Crescent City, Calif.
August 30, 1933.

Mr. Ed Fletcher
San Diego, California.

Re: Ward Timber Lands Assessments,
Del Norte and Humboldt County,
California.

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to your request, I herewith hand you my original office copy of information, compiled from the records of Del Norte County and Humboldt County, California, on above lands.

For your further information taken from a report on your lands dated 5-21-32, this report was based on information furnished me by the County Assessor of Del Norte County, as to his method of assessing your lands and other lands in the County, and values assessed thereon, and the segregation of your lands classified according to the County cruise on file and the various values applied to such classification.

I will give you herewith totals as to Districts and results of my investigation which I would request you to treat confidential until such time asyou need to disclose the same to the Board of Equalization of Del Norte County, in the future should you so desire.

In Klamath School District:

Acres				Assessed at
1333.23	92,580 B.M. @ .75¢ pr. M.	$73,935.		$94,995.
8.00	unclassified" $100 pr. M.			800.
1.32	" @ 75.75			100.
100.51	@ 5.25			525.
Or an over assessment of		21,060.		
		$96,420.		$96,420.

In Turwah School District:

Acres				Assessed Value	
7769.16	751,560 B. M. @ .75 pr. M.	$563,670.	$578,475.	$14,805.
466.80	29,200 B. M. @ .50 pr. M.	14,600.	17,037.	2,437.
45.60	Brush @ 2.00 pr. M.	91.	4,198.	4,107.
Over assessment of		21,349.		
		$599,710.	$599.710.	

In Riverside School District:

Acres			Zone Value	Assessed Value	Over Assessed
1,908	178,070 B. M. @	.75	$133,552.	$ 165,220.	$31,668.
19.17	Sand Bar @	85,55	1,476.	1,640.	

TURWAH SCHOOL DISTRICT:

Acres			Zone Value	Assessed Value.
630.	25,260 B. M. @	.50¢ pr. M.	$12,630.	$21,265.
1,880	91,680 B. M. @	175 pr. M.	68,755.	71,535.
320	Brush @	2.00	640.	880.
			$82,025.	$93,680.
Over Assessment			11,655.	
			$93,680.	$93,680.

Turwah School District:

Acres				
223.67	8,350 B. M. @	.50 pr. M.	$ 4,175.	$ 10,835.
5,632.94	264,530 B. M. @	175 pr. M.	198,394.	206.725.
360.	@	$2.00	720.	720.
			$ 203,289.	$218,280.
Over Assessment			14,991.	
			$ 218,280.	$219,280.

To give you a true picture of the Assessment method of Del Norte County as I see it would not be practical in a letter at this time.

In the future should I meet you I would be glad to explain in more detail information that may be of considerable value in your future dealings with the Assessor and Board of Equalization.

I am expecting the cruise you referred to and please return the enclosed sheets that I may complete my check up on the County cruise and values as applied. Also send you a complete report in either substantially the form as submitted or modified to suit your requirements upon returning the papers, please indicate your wishes.

Humboldt County

I am on quite friendly terms with the Assessor of Humboldt County, and with your permission I will interview him in relation to past and future assessments on your properties based on the possibility of filing the cruise you have.

Del Norte County

After checking your cruise with the County cruise, you will be in a position to shape your future negotiations with the Assessor here who is not at all friendly with me, on account of my checking his work, which I have found honestly done, simply a question of judgment that can be ironed out.

Trespassing

Should you desire me to make an investigation of the same I will do so, and give you a report on the same, and recommendations that may be of considerable value to your clients in the future as I am quite familiar with the Company's holdings on the Klamath.

Hoping the enclosed will be of value and interest to you and please return the sheets that I may make report from same to you.

I am

Yours truly,

F. Puter

FP/MS

[illegible] 318.25

Budget of 1933-34 and Tax Rate applying to same--

Fund	Budget	Est.Receipts	Bal.by Tax	Tax Rate	Will Raise
General	31937	750	31187	.38	31194.
Salary	43450	3092	40358	.492	40358
Hospital	9000	340	8660	.106	8701
Indigent	10,250		10250	.125	10261
Advertising	3283		3283	.04	3283
Harbor Bonds	18500		18500	.226	18552
Unbgted Reserve	5000		5000	.061	5007
High School	16418		16418	.20	16418
	137838	4182	133656	1.630	133804

Specials

Crescent Elk Bond and Interest	16,500	16,500	.565	16545
Special	5,856	5,856	.20	5856
Klamath Special	624	624	.10	646
Turwah Special	408	408	.03	461
Lake Earl Special	450	450	.20	455
Lincoln Special	32	32	.01	32

Assessed Valuation Within 10% deducted County Inside and Outside $8,206,950.

Crescent Elk
Cal
9-8-33

Mr Ed Fletcher
San Diego
Cal

Dear Sir

In closed I send you an amended Tax Rate as adopted on Sept 1. 1933 by the Board of Supervisors for Del Norte County.

As to the legality of this procedure, I will not comment.

I will chang the amounts due on tax seedule sent you sometime ago.

Hoping to hear from you soon I am Yours Truly

Rector

WHEREAS, under Section 3714 of the Political Code of the State of California, and amendments thereto, this being the time for final adoption of the Budget for Del Norte County, State of California, for the fiscal years 1933-34,

NOW THEREFORE, be it Resolved: That the Budget for Del Norte County, California, for the fiscal year 1933-34, shall be as hereinafter set forth, to wit:

Salary and Wages	$ 52875.
Maintenance & Operation	66463.
Bond Redemption & Interest	18500.
Crescent Elk Bond Redemption & Interest to raise	16500.
Crescent Elk School District Special to raise	3756.
Klamath School District Special to raise	900.
Terwah School District Special to raise	408.
Lake Earl School District Special to raise	78.
Lincoln School District Special to raise	39.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Resolution be entered as of August 24th, 1933, to effect a correction as ordered by the State Board of Equalization.

Motion by Supervisor Murphy, seconded by Supervisor Howe, that the rates for 1933-34 be set for each fund as per schedule made out by Budget Committee, Harry M. Malpas and Auditor N. G. McVay be accepted.

FUND	BUDGET	EST. RECEIPTS	BAL. by TAX	TAX RATE	WILL RAISE
GENERAL	$ 31937.	750.	31187.	.380	31194.
SALARY	43450.	3092.	40358.	.492	40398.
HOSPITAL	9000.	340.	8660.	.106	8701.
INDIGENT	10250.		10250.	.125	10261.
ADVERTISING	3283.		3283.	.040	3283.
HARBOR BONDS	18500.		18500.	.226	18552.
UNBUDGETED RESERVE	5000.		5000.	.061	5007.
GENERAL RESERVE	3284. X		3284.	.040	3284.
HIGH SCHOOL	13134. X		13134.	.160	13134.
	137838.	4182.	133656.	$1.630	$133804.00

SPECIALS

Crescent Elk Bond & Interest	16500.	.565	16545.
DO SPECIAL	3756.	.130	3758.
KLAMATH SPECIAL X	000.		
TERWER SPECIAL X	408.	.030	461.
LAKE EARL SPECIAL	78.	.030	79.
LINCOLN SPECIAL	39.	.010	39.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Resolution be entered as of August 25th, 1933, to effect a correction as ordered by the State Board of Equalization.

LAW OFFICE OF

EDWARD C. HERSCH — **HERSCH & PETERSON** — T. F. PETERSON

TELEPHONE 413

CRESCENT CITY, CALIFORNIA

September 6, 1933

Col. Ed Fletcher
1020 - Ninth Ave.
San Diego, California

Dear Sir:

This is in reply to your letter dated August 28th, 1933. We enclose a surveyor's map, showing the property in question.

Mrs. Peini is principally interested in obtaining the South ½ of Lot 7, of Section 4, as shown on the map, as it adjoins her property, which is located in Lot 6 of that section and includes the cannery and sawmill shown on the map. She is willing to pay $1500.00 for this property, the money to pass when the title is clear and the deed is delivered. The South ½ of this lot contains approximately 16.17 acres. She is also willing to purchase the remainder of Lot 7, and also the Southeast ¼ of the Northeast ¼ of Section 4, as shown on the map, which comprises in all 56.72 acres, and is willing to pay the sum of $1000.00 for this 56.72 acres in addition to the $1500.00 which she is offering for the South ½ of Lot 7. The latter property consists principally of low land which is under water in the winter time and is valuable chiefly for grazing land in the summer time.

In the event that you or your principals find these offers acceptable, we will be pleased to have you forward contracts of sale, and we will make a deposit in escrow against the time when the title is clear.

We wish to be clearly understood that Mrs. Peini is not interested in purchasing the North ½ of Lot 7, nor the Southeast ¼ of the Northeast ¼ of Section 4, without the South ½ of Lot 7.

An early reply will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Hersch & Peterson

(6)

TFP:WG

Enc. 1

Crescent City, Calif.
September 23, 1933.

Mr. Ed. Fletcher
1020 9th Ave.,
San Diego, Calif.

Dear Sir:

Replying to yours of 9-20-33, I hand you herewith list of the principal timber owners in Del Norte County--Redwood and otherwise, and the addresses as given in the Tax Collector's Office.

Del Norte Co., Ltd. C. & O. Lumber Co.	Mr. F. Eldred Boland 351 California St., San Francisco, Calif.
Hotchkiss Redwood Co.	Dean Whittier 486 California St., San Francisco, Calif.
Hobbs Wall & Co.	W. J. Hotchkiss, Pres. No. 1 Drum Street San Francisco, Calif.
Ward, F. B., et al.	Mr. Ed. Fletcher San Diego, Calif.
Rust Estate	F. Eldred Boland 351 California St., San Francisco, Calif.
Hamilton Land & Lumber Co.	1306 East Meinecke Ave. Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Hamilton, H. W.	P. O. Box 58 Eureka, California.
Hammond Lumber Co.,	San Francisco, Calif.
Hatten, W. H.	New London, Wisconsin
Westmoreland Pacific Timber Co.	405 Montgomery Street San Francisco, Calif.
Sage Land & Improvement Co.	75 State Street Albany, New York "A San Francisco Representative"
John Paul Lumber Co.	Water Town, Florida.
Grayport Timber Co.	James Tyson 316 California St., San Francisco, Calif.
Gilbert Thorp	Est. Fitch Gilbert & Thorp Room 1862 #50 Church St., New York.
Klamath Redwood Company	c/o E. Stanton & Son 2050 East 38 Street Los Angeles, Calif.
Northern Redwood Co.	Korbel, California.
McCreary, L. A. et al.	c/o Mrs. A. B. McCreary P.O. Box 586 Hanford, California.
Mrs. J. E. McCreary	2318 Durant Ave., Berkeley, California.
McCreary, Chas. K.	Greensburg, Penn.
McCreary & Graff) McCreary & McCreary)	Same as McCreary, et al.

Not knowing the purpose of your interview with the above companies at this writing, I make the following suggestions for your consideration--Del Norte and C. & O. Companies, Mr. Boland, their Attorney, is my employer as you know. I would hesitate to give you information that Mr. Boland would not wish given out, as he has been very fair with me and is a very high class gentleman and a very conscientious Attorney, as I have often recommended to him the Timber Companies to get together as the battle of one is the battle of all of them, and to date Mr. Boland's manner of handling the Del Norte and C. & O. Companies' affairs before the Board has resulted in the very great reduction in the rate for 1931-32, 1932-33 and 1933-34 at considerable hard feelings directed at him by members of the Board, and the Assessor, which is really a compliment to his achievements. He has always maintained he is representing only his clients, the Del Norte and C. & O., and Rust Estate. However if he was properly approached his assistance would be invaluable as he has made the fight single handed, and as a result all the Timber Companies are benefitting and at no expense to themselves, except your services to the Wards to date. No doubt you have been quite instrumental in eliminating the penalties.

I would suggest should you call on Mr. Boland, if you deem my services of any use to you, that you get Mr. Boland's consent that I work with you, which I am sure he will grant. I am quite familiar with Del Norte County affairs for the past several years, as I was Deputy County Treasurer some three years, and Deputy Assessor under Mr. Malone and naturally know of the general feeling toward the Non Resident Timber Companies to make them pay the limit, which is now and always has been the foremost thought with the Assessorand the Board of Equalization, with all due respect to the honesty of all officials concerned. I can not say that I know of one deliberate dishonest act of any County official, but a very strong tendency to put the burden on the outside timber holders.

Hotchkiss Redwood Company, W. J. Hotchkiss, was and possibly is now President, is also President of Hobbs Wall & Co. I understand the Bond Holders of the Hotchkiss Timber Company have taken the Company over, and is now controlled by Dean Whittier, 486 California Street, San Francisco, California. Hobbs Wall & Co. through Geo. M. Keller "Deceased", a former Manager, controlled the actions of the Board of Supervisors for many years, and through a misunderstanding of his with Assessor Malone, and with Supervisor W. A. Howe's assistance, the County Cruise was put into effect, primarily to get Malone and a whack at the Del Norte and C. & O. Companies, regardless of what any one else said to the contrary. The history of that fight is too long to discuss further herein, except I would be careful in discussing matters with Mr. Hotchkiss, as his present manager, Mr. Thompson, has the present Board under his thumb and is not so hot on the tax fight--Why?--they are resident Timber Tax Payers, although delinquent in their taxes. Mr. Thompson and W. A. Howe, Supervisor, are apparently bad enemies in every sense. However Thompson has never made any particular fight on taxes so take my advise, be careful--seek but not give any information in this quarter that you do not want the present Board of Supervisors to know of.

They are inclined to help your clients but can't do so without helping the Del Norte and C. & O., which they hate like the devil to do, until Mr. Boland forced the issue, and I believe he has plenty of information to get just treatment if he wishes to go further.

Rust Estate people, clients of Mr. Boland, very friendly and related to officials of Del Norte and C. & O. Companies, have always paid their both installments at once, they deal through Mr. Boland.

Hamilton Land & Lumber Co., and W. H. Hamilton, I know nothing of, except they are getting the worst of if, and don't know it.

Hammond Lumber Company, represented by Nelson & Ricks, Humboldt County Attorneys. Hammond employes H. J. Pomeroy, Del Norte County cruiser, who is the Assessor's personal friend, also personal friend of W. A. Howe, so be careful there--seek but not give.

Hatten, W. H., I know nothing of.

Westmoreland Pacific Company I made an abstract for them once and as I remember they are not satisfied with things. I made some notes in my report to them, which they no doubt will be pleased to show you.

Sage Land & Improvement Company stand quite well with the Assessor, but evidently have not checked the County Cruise very close. Have some valuable holdings and some not so valuable.

Grayport Timber Co., and Gilbert Thorp--Klamath Redwood--Northern Redwood--McCreary & McCreary, et al., I know nothing of personally, although I am quite sure they have never checked into the cruise very close.

In my opinion to get permanent relief the above Timber Companies have the same problem confronting each of them. In union there is strength. The result of Mr. Boland's past fight has laid the foundation to adjust differences between themselves and the present and future County administrations, and they will make a mistake if they do not keep the advantage gained for them for future fair treatment, as against other assessable property within the County.

To attain this end it should be handled fairly but firmly.

Personally I would not favor the Board getting away with the idea that they can slur Mr. Boland to his back, when he has always treated them as gentlemen and business men.

It has been hard for the Board to come down from their high handed method of spending Tax Payer's money without due regard for economy, however they are doing very well, and can still do better with a few more lessons.

The H. D. Haley Co., contracting Company that cruised the County timber--a Mr. Rankin--look out for this bunch. Mr. Boland knows plenty about them.

If at any time you wish me to meet you at any place between her and San Diego I will be pleased to do so. It may be cheaper for me to meet you than for you to come here unless you have other business to attend to. I am sure Mr. Boland would consent to my helping you so long as it did not interfere with his client's interest.

There is possibly many angles we could discuss that would not look so good in writing at the present time.

However, I am for a fair deal for the timber companies and with Mr. Boland's consent will do what I can to assist you and your clients.

The following is a statement of Taxes due for 1933-34--

Ward, Franklin B.	Riverside	2,126.34
" " "	Turwah	8,075.48
" " "	Klamath	1,255.51--11,457.33
Ward, W. C.	Turwah	1,074.76
" " "	Klamath	20.86-- 1,095.62
		$12,552.95
National City Bank "formerly Ward holdings."	Turwah	$ 2,696.26

Pleased to hear from you at any time.

Yours truly,

F. Puter

FP/MS
C.C. F. Eldred Boland

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Crescent City, Calif
10-29-33

Mr. E. F. Fletcher
San Diego
California

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 17th. I would suggest you return me my office copy of the past 3 years assessment showing thereon, together with the crew you have on the ward Lands in Humboldt & Del Norte County

"I expected you to forward me that crew by Mr Bull."

I will then be in a position to give you an idea, of the information you ask for in the 2nd paragraph of your letter

Awaiting to hear from you soon.

I am yours truly

Peter

Ed Fletcher Papers

1870-1955

MSS.81

Box: 22 Folder: 4

General Correspondence - Puder, Floyd