

Dec. 10, 1908

Mr. C. P. Bondesson,
Pres. Yuma CC. Water Users Association,
Yuma, Ariz.

My dear sir:

Yours of the 9th just at hand regarding petition you have received from Mr. Lincoln Fowler of this city for circulation among your people.

You ask "what attitude the Water Users Association at Phoenix is taking toward this matter." Replying I would say that Mr. Lincoln Fowler brought this matter before the Board of Governors of this association at our regular meeting last Monday. After a brief discussion it was laid on the table for further consideration to be taken up at some subsequent meeting. This is as far as any official action has gone. Personally and confidentially, I may say to you that I have no idea that our association will go any further in the matter, knowing as I do the personal views of I think a majority of the Board. I do not believe that this is a subject for action on the part of the Water Users Association at the present time, nor do I believe it ought to be embodied in an Enabling Act by Congress, nor do I believe that when we look at the true interests of the whole Territory that these valuable school lands ought to be sold to present occupants at a very small appraisal. By so doing private interests are advanced and public

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interests sacrificed. The school fund is a legacy which comes to us and should be handed down by us to our children and our children's children not merely intact, but increased to the largest amount possible, consistent with honest, honorable, and just treatment of our fellow citizens who are at present occupying our school lands.

I understand that Mr. Lincoln Fowler is himself the occupant of and has interest in considerable school lands in this valley.

Very truly yours,