

September 13, 1923.

San Diego Savings Bank,
San Diego, California.

Attention: Mr. Joe Sefton:

Gentlemen:

This is probably the last time I am going to ask you for money on national highway work.

I have been, within the last two weeks, over to Arizona on business and while there went over the road situation. Phoenix has been industriously working for a direct highway to Blythe marked in red. A bunch of public spirited citizens of Southern Arizona are determined to outwit Phoenix at her own game and they have prepared a map similar to the one herewith enclosed.

Enclosed herewith find copy of letter from Mr. Hunt that is explanatory. This money must be raised. I am giving \$100 myself toward this expense and ask that you send me \$50 to \$100 for the good of the cause to complete the building of the road Gila Bend to Casa Grande along the Southern Pacific Railroad. It is practically as short a route as the Ajo, and is more attractive to the Eastern tourists on account of its following the Southern Pacific Railroad the entire distance. It gives them a safer feeling.

The highway is already built in good shape from El Paso via Lordsburg to Douglas, Tombstone and Casa Grande. It is all built and in good condition from El Paso via Globe and Superior to Casa Grande. It is already completed or under contract from Gila Bend to Yuma, a magnificent highway, which I went over the other day. The connecting link between Gila Bend and Casa Grande is mostly in Maricopa County, dominated by Phoenix, with the result that not one dollar will be spent by Maricopa supervisors to build the Gila Bend, Maricopa Casa Grande road and it all must be done by private subscription.

San Diego will then get its share of the travel without a doubt, when the road is built, and this is the best money we can ever spend.

September 28, 1923.

San Diego Savings Bank,
San Diego, California.

attention Mr. Joe Sefton

Gentlemen:

Colonel Fletcher wrote your bank, attention Mr. Joe Sefton, relative to the Gila Bend-Casa Grande road in Pinal County, Arizona, but as we have not heard from you it may be that Mr. Sefton was out of the city.

Mr. Smith, the county engineer in charge of the work writes that it is progressing in good shape, which means that any money San Diego citizens are donating for the good of the cause must be sent them at once. Mr. Fletcher promised that he would raise \$1000 or \$1500 in San Diego, and inasmuch as this cut-off will divert much travel our way and will rebound to the benefit of San Diego City he felt sure he would meet with prompt response to his request.

Ex Governor Campbell of Arizona went over this road on his way back to Phoenix and was surprised to see with what ease a good passable road can be constructed.

If you have already sent your check to Mr. Clement, direct, will you please telephone to this office that we may keep a record of same? If not, we would like to have a check for whatever amount you can give for this work, made payable to Mr. Clement, treasurer, that we may send it to him promptly.

Thanking you, we are

Yours sincerely,
ED FLETCHER COMPANY

By

KLM

P. S. Mr. Fletcher is in the East and we are writing this in his absence for the reason that it is necessary that the money be raised as quickly as possible.

Our activities in helping Southern Arizona get a highway direct to Yuma have borne wonderful results. We have many friends and the San Diego & Arizona Railroad is getting a tremendous benefit on account of the friendliness of Southern Arizona toward San Diego.

This money must be raised immediately. We propose to have the work completed in 90 days and I hope to have a check from you by return mail for whatever you can afford to give, made payable to J. E. Franklin, President of the Yuma National Bank, who is custodian of the funds.

With the completion of a good passable road San Diego to El Paso, my highway work is completed.

I want to thank you for the hearty cooperation I have received from you in the past. Our work is bearing fruit. Nearly 100 machines a day are coming thru Yuma now to El Centro. With the work completed you will soon see three to five hundred machines a day coming thru Yuma to the coast. This is the number of machines that are now coming thru Needles and by Barstow. The Chamber of Commerce should immediately take steps to put up proper signs at advantageous points between Holtville and Phoenix and all the way to El Paso, telling of the advantages of San Diego.

Thanking you again for your kind cooperation,

I am

Sincerely yours,

EF:KLM

August 22, 1935.

Mr. Joseph Sefton,
San Diego Trust & Savings Bank,
San Diego, California.

My dear Joe:

Confirming telephone, the amount due the bank is \$18,000 principal plus \$723.67 interest, or \$18,723.67. I have \$2,000 in this obligation.

At Mr. Marston's suggestion and with his financial help the only way the matter can be cleaned up is as follows. I have a written agreement from Davidson that he will sign a new note for \$1,000 principal plus two or more years delinquent interest. I am getting the same pledge from Mr. Hansen and all obligations will be paid excepting these two, Davidson's and Hansen's, and their notes will be turned over to the First National Bank as requested by you, so it is up to you by September 1st to write out your check for the following:

\$1,000 principal and \$50.00 interest; also \$250.00 for me making a total of \$1300.00. I will give you my note and give you a deed to a lot that is worth at least twice that much as security, so you can hold the deed until I pay. This same thing applies to Uncle Myron Gilmore, for \$1300.00. Will you take this matter up with Uncle Myron.

My wife has lost 15 pounds the last few months and is all tired out. I am taking her away for a few days and will return the last of next week, so we can close this matter up around the 1st of September. I thank you kindly - that is all I can say at this time.

I suggest that both of you make your checks payable to the First National Bank and give them to Mr. Highland. There cannot be any final receipt given until we extinguish Davidson and Hanson's obligation.

In closing let me say this - once I had the city council and once the Board of Supervisors informally pledged to take over this property, but the depression knocked everything in the head. You are bound to get back your money and interest in this deal and then some, if you want to hold the city up a little later on, because they must have it for flooding purposes the minute they raise the dam

San Diego Trust & Savings Bank
San Diego, California

April 15, 1948

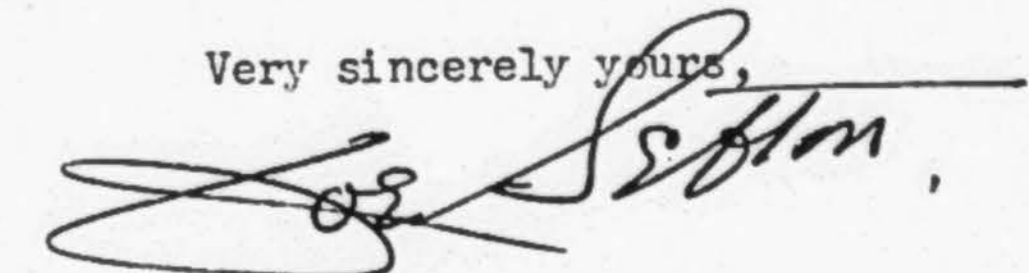
My dear Miss Mary:

We all regret very much that you could not be with us on our 59th anniversary, for as the first and without doubt the most proficient and efficient general utility person ever connected with the bank (I understand that there was no work in connection with the operation of the institution that you were not capable of handling) you are, above all others, entitled to celebrate this anniversary.

Sometimes when I think that I have done pretty well, having been associated with the bank for forty-four years, I realize that fifty-nine years, of which you can boast, is a lot of years and I bow to you in deference.

In this note of best wishes to you, all our officers and directors join me.

Very sincerely yours,



J. W. Sefton, Jr.
President

Miss Mary Fletcher
San Diego, California

64

4"

Fletcher

122

10 feet; second, if they should ever make a larger development they must pay and there will be the greater need, while, in addition for park purposes between the road and the water for a mile or a mile and a half or more, the land should be acquired as this property is most commanding and there is nothing to stop its being sold under normal conditions for \$50,000 to \$100,000 for residential purposes along, based on former sales. However, nobody knows what the value is of anything in the real estate business. You don't know how bad I feel over this whole business and getting you all into it.

I want to thank you again for your kindness in this matter. Sincerely yours,

LF M

1932

April 1932

27

Ed Fletcher Papers

1870-1955

MSS.81

Box: 24 Folder: 31

General Correspondence - Sefton, Joseph



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