

The Greatest Good for the Greatest Number?

Some of the City fathers of Los Angeles were already well aware of possible sources for LA's growing water needs. Fred Eaton was a brilliant young man who became superintendent of the Los Angeles City Water Company by the time he was 19 years of age. Fred and his family had often vacationed in the beautiful Owens Valley, and knew well of the numerous creeks that flowed from its eastern slopes.

Fred eventually became Mayor of Los Angeles, and along with Chief Water Engineer William Mulholland, devised a plan to bring water from the numerous creeks of Inyo County over 200 miles away via a system of gravity flow ditches, canals, and siphons to take care of the hundreds of thousands of new arrivals the City was planning for.

