

June 28, 1938

*Ed Spaulding*

Mr. Harold H. Beck  
Blade-Tribune Publishing Co.  
Oceanside, California

My dear Mr. Beck:

Thanks kindly for your letter of the 25th. I never made a truer statement in my life when I said I wanted your help. I came here with nothing, have been successful, San Diego has been good to me in every way, my ten children are all married, on their own and earning their own living, happy, healthy, and the cost of putting them through College and marrying them off is through.

It is true I have made and lost a fortune, but Mary and I have everything to be thankful for, and the few remaining years of my life, if they want me, is for public service. Confidentially, if they do not want me, Mary and I will be the happier for it - we will have fulfilled our obligation, will live in peace and quiet and enjoy the few years we have left, but I feel I would not be doing my duty if I did not heed the call if it comes.

I still believe I can do much to help solve the water problems in that section - more than you realize. If they had followed my advice five years ago when I got them an offer on any part of the Spaulding land and pump any amount of water they wanted for 1¢ per 100 cubic feet, it would have been the wisest thing for Oceanside - they would have secured splendid water in quantity, a perpetual water right without paying a cent for it only as they used it, and they would have saved the expenditure of many thousands of dollars as we have core drillings all over that valley made in years past and know where the dividing line is.

Ed Hyatt, the State Engineer, has been out of the State but expect to hear from him soon. I do not believe he will be here for my daughter's wedding Thursday, although his wife and daughter will be. As soon as I can, I will arrange for Ed Hyatt to come down.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

EF/jv





HAROLD N. BECK, EDITOR  
PAUL R. BECK, BUSINESS MGR.

BLADE-TRIBUNE  
PUBLISHING CO.  
OCEANSIDE, CALIFORNIA

June 25, 1938

Dear Colonel Ed,

Thanks for the letter. Find it enclosed. Surely hope Ed Hyatt arranges to meet with us. I am anxious to hear from him, and arrange for the meeting. With so much government money on the loose, we want to get in our bid.

It did my heart good to hear your frank statement of your position on the San Luis Rey river, and your sincere offer to cooperate every way possible. To be perfectly frank with you, Ed, when I told several we were going to have you at our water meeting, I was told I was playing with fire. But you have always been a true friend of mine, and I know you will continue to be. Then when you expressed your desire to assist every way possible, I knew I was right, and feel that we are going to go places--with your help. We need you. We must work fast, and I know you will help us.

Kindest regards,

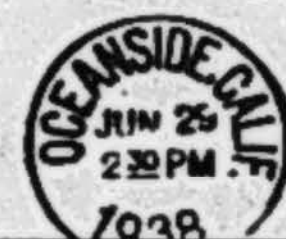
Sincerely,

  
Harold N. Beck

PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS







THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Col. Ch Fletcher  
State Senator  
San Diego  
Calif



Dear Col. Ed -

Will be looking for  
you Friday night at 7:30  
p.m. Have advised water  
committee to be there in full  
number.

Harold Dief



July 2, 1938

Mr. Harold Beck  
Oceanside,  
California

My dear Harold:

Have been snowed under this morning but I would suggest a letter be addressed to Major Theodore Wyman, Jr.  
Corps of U.S. Engineers, 751 So. Figueroa Street, Los Angeles along the lines of letter enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

EF/jv  
Encl.

P.S.:—Sorry, but Monday is a Holiday, have been so busy I cannot get out anything more for you, but if you will frame up a letter of your own covering the main points, addressing it to the War Department Engineers and signing as President and Secretary, it will be sufficient, but if you want Mr. Lovett, I will be glad to send him up there Tuesday or Wednesday. Don't forget to write a letter asking Mr. Fred Pyle, Hydraulic Engineer of the City of San Diego to represent you and present your letter, and asking in your letter to the War Department Engineers to file within 30 days from date a brief by the City Attorney of Oceanside - then your record will be complete.



Major Theodore Wyman, Jr.  
Corps of U.S. Engineers  
751 So. Figueroa Street  
Los Angeles, California

Dear Major Wyman:

The San Luis Rey River has the largest volume of water, the largest per square mile of watershed and the richest valley in San Diego County. The mountains 6000 or 7000 ft. high covered with snow in the winter with an average of 50" of rain, and a record of 102" in one season, is the backbone of our water supply with 300 to 400 square miles of watershed.

The Fallbrook and Vista Irrigation District, the City of Oceanside, the Carlsbad Mutual Water Company and the riparian owners in unincorporated territories are for the first time in a mood to get together and solve their problems. This can only be done through the cooperation of the Federal, State and local authorities working together. There has been litigation for 15 or 20 years on each river - the Santa Margarita on the north and the San Diego on the south - costing from one million to two million dollars and the problems of either river are not settled yet.

We appeal to you to help us solve our problems without the necessity of endless delay and loss by litigation.

That you may have some idea of our problems, particularly for twenty miles through the fertile valleys before the San Luis Rey River runs to the ocean - at times the river has been a mile wide, many houses have floated into the ocean, three people drowned in the San Luis Rey River in the 1916 flood, only six miles from the City of Oceanside and a 1/2 mile from the San Luis Rey Mission in Mission Valley; yet, we have ideal damsites and reservoir possibilities and much more land than we have water - land that is practically frostless and which will produce the finest winter vegetables and fruit as any in California.

The future domestic needs of the City of Oceanside must be safeguarded - it is the City of Oceanside's only supply; the town of Fallbrook needs it for domestic supply and this also applies to the Carlsbad section, while the two Irrigation Districts must have additional water and adequate supply - all depending upon the San Luis Rey River for their needs.

With the proper development and financial assistance from the Federal Government, this development should be made at the present time, but it is absolutely impossible to finance it without State and Federal help. The State Engineer of California has made a flood control report but admits it is not complete, that further investigations will show a larger net safe yield of water and at a







July 6, 1938

Mr. Harold Beck  
Oceanside, California

My dear Harold:

Confidentially, the City of Oceanside would be mighty wise to quietly make a contract with the Spauldings and tie up for its entire supply of water and do so immediately. It will strengthen your hand immeasurably in any forthcoming developments like the building of Bonsall Dam. Think it over.

Sincerely yours,

EF/jv

July 8, 1938

Mr. Harold Beck  
Oceanside  
California

My dear Harold:

Answering yours of the 5th, are you sure that Fred Pyle received your letter before he left? I won't bother you to make an additional carbon copy - you know I will go the limit in this matter.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

EF/jv



July 11, 1938

File Spaulding

Mr. Harold Beck  
Oceanside, California

My dear Harold:

Enclosed find letter of July 8th from our Legislative  
Counsel. This is certainly illuminating and valuable.

In haste,

Sincerely yours,

EF/jv

P.S: I am sending copy of the bills  
under separate cover.



**Ed Fletcher Papers**

**1870-1955**

**MSS.81**

**Box: 2 Folder: 3**

**General Correspondence - Beck, Harold**



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