. Mrs. White and I got home Sunday before Christmas and the pleasantest memory of our trip was that Sunday afternoon on the hills back of San Diego.

Give my affectionate regards to Mrs. Fletcher, keeping the usual per cent for commission allowed in such cases.

Truly and sincerely yours,

Mr. Ed Fletcher,
Fletcher Bldg.,
San Diego, Calif.

W. A. White

WAW/A.

*Original in
San Diego*

San Diego, California
April 15, 1934.

Mr. William Allen White,
Emporia, Kansas.

My dear Mr. White:

It was a pleasure to get your letter of the 8th and to hear from you again.

Did Governor Landon tie up with Hearst and Merriam? I think his strategy was good. Merriam and Hearst are tied up with Landon but Landon's skirts seem to be clear as far as I know, and he is going to carry the state, in my opinion, two to one.

Yes, I referred to Senator Wright. He is now 70 to 80 years old, an old political war horse and while I like him personally politically I have no use for him, and he could not be elected poundmaster. He is of the old guard, always working politically with Chandler of the Los Angeles Times, Crocker with his Southern Pacific millions and Mike de Young.

Hughes would have been elected President instead of Wilson if those men had treated Governor Johnson and his crowd right at that time. I was campaign manager for Hughes when he came to San Diego and had charge of the meeting here where about 45,000 people heard him speak, in the Park. As we were eating luncheon he, sitting on my right, asked me this question: "Do you think I am going to carry California?" I told him it was doubtful but I was doing everything I could to help him. I then asked him the question, "Have you met Governor Johnson?" His answer was, "No." I said, "I cannot understand your coming into the state without shaking hands, at least, with the man who has just been elected Governor of California, by over a half million majority." His answer was that he followed the advice of the National Committee. Of course, the National Committee was dominated by those three men I have mentioned above.

A few minutes later he asked if I knew where Governor Johnson was. I said "Yes, he is at the Virginia Hotel, Long Beach".

Then, I put this question to him, "Do you mind my bringing you and Governor Johnson together?" His answer was that he would be glad to meet him. I immediately asked to be excused, rang up the Virginia Hotel at Long Beach and found that Governor Johnson had left fifteen minutes before by automobile.

I reported the above to Mr. Hughes and told him I was going to Los Angeles and bring them together. His answer was, "It is not necessary". Again I pled that he allow me to do it and rather curtly he answered, "It is not necessary, I will see Governor Johnson before I leave the state", I shut up. But he did not see Johnson. He left the state that night at midnight. He lost California and lost his election as President on that account.

I have never made this public and am writing to you in confidence. But just see what might have happened. It would have affected the whole world if Hughes had been elected and I know darn well he never would have gone to Europe and paraded around as Wilson did.

Maldoo and his wife were trout fishing with me at Cuyamaca Lake as my guests. I don't agree with him in politics but like him personally. He was then married to Hugs Wilson. I asked him why Wilson went to Europe and he told me 57 senators and he pled with Wilson not to go. The real reason was his wife wanted to go and get the acclaim. That is the influence that made Wilson go. He can make this public some time but not now.

If you knew all I know of the situation here I believe you would approve of what Governor Landon has done. In my opinion, Merriam and Chatterbox have at all times been under the domination of Hoover, and as much as I like Hoover he is absolutely out of the question. You know the extreme that I went to to help Hoover. He was my guest here last summer with Dr. Hilber, at our Exposition, on "Hoover Day", and I had several conferences with him, but I told him to his face, also by letter, that he was impossible as a presidential candidate. I feel that he should not have elected himself into the picture. Even tho I admit he was as probably the biggest man on the Republican party yet the people just will not stand for it, and he could have more power, undercover, in naming the right man than he has today by putting himself in the limelight as he has.

Have you forgotten our wonderful trip when we

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celebrated the opening of Mountain Springs Grade twenty years ago? Today to go to Lima in four hours thru the sand hills that we planked with wood, and now paved.

I am enclosing picture of my 162 pound Tommava that I caught in the Gulf last December. I had Governor Hatfield and five senators down there a week ago last Saturday and we had the time of our lives, catching 82 fish weighing from 162 pounds, the largest, down to 42 pounds, the smallest. It is the finest fish that comes out of the sea and it is a pleasure to catch them with reel and rod.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Ed Fletcher Papers

1870-1955

MSS.81

Box: 34 Folder: 2

General Correspondence - White, William A.



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