(E)

Expenditures of the City of San Diego from 1924 to 1950.

1924	$4,407,574.90
1925	5,249,477.81
1926	5,778,767.20
1927	6,941,558.53
1928 (Jan. 1 to July 1)	5,780,917.88
1929 (July 1 to July 1,1929)	6,730,204.53
1929-30 (July 1 to July 1,1950)	6,865,629.15

COPY

Nielsen

CITY LOSES MILLIONS BY PROPOSED COMPROMISE

Is it not a fact that under the proposed compromise, water is to be used not to exceed an average of from 4 to 10 million gallons per day over a period of four years, and that under this agreement water would not be used for six months of the calendar year for irrigation purposes, but the city could be required to make up a maximum amount of up to 20 million gallons per day for the balance of the year?

Is it not a fact that it would cost approximately $1,000,000 to rehabilitate the present Cuyamaca flume?

Is it not a fact that Fletcher, King and Harritt were the advisers at the meetings of the compromise committee?

Is it not a fact that it has cost the Cuyamaca Water Co. over four times as much to deliver water as the price set in the compromise?

Is it not a fact that all the water stored in the Cuyamaca Reservoir for any reasonable period of time suffers an evaporation loss of over 50% of the storage?

Is it not a fact that transporting the water thru an open canal to the point of use, suffers an added loss of approximately 30% from said reservoir?

Is it not a fact that the water used by the citizens of San Diego City, costs 20¢ to 24¢ at the tap?

Is it not a fact that the city will lose $186,000 per year over a period of the first ten years, just on the basis of the Henshaw-Fletcher contract with the city to deliver water from the Hodges Reservoir, delivered at the city's pumping plant near the Torrey Pines Reservoir for the sum of 10¢ per thousand gallons?

How can the city sell and deliver water for 4¢ per thousand gallons that costs at least 10¢, and stay in business?

If the City of San Diego assumes and guarantees the bonds of the La Mesa Irrigation District, will the Irrigation District assume its share of the responsibility, or will it stay out and let San Diego carry the load; or if San Diego carries the load, should not the Irrigation District become a part of Greater San Diego?

If Engineer Hill, Jr. recommended the bonds of the Irrigation District to the Bonding Commission, and Engineer Hill, Sr., recommends that the City of San Diego take over the obligations of the Irrigation District on the theory that the District will be bankrupt if forced to carry the load, can the City Council assume such a responsibility, when the citizens of San Diego have to face that same bankruptcy bogey, at the rate of a thousand dollars per day?

If the District is facing bankruptcy whose fault is it? Did the City of San Diego advise the purchase of the Cuyamaca System by the District, or did an Astute Gentlemen, who had something to sell, turn the trick? Why should San Diego be made the goat?

Who the dickons are the Mayor, City Attorney and the City Council representing anyway, the Irrigation District or the City of San Diego? Why all the secrecy? Let all the facts be given the voters, they will do the rest.

ISSUED FOR AND IN BEHALF OF THE MEN WHO PAY THE BILLS

report gave its reasons and conclusions and set forth a comprehensive and business-like method for future water development. The report did not conform to the ideas of Mayor John L. Bacon, and on January 4, 1923, he summarily dismissed from office the whole Commission. The refusal of the City Council to act upon this valuable report was in keeping with past history of such matters. The Mayor and Common Council on several occasions have refused to be guided by such expert and important water development reports, to the incalculable loss to San Diego.

A 30 inch water pipe has been constructed from San Dieog to Lakeside which is intended to convey water from Sutherland Dam, El Capitan and San Vicente. At this date the pipe line is being used to convey water from thepumping stations along San Diego River.

In 1928, the City's hydraulic engineer, H. N. Savage, recommended that immediate steps be taken to safeguard against the possible catastrpphe from the breaking of Lake Hodges Dam. The City of Escondido requested the State Engineer to make a detailed investigation in order to ward off the likelihood of loss caused by the bursting of Lake Hodges Dam. The North Shore Civic federation filed the following with the City Council: "At its regular meeting Oct. 17, the North Shore Civic federation, by unanimous vote, urged that the situation rela-

4-17-24

INTERVIEW OF ED FLETCHER

I am delighted that the city has changed its plan and is taking the orderly way to proceed to acquire our properties on the San Diego River, instead of seizing them, which was the first intention. We beat the city to it by half an hour. Mr. Williams and his men arrived at the El Capitan damsite a little after five o'clock Tuesday afternoon, found our superintendent, Mr. Harritt, there alone. He then proceeded to Mission Gorge No. 3 and found our Mr. Lee there at the damsite, and returned posthaste to the city to report our "armed guards" in possession. His excuse for being there at that time was he was taking water measurements, altho he knows that the U.S.G.S. readings are made there daily and the records are open for inspection at any time.

The facts are, our only "armed guards", so-called, Tuesday night, consisted of two men, Mr. Anthony Lee at Mission Gorge damsite, and Mr. Chester Harritt, our superintendent, at El Capitan. They were both "armed" with possibly jack-knives, but no guns. Any statement that our guards were armed with guns is absolutely false. On Wednesday two employes were at El Capitan, with shovels, and they will remain there indefinitely. Mr. Lee is peacefully sleeping day and night at Mission Gorge No. 3 and will remain there indefinitely.

It took nearly a month for the city's attorney's office to prepare the condemnation proceedings for 9 acres of ground against Mayor Wilde. According to the papers the city council took official action ordering condemnation proceedings in special session Wednesday morning and the papers were filed at 4:30 Wednesday afternoon. The truth is the city council has been planning a coup for nearly two weeks and got beat at their own game. Their tin-pan rattle is all political propaganda to stampede the public into voting for $5,500,000 for them to spend without telling the people where it is going, but the people have not forgotten as yet that a multiple arch dam could have been built at Barrett for $450,000 to hold 16 billion gallons, while the city council spent $1,750,000 and then had to

quit with a dam holding approximately 14 billion gallons.

I am in favor of a bond issue of $3,500,000 when I know where it is going, what type of dam is going to be built, its location and that the work will be done by contract, competitive bidding, under competent engineers. But until then - nothing doing. The fact is the council is "peeved" because the irrigation district has an option on all of our properties, and the city cannot condemn any properties of the district and will be forced to negotiate with the district, pay the district's price, or else abandon the project.

They are also "peeved" now because they did not accept our offer made informally through Fred Heilbron a few weeks ago to sell Mission Gorge, El Capitan, Murray Dam and the distribution line to the city at a ridiculously low figure as a compromise, we reserving the right to build Fletcher dam to hold 6 billion gallons of water to protect the future supply of our suburban section La Mesa and El Cajon, and the city to have the rest.

We have made every offer for years to compromise, leaving to arbitration anything that the city wanted of ours. They have ridiculed our Mission Gorge damsite No. 3, called it a joke and find now that their $50,000 engineer recognized Mission Gorge No. 3 as a vital link in the city's chain of dams.

I stand ready to cooperate in every way possible to bring this unfortunate litigation to an end. The city attorney eighteen months ago, said he would have a decision in the Supreme Court of the United States in two years. It means 6 or 8 years of litigation and it will be almost criminal if a compromise is not made between the city and the district and each party commence construction of a dam on the San Diego River this year and complete it within the next two years.

E L C A P I T A N P R O P A G A N D A

By Ed Fletcher.

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That the public may know the facts pertaining to the El Capitan Dam controversy, I submit the following information, which is true to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I ask that you give it your earnest consideration, and cut out this article for future reference.

(Map)

The foregoing map shows in a general way the situation on the ground, in relation to the El Capitan controversy.

Damsite No. 1, which is on Cuyamaca Water Company's property, is where Mr. Savage first core drilled. He is now boring at Site No. 2, also on Cuyamaca Water Company's property.

The City asked our consent, in writing, and we gave them permission to core drill on our property, and we are even furnishing the water free to the City for the purpose, in consideration of which we are being furnished with the same information that the City is being furnished, showing the result of the core borings.

The irregular line is the contour, or high-water mark, if El Capitan were built. It shows that nearly a mile of the Cuyamaca Water Company's property will be flooded; also the property of J. J. Henderson, Millie Head, Robert Alford, and J. C. Darling, before the water reaches the El Capitan Indian Reservation.

The suit brought in court by the City of San Diego to condemn

the El Capitan Indian Reservation lands, to be tried on May 27th, is the first step in acquiring the lands within the Indian Reservation. After that is done, the private lands of Head, Alford, Darling and Henderson, also the lands of the Cuyamaca Water Company, and the damsite must be condemned by the City.

Please note that the dam, if built, floods the Cuyamaca Company's 30" Chocolate siphon 3678 ft. in length; also the Cuyamaca Company's 2870 ft. of steel siphons across South Fork Creek. The City must build between 4 and 5 miles of flume above high water, up South Fork and Chocolate Creeks, to keep the Cuyamaca Company's siphons from being submerged.

The city must also build 5 or 6 miles of county road on the mountainside, to give an outlet to the ranchers above.

The U. S. Government has not granted, and cannot grant any water rights to the City of San Diego. In fact, Senate Bill No. 3646, granting to the City of San Diego certain lands in the Capitan-Grande Indian Reservation, specifically protects the Cuyamaca Water Company in Section 2 of the Act, which reads,

> "That the lands herein granted are, and shall be, subject to all legal rights heretofore acquired by any person or corporation, and no private right, title, interest or claim of any person or corporation in or to any of such lands shall be interfered with or abridged, except with the consent of the owner or owners, or by due process of law and just compensation paid to such owner or claimant:"

Section 6 of said Act reads:

> "That this Act is a grant upon certain express conditions specifically set forth herein, and nothing herein contained shall be construed as affecting or intending to affect or in any way to interfere with the laws of the State of California relating to the control, appropriation, use or distribution of water used in irrigation, or for municipal or other uses or any vested rights acquired thereunder, and the Secretary of the Interior and the City of San Diego in carrying out the provisions of this Act shall proceed in conformity with the laws of said State.

Section 3 of said Act reads:

> "That the Secretary of the Interior shall require from the city of San Diego in addition to the award of condemnation such further sum which, in his opinion, when added to said award will be sufficient in the aggregate to provide for the purchase of additional lands for the Capitan Grande Bande of Indians, the erection of suitable homes for the Indians on the lands so purchased, the erection of such schools, churches, administration buildings, the sinking of such wells and the construction of such roads and ditches, and providing water and water rights and for such other expenses as may be deemed necessary by the Secretary of the Interior to properly establish these Indians permanently on the lands purchased for them;"

As Mr. Savage has furnished the Cuyamaca C ompany with the complete report as to core drillings, under date of May 2d, 1921, Mr. T. H. King, our Chief Engineer, reports in the construction of a 160 ft. dam at El Capitan damsite No. 1, similar to the Barrett and Lower Otay dams, as follows:

There will be a minimum of 450,000 cubic yards of excavation, at $2.00 per yard	$ 900,000.00
580,000 cubic yards of concrete at $8.00 per yd	4,640,000.00
Cost of pipe line El Capitan to University Heights Reservoir	1,200,000.00
Cost of Removing Indians - approximately	300,000.00
Cost of constructing new county highway, outside reservoir site - approximately	100,000.00
TOTAL	$7,140,000.00

The above does not include any damages that will have to be paid the private owners of land within the reservoir site, or cost of condemnation of the El Capitan damsite, or damage to the El Monte Pumping plant of the Cuyamaca Water Company by shutting off the underground flow of water, or the damage to the riparian

rights ~~being~~ below owned by the Cuyamaca Company.

Does the City want to tackle at this time a $7,000,000 or $8,000,000 investment, when its safe bonding margin is less than $2,000,000. With many properties in the city selling for less than the taxable valuation? El Capitan dam can be built 10 or 20 years hence, when the city has ample finances, but what the city wants now is water.

It will easily take 4 or 5 years to build this dam under the most favorable conditions and there is some danger of a water famine before this dam ever could be completed, if we have two or three more normal years, which past records show can be expected.

The U. S. Reclamation Service report, approved by A. P. Davis, Director, June 8, 1920, shows that with El Capitan built, with a capacity of 76,600 acre feet, with the proposed Fletcher reservoir, at the head of the flume NOT built, with a full release for all riparian rights, the net safe yield is only 5.09 million gallons daily. If El Capitan is built to a capacity of only 51,200 acre feet, and Fletcher reservoir NOT built, and there is a full release for riparian lands below (which is the agreement between the Government and the City of San Diego), then the net safe yield is only 4.55 million gallons daily. If El Capitan reservoir is built to a capacity of 51,200 acre feet, and the Fletcher reservoir IS built, with full release for the riparian lands below, the net safe yield according to the U. S. Reclamation Service records, is only 2.81 million gallons daily.

The so-called "Fletcher dam" is the proposed dam at or near the diverting dam of the Cuyamaca Water Company. The City Council of San Diego passed a resolution giving Mr. Cosgrove full authority

to speak for the city in Washington. On Page 75 in "Hearings Before the Committee on the Public Lands" City of San Diego's Capitan Bill No. 4037, Mr. Cosgrove stated,

"We have not any idea of starting any litigation against them, (meaning the Cuyamaca Water Company). We want them to conserve all the water they can. If they want to increase the height of the diverting dam, we would be glad to help in any way to have them increase the height of that, because it is to our benefit to have this country back here (pointing to the La Mesa-El Cajon section on the map) cultivated. It is our back country".

CONGRESSMAN CHURCH. "But he (Ed Fletcher) stated that if given 18 months, as I remember it, they proposed to build a structure there and a dam to take every bit of water.

MR. COSGROVE. Yes.

CONGRESSMAN CHURCH . How would you be left there, then?

Mr.COSGROVE. Then; if they take every bit of water, there will not be any.

CONGRESSMEN CHURCH. Would you be satisfied?

MR. COSGROVE. Yes; we would be glad to have them take all of the water.

CONGRESSMAN CHURCH. Then there is no difference whatever between you and them on that?

MR. COSGROVE. There is no difference on that."

I assumed that this statement of Mr. Cosgrove's was true, and that he reflected the opinion of the City Council of San Diego and had authority to speak for them, however, immediately upon my return to San Diego, the Cuyamaca Water Company officially asked the City Council to give its consent to allow us to build

this dam and the City Council refused, on Mr. Cosgrove's advice, and to this date we have been unable to gain the consent of the City of San Diego.

If the City Council at the time had given consent, the proposed Fletcher dam would have been built long before this. The reason we have not already commenced construction is the fear that if we had let a contract, with the dam partly constructed, and the city brought an injunction suit, we would have a large investment tied up indefinitely and be under obligations to pay damages to the contractor, also wait years to have the question decided in court as to whether or not we had the right.

For the last 14 years the net safe yield of the city's system, delivered to the city, has averaged 6 million gallons daily. Mr. Savage says that with Barrett dam completed, the net safe yield will be 9.2 million gallons daily for an impounding system that cost between 8 and 9 million dollars.

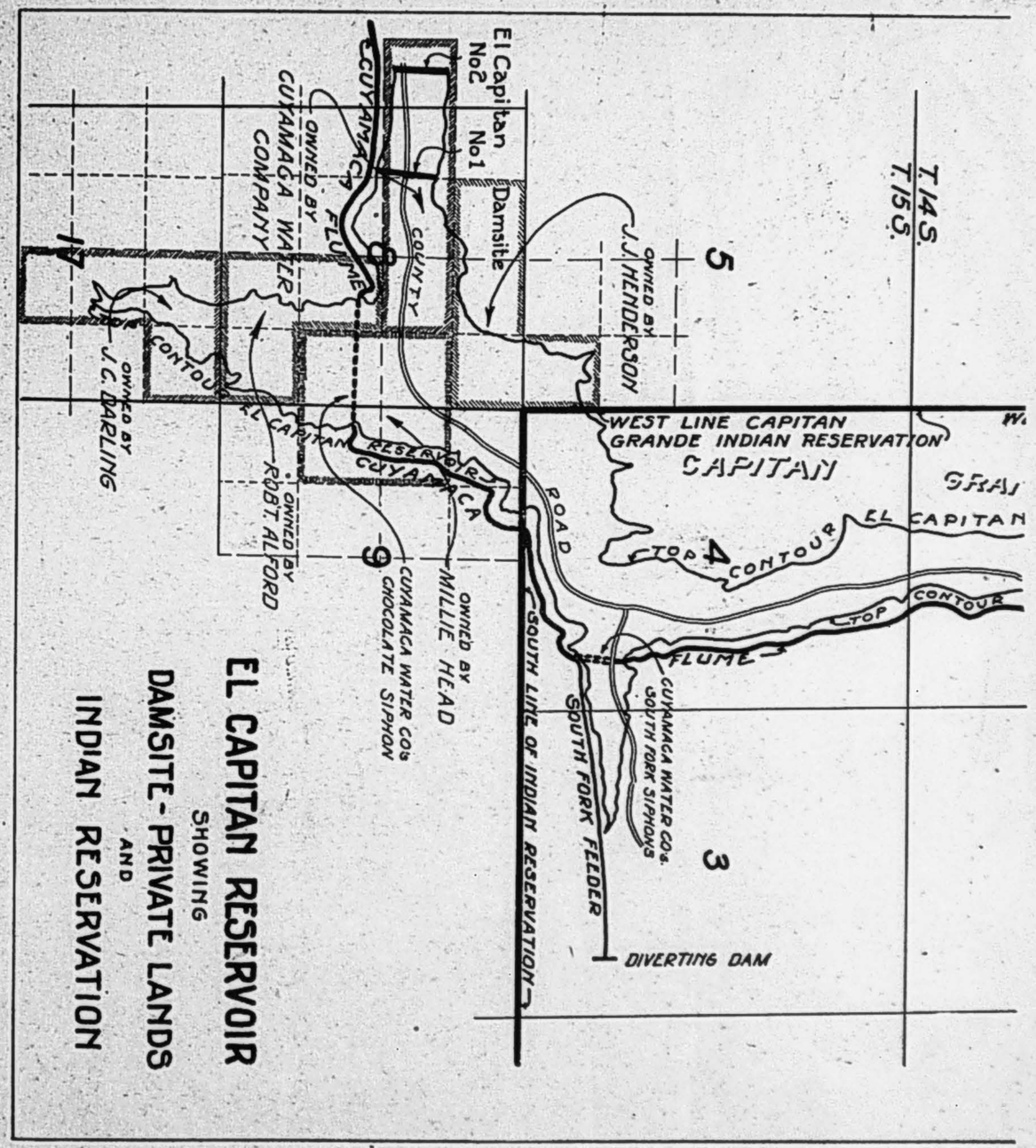
If El Capitan dam cost 7 or 8 million dollars, with a net safe yield of only 4-1/2 million gallons daily, as the records above mentioned show, with Fletcher Dam not built, it is plain to anyone who reads, that the cost of this water will be nearly twice as great as that furnished to the City of San Diego from the present city's system acquired from Mr. Spreckels.

It is positively ridiculous for the city to be selling its water at 12 or 15 cents a thousand gallons when it costs nearly 30 cents to develop and distribute. San Francisco is today paying 28 cents. Oakland and Alameda and Berkeley 30 and 32 cents. The high price of water does not seem to affect the growth of those cities. In San Diego where it is much more expensive to develop water, owing to our scant rainfall, we are selling it

for one-half of what it costs us, and the people are making up the balance by direct taxation each year.

In another article I will show where, in my opinion, the City of San Diego, for $1,500,000 bond issue, can control all of the water of the San Diego River, double its water supply and acquire El Capitan damsite for future construction if desired, and stop endless litigation.

I furnish these facts as a citizen of San Diego, on my own responsibility, and urge that this water question be thoroly investigated before any action is taken committing the City to the construction of El Capitan dam at this time.



EL CAPITAN RESERVOIR

SHOWING

DAMSITE - PRIVATE LANDS

AND

INDIAN RESERVATION

damsite No. 3 with all our surveys, records, water filings with the State Water Commission and all the lands which I own which would be flooded and necessary. This is approximately 300 to 400 acres, depending upon the height of the dam. My understanding is you wish to build it to the 340 ft. contour. I would like a separate value for the above.

El Capitan - we will turn over our damsite and all the lands that will be flooded that we own, roughly 140 acres, together with all surveys, etc.

We have spent $20,000 to $30,000 on each Mission Gorge damsite and El Capitan damsite, in actual work. I would appreciate an expression from you as to the value of the above.

Of course, the city would have to agree to build the county roads so we can get onto our property, and also agree to build cement conduits around South Fork, Chocolate and Sand Creek to conform, in capacity, to the rest of our new construction.

If you finally make up your mind that this is what you are going to recommend, you will be doing the whole community a favor by placing a reasonable value upon the above.

If you finally make up your mind to recommend El Capitan is built, I believe a joint ownership of the flume line could be arranged into the city, because I think both you and your son have admitted that San Diego is going to grow to

Grossmont within the next five years, and certainly a high service is needed for that section, if San Diego annexes La Mesa, Lemon Grove, Spring Valley, etc. I suppose you are aware of the fact that East San Diego has voted to annex and there is an election coming up on October 23d in the City of San Diego to confirm this annexation. Over half of East San Diego is between 400 and 500 ft. elevation and extends to within two miles of La Mesa. All of this territory must have water arranged for immediately and it means a pumping lift out of Chollas Reservoir, of at least a couple hundred feet to take care of the territory that will soon be annexed to San Diego. Please look at the map and see what the large territory East San Diego covers, and you will see the importance of the necessity of a high service immediately and for that reason a joint ownership and control of the flume might be worked out very satisfactorily.

The above information is confidential and simply for your information.

Yours sincerely,

ED FLETCHER

EF:KLM

Office Copy

SUGGESTED EDITORIAL

The Mayor and Common Council are not in agreement in interpreting the Railroad Commission's plan of settlement of the water controversy. Mayor Bacon, Councilman Weitzel, City Manager Rhodes, and City Attorney Higgins are to be commended in their attempt to have the plan submitted as agreed upon in San Francisco.

The editor of the "Sun" was present in San Francisco when the terms were agreed on, and which were afterwards in writing placed in the hands of each interested party by the Commission and accepted without amendment in writing by the directors of the La Mesa Irrigation District and the Cuyamaca Water Company in their official communication to the City Council of San Diego March 2nd last.

The responsibility for immediate action is now up to the City Council. The change of front of Mr. Heilbron who now demands a definite amount of water be inserted in the District's contract, is in direct conflict with the spirit and agreement of the Railroad Commission's plan as approved by Mr. Heilbron and all parties present.

The state engineer of California, who attended the meeting, thoroughly presented the District's position that the bonds of the District under the laws of California could not be approved by either the state engineer or the State Bonding Commission unless an adequate supply of water was assured. After much persuasion the La Mesa Irrigation District with the state engineer's approval, agreed to reduce the size of their district from 22,000 acres to 18,000 acres, thereby reducing the demands for water approximately 20 percent. It was there that the city officials of San Diego won an important point. When Mr.

cc- Edwards -
Mac Millen
C. Spreckels-

Heilbron suggested at the conference a definite amount of water for the 18,000 acres the state engineer said that was impossible, that it was not practical and it would not be satisfactory to the department as the bonds could not be issued or sold unless the contract specified a reasonable adequate supply, and that clause of the Railroad Commission's plan was definitely agreed to. To change that plan now means another conference and a violation of the agreement made in San Francisco.

Another bone of contention in the city hall yesterday was the question of including the Fletcher damsite and reservoir site without compensation to the Cuyamaca Water Company, also the hunting, fishing and boating privileges. This matter was thoroughly thrashed out and agreed on in San Francisco. The option of the Cuyamaca Water Company to the La Mesa District executed April 5, 1924 on Page 1 specifically includes Fletcher Damsite, lands flooded by the construction of a dam 175 feet in height, together with one acre of ground for care-taker's house as part of the purchase price of the Cuyamaca System by the District for $1,100,000. to the District On Page 4 of said option the Cuyamaca Water Company reserves the hunting, fishing and boating privileges on Cuyamaca, Fletcher and El Capitan Lakes for a period of fifteen years.

At the first conference in San Francisco when Messrs. Higgins and Rhodes were present, it was agreed according to the State Railroad Commission's plan that the Cuyamaca Company would modify their option to the District, abandoning the hunting, fishing and boating privileges on El Capitan and Cuyamaca Lakes in consideration of the District and the City re-conveying to the Cuyamaca Company Fletcher damsite and lands that would be flooded, as described in the original option of the Water Company to the District, Messrs. Rhodes and Higgins agreeing that Fletcher

Damsite and reservoirsite would never be built and had no particular value to the City.

At the second conference in San Francisco the city officials reversed Messrs. Higgins and Rhodes, and insisted that the Fletcher Dam and reservoir lands be included in the sale from the District to the City. The attitude of the city officials on this question forced the following compromise suggested by the Railroad Commission of California and unanimously agreed on. The wording is found in the Railroad Commission's plan dated February 4, 1925 and reads as follows on Page 3:

> "That the Cuyamaca Water Company relinquish all hunting and fishing rights on Cuyamaca Lake and El Capitan Reservoir and give an easement to lands around said lake owned by them sufficient for sanitary protection, in consideration for which the City will grant to Fletcher and Stern the right to farm, lease or create a lake for resort purposes in Fletcher damsite or flooded area until such site is required by the City or the District, providing also that the City may retain control over the sanitation and may use the water impounded therein in cases of emergency."

As the Cuyamaca Water Company own a thousand or twelve hundred acres of land adjoining the proposed Fletcher Lake which is not included in the sale to the District or the City, in order to protect their interests under this plan of settlement, the Water Company reserves the right to go in at its own expense, build a small dam at the Fletcher site, and develop a resort on its outside properties under proper sanitation protecting the health of the community, temporarily having the hunting, fishing and boating rights on the lake, which the Water Company

creates at its own expense, only until such time as the City desires to build a large dam there for storage purposes.

The City gets absolute title to the Fletcher damsite and lands that will be flooded from the beginning, and can use the waters so impounded by the construction of the dam by the Water Company in times of emergency. In other words, the Cuyamaca Water Company has the option to build the Fletcher Dam at its own expense, but the City gets the benefit in cases of shortage of water. This is specifically outlined in Article 9 of the memorandum of agreement, and was definitely agreed to by all parties in interest. Any hunting, fishing and boating rights or any other rights on Fletcher damsite or lands that will be flooded, automatically are cancelled any time the City desires to build a larger dam at Fletcher.

It might be well at this time to call attention to the following facts: The city officials rendered a service to San Diego when after two days of negotiating back and forth, they secured the following concessions for the City which the Cuyamaca Water Company did not give the District:

First: They secured Mission Gorge No. 3 damsite and the lands that would be flooded, also the water rights at an extremely low figure - $100,000.

Second: They secured the cancellation without any consideration of the fifteen years hunting, fishing and boating privileges for Cuyamaca and El Capitan Dams which was reserved to the Cuyamaca Water Company in its contract with the District. Some idea of the value of these rights can be appreciated when the records show that the City collected over $20,000 last year for these privileges, and the revenue is increasing each year unquestionably. The Cuyamaca Water Company gave up without any consideration whatsoever valuable hunting, fishing and boating privileges which were worth at least $150,000 to them.

Third: The Cuyamaca Company also gave an easement of 100 feet above high water mark over all lands which they control around Cuyamaca, Fletcher, El Capitan and Mission Gorge No. 3 dams when built - a very valuable concession - without additional compensation to the Cuyamaca Company.

Fourth: They secured a reduction in price of $25,000 for Mission Gorge Dam No. 3, the price to the La Mesa District being $150,000 and a ratification of purchase by a four to one vote by the District at that price. By purchasing Mission Gorge No. 3 for $125,000, the Cuyamaca Company is making a donation of $25,000 to the City.

Fifth: In the matter of sale of its distribution lines in Normal Heights, Kensington Park and East San Diego - a property that the records show cost in excess of $300,000 - the Water Company has taken the City Manager's valuations, i.e. approximately $200,000; also they have the right under the agreement made in San Francisco to appeal to the Railroad Commission for that tribunal to determine the value of the Water Company's distribution lines in Normal Heights, Kensington Park and East San Diego. Not alone that, but the Water Company is selling to the City on ten years' time these distribution lines, thereby obviating the necessity of the City to issue additional bonds at this time, and according to the report of the city engineer, the revenue from the sales of water will more than pay the necessary amounts each year to cover the purchase price of these lines.

Without a question of a doubt, the Cuyamaca Water Company did make concessions at the San Francisco meeting before the Commission reasonably worth to the City of San Diego at least $200,000 - thanks to the persistency of the city officials as well as the good nature of the Water Company

The option of sale to the La Mesa Irrigation District expires May 8th. It is common knowledge that the Railroad Commission of California are impatient at the delay and may any day approve the sale of the Cuyamaca

System to the District. The situation is critical. The responsibility is right up to the City Council of San Diego to call this election.

Mayor Bacon, Councilman Weitzel, City Attorney Higgins, and City Manager Rhodes are to be commended on their position in urging immediate action. The other members of the City Council must take full responsibility for their acts.

San Diego, California,
November 3, 1924.

In so far as the maintenance and operation of the present system in the past have been, they are of little importance to the District for the reason that the District is not acquiring the distribution system west of the east boundary line of East San Diego which has been extremely expensive. For the further reason that in the year 1923 approximately 9% of the total maintenance and operation expenses of the entire system was paid out in taxes and the District pays no taxes. Approximately 2% of the total maintenance and operation expenses were Railroad Commission expenses which will be eliminated by the District.

In 1923 the present Cuyamaca Water Company paid out to general office clerks a little under $5,000. Approximately half of this amount or $2500 was made necessary in keeping statistical data to be furnished to the Railroad Commission. There is approximately 13% of the total maintenance and operation expenses which will be eliminated by the District. There is a large number of other items which will be reduced proportionately.

The actual maintenance and operation expenses of the system as at present in 1921 was $93,400. This was unusually large owing to the sales of water to the City of San Diego and large pumping expenses. For 1922, in round figures, the operation and maintenance expenses were $76,000, and in 1923, in round figures were $77,000. A very careful analysis of the operating expenses of the District for 1921 would be $59,200 or a total cost for all water sold of 2.5¢ per 100 cu. ft. 1922 the expenses would have been $43,000 or a cost per hundred cu. ft. of just over 3¢. For 1923, under the same conditions, the cost would have been slightly over 2.5¢ pwr 100 cu. ft. for all water sold.

It should be borne in mind that the sales of water outside of the present District will yield, depending upon the year, between $85,000 and $90,000, a sum far in excess of the District's operating expenses. Necessarily as outside territory now being served joins the District these sales will decrease as will also the bonded indebtedness on the present Distridt lands.

In one specific instance, in the City of La Mesa, where the cost of water as at present and under the District's tentative rate of 4¢ have been figured out at the property owner's request, the results show that on 10.75 acres of ground in 1923 the consumer used 812,000 cu. ft for which he paid $602.00, which is equal to about $56.00 per acre. Had he used the same amount of water at the 4¢ rate he would have paid $325.00 or about $30.00 per acre. Therefore, if the assessment on his property was as high as $26.00 per acre the actual cost to him under the District plan would have been no greater than it was in 1923. An assessment of $26.00 per acre on the total area within the District would yield approximately $350,000. In view of the fact that under the present conditions the maintenance and operating cost of water per 100 cu. ft. runs from 2½¢ to slightly over 3¢ it will be seen that the tentative prise of 4¢ for irrigation water leaves an ample margin especially in view of the fact as previously shown that there will be an increase from outside sources of $85,000 per year not including any sales of water to the City of San Diego. A further fact should be taken into consideration that a large amount of domestic water now used in the District will pay more than 4¢ - probably twice that.

INTERVIEW COLONEL ED FLETCHER

The statement of the directors of the La Mesa District issued yesterday to the press that Mr. Fox and I have misrepresented their past attitude as to the settlement of the water question with the city, I wish to say that, to be charitable, the statement is wholly misleading. The District's proposition offered in writing is a public record at the city hall. On the advice of their attorney the amount to be paid the District, $248,000.00 was left blank in the communication to the city for the reason that if no setttlement was made the offer could never be used against the District in court at a later date.

The amount above stated is correct as agreed upon after several meetings between officials of the District, former City Attorney Conkling and certain city councilmen, also myself.

The fact is Mr. Savage has made promises to the District Directors which he cannot deliver and the District has taken his promises hook, line and sinker. Nothing can, or should be done toward attempting to develop water on the San Diego River by the construction of dams until a definite settlement is made between the city and the District. That should be done at once.

For sixteen years we have had litigation and over a million dollars has been spent. When are we going to kick out the lawyers and use common sense as business men in acting together for the common good?

Let no one scare you in to voting "Yes" for Propositions I and II.

No city in Southern California has the reserve supply of water on hand that San Diego has. It will last for five years with even sub-normal rainfall.

Mr. Savage, Friday night, publicly stated that one-third of the water San Diego is now using comes from our Riverview pumping plant in the San Diego River, a new supply developed within the last four or five years.

Murray Dam is almost full of water, within seven feet of the top today. The District will gladly sell five million gallons daily during our eight months period of excessive demand at nine cents a hundred cubic feet in to the city's mains and the city is charging 20¢. A profit of 110%. We should have been holding our water in reserve in the mountains and buying from the district the last three years.

The Mission Valley pumping plant is ready for instant action. The gravels are full of water but none

has been pumped this year. Why? Because it was a movement on the part of Mr. Savage to draw down our reserve storage and frighten us in to voting bonds to build the dinky dam at #2 - money thrown away by its commencement - an impractical scheme of Mr. Savage.

In closing let me say the plans of Mr. Savage show he proposes eventually to build at dam at Mission #2 156 feet high. The plans show the base of the dam to be 100 feet thick.

The highest dam in the world, 380 feet from bedrock, the Pacoima Dam, built by the city of Los Angeles, is only 100 feet thick at the base and 8 feet at the top with a factor of safety of 6 to 1 as against Barrett 3 to 1.

The U. S. Reclamation Service found Mr. Savage too expensive even for the U. S. Government.

This is proven at Barrett dam where Savage estimates were $900,000 in1918. The banks agreed to build the Barrett dam accord ing to Savage's plans of height and thickness for a million dollars.

If Mr.Savage had built the dam by day labor it would have cost two million a hundred thousand dollars. Although ten feet lower in height than planned it cost a million seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars when built by Mr. Savage.

A single arch, a more scientific type of dam could have been built at Barrett for $800,000.

Just so for $750,000, a single arch could have been built at Otay, yet the cost of Mr. Savage's type was nearly a million and a half.

We need state and federal authorities and you can get their advice almost at no cost to tell us how and when to develop the San Diego River. Mr. Savage is of the old school, is opposed to new scientific methods of dam construction, has past his three score and ten and should be definitely put out of the picture when it comes to determining the plan nd policy of water development of this city.

I havebeen accused by many of personal and self interest in my attitude on the water question. This is wholly untrue. Eighteen or twenty years ago I purchased reservoir lands in El Capitan and No. 3. Accidently I own large holdings of reservoir lands in No. 2, and have for the last fifteen years. Anything that I have that the city wants I will arbitrate at any time and the decision of the board of arbitrators to be final as to valuation.

As one of the largest property owners in the La Mesa District and as a citizen of San Diego I am only acting for the best interests of this entire community in opposing and voting "NO" on Proposition I and II on the Ballot next Tuesday and "YES" on III.

INTERVIEW COLONEL ED FLETCHER

August 29, 1951

The Fletcher family were much amused at the page of publicity giventhem in the San Diego Union last Thursday morning re the El Capitan damsite.

The headlines read, "COLONEL'S ATTORNEYS ASK $4,000,000 APPRAISAL FOR TRACT BOUGHT FOR $1500", and other statements just as funny. The facts are we had sold the prope ty to the district before the Santa Ana condemnation suit was tried under an agreement at a definite price and which the district shortly after paid. Any judgment or profit would have gone to the district, not to any of the Fletcher family.

Another statement that our holdings in El Capitan cost $1500 is a joke. Our first purchase in El Capitan was over 20 years ago. Later another purchase was made and two or three years later another 160 acres was purchased. We spent thousands of dollars in driving tunnels, making surveys, building roads, clearing land, employing engineers, etc., and any statement that the Fletcher family were asking a million dollars for the property that cost $1500 is too funny for words.

In the Santa Ana suit the only lands we were interested in were the lands below the damsite and above the reservoir site which the city for some reason or other was condemning, unless the city has changed the location of the damsite again. Tosy knowledge they have publicly discussed the building of two El Capitan dams a mile apart.

We have offered the city council officially to sell any of our property on the San Diego River at a value placed by arbitration in the usual manner and as far as the Fletcher family are concerned there need be no further litigation.

Already the El Capitan litigation has cost $100,000. The paramount right litigation $1,000,000. This controversy lasted 16 to 18 years, the El Capitan litigation 7 years and I hope we are not going to repeat.

By all means the first step is to affect a settlement with the La Mesa District as Mr. Cosgrove has said this can legally be done.

It is interesting to know that no one

sponsors the article in the Union of August 27th. I see the ear marks of the hydraulic engineer's office with the photographs and drawings.

It is now my fault that the city only filed suit for El Capitan to a height of only 160 feet. At the proper time a dam at least 225 feet high should be built at El Capitan to get the largest amount of water for the cheapest cost and some time I hope to see this done.

In the meantime our first problem is to settle with the district and stop this endless litigation.

INTERVIEW COLONEL ED FLETCHER

I have been criticized by my friends in San Diego and in the irrigation district for my attitude on the water question but irrespective of what any one says or thinks I have felt it a duty and without any ulterior motive given the best that is in me for the benefit of the citizens of this city and the district as well.

I claim, after the voters have defeated Propositions I and II next Tuesday, the first business-like step is an immediate settlement between the city and the district, our own flesh and blood, and by so doing, the city acquires complete control of the San Diego River including the ownership of El Capitan damsite and Murray Dam which is so vital as a distributing reservoir to the city of San Diego, located as it is, 550 feet above sea level and from which water will flow by gravity over the higher levels of the city. That, in itself means the saving of $60,000 or $70,000 a year now being paid for pumping water after it runs down hill in to the city.

The El Capitan Committee are committed in writing to a settlement with the district. It has cost the city a million dollars to litigate the last fifteen years and that litigation must stop between the district and the city.

It is ridiculous to commence the construction of any dam on the San Diego River any where until we have some idea as to its cost. No emergency exists. We have plenty of water in sight without any further development for the next five years and for a million dollars we can get another five million gallons daily to take care of our future growth so don't lets us be scared by the opposition on that score.

My first objective is a prayer that the district and the city can come together immediately on some fair basis, even if it takes a referendum of the people to do it.

My next suggestion would be to call in state and federal engineers to tell us how to develop the San Diego River. It will be at a minimum cost and they will be glad to do it. I am willing to follow their advice.

In closing, let me show you how ridiculous it is to spend any money on the San Diego River at Mission No. 2 until we have our options and estimates of cost and definite bids in relation thereto.

As an illustration. The Spreckels Company owns the southeast corner of Ninth and Broadway. Suppose that Ed Fletcher should prepare plans and specifications, also prospective for a ten story building on that property without having an option of purchase or without owning the property.; that a prospective of the building was published and an announcement

in the papers that I was going to build this ten story building on the Spreckels property. People would call me a fool, yet San Diego plans to do that same thing at No. 2.

Please carefully read the following statement.

San Diego by next Tuesday voting favorable on Proposition I and II gives notice to four or five hundred property owners in Mission No. 2 that they are going to build a dam and themoney is available for the construction of a diverting dam and to buy lands.

Today, those lands have a value only for agriculture. The day those bonds are voted it is notice to the world that those lands are valuable for reservoir purposes, It adds immediately $100 to $200 an acre in many cases to the value of those lands as it can be proven in court that reservoir lands have a higher value than for agriculture in El Cajon Valley.

Do you expect those property owners not to take advantage of the city? It is not human nature.

Those favorable to Mission No. 2 will say if the price is not right the city can condemn. My answer is that is true but condemnation means long delay, much expense, a large bond double the value to be put up by the city in case they use the property and what is the general result of condemnation?

To illustrate. The city should have bought El Capitan damsite from the district for $150,000. The Santa Ana jury valued it at at $600,000.

San Diego wanted 9 acres for a temporary diverting dam on the Jamul Ranch from former Mayor Wilde. Suit was brought and the jury set a price of $2000 an acre or $18,000 for the 9 acres, land that was not worth $50 an acre for any other purpose. San Diego settled out of court paying $9000 or $1000 an acre, besides paying all costs of the suit.

Forty odd years ago the Cuyamaca Lake lands could havebeen purchased for $100 an acre. A portion was condemned and cost nearly $200 per acre.

Just so in the Sweetwater Water Reservoir case. Mr. Neill owned this property. A condemnation suit forced the Sweetwater Water Company to pay a large value for reservoir lands. Just so, San Diego will have to suffer a long, hard tedious fight.

For the love of heaven, let us turn down Propositions I and II next Tuesday overwhelmingly until options

are secured, plans and specifications approved and responsible contractors make bids which are definite so that we know what we are doing before finally committing oursevles to what I think is the greatest blunder San Diego ever could make - the building of Mission No. 2. It is only an evaporation pan, which loses seven million gallons daily by evaporation, which could be saved by building at any other point or points on the river and finally remember the litigation on the San Diego River is not over. That is a question as between the state and the U. S. Government for the supreme court to determine.

The federal government by Act of Congress gavethose water rights to the waters of the San Diego River to the San Diego Flume Company in 1881 and its successors the La Mesa District, all water originating on government lands above (roughly 110 square miles controlled by the Government at that time) in consideration of building the dam, the conduit or flume line thru the El Capitan Reservation and a perpetual furnishing of water, the needs of the Indians, free of charge.

The Flume company, the water company and the district have lived up to that obligation.

Even last year the federal government forced the district to put up a big bond for faithful performance. Can you imagine the supreme court of the United States over ruling an act of contress in 1881 and ratifying a decision of the state courts of California asagainst the federal government?

There is reason to believe that the paramount right will be knocked out. Until that decision is permanently settled for all time, unless you can settle with the irrigation district, it is ridiculous to even thing of building any dams on the San Diego River by the city.

If the paramount rights are knocked out the water rights under the laws of California prevail and the city will have to buy every riparian owner on the river as we did from Henshaw dam for 56 miles to the ocean and from Lake Hodges dam 12 miles to the ocean.

Will the citizens of this city allow San Diego to take such deperate chances at this time? It is impossible for me to believe it.

Let's clean up the situation on the San Diego River first then get the highest type of engineers to tell us what to do in the development of water.

Vote "NO" on Propositions I and II next Tuesday and "YES" on III, is my request to my friends.

INTERVIEW COLONEL FLETCHER

In planning any river development of water on the San Diego River the paramount right question and a settlement with the La Mesa District should be settled first.

Judge Conkling, the judge who decided the paramount right case in favor of the city is my authority that there is no legal objection to the La Mesa District taking a limited supply of water from the river.

If the city wants to make an agreement with the district regarding any amount of water all we have to do is to agree on the terms, ket the attorneys for the city and the district know what it is, stipulate the same in court and have a court render a decision in accordance thereof.

There is no question but what any agreement made between the city and the district will be ratified later by the legislature if necessary and with both the city and the district asking for it.

Originally, our Pueblo lands and our water rights stood in exactly the same basis, real estate rights, both subject to sale. When water is caught and impounded it is personal property and that is where we cannot sell.

The city charter and state laws restrict the sale of our Pueblo lands but not our Pueblo water rights.

After spending nearly a million dollars in litigation, wasting sixteen years time, is it not time the city settles with the district, the settlement made a part of the decision and the paramount rights given to the city subject to a partititon of the water rights to the district while the city remains a real estate right.

The district will never need more water than would be avaporated and lost forever if Mission No. 2 dam was built, roughly seven million gallons of water, water that can be saved if El Capitan, San Vicente and Mission #5 are built.

Another suggested compromise is the immediate purchase of the San Pasqual gravels giving us the right to complete Sutherland dam. We have roughly $700,000 in the hands of the city today, enough to build the conduit a distance of fifteen miles from Sutherland to the head of the La Mesa District flume with nearly a thousand foot power drop. $50,000 spent at Sutherland will build a diversion dam and an average run off will easily be three to five million gallons daily, the donduit to divert fifty to seventy-five second feet of water.

Let the city take every drop of the San Diego River water and furnish Sutherland water to the district at present prices which will more than pay the cost of Sutherland water. These two plans should be seriously considered.

After two year's study, Messrs. White, Wangenheim, and Chandler, the City Water Commission, with the advice of competant engineers, recommended nine years ago the acquisition of Sutherland, the same plan of construction I have just outlined; the acquisition of Cuyamaca system and the building of Mission #5.

I cannot refrain from quoting from their report dated December 29th, 1922 on page nine the following:

"The full completion of the development as recommended above would add to the present supply of the City a storage capacity of approximately 58 billion gallons of water, at a cost of about 6 million dollars. This additional system, at about the same cost as a dam at Site No. 2, as recommended by Mr. Savage, would then produce a net safe yield of approximately 24 million gallons per day, at an average cost of less than 7¢ per 1000 gallons. It would stop the useless, expensive litigation that the City of San Diego is engaged in at the present time. We say useless litigation because the City could, no doubt, obtain through negotiation, the entire rights controlled by adverse interests, at a probable less cost than if it were successful in its litigation. This would enable the City to at once proceed to the proper development of its water resources."

How fateful those words are and how well they apply today.

With a settlement made with the district taking over all adverse interests on the river along the lines heretofore tentatively agreed on, or a settlement as to the amount of water together with the purchase of El Capitan and Murray dam by the city from the district, at a fair valuation, leaving the district to pay its own bond issue of two million a hundred thousand dollars and operating its own system independent of the city, I would recommend the following.

It will give the city easily an average of five million gallons of water a day by gravity to the city where as we would only be getting a problematical three million gallons daily, according to Mr. Savage, from Mission No. 2 and the water would have to be pumped.

It will cost less money to build a pipe line to the El Capitan dam site than to have built the proposed diverting dam at No. 2. Twenty five thousand dollars will build the diverting dam at El Capitan to serve all purposes until a major dam is constructed.

When constructed it should be to full economical height, roughly 130 to 200 feet. Before this is done the city will be compelled to acquire the balance of the El Capitan Indian Reservation lands as the permit of the government gives only to the 160 foot contour.

The net safe yield to the 160 foot contour is _____ million gallons daily. To the 190 foot contour _____ million gallons. Even a dam 190 feet high will not take care of all the flood water.

We own San Vicente. There is a three million gallon net safe yield from that water shed alone and the pipe line should be run from El Capitan in to San Vicente where there is splendid cheap storage.

El Capitan should be kept drawn down and the valuable storage of San Vicente utalized for the most successful operation of the system.

If no bonds had been voted for El Capitan today my first recommendations would have been the construction of Mission Gorge #3 and the water stored in the canyon where nature intended water to be stored. The economical height of the dam is 330 foot elevation. It would only flood 1330 acres, furnish the greatest amount of water and the least evaporation surface holding _____ thousand acre feet and will cost not to exceed a million and a half dollars completed. Plans and specifications and recent bids of Bent Brothers absolutely assure this cost to be accurate. The type to be a single arch constant angle, similar to Pacoima Dam, the highest dam in the world, 365 feet high above stream bed while Mission #3 would only be 230.

The city of Los Angeles have also built the ?Tujunga dam for $1,200,000, 240 feet high, a single arch. Also the Santa Anita 220 feet high costing $1,000,000. Just so the government has built three or four single arch type of dam, the most scientific, and least expensive type of dam known in the world today with double the factors of safety of the gravity arch.

Mission #3 built to the 330 foot contour giving a net safe yield of _____million gallons and would be the cheapest water ever developed on the San Diego River with a pipe line to Old Town connecting with the lower levels of the city, most of this water would be used by gravity on the lower levels but at all times be ready to economically pump in to the higher levels of the city if necessary.

Barrett Dam should not be raised. It is money thrown away. Otay dam is over built with only 96 square miles of storage, a net safe yield of less than three million gallons daily.

Its storage should be utalized by any surplus water from Barrett keeping Barrett dam drained as far as practical at all time and continually pushing the water in to Otay.

Originally Otay dam held 12 billion gallons. It took 20 years to fill and then went out. Mr. Savage increased its capacity to 20 billion gallons.

Let's utalize that surplus storage and save a million or two which Mr. Savage plans to spent in raising Barrett 75 feet.

I urge an immediate settlement with the district, either by mutual consent or a referendum of the people. The city acquire all adverse rights on the river in settlement. This is fundamental in fairness to all parties in interest. When this is accomplished, extend the San Diego River pipe line to El Capitan, install a new pumping plant, get the benefit of the natural flow of the stream both thru the La Mesa District flume line in to Murray dam which the city will own and also by diversion at El Capitan, the natural flow of the river, before it gets a chance to sink in the sand. Have our representative in Congress this coming season get them to so change the El Capitan bill cutting out its objectional factors and acquire the balance of the lands necessary for the major construction to at least 200 feet in height.

In the meantime it may be advisable to build Fletcher dam at the head of the flume holding back the flood rush and let that water come thru the flume line to Murray dam, the surplus water being available for Otay dam storage by gravity. Build Mission #3 and San Vicente as the demands for water continue and finances will permit. We are all at odds as to the development of the San Diego River.

Eight or ten of the most prominent engineers in the country have recommended the construction of Mission #3 first. They include Major Gilbert, for many years with the U. S. Government and who designed and built Coolidge dam. Colonel Leeds, O'Shaughnessey, states that the first dam on the San Diego River to be built by the city should be Mission No. 3. F. E. Foode, hydraulic engineer for years of the Railroad Commission, T. H. King and several other government engineers have all stated that Mission No. 3 should be built first as it means the least investment for the largest amount of water.

However, I urge that the state engineer or his representative, a federal engineer and those two choose a third, a practical man, be asked to determine where and when and what type of dam or dams should be built to complete the development of the San Diego River.

I will abide by their decision.

Any personal interest that I have on the San Diego River I will gladly sell to the city at a fair figure or leave the question to arbitration in the usual manner the decision of the board of arbitrators to be final. I pray for a unity of purpose.

I am opposed to any further costly litigation and urge the people of San Diego to support this plan.

The settlement of the water question means everything to the La Mesa District. They are a part of us. This litigation is a cloud on their property. It is stopping the development of that community terribly. Every one in San Diego says they would not be a party to taking the water away from the district. We all are of one family.

How much longer is San Diego going to continue spanking one of its own?

INTERVIEW COLONEL FLETCHER

In planning any development of water on the San Diego River the paramount right question and a settlement with the La Mesa District should be settled first.

Judge Conkling, the judge who decided the paramount right case in favor of the city, is my authority that if the city desires to make an agreement with the district regarding any amount of water the district is to have, all that is necessary to be done is to agree on the terms, the amount, instruct the attorney for the city and the district the conditions agreed upon and have said attorneys stipulate those conditions in court in the federal case now before the Circuit Court of Appeals. The city will then have the paramount right to the water of the San Diego River forever subject to the conditions agreed upon in the present case in the federal courts.

There is no question but what any decision of the federal courts will be ratified later by the legislature if necessary with both the city and the district asking for it.

Originally, our Pueblo lands and water rights were real estate rights, both subject to sale. The city charter and state laws now restrict the sale of our Pueblo lands but not our Pueblo water rights.

Under the present law, when San Diego River water is impounded it becomes the personal property of the city and cannot be sold except from year to year when they have a surplus of water. With a federal court decision as suggested above and ratified by the legislature there is no question as to the legality of same.

After spending nearly a million dollars in litigation the city and the district should be ready to settle on a fair basis or leave the question to arbitration. The district will never need more water than would have been evaporated and lost forever in the air by the building of Mission #2 dam, water that will be saved if El Capitan, San Vicente and Mission #3 are built and at no greater cost per thousand gallons.

After the San Pasqual gravels are purchased and an understanding arrived at with the San Dieguito Water Company we will have the right to complete Sutherland.

We have roughly $700,000 in the Sutherland dam fund in hand today for the building of the conduit, enough to complete its construction, a distance of fifteen miles

from Sutherland dam to the head of the La Mesa district flume and diverting dam with nearly a thousand foot power drop included.

The surveys have been completed and careful estimates made. $50,000 spent at Sutherland dam will build a diversion dam and furnish an average runoff of four to five million gallons daily thru a conduit with a capacity of fifty to seventy five second feet of water.

As an alternative offer to the district let the city take every drop of the San Diego river water and furnish Sutherland water at present cost prices to the district which will approximately be the same cost of the city water delivered from Sutherland.

Either of the two plans suggested, if accepted, will settle our paramount right litigation forever.

After two year's study, Messrs. White, Wangenheim, and Chandler, the former Water Commission, with the advice of competant engineers, recommended the acquisition of Sutherland dam and practically the same plan of construction I have just outlined including the acquisition of the Cuyamaca system and the building of Mission Gorge Dam #3.

I cannot refrain from quoting from their report to the Mayor and City Council dated December 29th, 1922, on page nine the following:

"The full completion of the development as recommended above would add to the present supply of the City a storage capacity of approximately 58 billion gallons of water, at a cost of about 6 million dollars. This additional system, at about the same cost as a dam at Site No. 2, as recommended by Mr. Savage, would then produce a net safe yield of approximately 24 million gallons per day, at an average cost of less than 7¢ per 1000 gallons. It would stop the useless, expensive litigation that the City of San Diego is engaged in at the present time. We say useless litigation because the City could, no doubt, obtain through negotiation, the entire rights controlled by adverse interests, at a probable less cost than if it were successful in its litigation. This would enable the City to at once proceed to the proper development of its water resources."

How fateful those words are and how well they apply today.

In case a settlement is made with the district taking over all adverse interests on the river along the lines

heretofore mentioned, or, second, a settlement as to the amount of water together with the purchase of El Capitan and Murray dam by the city from the district at a fair valuation. This would leave the district to pay its own bond issue of two million one hundred thousand dollars and operate its own system independent of the city.

With a settlement made with the district I recommend at an early date that the city build an inexpensive diverting dam at El Capitan and extend the present steel pipe line to any of the 3 El Capitan dam sites from Lakeside. The natural flow of water at El Capitan damsite will give the city easily an average of four or five million gallons of water a day by gravity to the city whereas we would only be getting a problematical three million gallons daily according to Mr. Savage from Mission #2 and at that the water would have to be pumped. It will cost less money to build this pipe line to the El Capitan damsite than to have built the proposed diverting dam at No. 2.

Twenty five thousand dollars will build the diverting dam at El Capitan to serve all purposes until a major dam is constructed. When it is constructed it should be to full economical height, roughly 190 to 200 feet. Before this is done the city will be compelled to acquire the balance of the El Capitan Indian Reservation lands as the permit of the government gives only to the 160 foot contour.

Have our representatives in Congress this coming session change the El Capitan Bill, cutting out its objectionable features and acquire the balance of the lands necessary for the construction of El Capitan dam to the 200 foot contour. The net safe yield of El Capitan dam to the 160 foot contour, under present conditions is 7.2 million gallons daily. To the 200 foot contour, 12.1 million gallons. Even a dam 200 feet high will not take care of all the flood waters.

We own the San Vicente damsite and reservoir. There is a net safe yield of 3½ million gallons daily from its own water shed.

When El Capitan is built San Vicente dam should be built at the same time. It is splendid cheap storage. The water in El Capitan dam should be kept drawn down and the valuable storage of San Vicente utilized for the most successful operation of the system.

If no bonds had been voted for El Capitan today my first recommendation would have been the construction of Mission Gorge #3 and the water stored in the canyon where nature intended water to be stored. The economical height of the dam is 230 feet and would flood to the 330 foot elevation destroying only

200 acres of tillable land. No. 3 would only flood 1420 acres as compared to Mission #2 flooding 7300 acres. Mission #3 would hold at the 330 foot elevation 45 thousand acre feet with a net safe yield under present conditions of 8 million gallons daily and would furnish the greatest amount of water stored with the least evaporation surface of any dam in San Diego County. The cost would be approximately six cents per thousand gallons.

The type of dam should be a single arch constant angle similar to the Pacoima dam, 365 feet high, the highest dam in the world, built by the city of Los Angeles. The concrete being 100 feet thick at the base and 8 feet thick at the top. The city of Los Angeles have also built the Tujunga dam, 240 feet high, a single arch, costing a million two hundred thousand dollars. Also the Santa Anita dam, 220 feet high, costing one million dollars.

The government has built recently three or four similar dams 200 feet and higher. I feel the single arch is the most scientific and least expensive type of dam known in the world today, with double the factors of safety of the gravity arch, and generally one third to one half the cost.

Plans and specifications for Mission Gorge dam #3 have recently been completed and definite bids made by the noted contractors, Bent Brothers, who built Henshaw Dam and Hodges Dam, which absolutely assures the cost of said dam, including the reservoir lands between #3 and #2 will not exceed a million and a half dollars.

The pipe line from Mission #3 to Old Town, connecting with the lower levels of the city can transfer the water to the lower levels by gravity, yet at all times be ready to economically pump to the higher levels of the city as needed.

Eight or ten of the most prominent engineers in the country have recommended the construction of Mission #3 dam first. They include Major Olberg, for many years with the U. S. Government who designed and built Coolidge dam; also Colonel Leeds, another government engineer; F. M. Faude, hydraulic engineer for the State Railroad Commission, T. H. King who designed the water system for the San Dieguito Irrigation District and for many years engineer of the La Mesa Irrigation district; R. C. Earle, former city hydraulic engineer, also several government engineers including Francis L. Sellew and others who have made personal investigation and reports that Mission #3 should be the first dam built as it means the least investment for the largest amount of water.

However, I urge that the state engineer or his representative, a federal engineer, and those two choose a third, a practical man, and they be asked to determine where and when and what type of dam or dams should be built to complete the

development of the San Dieto River. I will abide by their decision.

Any personal interest that I have on the San Diego River we will gladly sell to the city at a fair figure or leave the question to arbitration in the usual manner, the decision of the board of arbitrators to be final. I pray for unity of purpose.

Barrett Dam should not be raised. It is money thrown away. Otay dam is over built with only 96 square miles of storage, a net safe yield of less than three and a half million gallons daily. Its storage should be utilized by any surplus water from Barrett keeping Barrett dam drained so far as practical at all times and continually pushing the water into Otay.

Originally Otay dam held 12 billion gallons. It took 20 years to fill and then went out. Mr. Savage increased its capacity to 20 billion gallons, approximately.

Let's utilize that surplus storage and save a million or two which Mr. Savage plans to spend in raising Barrett 75 feet.

CONCLUSIONS

First. Immediate settlement with the district either by mutual consent or a referendum of the people, the city acquiring the paramount rights.

Second. Extend the San Diego pipe line to El Capitan diverting dam and get four or five million gallons of water daily on the average which will flow by gravity in to the city.

Third. Make an arrangement with the La Mesa District to secure water from Murray dam and get easily a billion gallons of water annually from that source.

Fourth. Save the water now going to waste in Dulzura Creek from Morena and Barrett by a direct pipe line to the city from the westerly end of the Dulzura conduit or, in lieu thereof, connect with the new Otay pipe line at Otay Dam.

Fifth. Pump the water from the Mission Valley gravels immediately so as to have a storage available from next winter's rains.

Sixth. Complete the strengthening of Lake Hodges dam raising the spillway ten feet by a syphon spill way or

or taintor gates and save an additional net safe yield of three million gallons daily with a 17,000 acre foot additional storage.

All the above can be done without going to the expense of a bond issue with money available from the different funds now held by the city.

Regarding the construction of major dams, their location, type and costs, providing we donot get heavy rains and catchment within the next eighteen months, by that time we can have additional advice from the state and government engineers or competant authority that to do and where to build.

My recommendations are from the standpoint of a common layman and what I consider practical.

I am opposed to any further cost of litigation and urge the people to support some plan of settlement with the district immediately.

The settlement of the water question means much to San Diego and as much to the La Mesa District. They are a part of us. They have been in undisputed possession of this water for forty two years. This litigation is a cloud on their property. It is stopping the development of that community terribly. Every one in San Diego says they would not be a party to taking the water away from the district. We all are of one family. Why not settle this family row now? Annexation will come, not by force but by fair dealing and they must have an irrigating rate that will make it possible for them to live.

How much longer is San Diego going to continue to spank one of its own?

TAX FACTORS' VALUES
CITY OF SAN DIEGO
MISSION GORGE NO. 2 LANDS

Value on entire tract

Tract 301 Described as a portion of Block 29, Fletcher Hills Unit #2, total 40.06 acres in tract, 8.51 below the 400 ft. contour,
TAX FACTORS' Value, Real Estate $5750.00 Imp.$120.00
Total $5870.00

Tract 302 Described as Block 30, Fletcher Hills Unit #2, total acreage 34.35, below the 400 ft. contour, 32.80.
TAX FACTORS' Value $4390.00

Tract 303 Described as Block 31, Fletcher Hills Unit #2, total acreage 12.16, all below the 400 foot contour.
TAX FACTORS' Value $1500.00

Tract 304 Described as portion of Block 32, Fletcher Hills Unit #2, total acreage 19.50, below the 400 ft. contour .82.
TAX FACTORS' VALUE $2400100

Tract 305 Described as portion of Block 33, Fletcher Hills Unit #2, total acreage not given but 121.84 acres are below the 400 foot contour.
TAX FACTORS' VALUE on acreage below contour $17270.00

Land $31,110.00 Imp. $120.00

Acreage in reservoir (Below 400 ft. contour)

Tract	301	8.50
"	302	32.80
"	303	12.16
"	304	.82
"	305	121.84
Total		176.13

TAX FACTORS' VALUE ON LAND IN RESERVOIR

Tract	301	- $1640.00 land	-$60.00 on improvements
"	302	4180.00	
"	303	1500.00	
"	304	125.00	
"	305	17270.00	
		$24,515.00 Land-	$60.00 Improvements

	*
5,750.00	
4,390.00	
1,300.00	
2,400.00	
17,270.00	
31,110.00	*
8.50	
32.80	
12.16	
.82	
121.84	
176.13	*
1,640.00	
4,180.00	
1,300.00	
125.00	
17,270.00	
24,515.00	*
40.06	
34.35	
12.16	
.82	
121.84	
209.23	*

To the Water Com of the Chamber of Commerce

Statement of Colonel Fletcher

The compromise plan of settling the water question on the San Diego River as I understand it, calls for the construction of Mission Gorge No. 2 by building a dam to the 360 foot contour, the purchase of the following damsites: Mission Gorge No. 3, El Capitan, San Vicente, and Sutherland; also a compromise agreement with the La Mesa District and San Diego City along the lines as agreed upon between the committee of business men of both communities and representatives of the District and the City of San Diego.

My first thought is one of appreciation to my many friends who have without any idea of reward given their time to assist in bringing about this much needed compromise for the benefit of the entire community. As much as I regret it, however, as a citizen of San Diego with the single purpose of what is best for the city in mind, my judgment compels me to oppose the building of Mission Gorge No. 2 in favor of No. 3, and for the following reasons:

A dam to the 330 foot contour at No. 3 flooding 1424 acres has a net safe yield of 7.1 million gallons daily, while a dam at No. 2 built to the 360 foot contour flooding 3320 acres only has a net safe yield of 5 million gallons daily. In other words, you have two thousand additional acres of evaporation pan in No. 2 as compared to No. 3, an evaporation loss against No. 2 of two million gallons daily.

You have in perpetuity wiped out for taxable purposes 2,000 acres of the best lands of El Cajon Valley, including the town of Santee.

By building No. 2 you are compelled to add at least a half million dollars additional investment in lands. It will cost you an additional $200,000 to build a pipeline connecting with the city at No. 2 as compared to No. 3.

A single arch ~~or multiple arch~~ dam can be built for approximately a half million dollars less at No. 3 to the 330 foot contour than a gravity arch as planned at No. 2 to the 360 foot contour.

The controversy hinges largely on the type of dam. There is no necessity for the gravity arch type in this case where a newer type at less cost with higher factors of safety can be built.

Site No. 3 as an ideal site has been approved by no less authority than M. M. O'Shaughnessy, Francis L. Sellew, U. S. Reclamation Service, State Engineer W. F. McClure, State Hydraulic Engineer F. M. Faude, John S. Eastwood, L. Jorgenson, W. C. Earle, former city engineer, and T. H. King.

The plans of a radial cone type of dam for No. 3 have already been approved by the highest state authorities. The height of Dam No. 3 in this case would be 230 feet. A radial cone type can be built for less than $600,000 and definite bids have been received for a single arch type such as is built by the U. S. Government for $1,270,000.

As proof of the safety of the single arch type, two of the highest dams in the world built by the U. S. Government are the Shoshone Dam - height 305 feet, yardage 69,000, cost $515,730; Pathfinder Dam, U. S. Reclamation Service - height 210 feet, yardage 54,000, cost $482,000; while the Lake Spalding Dam in California, built

by the Pacific Gas & Electric is 275 feet high, yardage 150,000, cost $1,500,000.

There is no question but what San Diego can build at No. 5 with a saving of in excess of a million dollars as compared to No. 2 a dam that will give two million gallons daily greater net safe yield.

The former City Water Commission recommended the acquisition of Sutherland and the building of No. 3. I am absolutely convinced their recommendations were sound from the standpoint of economy.

Some may say I have an axe to grind. My friends will not question my sincerity in advocating what I think is for the best interests of this city which I love and have tried my best to serve. I desire to place myself on record in advance of any official action. If the business men of this community still feel that my judgment is wrong I have at least the satisfaction of knowing that I have made a public protest against what I consider would be an engineering blunder, a waste of the City's money, and a poor compromise so far as the City of San Diego is concerned.

I again wish to thank my friends and the business men of this community for their deep interest in trying to settle San Diego's most pressing problem.

GUYAMACA
SOLANA BEACH
FLETCHER HILLS
PINE HILLS
GROSSMONT
AVOCADO ACRES

Ed Fletcher Company
1020 NINTH STREET
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

March 4th, 1931.

Information regarding Mission Gorge Damsite No. 5

Referring to the trip of the City Council, Water Committee and citizens of San Diego last Saturday as the guests of the City of Los Angeles to inspect their dams constructed and under construction, I am enclosing pictures which I took on the trip of the 240 foot constant angle single arch Tujunga Dam now under construction which is costing less than $1,000,000 to build, also the Pacoima Dam, the highest in the world, 375 feet from bedrock, which cost $2,500,000 and can be built at today's prices for $2,000,000.

I also call your attention to the Santa Anita Dam, 225 feet high, completed in 1927, which cost $1,211,000 and could today be built for less than $1,000,000.

The above dams have been built by the Los Angeles Flood Control, Los Angeles, the last few years.

Forty-seven of these single arch type of dams have been built in the last fifteen years, notably, Lake Spaulding Dam, Yuba River, California, 295 feet high from bedrock, 275 feet above river bed; Mormon Flat Dam, Salt River, Arizona, 229 feet above bedrock; Glines Canyon Dam, Port Angeles, Washington, 200 feet high; Lake Cushman Dam, Washington, 200 feet high; Horse Mesa Dam, Arizona, 305 feet high; Santeetlah Dam, North Carolina, 202 feet high; Canyon Diablo Dam, Seattle, 372 feet high; Callen Dam, Mexico, 217 feet high; Calderwood Dam, Tennessee, 230 feet high; Stewart Mountain Dam, Arizona, 212 feet high; Ariel Dam, Lewis River, Washington, 300 feet high.

The United States Reclamation Service have also built the Pathfinder Dam, Wyoming, 218 feet high; Shoshone Dam, Wyoming, 328 feet high; Titon Dam, Washington, 220 feet high; and many others; while the Salmon River Company, Idaho, built one 225 feet in height.

I am furnishing the above information for the reason that Mission Gorge No. 3 damsite is ideal for this type of dam but Mr. Savage will not approve anything but a gravity arch type. This type of dam has greater factors of safety than the gravity arch type and can be built at one-third to one-half the cost.

Mr. Savage ignores the value of Mission Gorge No. 3 damsite for the reason that his cost of a gravity arch type of dam to the 530 foot contour would be approximately three to three and a half million dollars while we can build a single arch tye to the same contour, 550 feet, similar to the type Los Angeles is now building and for less than one million dollars.

The reader can easily see that by saving two to two and a half million dollars in the cost of building a dam alone at No. 3, as compared to No. 2, it will reduce the cost of water approximately one-third in favor of No. 3 as compared to Mission No. 2.

Mission Gorge dam No. 3 built to the 530 foot contour will furnish a storage of 45,000 acre feet or 15 billion gallons and is practically the same storage capacity of Otay, Morena and Barrett Dams.

No. 3 to the 530 foot contour will give us a net safe yield of eight million gallons daily under present conditions and the cost of water will not be to exceed seven cents a thousand gallons delivered to the city, the cheapest water the city can or will ever develop by storage, in my opinion.

By building to the 530 foot contour at No. 3 you only flood 1424 acres and the water will be stored in the canyon where it belongs with a minimum of evaporation surface and the total cost of the dam and lands flooded will not be to exceed one million five hundred thousand dollars.

It saves in perpetuity a tremendous investment of five or six million for the development of Mission No. 2. It saves forever the income from taxation of Mission No. 2 lands that would be flooded as well as the products from those lands. Later, as conditions warrant, El Capitan and San Vicente can be built.

Why put four million into El Capitan or six million into Mission No. 2 now when, for a million and a half dollars you can complete No. 3 without opposition and protect the future growth of this community for years to come.

Personally, I am not in favor of even building No. 3 for five years, as, by settling with the District and paying them the $248,000, it wipes private interests completely off the river forever, as well as the District, and gives the city five or six million gallons additional supply of water a day from Murrey Dam and by pumping. This is enough to take care of us for the next four or five years, without building any dams on the river, and we lessen our burden of taxation tremendously.

Mission Gorge Damsite No. 3 has been surveyed, core drilled and a perfect bedrock is exposed on the surface.

After a personal inspection of the entire river, Mr. O'Shaughnessy, on January 25, 1928, wrote as follows:

> "Mission Gorge Site No. 3 is the most economical damsite on the San Diego River. There will be less loss of water from evaporation and less valuable lands destroyed by flooding. This site should be selected by the city for initial construction on the San Diego River."

The famous engineer, Major C. R. Olberg, who designed and built Coolidge Dam and for many years was United States Government Engineer, although now in Russia working for the Russian Government, in his written report urged the completion of Mission Gorge Dam No. 3 first. Also W. P. Wegmouth, Chief Engineer U. S. Reclamation Service, F. M. Foude, Hydraulic Engineer, State Railway Commission, T. H. King, and many others have urged this site as the city's first development on the river.

The plans for Mission No. 3 dam were made by Lars R. Jorgenson, who has designed and built over thirty-five of these dams.

The total yardage of concrete is 115,000 yards. Bent Brothers have made us a definite offer within the last two weeks of $8.60 a yard in place, and, in competition, I am sure the cost will be materially less. I am positive that the dam can be built, including engineering, overhead and all costs, for less than $1,000,000.

By proper manipulation, practically all of this water will flow by gravity into the city system at Old Town, thereby eliminating the necessity of pumping. My authority is former city manager, F. A. Rhodes, who wrote to Mr. H. M. Savage as follows:

"In answer to your request of August 16th for estimated percentages of present and prospective water consumption at various levels in the city, I beg to submit as follows:

Elevation above Sea Level	Present Consumption
100 feet	40%
150 "	60%
200 "	80%

It is not anticipated that the consumption in the business district will increase materially within the next ten years. An estimate of the probable increase in consumption follows:

Elevation above Sea Level	Increased Consumption
100 feet	30%
150 "	45%
200 "	70%

The water supplied from Lake Hodges has not been considered in the above estimate.

(signed) F. A. Rhodes."

As approximately 70% or 80% of the water will be stored between the 200 and 330 foot level in Mission No. 3, the cost of pumping will be nominal, if at all, by proper operation of the city's entire water system.

With the settlement with the Irrigation District for $248,000 not alone do they acquire that valuable property, Murrey Dam, which will save $500,000 in the construction of Cholles Reservoir, but the city will be getting also complete control of the river, the ownership of Mission Gorge No. 3, and a considerable portion of lands that will be flooded, El Capitan Damsite, four or five hundred acres of land belonging to the La Mesa District which the city will have to buy whether they build either No. 2 or No. 3, also four or five hundred acres of the finest water bearing gravels in the county on the San Diego River above Lakeside, as well as the whole water system now in use, including Cuyamaca Lake.

Don't be stampeded into doing anything on the San Diego River now but continue your investigations thoroughly as to No. 3. The former State Engineer of California did approve this damsite, and type of dam.

After twenty-five years' practical experience in the development of water, I urge you to consider my recommendations:

First: Make a settlement with the La Mesa Irrigation District.

Second: Get the present state engineer to approve or disapprove of the plans of a single arch type of dam for Mission Gorge No. 3 now in his possession and if approved make further investigations as to the relative merit and cost of the single arch and gravity arch type of dam for No. 3.

I will within two weeks from date submit to you definite costs for the construction of a single arch type of dam to the 330 foot contour at Mission Gorge No. 3.

Third: Buy immediately the control of the San Pasqual gravels. The city needs these properties for three reasons:

1. They are enormously valuable as an underground water supply.

2. In order that you may complete the construction of Sutherland Dam at some future time, as the riparian owners below can stop the diversion of water from the Santa Isabel River to San Diego under present conditions.

3. If the super Hodges Dam is ever built two-thirds of the San Pasqual gravel lands still unpurchased will be needed for reservoir purposes.

4. Complete El Capitan and/or San Vicente dams and by means of a canal costing not to exceed $200,000 Sutherland water can be brought over into the San Diego-San Vicente water shed and delivered to San Diego at an economical figure, less than one-half the cost of the water heretofore developed by the city of San Diego.

In closing let me urge that if an immediate settlement is not made with the district by building at Mission Gorge No. 3 now the district can be left alone temporarily to work out its own problems with the city. Time will do it.

With the Settlement with the District it makes no difference to me personally whether San Vicente, El Capitan or Mission No. 3 is built first, but my preference is Mission No. 3, and to the last I shall fight Mission No. 2, as it is an economical crime from every standpoint to construct it.

Yours very truly,

EF/HC
ASK

HIGH LIGHTS

Ed Fletcher on

THE WATER QUESTION

To the Water Committee, Chamber of Commerce:

I acknowledge receipt of your invitation to present my views on the water problems of San Diego.

I am opposed to spending four, six or eight million dollars by the city on the San Diego river or anywhere else for dams for the storage of water at the present time. There is no need of it.

I am not in favor of attempting to get water from the Colorado river unless we can get an option at a nominal cost for a 20 or 50-year period. We can develop enough water on the western slope in San Diego county, including the Tia Juana river and our underground resources, also the reclamation of our sewerage water, for a million and a half people.

We are using approximately 100 gallons per day per capita or a million gallons daily for 10,000 people. Assuming we have a growth of 125,000 people the next 10 years, the plan I recommend will deliver 10 to 12 million gallons daily at a cost not to exceed two and a half to three million dollars, spent only as conditions warrant it.

Already the city of Los Angeles is reclaiming a portion of its sewerage water by new methods, at a cost not to exceed 5¢ to 6¢ a thousand gallons, and 75% of our sewerage water can and will eventually be reclaimed for irrigation and industrial purposes at a cost not to exceed 2¢ to 3¢ a thousand gallons.

Taxation is dangerously high. Today this city is overburdened with taxes. There was a delinquency of about 10% last year in the city of San Diego. This year the delinquency is much worse.

You may be interested in knowing the increased expenditures of the city and county for the last six years, which are as follows:

CITY

1924.....$4,407,574.90
1929-30 (July 1 to July 1, 1930)..... 6,765,629.15

An increase of over 50% in six years.

COUNTY

1924.....$6,051,002.57
1929..... 10,452,649.65

An increase of nearly 75% in six years.

It is the land-owners that must pay most of these increased taxes.

For 20 years the city has taken the attitude that it could only develop water for domestic purposes. This policy is a terrible mistake. Within the last two weeks I have written seventeen cities in Southern California asking for their water rates. San Diego charges more for domestic and irrigating water than any city in Southern California. Exhibit A is fully explanatory.

In order to make my point, I give you the following comparisons:

Domestic water up to 4000 cubic feet: Santa Barbara, .15; Pomona, .15; Los Angeles, .13; San Bernardino, .08; Long Beach, .10; Oceanside, .045; Riverside, .07; Ventura, .11; Glendale, .13; Santa Ana, .10; Colton, .0475; Pasadena, .18; Escondido, .075; National City, .18; Chula Vista, .18; La Mesa, .15; The average cost of domestic water for the above mentioned cities is 11¢ per 100 feet, while San Diego charges 20¢.

Industrial and irrigating water, sliding scale up to 100,000 cubic feet- Santa Barbara, .09; Pomona, .08; Los Angeles, .018; Los Angeles, industrial, .05; San Bernardino, .075; Long Beach, .06; Oceanside, .055; Riverside, .06; Industrial Riverside, .05; Ventura, .05; Glendale, .09; Santa Ana, .06; Colton, .024; Pasadena, .10; Escondido, .075; National City, .06; Chula Vista, .06; La Mesa, .06; San Diego .20. The average cost of irrigating and industrial water of the above mentioned cities is .06 a hundred cubic feet, while San Diego charges 20¢. San Diego is certainly at a great disadvantage.

If the city of San Diego would continue a domestic rate of say 20¢ a hundred cubic feet with a minimum of $1.00 monthly, and a sliding scale downward so that irrigation water could be had at 8 or 10 cents a thousand gallons for irrigation and industrial purposes in large quantities, the 20 or 30 thousand acres of unimproved barren land within the city limits would quickly develop.

We would add millions to our assessed valuation, thousands of people would be self-supporting, and our dream of a big city would be realized during our life-time - if that is what you want.

We can develop for a cost not to exceed two and a half to three million dollars ten or twelve million gallons of water daily for the city, enough to cover its growth the next ten years, without building a dam on the San Diego river.

or, in lieu of the development of the San Pasqual gravels, build Mission Gorge #5, the water to cost from 7 to 10¢ a thousand gallons, according to the units developed, delivered to the city.

I recommend the immediate settlement with the La Mesa District of the San Diego River problems, the city acquiring the La Mesa District properties, the purchase price to be $248,000.00. For the above, the city would get a deed to Murray Dam, Mission Gorge #5 damsite; lands flooded which the Cuyamaca Water Company control; surveys; core drillings; four or five hundred acres of land in the reservoir of Mission Gorge #2 which the District owns and which cost them approximately $100,000; the El Monte pumping plant; several hundred acres of water bearing gravels above the El Monte plant, where large quantities of water can be pumped; El Capitan damsite, and lands owned by the District for which a Santa Ana jury gave a value of $600,000 without any inclusion of water rights; Fletcher damsite and reservoir site at the head of the flume; Cuyamaca dam and 1100 acres flooded; the flume line and distribution lines; everything which the District owns. In consideration of the above, the District to get water at the present rates; the District to pay its own bond, principal and interest, of approximately $2,000,000, and the supply of water to be limited to 4,000,000 gallons a day for irrigation and what is needed for domestic purposes. The present cost, including interest and sinking fund on the bonds, to the District, is 11¢ or 12¢ a thousand gallons for irrigating water and 21¢ for domestic, as high an irrigation rate as any district can stand. The District is now paying $20,000 or $30,000 above operating expenses. By the payment of $248,000 the city immediately gets possession of the District's properties above mentioned.

Murray Dam, one of the assets, is extremely valuable to the city. It would immediately furnish an additional supply of water to the city of 3,000,000 gallons daily, holds 2,000,000,000 gallons of water, has an elevation of 550 feet above sea-level, and the water will flow by gravity over the high levels of the city and to Point Loma. This would eliminate the foolish expenditure of $550,000 voted by the people to build Cholles reservoir, as Cholles reservoir only has an elevation of around 400 feet. The gravity water from Murray dam will save $60,000 or $70,000 for the city, now being paid for pumping water to the higher levels of the city after it runs down-hill to the lower levels of the city by gravity.

The present flume is good for five years and for $50,000 a pumping plant can be installed in the upper El Monte basin, the water bearing gravels the District is deeding to the City, and 3 to 4 million gallons of water a day during the 8 months' irrigating season can be developed when needed to take care of the demands during the hot weather season, cost of water not to exceed 3¢ or 4¢ a thousand gallons.

Probably 2 years out of 5 a large surplus flood water from the San Diego river by gravity coming through the flume, can be diverted directly into the city for the city's needs during the winter time and the surplus stored in Lower Otay dam, or the water will flow into Lower Otay by gravity from Murray dam.

The Irrigation District has, for several years, been pumping an average of 6,000,000 gallons a day during the irrigating season from its El Monte pumping plant at a cost of 3.3¢ a thousand gallons, lifting it 291 feet into the flume. The water bearing gravels are 125 to 165 feet in depth and the District has never been able to lower the water below 72 feet. In other words, for 2 years out of the last 5, the District has been pumping a billion gallons of water annually from the one pumping plant at El Monte. We can get water for the next 5 years without putting in an expensive initial investment of a dam on the river and the water that we do develop will cost less than any storage water on the river. There is no water lost by evaporation in the underground reservoirs.

Five years hence, at a cost of half to three-quarters of a million dollars, when the rebuilding of the flume line permanently (which, under the proposed arrangement, the city and the district would jointly pay for in proportion to the use of water) has been completed for all time, the city will have gravity water and save interest on a million dollars thereby, now being paid out for the cost of pumping the city's water after it reaches the city limits from its present supply.

By acquiring the San Pasqual gravels and building a pipe line over the Linda Vista mesa to San Diego from San Pasqual, a distance of about 28 miles, at an expenditure of not to exceed a million and a half dollars, at some future date, at least 8 or 10 million gallons of water daily can be secured during the 8 or 9 months of hot weather, so-called, when we need it, from the San Pasqual gravels and gravity flow, at a total cost of not to exceed 10¢ a thousand gallons delivered to University Heights reservoir.

By all means we should complete the purchase of the San Pasqual gravels immediately. It is the largest underground body of water in the county and in our purchase we kill three birds with one stone. We secure permanently the underground supply in the gravels at a cost per acre less than what Los Angeles is paying for the Owens River valley land 275 miles away. We must acquire these Samd lands in order to complete the building of Sutherland dam, and, if the Super-Hodges dam is ever built a large part of these lands will be flooded and will have to be purchased at a much higher figure later on.

The acquisition of the San Dieguito Mutual Water Company system adds 15 million gallons daily to San Diego's supply when completely developed and is the cheapest water supply to be had outside of the San Diego river. in addition to present obligation

If the city is determined to carry out immediately the construction of major dams on the San Diego river, I recommend a single arch type of dam at Mission No. 3 to the 330 foot contour which will hold 15 billion gallons of water, 45,000 acre feet, will flood only 1424 acres, with a net safe yBeld of approximately 8 million gallons a day under present conditions, with water costing not to exceed 7¢ a thousand gallons and the cost of the dam not to exceed $1,250,000.00. There will only be 200 acres of good farming land destroyed, and the water will be stored where the Almighty planned it, to flood worthless land in the Mission Gorge. Core drillings have demonstrated that it is an ideal damsite, with bedrock available.

Messrs. O'Shaughnessy; State engineer McClure; Major Olberg, Chief Engineer U. S. Reclamation Service who built the Coolidge Dam and others; F. E. Weymouth, former chief engineer U. S. Reclamation Service; Col. Leeds; T. H. King and F. M. Faude, former hydraulic engineer of the State Railway Commission, have approved this damsite. Mr. O'Shaughnessy says that this is where the first dam on the river should be built, and even Mr. Freeman advocated its purchase and later development. Messrs. White, Chandler and Wangenheim, after two years' study with hydraulic engineers in their employ, recommended the construction of Mission No. 3 dam.

The engineer who designed the single arch type of dam is the noted engineer, L. R. Jorgensen. If this dam is built, with the present pipe line which the city owns running through Mission Gorge No. 3 damsite, the water can be taken into University Heights at a cost not to exceed ½¢ a thousand gallons for pumping. In other words, at a cost not to exceed a million and a half dollars, Mission No. 3 can be installed immediately complete and the water delivered into the city, either by gravity to Old Town or a slight pumping lift at a cost not to exceed 7¢ a M gallons.

Why start in at either Mission No. 2 or El Capitan where it is going to cost anywhere from four to six million to complete the job when we are so short of money? Our bonding margin will be materially reduced on account of the depression and lower assessed valuations? Why not live within our means, build No. 3 when it is necessary five years hence, say, and let posterity build the big dams later on. San Diego is in the position of a man with a champagne appetite and a beer pocketbook.

First, let us develop our cheapest and quickest source of supply. For $248,000 paid to the District, we get three to four million gallons of water a day additional net safe yield without spending another dollar. By spending 50 or 100 thousand dollars we can put in a pumping plant to give an additional 3 or 4 million gallons a day during the pumping season from the El Monte sands. By spending 1½ million dollars by gravity flow and by pumping from the San Pasqual gravels, wecoqm get another 8 or 10 million gallons a day.

I am opposed to building Mission Gorge No. 2 and spending $350,000 as planned. The 7300 acres of land necessary will cost $3,000,000. Under no conditions can Mr. Savage rebuild the 6 miles of San Diego & Arizona Railroad, 6 miles of paved highway, move the county farm which cost around a million and a quarter dollars, wipe out the towns of Santee and Lakeside, and acquire the necessary lands under 3 or 4 million dollars.

As regards building the cut-off dam 40 feet high for $350,000, I will undertake the job of installing this cut-off wall and building a concrete dam 40 feet in height for the sum of $75,000, but I see no need whatsoever of making this construction and it is against the city's best interests. It is not practical to use the raw, muddy water without a settling basin off the river and this will cost around two or three hundred thousand dollars. The 40 foot dam only holds 128 million gallons of water and 8 days' supply. Any one of the two big floods would fill the dam completely with mud. There is no water running there, to speak of excepting during flood time.

The city is now pumping roughly 4 million gallons of water daily from the underground waters above Mission Gorge No; 2 and the building of the 40 foot dam is of very little benefit, in fact it is only an entering wedge to build the dam at Mission Gorge No. 2, to which I am opposed, for this particular reason. By building Mission No. 3, El Capitan and San Vicente, the net safe yield of the river will be in excess of 6 million gallons, then, if the major dam is built at No. 2, it means sometime a loss of 60,000 additional people, for, if No. 2 is built, the water evaporates into the air, while it is saved by the construction of the dams above mentioned, and the cost of the water will be no greater in either case.

I consider any statement that we must promptly build major dams on the river to be only an attempt to stampede the voters. We have the assurance, under normal conditions, of 5 to 7 years' supply of water on hand. It is ridiculous for Mr. Savage to assume that there will be no rainfall or run-off the next 3 or 4 years, in determining, as he has, that we only have a 3 or 4 years' supply.

I consider it an economical crime, from the taxpayers standpoint, to consider the building of any dams on the San Diego river.

I am not representing, and I have no authority to speak for, the La Mesa District. The report has been widely circulated that Mr. Stern and I own the bonds of the La Mesa District. This is absolutely untrue. The bonds were sold for cash to Los Angeles bond houses and we were paid cash for our property when we delivered same to the District. With the settlement made between the District and the city, I have no personal interest whatever on the river in conflict with the city. It will be a pleasure to work with the city officials and your Chamber of Commerce, without pay, at any time that I can in the future be of service in settling the San Diego 20-year water problems.

Respectfully submitted,

C-1931

January Eighth,
1 9 3 1.

To the Water Committee,
Chamber of Commerce,
San Diego, California.

Gentlemen:-

I acknowledge receipt of your invitation to present my views on the water problems of San Diego.

I am opposed to spending four, six or eight million dollars by the City on the San Diego River or anywhere else for dams for the storage of water at the present time. There is no need of it.

I am not in favor of attempting to get water from the Colorado River unless we can get an option at a nominal cost for twenty or thirty year period. We can develop enough water on the Western Slope in San Diego County, including the Tia Juana River, and our underground resources, for a million and a half people.

Already the city of Los Angeles is reclaiming a portion of its sewerage water by new methods, at a cost not to exceed five to six cents a thousand gallons, and 75% of our sewerage water can and will eventually be reclaimed for irrigation and industrial purposes at a cost not to exceed two to three cents a thousand gallons.

It has taken us fifty years to create a usage of water of approximately fifteen or sixteen million gallons daily for 150,000 to 160,000 people. In other words, we are using about a hundred gallons per day per capita, or a million gallons daily for 10,000 people.

Let us assume for argument's sake that

that we increase in population 125,000 people, needing ten to possibly fifteen million gallons additional domestic and irrigating water, within the next ten year period. The plan I recommend will deliver ten to twelve million gallons daily to the city at a cost of not to exceed $2,500,000.00, while the same amount of stored water heretofore developed by the city has cost in excess of $10,000,000.00.

The time has come for this city to look things squarely in the face. Taxation is dangerously high. Why not be prudent, spend as little money as possible and get the required amount of water for the growth of a hundred and fifty thousand people during the next ten years and let posterity build these dams.

The water that I recommend we develop will cost not to exceed seven to ten cents a thousand gallons delivered into the city.

There is no necessity of spending over a half to three-quarters of a million dollars to develop the first four or five million gallons daily, this water to come from the San Diego River and Murray Dam, as I will show later. Five years hence, by the expenditure of a million and a half dollars, we can also deliver eight or ten million gallons daily by pumping from the gravels of the San Pasqual River during the so-called irrigating season.

Past history shows that by giving any territory within ten or fifteen miles of the ocean in San Diego County a reasonable irrigation rate, within a short time that rate becomes domestic on account of the cutting up of the irrigated land into small subdivision tracts.

San Diego is the only city in Southern California that has not had the wisdom to establish lower irrigation rates. The cost of our water already developed is entirely too high.

If San Diego had settled this question years ago, developed our cheap water resources and furnished an irrigating rate similar to other Southern California cities we would have had 250,000 people in San Diego today. Instead, the city cancelled the four cent a thousand gallon contract with the Spreckels interests which had six years to run and developed the most expensive water in San Diego County, the Spreckels system. The cost of this water today is roughly twenty-two and a half cents a thousand gallons in bulk to the city limits.

Within the last two weeks I have written seventeen cities in Southern California, asking for their water rates.

San Diego charges more for domestic and irrigating water than any city in Southern California. Exhibit A is fully explanatory.

In order to make my point, I give you the following comparisons.

Domestic water up to 4000 cubic feet. Santa Barbara, .15; Pomona, .15; Lot Angeles, .15; San Barnardino, .08; Long Beach, .10; Oceanside, .045; Riverside, .07; Ventura, .11; Glendale, .15; Santa Ana, .10; Colton, .0475; Pasadena, .18; Escondido, .075; National City, .18; Chula Vista, .18; La Mesa, .10; The average cost of domestic water for the above mentioned cities is 11¢ per hundred cubic feet while San Diego charges 20¢.

Industrial and irrigation water, sliding scale up to 100,000 cubic feet, Santa Barbara, .09; Pomona, .08; Los Angeles, .018; Los Angeles, industrial, .05; San Bernardino, .075; Long Beach, .06; Oceanside, .035; Riverside, .06; Industrial Riverside, .05; Ventura, .05; Glendale, .09; Santa Ana, .06; Colton, .024; Pasadena, .10; Escondido, .075; National City, .06; Chula Vista, .06; La Mesa, ,.06; San Diego, .20; The average cost

of irrigating and industrial water of the above mentioned cities is .08 a hundred cubic feet while San Diego charges 20¢. San Diego is certainly at a great disadvantage.

Look at the remarkable growth all over Southern California the last ten years, yet San Diego is surrounded by a ring of barren land, undeveloped property. Most of it is within the city limits and all on account of lack of vision on the part of the city in the past in not developing irrigation water which in a short time turns into domestic when the higher rate can be obtained without hardship.

For twenty years the city has taken the attitude that it can only develop water for domestic purposes. This policy is a terrible mistake.

San Diego City has not had its proper growth the last ten years. Nearly fifty per cent. of San Diego's growth came from territory annexed, including Normal Heights, East San Diego, La Mesa Heights, etc., during the ten year period made possible by water from the Cuyamaca system and the irrigation district, all of this without any expense to the city of San Diego.

The Cuyamaca Water Company and the La Mesa District have rendered a distinct service to San Diego and this should be taken into consideration in settling with the District.

Every individual that lives in the La Mesa District is of as much value to the City of San Diego as San Diego's residents of La Jolla where the city of San Diego has already spent several million dollars in order to furnish water to La Jolla.

If the City of San Diego would continue a domestic rate, say of twenty cents a hundred cubic feet with a minimum of $1.00 monthly and a sliding scale downward so that irrigation water could be had at eight or ten cents a thousand gallons for irrigation and industrial purposes in large quantities the twenty

or thirty thousand acres of unimproved barren land within the city limits would quickly develop.

We would add millions to our assessed valuation, thousands of people would be self-supporting and our dream of a big city would be realized during our life time- if that is what you want.

Today, this city is over-burdened with taxes. There was a delinquency of about 10% last year in the city of San Diego. This year the delinquency is much worse.

You may be interested in knowing the increased expenditures of the city and county for the last six years which are as follows:

CITY

1924	$4,407,574.90
1929-30 (July 1 to July 1, 1930)	6,763.629.15

An increase of over 50% in six years

COUNTY

1924	6,051,002.57
1929	10,452,649.65

An increase of nearly 75% in six years

It is the land owners that must pay most of these increased taxes. The water fund should be kept intact for water development alone. At present, this money is going into the general fund.

I urged that the new charter include a water and power bureau similar to Los Angeles and independent of the City Countil with full authority to act.

In this connection, I attach Exhibit "B" the offer of the La Mesa District directors to settle with the city which offer the citizens of San Diego should have an opportunity to vote on as well as the residents of the La Mesa District.

The city would acquire the holdings of the Cuyamaca Water Company in Mission Gorge No. 3, including the damsite approximately 500 acres of land within the Mission Gorge Dam Site No. 2 that would

be flooded, the El Monte Pumping Plant and 400 ~~or~~ 500 acres of water bearing gravels in the upper El Monte basin, the El Capitan dam site and reservoir lands for which a Santa Ana jury awarded the district a valuation of $500,000, all of the above mentioned properties without any additional expense and including the old Cuyamaca system, Cuyamaca Lake, 1100 acres of land flooded, the diverting dam, the flume right of way fifty feet wide and thirty-odd miles in length which brings the water by gravity from the river to Murray Dam or will go into Lower Otay dam direct by gravity during flood time. It also includes Murray Dam which is at an elevation of 550 feet above sea level and would be a most valuable asset to the city.

Why spend $550,000 as recommended by Mr. Savage to build Chollas Reservoir to hold six hundred million gallons of water at an elevation of around four hundred feet above sea level, considerable portion of which will have to be pumped to higher levels for the city's needs, when Murray Dam, nearby, holds two billion gallons of water, now practically full and in the settlement with the district San Diego would be getting an additional net safe yield of three million gallons daily as a minimum from the gravity water of the San Diego River and Murray Dam without the expenditure of another dollar, delivering said water at an elevation of 550 feet above sea level that will put the water by gravity over the entire city to Point Loma. The City will also secure, during an emergency, by pumping, an additional four or six million gallons daily from the underground gravels of San Diego River during the eight months irrigating season. This water can be secured in addition to that furnished the La Mesa District from its present source, gravity and pumping, and the additional cost of this water will not exceed four cents by gravity or seven cents per thousand gallons for pumping delivered to the city limits.

San Diego heretofore has brought its water into San Diego at a low elevation of 575 feet to 400 feet. The city runs water down hill to San Diego and pays $60,000 to $70,000 a year for power, this sum increasing each year to pump water up to higher levels after reaching the city.

From Murray Dam, water will flow by gravity and eliminate this ever increasing pumping cost.

The La Mesa District plan calls for the district to pay its own bonds and asks that the present rates prevail. The irrigation water now costs the district consumers approximately eleven to twelve cents a thousand gallons and twenty-one for domestic, as high a rate as that territory can stand and prosper.

This community has rendered a valuable service to San Diego and has been the means of adding 50% to San Diego's growth the last ten years by annexation. They have not asked San Diego for a dollar to help create the water development in the La Mesa District which is so valuable to the business interests of San Diego City. The offer to sell for a nominal figure a property that cost three million dollars is worthy at least of being submitted to a vote of the citizens of San Diego by the city council.

Former city attorney Cosgrove is my authority that the city has not the right to make any settlement of the water question on the San Diego River; that it must be settled by a vote of the people and possibly ratified by the legislature.

I invite your honorable committee to visit with me the El Monte pumping plant which the Cuyamaca Water Company installed years ago.

You will find there two valuable under ground reservoirs of water bearing gravels known as the upper and lower El Monte contractions. These gravels are from 125 to 165 feet in depth in the lower El Monte contraction where the present El Monte plant is. This plant is pumping six million gallons daily into the La Mesa District flume, a lift of 291 feet at a cost of 3.3¢ a thousand gallons and for several years the district has pumped over a billion gallons of water yearly from the El Monte plant alone with the water line never below 72 feet, while a half mile above the said El Monte plant the water remains on the surface the year round, demonstrating an underground dam and reservoir above.

In other words we can get our water without putting in the initial investment of the cost of a dam and at less cost. There is no water lost by evaporation and if early in the spring the water is pumped, reducing the water level ten feet from the surface, there will be no evaporation loss whatsoever and that much more water saved from evporation.

Five years hence, at a cost of half to three-quarters of a million dollars in the completion of the rebuilding of the flume line permanently (which the city and the district would jointly pay for in proportion to the use of water) San Diego will then be in a position to run its flood waters from the San Diego River, after filling Murray Dam, into Lower Otay by gravity in winter where there is a surplus of storage and at practically no cost.

One year, the Cuyamaca Water Company did furnish and put into Lower Otay reservoir approximately a half billion gallons of surplus water when San Diego needed it.

By acquiring the San Pasqual gravels and building a pipe line over the Linda Vista Mesa to San Diego from San Pasqual, a distance of about twenty-eight miles, at an expenditure of not to exceed a million and a half dollars at some future date, at least eight or ten million gallons of water daily can be secured during the eight or nine months of hot weather, so-called, when we need it, from the San Pasqual gravels and gravity flow at a total cost of not to exceed ten cents a thousand gallons delivered to University Heights Reservoir.

I again repeat, by the expenditure of two and a half million dollars we can, in conjunction with our present city system, supply enough additional water to take care of at least another 100,000 people without the necessity of building a dam on the San Diego River or elsewhere.

If San Diego had only followed the advice of our former commission made at the request of the Mayor and Common Council of San Diego, Resolution #28526 passed December 4, 1922, copy of which is herewith enclosed, all our troubles on the San Diego

River would have been eliminated without this endless litigation and over $600,000 would have been saved in litigation. Messrs. White, Chandler and Wangenheim investigated this project for nearly two years. They recommended the acquisition of Sutherland dam site, the acquisition of the Cuyamaca system, including El Capitan, the acquisition and building of Mission Gorge No. 5 and called for the delivery of approximately twenty-four million gallons per day at an average cost of less than seven cents a thousand gallons to the city.

To quote from their report on Page 9, the Commission say, "It would stop the useless, expensive litigation that the City of San Diego is engaged in at the present time. We say useless litigation because the City could, no doubt, obtain through negotiations, the entire rights controlled by adverse interests, at a probably less cost than if it were successful in its litigation. This would enable the city to at once proceed to the proper development of its water resources."

We are no further along today than we were then. These commissioners had competent engineering advice and for nearly two years made a careful study of San Diego's water problems from a standpoint of business men. An economical crime was committed when the city council and the citizens of the City of San Diego did not adopt this report and follow out its recommendations. Instead, Mayor Bacon, fired the entire commission the next day.

If accepted, there would have been no paramount right litigation and San Diego would be enjoying the development of San Diego River, the cheapest water than can ever be developed by the city.

Very little publicity has been given the fact that there were two Pueblos created - the San Diego Presidio

and San Diego Mission, two entirely different tracts of land created by the order of the King of Spain. One embraces the original city of San Diego and the other what is known as the Ex-Mission lands, which embraces a large portion of the La Mesa District. The King of Spain made a specific grant of the waters of the San Diego River for use on these ex-Mission lands.

Patents were granted to both and in every detail each Pueblo was recognized by the U. S. GOVERNMENT Commissioners. When a decree of distribution was entered by the court the present ex-Mission lands were given their proportion of the water of the San Diego River.

As the Paramount Right stands, what is known as the Mission Pueblo, now ex-Mission lands, certainly has just as much right to the water of the San Diego River as San Diego and the owners of those lands can now demand their rights.

I enclose brief on this subject as written by our former deputy district attorney and now the attorney for the La Mesa District, Mr. Albert J. Lee. His letter of October 29th, 1930, is marked Exhibit "C".

I only mention this as an added argument in urging that an immediate settlement between the district and the city be made.

I do not claim to be a hydraulic engineer but from the standpoint of a common layman, with twenty-five years practical experience in managing and developing water systems considering the financial situation of the citizens of San Diego as well as the city, it is almost suicide to make a large expenditure of money for water development where there is no need of it for five years or ten years to come.

It is common knowledge that the bonding margin of the city is in danger of being materially reduced. The

new County Assessor will be forced to reduce assessed valuations and the chances are we will find ourselves in the position of a city with a champagne appetite and a beer pocketbook.

We are in the throes of a national depression where it is almost impossible to raise money to pay our taxes. In 1929 the city of Los Angeles had an increase in delinquency of 95% in collection of taxes as compared to the year before, This year it will be 100% over 1929. San Diego's delinquency is 10% over last year and there is every indication that it will be 12% to 15% this year, so it seems to me we had better STOP, LOOK and LISTEN.

We have in storage now 59.8 billion gallons of water. With a normal rainfall this will easily take care of San Diego for the next seven or eight years.

The greatest known drought was 1895 to 1905. We have had five sub-normal years. Last year was sub-normal all over the state excepting San Diego County where it was practically normal. It is a matter of expectency that we are approaching another wet period. By adoption of the plan recommended we can within a few months develop large underground sources of water by pumping and are not dependent upon the construction of dams for our needs for years to come.

There seems to be a concerted drive on to build a dam forty feet high at Mission Gorge No. 2 at an estimated cost of $350,000. If this proposed dam is only going to be built forty feet in height I will undertake the job of making a cut-off wall and build a concrete dam to forty feet in height for the sum of $75,000, but I see no need of making this construction whatsoever and it is against the city's best interests to build Mission Gorge Dam No. 2.

The La Mesa District demands for water in my opinion, will never exceed the amount of water which would be saved from evaporation if No. 2 is not built. In other words, roughly

five or six million gallons daily of water will forever be lost by evaporation if No. 2 is built which can be saved if Mission No. 5, El Capitan and eventually San Vicente are built. In the end we would have at least six million gallons larger net safe yield of water and at approximately the same cost as compared to the building of Mission Gorge No. 2.

There are three Mission Gorge damsites. One is at the old diverting dam known as the Mission Fathers dam; No. 2 is about a quarter of a mile below, and No. 5 approximately a mile below No. 2 and within about two miles of the old Mission.

The reservoir lands needed, according to Mr. Savage, is 7,300 acres at his estimated cost of $1,700,000. The Tax Factors' values are approximately $1,550,000.00 including improvements. Under no condition can Mr. Savage rebuild over six miles of San Diego and Arizona Railroad; six miles of paved highway; move the county farm which cost around a million and a quarter dollars; wipe out the towns of Santee and Lakeside and acquire these properties for Mission Gorge No. 2 under three or four million dollars, while the lands necessary for the building of a dam to the 550 foot contour in Mission No. 5 can be secured for one-tenth that amount and the water will be stored in the canyon where it belongs with the least evaporation loss of any reservoir now built per acre foot stored.

I will discuss the advantages of Mission Gorge No. 5 later.

I cannot imagine the city taking the raw,muddy flood water out of the river for city consumption at Mission No. 2 from a dam forty feet high unless the city spends another two or three hundred thousand dollars in large settling basins or building a large reservoir for that purpose, all at great expense.

To me, it would be the most foolish expenditure of money for the reason that the money can be put to so much better advantage elsewhere for a larger return.

The building of this forty foot dam at Mission Gorge No. 2 only floods 38 acres and stores approximately 129,000,000 gallons, approximately eight days' supply for the city.

One or two big floods similar to 1916 would fill the dam completely with mud.

The records show that 12 to 15 years out of 20 there is no water to amount to anything running at Mission Gorge No. 2 excepting six to ten days of the year during flood season.

The city is now pumping from the underground gravels of the San Diego River roughly four million gallons of water daily above Mission Gorge No. 2, good clear water.

These plants are already installed as well as pumping plants in Mission Valley below where another two or three million gallons daily can be pumped from the gravels. Why put $550,000 into this Mission No. 2 dam as recommended by Mr. Savage forty feet high and another two or three hundred thousand dollars in a settling basin whey by settling with the La Mesa District plus approximately $50,000 for another pumping plant, the city will get three million gallons of water daily from the San Diego River and Murray Dam, a large pumping supply in emergency and in addition get title to all the La Mesa Irrigation District properties, all fighting to cease and our water problem forever settled on the river.

If the city is determined to carry out a construction of major dams on the San Diego River now, why not build a single arch type of dam at Mission No. 3 to the 330 foot contour which will hold approximately 15 billion gallons of water, 45,000 acre feet, will flood only 1424 acres with a net safe yield of approximately eight million gallons a day under present conditions with the water costing not to exceed seven cents a thousand gallons

and the cost of the dam not to exceed a million, two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. There will only be about 100 or 200 acres of good farming land destroyed and the water will be stored where the Almighty planned it, to flood worthless land in the Mission Gorge.

Mission Gorge dam site will be turned over to the city in its settlement with the district without additional charge as well as a large portion of the reservoir lands flooded. The additional lands up to the 530 foot contour can be secured for not to exceed $300,000 in my opinion, as compared to three or four million for the flooded lands alone that Mr. Savage proposes buying for Mission No. 2, approximately 7300 acres.

At the suggestion of Mr. J. D. Spreckels, we employed Mr. M. M. O'Shaughnessy to make a report to Mr. Spreckels on the development of water of the San Diego River in 1925. His recommendations for water development were to build Mission No. 3 first.

On January 26th, 1925, he wired as follows:

"Cuyamaca Water Company, San Diego, California.

> Mission Gorge Site No. 3 is the most economical dam site on the San Diego River. There will be less loss of water from evaporation and less valuable land destroyed by flooding. This site should be selected by the city for initial construction on the San Diego River.
>
> (signed) M. M. O'SHAUGHNESSY
> Consulting Engineer."

Mr. O'Shaughnessy has never recommended a dam at Mission No. 2 but has recommended a dam at Mission Dam site No. 3 as the first development and later on, as conditions warrant it, El Capitan.

Core drillings at that time completed show it to be an ideal dam site and reservoir site.

The following letter from Mr. O'Shaughnessy may be of interest, which is from San Francisco, dted September 17th, 1921.

"My dear Colonel Fletcher:

I duly received prints disclosing the exploration of drill hole No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3, as well as various pits dug on the hillsides near the axis of the proposed dam at Gorge Damsite in Mission Canyon, San Diego.

This information is very gratifying and proves a very satisfactory foundation condition for the proposed dam at Mission Gorge.

Thanking you for your kindness in sending me this data, I am,

Very truly yours,

M. M. O'SHAUGHNESSY (signed)
City Engineer."

MMO'S/AC

Enclosed find exhibit "D" showing type of dam and all data in relation thereto to the 550 foot contour. These plans are before the state engineer of California for his approval today. Also "E", Map of Reservoir.

The Government has built many single arch types of dams of like character including Pathfinder Dam, U. S. R. S., Wyoming, 219 feet high; Shoshoni Dam, U. S. R. S., Wyoming, 328 feet high; Twin Falls, Salmon River Company, Idaho, 220 feet high; and Lake Spaulding Dam, 275 feet, and many others.

Mission Gorge Site #3 was approved by the former State Engineer of the State of California, Mr. W. F. McClure and this site has been approved also by Major Olberg, Chief Engineer U. S. Indian Service in the west who designed and built Coolidge Dam and many others.

Other engineers who have inspected and approved this site are Mr. F. E. Weymouth, former chief engineer of the U. S. Reclamation Service, Colonel Leeds, our local engineer, Mr. T. H. King and F. H. Faude, former hydraulic engineer of the State Railroad Commission, as well as other engineers.

Even Mr. Freeman advocated its purchase and later development.

Major Olberg has made a complete report

with a plan of development of water on the San Diego River, also the former water commission, Messrs. White, Chandler and Wangenheim after a two years' study.

Two or three types of dam can be built there. All are in practical agreement that a constant angle, single arch type of dam should be built and at a cost not to exceed $1,250,000.00.

The designer of our constant angle type of dam for No. 3 is the noted engineer, Mr. L. R. Jorgensen. On his plans we had a definite bid of a million and eight thousand dollars by Bent Brothers to the 510 foot contour some time ago. I enclose plan of dam for Mission Gorge No. 3 as prepared by Mr. Jorgensen marked Exhibit "F".

Water will flow by gravity from this dam to the lower levels of the city without pumping.

I recommend this site and type of dam as the first initial construction on the San Diego River but we do not need to, in my opinion, build it for five years to come.

If your Chamber of Commerce is determined to commence immediate construction of surface dams, I wish to recommend a plan of developing water and procedure in relation thereto covering the Santa Margarita, San Luis Rey, San Pasqual, San Diego River, Tia Juana and Cottonwood possibilities that may be of interest.

I make the following recommendations for the orderly development of water for the city of San Diego as requested by your committee.

First. The immediate transmission to a vost of the people of San Diego by the City Council of the suggested plan of settlement submitted to the city officials by the directors of the La Mesa District. If accepted, it eliminates the district and the Cuyamaca Water Company forever from the San Diego River.

Your Chamber of Commerce should work for its adoption. This means that by the payment of a nominal sum, the acquisition by the city of the Cuyamaca Water Company system including Murray Dam, Mission Gorge Dam Site #5, the four or five hundred acres of water bearing gravels which the district own in the Upper El Monte Basin, also the water bearing gravels in El Monte Pumping Plant now in use, and El Capitan Dam Site, and lands which the district own, and the entire Cuyamaca system. This gives the city absolute control of the river immediately, the district to pay its own irrigation district bonds and to get water at the present rates.

This gives the city immediately from the La Mesa District water system a minimum of three million gallons of water daily additional supply from the Murray Dam, all by gravity, with the rebuilding five years hence, say, of the flume line, increasing its capacity from 30 to 45 second feet the net safe yield will be materially increased, possibly 50%. An additional factor of vital interest to this city and favorable to this plan is the fact that Murray Dam is at an elevation of 550 feet above sea level. Water will flow by gravity over the entire city. We are paying sixty to seventy thousand dollars a year for pumping our present water supply after it reaches the city. The cost is increasing each year. All this cost of pumping to the higher levels will be eliminated east of the city and possibly to Point Loma.

Second: The installation of pumping plants on the newly acquired district lands in the upper El Monte basin and pumping during an emergency, four or five million gallons daily during the eight months irrigation season into the city either through an estension of the city's present pipe lines up the river from Lakeside or if necessary bring it through the flume line of the La Mesa District to the higher levels of the city at a cost not to exceed six or seven cents a thousand gallons delivered.

Third: The acquisition of the San Pasqual gravels now recently under option by the city with funds which are now in hand costing not to exceed half million dollars; when

conditions warrant it, the construction of a pumping plant in the San Pasqual Valley and a pipe line across the Linda Vista Mesa to the city.

Eight or ten million gallons daily during the summer months, which is necessary, can be pumped and developed from this source and delivered into the city for not to exceed eight or ten cents a thousand gallons. This supply will help develop Linda Vista Mesa within the city limits of San Diego- many thousands of acres, as well, and give needed irrigation water which will sometime become domestic and add immeasurably to the value of our city's growth and assessed valuation.

This pipe line should be so constructed that at some future time it will be used for the transmission of water from Sutherland and/or Pamo when conditions seem right for the completion of storage dams on the river above.

Fourth. The construction, five or ten years hence, as conditions warrant, of Mission Gorge dam No. 5 acquiring by purchase or dondemnation any lands to the 500 foot contour that are necessary. When built this water can all be used for the lower levels of the city by a connection with our water system at Old Town or the water can, for a half cent a thousand gallons, be pumped into University Heights Reservoir through the present pipe linenow installed and owned by the city.

Fifth. The adoption of a reasonable irrigating rate comparable with the average irrigation rate all over Southern California as soon as a settlement is made with the district and an additional pumping supply of water developed as heretofore outlined.

In closing, will say I notice the papers have been full of statements that we must act promptly in building surface dams or face a water famine. I consider these statements only an attempt to stampede the voters. It is unfair to the citizens of San Diego as conditions do not warrant such a statement.

Ed Fletcher Papers

1870-1955

MSS.81

Box: 72 Folder: 26

Writings and Interviews - Water History - Fletcher interviews, speeches re El Capitan and Mission Gorge