

U. S. AID BLOCKED BY DELINQUENCY OF SINGLE COUNTY

SACRAMENTO, Aug. 3 (A.P.)—Inability of Del Norte county to raise money to meet the federal government's requirements for old age, child, welfare assistance and aid to the blind is jeopardizing the \$13,000,000 federal security program for the entire state, a conference of interested officials here today was told.

The conferees discussed various suggestions for solving the county's money problems but adjourned without taking action to meet again early next week.

The northern county would be in a good shape financially except for the tax moratorium law, its supervisors and other officials advised the conferees. Thousands of dollars due in taxes from large lumber companies cannot be collected due to the moratorium. As a consequence not only the social welfare program is crippled but schools, hospitals and functions of county government are in a critical situation.

Federal security official, representatives of the state controller, finance director, attorney general and other state departments attended the meeting, with the Del Norte officials in the office of Mrs. Florence Turner, director of social welfare.

Del Norte supervisors R. L. Scott and W. A. Howe, District Attorney John L. Childs and Charles Thunen, principal of schools, explained the county's plight.

They said expenditures had been cut to the bone but that with only 40 percent of the taxes collectable, it was impossible to meet the demands of welfare aid, schools, hospitals, to say nothing of aid for the indigent, transients and unemployed.

Mrs. Turner said that federal regulations provide every political subdivision of a state must conform to the schedule in order for any old age, child or blind funds to be allotted to the state.

FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 1937

CRESCENT CITY AMERICAN

Howard F. Griffin, Editor-Owner-Publisher

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EDITORIALS

SHALL WE ACCEPT THE WARD ESTATE OFFER?

The Ward Estate, holding vast timber lands in Del Norte County, is asking a material reduction on its taxes, delinquent for the past five years. Through its attorney, Ed Fletcher, it has offered to settle with the county for 85c on the dollar.

After making a trip to Sacramento, where he conferred with Ward Estate representatives and state officials, District Attorney John L. Childs returned here and recommended to the board of supervisors that the county accept 85c on the dollar, and the matter rests there.

Some of the supervisors are in favor of making the concession, while others think that the Ward Estate should be compelled to pay up in full. Many of our taxpaying citizens are as equally divided in opinion—so what to do?

Let's analyze this thing from all sides!

If two men owed you say \$100.00 each; one came in and paid you up in full while the other let his bill run and run until it was five or six years old. You had tried many times to get the money from him but failed. Then one day he came in and laid down \$65.00 with the assertion that the \$65.00 was all he could scrape together and that you could either take the money and call the bill square or else go without altogether. It is quite probable that you would take the money and give him a receipted bill for the \$100.00 and think you were lucky—and, you wouldn't feel that you were under any obligation to make a refund to the man who had paid up in full at the start.

But now with the county it is a different problem. We are all stockholders in the county and we must meet our assessments when they are levied. If we are to pay the other fellow's assessments we want the benefit of what we pay. In a company where stock has really been issued they just take the stock away from those who do not meet the assessments.

Let's analyze it from another angle!

We who pay taxes are continually paying into the county and city treasuries for roads, schools, police protection and other services all of which we enjoy. But, we are paying also for the fellow who owns nothing and pays nothing in the form of taxes yet reaps and enjoys the benefits from the tax monies we pay. So the wheel turns round and round and each time comes back to the same place.

Now, if we accept Ward's offer (assuming that it is the last resort) figuring that they can pay no more and it is either that or nothing, what are we going to do with the others who have not paid their taxes? Are we going to make the same concession to them as we do to the Ward Estate, or are we going to demand that they pay up in full? The others are going to say that they are in exactly the same position that the Ward Estate is in!

If all who are delinquent in their tax payments at the present time are allowed a 85% reduction in their taxes there will not be sufficient monies come into the county treasury to take up the outstanding indebtedness, let alone paying up the interest on the warrants that have been issued—if there will be, the supervisors must admit that assessments have been entirely too high over the past five years.

Those who have worked for the county and hold warrants surely cannot be asked to take a scalping on their pay and then cut off the interest the warrants have acquired over a period of years. Some have even borrowed money to live on in order to hold their warrants. It's been a real hardship all the way round.

Yet something MUST be done. Our schools are facing a critical problem. Our county government faces another and the whole of Del Norte county is suffering immensely because the county cannot pay its bills. What are we going to do? Will you give us your slant on the situation?

Below is a blank. Will you fill it out and send it to the American? We would rather you signed it, but if you do not want to, send it along anyway. We won't publish or reveal your name to the public. Your ideas may help solve the problem.

Editor of the Crescent City American,
Sir:

I favor the County Board of Supervisors accepting a settlement with the Ward Estate for 85c on the dollar in payment

SUPERVISORS PROCEEDINGS

September 27, 1938.

The honorable board of supervisors met at their chambers in the court house in answer to a call from Chairman Ira L. Scott, for the purpose of considering a resolution which was presented by the Tax Committee, and to listen to representatives from the Klamath section regarding conditions of Hunters Creek. Roll call found Supervisors J. J. McNamara, Robert D. Adler, W. A. Howe, George E. Tryon and Chairman Ira L. Scott present, with the clerk of the board.

Proposed resolution was read by the clerk, and a discussion followed in which every person was called upon to express himself.

Motion by Supervisor J. J. McNamara, seconded by Supervisor Tryon and carried, that each speaker be given but five minutes to talk.

Members of the Tax Committee, with Mr. V. K. Meedom acting as spokesman, Mr. Bourn, representing the Del Norte Company Ltd., and the Delcor Corporation, and Mr. Durham, tax expert, and many others were present, beside County Auditor N. G. McVay, L. A. Dressler, C. J. Byrne and H. M. Malpas, District Attorney John L. Childs, John G. Smith, Recorder, and Joe P. Crawford, Justice of the Peace. After much discussion, and against the advice of the district attorney, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on or about the 16th day of February, 1938, a public meeting was held in the Superior Court room at the county court house in Del Norte county, California;

(Continued on Page Four)

The Del Norte TriPLICATE

JOHN A. JUZA, Editor

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Supervisors Proceedings

(Continued from Page One)

for the meeting was attended by the board of supervisors, the county grand jury and numerous citizens and taxpayers of Del Norte county, together with the representatives of the following timber companies: The Del Norte Company Ltd., Del Our Corporation, Citizens Mill & Timber Company, Requa Timber Company, Ward Redwood Company, Blue Creek Redwood Company and the National Bank of Bay City, Michigan, for the purpose of trying to reach an adjustment of the delinquent and current taxes owing to Del Norte county by the said timber companies.

And Whereas, at said meeting a tax committee was appointed by the board of supervisors, for the purpose of investigating and reporting to the said supervisors a plan of adjustment of the delinquent and current taxes owing by the said timber companies that would be equitable, legal and fair to the citizens of Del Norte county, and to the said timber companies;

And Whereas, said tax committee after making such investigation, reported to the board of supervisors as their unanimous decision that a settlement should be made of taxes now owing and delinquent by said timber companies, as well as current taxes, on a basis approved by them as follows: That the valuation of all lands owned by said timber companies for the years 1930-31 to and including 1933-34 should be reduced to a valuation equal to fifty per cent (50%) of the valuations heretofore existing and as shown by the tax rolls of Del Norte county for said years; that the rates to be charged against said valuations shall be the same as charged on all other properties for each of the years in question, and that the timber companies be invited to consider this basis of settlement, and if agreeable to them, settlement be made as outlined herein.

And Whereas, the timber companies, having considered the matter of adjustment as outlined to them, by the tax committee, have heretofore agreed to pay their delinquent and current taxes on the basis as outlined above;

such payment could be made under and by reason of Section 2681a of the Political Code of California;

And Whereas, the terms and method of settlement as outlined by the tax committee and accepted by the timber companies, having not as yet been accepted by the board of supervisors, a suit has been filed against Del Norte county by the Del Norte Company, and suit is anticipated against Del Norte county by Delcor Corporation and Del Norte Company Ltd., which suits do and will contest the legality of all tax levies levied by Del Norte county for the years mentioned aforesaid;

And Whereas, it is the opinion of the board of supervisors of Del Norte county that the best interests of the citizens and taxpayers of Del Norte county can be best served by the board of supervisors accepting the terms and methods of adjustment and settlement as heretofore proposed to them by the tax committee and the timber companies;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that an invitation be

and the same is hereby extended to said timber companies to re-instate their former offer as made through the tax committee, to the board of supervisors, and a request is hereby made of the timber companies that they allow the litigation already commenced by them and the litigation about to be commenced, to remain status quo until such can reasonably effect such adjustments;

And Be It Further Resolved, that if the timber companies see fit to re-instate their former offer of settlement of their delinquent and current taxes on the basis as outlined to the supervisors by their tax committee, it is hereby agreed that the board of supervisors will, and hereby does accept, both the manner and method of settlement as aforesaid mentioned, and will use all the power at its command to bring about such a settlement accordingly.

And Be It Further Resolved, that the district attorney of Del Norte county be advised, that by virtue of the powers granted the board of supervisors under Section 4041.22 of the Political Code of California, he is hereby instructed and directed to use his best efforts to stop all litigation now in process and to cooperate to the fullest extent with mentioned timber companies and the board of supervisors in bringing about an adjustment of these delinquent and current taxes in the manner and method hereinbefore set out.

And Be It Further Resolved, that the timber companies be given thirty days in which to accept or reject this invitation and in which to place the money in escrow for the payment of all delinquent and current taxes which may be due according to the terms and conditions of this agreement, and such time to date from the adoption of this resolution, and the clerk of the board is hereby instructed to present to the above named timber companies a copy of this resolution.

IRA L. SCOTT,
Chairman of the Board
of Supervisors, Del Norte
County, Calif.

Attest: ERMA COOPER,
Clerk of the Board.

Vote taken: Voting in favor of the adoption of said resolution: Supervisors J. J. McNamara, Robert D. Adler, George E. Tryon and Chairman Ira L. Scott.

Voting against the same: Supervisor W. A. Howe. Motion carried. Mrs. Beatrice Peine and Mr. Lockwood take the matter up with the district attorney and have the district attorney draw up a resolution to be presented to the Highway Commission asking that they do something to alter the conditions before the winter rains set in, and the chairman of the board is authorized to approve and sign such resolution. The clerk is instructed to forward a copy of such resolution to the Highway Commission as soon as possible.

Mr. Howard Cawthrop, attorney at law, came before the board regarding use of book cases belonging to the county. Motion by Supervisor Howe, seconded by Supervisor McNamara, that the matter be left to the clerk and the court house committee.

By motion, the board adjourned to October 10, 1938, at 10 o'clock a. m.

Tax Matter Up Today

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WILL CONSIDER PLAN TO SETTLE TAX BILL IMMEDIATELY.

Settlement of Del Norte county's serious and long-standing tax delinquency problem is expected to reach a step nearer the goal today when representatives of the timber people, members of the Del Norte tax committee, interested taxpayers and others will meet with the board of supervisors.

The settlement being worked out would mean that the county would receive approximately 50 per cent of the total tax bill owed by the timber companies.

The proposal to be discussed at this morning's session, if adopted, will clear the way for immediate payment of the tax money to the county. Representatives of the timber people have assured county officials that the money has been secured from the Ward interests as well as the Del Norte group, and that at least \$275,000 will be paid into the county treasury if negotiations are successful.

The way would be opened up for institution of a friendly suit in the Del Norte superior court, with stipulations being made by both sides which would make possible the rendering of an immediate decision.

Sentiment among local taxpayers seems to favor the immediate settlement on the 50 per cent basis, although there is opposition from certain quarters and today's session of the board will undoubtedly create some verbal fireworks.

Various Matters Before Council

Action of the Del Norte county board of supervisors in negotiating with the timber people for a settlement of the county's delinquent timber tax bill on a 50 per cent basis received the endorsements of the city council last Monday night. The council unanimously passed a resolution to that effect.

Another important resolution favorably acted upon by the council would prohibit the city's fire apparatus from being taken beyond the city limits. This matter has been given consideration before and while it is generally understood to be the rule, nevertheless the local volunteer firemen have stretched a point to save property outside the city from fire damage. With the new resolution on the books, however, Fire Chief Nohl has issued orders that the regulation will be strictly observed.

The council also took action Monday night to give Crescent City a new building code, and appointed C. W. Nohl as building inspector. The ordinance providing for the new regulations was given its first reading Monday night and will go into effect 30 days after its final adoption.

Under the new code the restricted area calling for first class construction of all new buildings is extended from Third street to Sixth street between G and L streets and takes in all of Ocean Drive from A to M streets.

OBSERVATIONS

NEVER BOUGHT— (By Operator 13) —NEVER SOLD

News that over one million dollars' worth of taxable property in the form of delinquent timber lands has been dropped from the tax rolls of Del Norte county is really startling.

An Alarming Condition Exposed

Not only that but it is news of vital concern to every small taxpayer of the county because it means his property must assume the burden formerly carried by the timber barons. In another year three millions more of this delinquent timber land will also be taken from the tax rolls, which means that in 1939 the small taxpayers who formerly contributed about forty per cent of Del Norte's total tax bill, will instead be loaded down with practically the entire burden of county government expense.

Surely the people of Del Norte county do not realize the seriousness of this tax delinquency situation, else they would be doing something about it.

In July, 1936, County Assessor Frank J. Burt-schell, acting in accordance with law, deeded to the State of California the vast timber holdings of the Ward estate, comprising about 20,000 acres of land in the southern part of the county. No taxes had been paid on this land since the year 1930, automatically placing ownership in the hands of the state.

But here the nigger in the woodpile comes to light. The State, while it has title to the land, cannot sell the property at tax sale because the legislature has seen fit to enact a tax moratorium, granting delinquent taxpayers more time to pay up, under certain conditions. The plea was made that this moratorium was for the benefit of the little fellow, but actually big interests were behind the move.

Moratorium Prevents Sale

Del Norte county having no direct representation in the capital halls at Sacramento the same big interests, the timber men among them, have kept this moratorium alive at each session of the legislature until now—the day of reckoning is set for 1940. Without question, another extension will be forthcoming at that time.

In the meantime the situation will reach a crisis in this county. Burt-schell, acting in accordance with law, deeded to the State of California the vast timber holdings of the Ward estate, comprising about 20,000 acres of land in the southern part of the county. No taxes had been paid on this land since the year 1930, automatically placing ownership in the hands of the state.

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Supervisors Proceedings

October 7, 1938.

The honorable board of supervisors met at their chambers in the court house in regular adjourned session at 10 o'clock a. m., October 5, 1938. All members of the board present.

The purpose of the meeting was to appoint election officers and polling places for the November election, and to discuss tax matters before the Tax Committee and representatives of the timber interests.

Letter from M. E. Durham, tax consultant, under date of October 3, 1938, read:

The Honorable Board of Supervisors, Del Norte County, Crescent City, California. Gentlemen:

In response to your resolution of recent date, we are agreeable to a settlement of our tax controversy. As you know we have always felt that our taxes were twice what they should be, regardless of any question of legality, and our recently concluded investigation has convinced us and our attorneys that by far the greater portion of the taxes now levied against our properties are illegal and uncollectible. However, we also realize that, as large property owners in Del Norte county, the welfare of the county is to our interests as well as your own.

We will agree to waive a considerable part of what we believe are enforceable, legal rights, and though over half of our taxes are, in our opinion, illegal, we will settle the whole matter through a stipulated judgment on the basis of fifty per cent of the taxes as shown to be charged against our property on the tax rolls of Del Norte county for the respective years in question, but it is definitely understood we are not to pay any penalty and interest upon this amount of money, and it is our opinion and belief from statements already prepared by our auditors that the sum of money we will be required to pay is approximately \$263,000.00.

In making the above proposition reservation is made on behalf of the Delcur Corporation and the Del Norte Company, Ltd., in that when we arrived at fifty per cent of the amount the amount they have already paid under protest, together with the sum of \$915.78 on the part of the Delcur Corporation, and \$3,295.69 on the part of the Del Norte Company, Ltd., which deductions are made by reason of the fact that an error was made by the Assessor in the computation of their assessed valuation, which has not been corrected as yet by either the Board of Supervisors or the Assessor, and it is understood that these corrections are to be made in connection with this settlement.

The details of closing this matter will be left with our auditor and attorneys. Naturally, it must be done properly, legally and promptly.

Very truly yours,
THE DEL NORTE COMPANY, LTD.
DELCUR CORPORATION
NATIONAL BANK OF BAY CITY
WARD REDWOOD COMPANY
BLUE CREEK REDWOOD COMPANY
CITIZENS MILL AND LUMBER COMPANY
REQUA TIMBER COMPANY
ED FLETCHER COMPANY
WILLIS C. WARD GRANDCHILDREN
MARGARET W. WARD
By M. E. DURHAM.

Mr. V. E. Mesdum of the tax committee made a talk in behalf of the proposed settlement.

Stipulation in the action of Ed Fletcher vs. County of Del Norte, et al., signed by Gordon Stater, attorney for plaintiff, read and was later to be handed to the District Attorney.

Following is a resolution presented by the Tax Committee and read by the clerk, and upon motion of Supervisor McNamara, seconded by Supervisor Tryon, the resolution was adopted.

RESOLUTION
WHEREAS, on the 27th day of September, 1938, this Board of Supervisors passed a resolution extending to certain timber companies an offer of settlement on all past due and delinquent taxes on their properties located in Del Norte county, as well as as current taxes, and

WHEREAS, said timber companies have tendered their acceptance of said offer, and agree to pay said amount as stated in said resolution, provided the same can be legally accomplished, and the said timber companies have offered to provide, if possible, a legal means of accomplishing said settlement, and

WHEREAS, suit has formerly been filed against Del Norte county by the Ed Fletcher Company on 13, 1938, which suit seeks to determine the legality of taxes levied and assessed against the properties of said timber companies as well as the Ed Fletcher Company, for all the years beginning June 30, 1930, and ending June 30, 1938, as well as the taxes for the current year, 1938-39, and

WHEREAS, certain items mentioned in said complaint of the Ed Fletcher Company against Del Norte county have been considered by this Board of Supervisors and are believed by them to be true and correct as stated in said complaint, and

WHEREAS, it is the belief of this Board that the suit mentioned aforesaid can be best expedited and

settlement accomplished much quicker, by stipulating as to certain facts, which stipulation is now before this Board for consideration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Board, after due consideration of the facts mentioned in said stipulation, believe the statements contained therein to be true, and believe that the stipulation should be entered into in the Superior Court on behalf of Del Norte county and of all parties concerned.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that by virtue of the power granted this Board under Section 4041.22 of the Political Code of California, the District Attorney is hereby directed to sign the stipulation mentioned herein on behalf of, and acting as, attorney for Del Norte county, and file the same in the Superior Court of Del Norte county and permit the court to render a judgment accordingly;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the District Attorney be, and he is hereby directed to enter the same stipulation in another suit to be filed on or before October 20, 1938, which suit will be filed on behalf of Del Norte Company, Ltd., Delcur Corporation, Requa Timber Company, Ward Redwood Company, Blue Creek Redwood Company, National Bank of Bay City, Michigan, Citizens Mill & Lumber Company, and certain other individuals who will be parties to said suit; in which suit the legality of taxes as levied in Del Norte county for the years 1930-31 to 1938-39 will be adjudicated; and the District Attorney is further directed to stipulate with said companies that a consolidated suit may be filed and thereby eliminate the filing of numerous other suits; and the District Attorney is further directed to carry out these instructions at the time the cases mentioned herein come on for trial, and it is evident that the timber companies are ready to make payment as hereinbefore agreed, and the District Attorney is further directed to use his best efforts in getting a quick adjudication of all matters pertaining to the validity of tax levies in Del Norte county and in accomplishing the settlement mentioned in the resolution passed by this Board on September 27, 1938.

IRA L. SCOTT, Chairman.
Attest: EMMA COOPER, Clerk.
(SEAL)

Vote: Voting in favor of the adoption: Supervisors J. J. McNamara, Robert D. Adler, George E. Tryon and Chairman Ira L. Scott. Voting against the adoption: Supervisor W. A. Howe. Motion carried.

Motion by Supervisor Tryon, seconded by Supervisor McNamara, that the clerk send letter to the Honorable Warren V. Tryon, at 1106 Miller Avenue, Berkeley, Calif., asking for a day in court on any date between October 17, 1938, and November 1, 1938, for the purpose of adjudicating matters in a suit against Del Norte county by the Ed Fletcher Company relating to claimed illegal taxes together with a consolidated suit to be filed by various other timber companies on or before October 17, 1938. In event that Judge Tryon can not personally hold court on the dates mentioned, that he will have the Judicial Council provide a judge at that time, preferably a judge familiar with tax laws and tax litigation.

Vote taken. Supervisors McNamara, Adler, Howe, Tryon and Chairman Scott voting in favor. None voting against. Motion carried.

(Continued next week)

Week-End Visitors—

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bryan of Berkeley were visitors at the home of Elizabeth Duffy over the week-end.

WEBB RULES TAX SETTLEMENT AS NOT WITHIN LAW

Case to be Heard Here Wednesday, Oct. 26th With Judge Currier Presiding

The much discussed county tax problem took a setback this week when District Attorney John L. Childs received a letter from Attorney General U. S. Webb advising him not to enter into or sign any resolution in regard to the delinquent timber tax problem.

He also received written notices from several of the county officials that they would not in any manner act in the proceedings toward the tax matters without their written consent.

The two letters are as follows: San Francisco, Calif., October 15, 1938.

Hon. John L. Childs,

District Attorney,

Crescent City, Calif.

In Re: D. N. County Tax Problem

I have before me your communication of October 11, 1938, in regard to the above entitled matter. Please be advised that in view of the fact that you have indicated and others have advised that you are presently absent from the state, I am unable to advise you as to the action of the state in this matter.

It is my opinion that it is not your duty to perform an illegal act merely because the Board of Supervisors of your county, or rather four members thereof, request you to do so. On the contrary, it is your duty to refrain from illegal action on your own part and to oppose and if possible prevent such action on the part of the others.

Section 4041.22 of the Political Code in no wise confers the power upon the board of supervisors to validate an illegal act performed by you or any other county officer including themselves.

I feel that it is only fair in view of our previous conferences and advice rendered after such conferences, that I now advise you not to proceed along such a course of action which you and your board of supervisors have been informed is without justification under all pertinent statutory and case law of this state.

Trusting that you will advise this office in the premises, I remain,

Very truly yours,

U. S. WEBB,

Attorney General

By James J. Ardito,

Deputy Attorney General

iplicate

Founded 1888; Coast Times, established 1916

SEPTEMBER 20, 1938

NUMBER 30

In the Land of the Giant Redwoods — Tallest Trees in the World — Where Nature's Beauty is Unsurpassed.

Board Takes Steps To Settle Delinquent Tax

Supervisors Accept Offer of Delinquent Timber Owners To Pay on 50 Per Cent Basis—Expect Settlement Within Next Thirty Days.

In a move to bring an early settlement of Del Norte county's financial troubles which have greatly handicapped operation of county government for the past several years the board of supervisors on Tuesday adopted a resolution requesting the delinquent timber companies, represented by M. E. Durham, Los Angeles tax counselor, to renew their offer made some weeks ago for a settlement of their delinquent taxes on a basis of 50 per cent of the delinquent amount. The board agreed to accept the settlement provided the timber people provide the legal means for such acceptance by the county.

It was further agreed that the offer would include current taxes on the same basis and that the timber lands would immediately go back on the tax rolls.

Durham represents practically all the delinquent timber interests in the county, including the Del Norte company, the Del Norte corporation, the Ward people and other smaller holdings. The amount involved, including the current year's taxes, will total over \$275,000.

The move has the endorsement of the county's tax finding committee as well as many of the largest individual taxpayers of the county. Principal opposition to the settlement on the 50 per cent basis was voiced by Supervisor Warren A. Howe, who voted against passage of the resolution. District Attorney John L. Childs, and other county officers, including Assessor Burtshell, Auditor McVay, Tax Collector O. J. Byrne and Treasurer Dremmer.

Should a settlement be made on the above basis the suit recently filed by the timber people would be dismissed. The timber people have 30 days in which to accept or reject the proposition and must have the cash ready to complete the deal.

It has been definitely stated on good authority that under the plan all of Del Norte county's delinquent debt will be cleared up, including interest, which will immediately place the county again on a cash basis.

Immediately after the meeting Mr. Durham left for Los Angeles to work out details of the plan and gather together the necessary funds. District Attorney Childs agreed to cooperate in this work and left yesterday for the south to confer with Durham and others interested.

October 13, 1938.

Hon. John L. Childs,

District Attorney,

Crescent City, Calif.

The undersigned officials for Del Norte county have notified the Board of Supervisors that they deny the Board's right under Section 4041.22 of the Political Code, or any section of the code, whereby the board may upon advice seek to control, stipulate for or bind in any manner the said officials in suits or compromises of Delinquent Timber taxes—and as the legal advisor to the said Board of Supervisors, we claim you have no right to aid, assist or represent the Supervisors in proceedings that seek means to control, or bind said officials to act in any manner of proposals for settlement of delinquent timber taxes without our written consent.

(Signed)

W. A. HOWE, Supervisor Dis. 2

F. J. BURTSHELL, Assessor

C. J. BYRNE, Tax Collector

N. G. McVAY, Auditor

LEO A. DREMLER, Treasurer

On Thursday morning the board met in an adjourned meeting and passed a resolution instructing the district attorney to notify Judge Ben G. Currie, of Lassen county, to preside when the Ed Fletcher vs. Del Norte County case is presented on Wednesday, October 26, as well as the attorneys for the plaintiff, Slater and Brown.

CRESCENT

"WE BELIEVE IN CRESCENT CITY"

VOLUME XI

GRAND JURY SEEKS RELIEF FROM TAX MORATORIUM HERE

Resolution Passed Yesterday Calls for Law to Exempt Counties of 53rd Class

Assisted by the Del Norte County Farm Debt Adjustment committee, with G. E. Frevert as chairman and Kenneth F. Layman as secretary, the Del Norte grand jury went into action yesterday and passed a resolution to the state legislature asking relief from the present tax moratorium law.

The resolution follows:

WHEREAS: Pursuant to resolution adopted by this Grand Jury on April 15, 1937, wherein this body unanimously requested the assistance of the Farm Debt Adjustment committee of Del Norte county to make a study and render us a written report on the tax delinquency problem of Del Norte county, and,

WHEREAS: said Farm Debt Adjustment committee of Del Norte county has this date submitted their findings, and,

WHEREAS: this Grand Jury feels that such report contains very valuable information to all taxpayers of Del Norte county, and,

WHEREAS: it appears that the financial crisis of Del Norte county is due principally to the tax delinquencies of six large timber interests, and,

WHEREAS: these six large timber interests are delinquent in their taxes to the extent of approximately \$79,615.00 and their delinquency since 1930 totals approximately \$445,331.00 and none of these timber interests have availed themselves of the benefits offered by the 10-year tax payment plan, and

WHEREAS: our county finances are seriously jeopardized, and,

WHEREAS: the agricultural interests have nearly all paid their county taxes with only a delinquency for 1936-1937 for 27 out of 237 ranchers of approximately \$2,225.00 on an acreage of 1945 acres out of a total of taxable agricultural land of 44,145 acres, and,

WHEREAS: the agricultural interests will be seriously jeopardized financially and will be unable to stand the great increase in the tax rate that will be necessary due to the continued delinquencies of the timber interests, and,

WHEREAS: our school system is seriously weakened and in grave danger of breaking down because of the continued timber tax delinquencies,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Grand Jury of Del Norte county in regular session this 18th day of May, 1937, that it approves and adopts the report made by the Farm Debt Adjustment committee of Del Norte county hereinbefore mentioned and recommends it as a basis for our Board of Supervisors and legislators in their future consideration of a solution of the county's financial problems, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Grand Jury recommends that proper legislation be enacted by the 53rd session of the State Legislature now in session wherein provision be made that all taxpayers of Counties of the 53rd class not having availed themselves of the benefits of the 10-year tax payment plan shall be subject to tax reduction only as authorized by general statutes or as extended prior to any tax moratorium legislation.

Del Norte County Grand Jury B. C. Edmunds, Foreman; J. J. Munk, Secretary.

In a detailed report from the Farm Debt Adjustment committee it is shown that the county is at the present time faced with an indebtedness of \$416,453.00 with a total delinquency in taxes of \$445,331.00, from six major timber companies holding in this

Lumber Probe Is Resumed By Federal Body

The Federal Trade Commission today resumed its investigation into the activities of six California lumbermen's associations in the district federal courtroom here.

The hearing was transferred here for the convenience of witnesses from San Francisco.

The commission has charged the associations, including one with headquarters in Sacramento, with violations of fair trades act, including attempted monopoly and price setting.

Council Is Charged

The California Lumbermen's Council is charged with being the parent organization of similar groups to "enhance and promote their own volume of trade in lumber and building material business, and increase their profits."

The hearing is being conducted by Charles Diggs of Washington, D. C., federal commission examiner. Prosecuting the organizations is Daniel J. Murphy of Washington, D. C., and defending them is Morgan J. Doyle of San Francisco.

Local Concern

The Sacramento concern involved is the Northern Counties Lumbermen's Club. The complaint cites George K. Adams as president, E. S. McBride as vice president and C. D. LeMaster as the secretary.

Among the charges are that the members of the organizations conspired to "establish their own organizations as a class of regular dealers and to confine and require the sale of material to others through their members; to use coercive action and boycott against non-members, and to fix and establish schedules of uniform prices."

The organizations, charged with affiliation in the California council, and named in the complaint are the Coast Counties Lumbermen's Club, the Central Valley Lumbermen's Council at Stockton, San Joaquin County; the Northern Counties Lumbermen's Club at Sacramento, the Peninsula Lumbermen's Club, and the San Joaquin Lumbermen's Club.

The committee lists the six as being: California Pacific Title & Trust Co., Del Norte Company, California-Oregon Lumber Company, Ward Interests, Hammond Interests, and National Bank of Bay City, Wisconsin.

The report states that only eighteen property owners in the county have availed themselves of the 10-year payment plan, among whom are but two major timber interests, namely Sage Land & Development Company and Hobbs, Wall & Company, the remainder being five owners of small timber tracts, one farmer, seven owners of town property and three owners of sub-division property.

Under the heading of "Remarks" the committee's report states that the schools of the county are facing a possible closing due to the inability of many employees to cash county warrants; through the delinquency of the large timber owners farmers are facing a material increase in assessments; old age relief is very seriously affected and the delinquency has placed county officials and employees in a most embarrassing position.

Summing the whole thing up the committee and the grand jury feel that it is high time something should be done, and they are going out and try to do it.

Ward Estate and Others Make Tax Offer to Del Norte Co.

Willing to Compromise In Preference to Trial In Superior Court

Possibilities of a tax compromise between the Ward estate representing 28,000 acres of redwood on Klamath river and other delinquent lumber companies of Del Norte county with the Del Norte board of supervisors was seen yesterday following a report made to the board by Senator Ed. Fletcher of San Diego, who is representing the Ward holdings.

Senator Fletcher's report follows:

"Twelve companies are cooperating and feel rather than have a trial in court it would be advisable to come to some definite compromise.

"We are ready and I have papers in my possession ready to file mandamus petition so that if we are compelled we will go into court to prove that illegal assessments have been made which will invalidate the assessments.

"But we hope even in court a compromise can be made rather than endless litigation.

District Attorney J. L. Childs of Del Norte in reply to Senator Fletcher's report said that the board was under bond and that he would not advise any compromise at least until suit was filed. The court must approve any adjustments that may be made, he added.

FAVORS COMPROMISE

However, Childs said he was strongly in favor of a compromise since the case was in court, reports Senator Fletcher.

Howard Libby, representing Hobbs Wall company and Tom

Make Tax Offer To Del Norte Co.

(Continued from Page 1)

meeting the Del Norte companies attended the meeting. They strongly expressed themselves in favor of a compromise plan along the general outline as suggested by Senator Fletcher.

SENATOR FLETCHER'S REPORT
Senator Fletcher said that the Del Norte companies like the Ward Holdings, said themselves where fifty or more of the stockholders were unable to pay at the present time. And in order to get the delinquent taxes paid a very liberal settlement would have to be made.

Senator Fletcher said that in a recent case in San Diego involving a lumber company in San Diego county, where three errors identical with those made in Del Norte county, the San Diego county board of supervisors, after a long trial, rendered last November a ruling in sweeping decision, annulling the assessments of the San Diego county.

And under the law of Del Norte county, he said, if the case goes to court, Senator Fletcher said, the board of supervisors asked Senator Fletcher not to file mandamus proceedings until a full attendance of the supervisors could be had. Supervisor Scott was absent yesterday on account of sickness. This was agreed to.

One of the supervisors said that simply waiving assessments to approximately fifteen per cent, and that the county would in addition waive interest. He said if the county could take in enough money to pay the assessments and start on the road, he would never make a settlement.

It was suggested that a settlement be reached by 10 to 20 cents on the dollar could be paid. Senator Fletcher said this would be satisfactory.

Senator Fletcher, who is in the San Diego office, is representing the Ward Holdings in the case.

Fletcher said the compromise is that the board of supervisors may not take the tax to about 2000 acres of land along between Rancho Santa Fe and the coast. The suit was brought by the Irrigation District against the Del Norte or Company, Crescent Park Company, J. A. Fletcher, Mary G. B. Fletcher, Rancho Santa Fe Corporation, and others. Mainly, he said, taken a deed in the land for delinquent taxes and the suit was brought to get the land back. In the recent case in San Diego, the board of supervisors, after a long trial, rendered last November a ruling in sweeping decision, annulling the assessments of the San Diego county. The court stated that the board of supervisors will have to make a compromise and the Del Norte companies will have to make a compromise. The court stated that the board of supervisors will have to make a compromise and the Del Norte companies will have to make a compromise.

Gov't Seeks Del Norte Redwoods

Forestry Officials Outline Plans To Acquire 6,000 Acres On Klamath.

Plans for government acquisition of 6,000 acres of redwood timber lands in the lower Klamath section were disclosed here yesterday by a group of government officials, including Glenn S. Mitchell of Grants Pass, supervisor of the Siskiyou national forest, J. K. Brandeberry, assistant U. S. forester, and Mr. Barnham, who is also connected with the U. S. Forest service. Mr. Brandeberry spent several months here last year making a survey of the northern California redwood belt comprising 263,000 acres in Humboldt and Del Norte counties.

The tract which the government proposes to acquire is north of the Klamath river on the Minot and Hunter creek watersheds and is owned mostly by the Ward estate and Hotchkiss Timber company. The government has an option on the property now, it was disclosed, and is ready to complete the purchase within the next three or four months. In order to give the government clear title to the property all back taxes now due must first be paid.

The tract has been selected as typical of the entire redwood belt and will be turned into an outdoor experimental laboratory, according to Mr. Brandeberry. The forest service will install a crew to check and classify every acre of land in the tract. Timber that is ripe for cutting will be removed under the selective logging plan and sold to local manufacturers. Roads and trails are to be developed which will open the district for recreational purposes as well.

On the basis of this experiment the government will then proceed with the acquisition of additional timber tracts with the object of including the entire 263,000 acres in a great national park, probably over a period of fifteen to twenty years.

This would give the government control of eight and a quarter billion feet of redwood timber and permit the continual operation of at least five outfits cutting 110,000 to 115,000 feet of redwood lumber a day to operate indefinitely under a selective logging program. Twenty-five per cent of the receipts from the sale of timber is allocated to the county, which would assure a constant and substantial source of revenue.

The ultimate program for the development of the area makes practically all the timber land available for cutting on the selective logging basis. It is proposed to set aside and protect a strip 2000 feet wide along all main highways to be maintained in its natural state as a tourist attraction.

Mr. Brandeberry has also recommended that certain areas along Smith river and Mill creek be set aside purely for recreational purposes, as well as other tracts in the Klamath section and elsewhere. These areas, while open to the public for recreational playgrounds, would be kept free from commercialism of any sort.

The entire program is to be outlined to the board of supervisors at a meeting to be held this afternoon, at which time Messrs. Mitchell, Brandeberry and Barnham will go over the entire proposition with county officials.

OBSERVATIONS

NEVER BOUGHT— (By Operator 13) —NEVER SOLD

Government ownership of northern California's vast redwood forests will be brought about on a substantial, business-like basis which can only be of lasting benefit to the counties affected if plans of the United States forestry department are successful. To begin

with, only a small tract of the big trees, about 6000 acres, is to be acquired by the government, and this for experimental purposes only.

Establishment of the experiment station in the heart of our redwoods means that headquarters must be set up here in Del Norte county, and office and field forces recruited . . . a payroll created. Also, many of the problems which now concern the mere handful of people inhabiting this redwood area will become problems of government concern.

Transportation for the lumber manufactured . . . roads and trails to make the forests accessible . . . protection of the natural scenic beauty along the highways . . . development of recreational resources . . . these are a few problems with which federal agencies will be concerned and for which federal funds will be appropriated under government ownership of our timber.

Gradually, perhaps over a period of 15 to 20 years; the government hopes to acquire all the redwood timber lands in this area. Meanwhile our lumber manufacturing payroll will continue, depending upon market conditions, with room for expansion if the demand justifies.

Summing up the situation briefly . . . the government comes in here with the idea of building up and developing the redwood area along commercial as well as recreational lines and the greater the cooperation received by local residents the more immediate and extensive will be the benefits.

Independent and Uncontrolled
Dedicated to the
Upbuilding of Del
Norte County —
Last of the West

Del Norte Triplet

A consolidation of the Del Norte Record, established 1879; Crescent City News, established 1853; Coast Times, established 1918.

VOL. XXVII

THE DEL NORTE TRIPLET, CRESCENT CITY, CALIFORNIA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 27, 1938.

NEW BILL DESIGNED TO HELP DEL NORTE

POWERFUL INFLUENCE BACKS
MOVE TO CLEAR UP TAX
DELINQUENCY MUDDLE.

DELEGATION GOES TO SACRAMENTO

G. E. Frevert, chairman of the Del Norte county farm adjustment committee, and R. C. Endert, foreman of the county grand jury, were in Sacramento yesterday to attend a senate committee hearing on the Deuel bill.

Others from Crescent City are also reported to have been present at the hearing.

A bill withdrawing delinquent taxpayers' moratorium privileges after this year was slated to be introduced into the state senate this week as the result of action taken by the Del Norte county farm debt adjustment committee and the county grand jury.

Senator John Phillips, chairman of the state farm debt adjustment commission, wired G. E. Frevert, chairman of the county committee, that the bill was to be introduced by Senator Deuel, with the support of Senator James M. Allen and Assemblyman M. J. Burns.

The bill provides that tax debtors who do not take advantage of the 10-payment plan for paying delinquent taxes by the end of 1937 must be governed by the regular laws covering sale of delinquent property.

Because of the presence in Sacramento of J. H. Brown, federal farm adjustment administration representative, who assisted the local committee and the grand jury with their recent recommendations on the subject, it was assumed here that the federal and state farm debt adjustment groups may actively support passage of the Deuel bill.

Senator Ed Fletcher, who represents the Ward estate, one of the most heavily tax-delinquent groups in the county, is expected to head opposition to the bill.

of the Del Norte Record, established

THE DEL NORTE TRIPPLICATE,

FLETCHER'S PLAN MAY BE DEFEATED

DEL NORTE GRAND JURY IN
MOVE TO POSTALL CON-
TINUED MORATORIUM.

Del Norte county property owners, including the delinquent timber land speculators, who have not to date signified their intention of refunding their back taxes under the 10-payment plan must either make up their minds pronto or subject their holdings to sale by the sheriff, according to a move undertaken yesterday by the Del Norte county grand jury. The timber barons have been stalling tax payments now for several years under the California tax moratorium and are all set to enjoy further time as provided in a bill now pending before the legislature.

The bill giving relief to the timber interests is being sponsored in the legislature by Senator Ed Fletcher, who is representing the Ward people in an effort to compromise tax payments. To date Fletcher has offered the county 35 cents on the dollar.

The grand jury's move to stop stall further delay in tax payments came following submission of a report made by J. H. Brown, federal auditor for the Del Norte Farm Debt Adjustment commission. Brown's report shows the situation to be alarming, lack of tax money threatening to close all schools of the county.

The delinquency also threatens to place an impossible tax burden upon agricultural lands in Del Norte since nearly \$2,500,000 in assessed valuation will be removed from the tax rolls this year by sale to the state. Brown pointed out this will necessitate a rate of more than \$2.50 per \$100 for 1937-38, becoming an unbearable burden within the next few years if the moratorium is continued.

Powerful support for the county's plan is promised in the legislature.

U. S. AID BLOCKED BY DELINQUENCY OF SINGLE COUNTY

SACRAMENTO, Aug. 5 (A.P.)—

Inability of Del Norte county to raise money to meet the federal government's requirements for old age, child, welfare assistance and aid to the blind is jeopardizing the \$12,000,000 federal security program for the entire state, a conference of interested officials here today was told.

The conferees discussed various suggestions for solving the county's money problems but adjourned without taking action to meet again early next week.

The northern county would be in a good shape financially except for the tax moratorium law, its supervisors and other officials advised the conferees. Thousands of dollars due in taxes from large lumber companies cannot be collected due to the moratorium. As a consequence not only the social welfare program is crippled but schools, hospitals and functions of county government are in a critical situation.

Federal security official, representatives of the state controller, finance director, attorney general and other state departments attended the meeting, with the Del Norte officials, in the office of Mrs. Florence Turner, director of social welfare.

Del Norte supervisors R. L. Scott and W. A. Howe, District Attorney John L. Childs and Charles Thunen, principal of schools, explained the county's plight.

They said expenditures had been cut to the bone but that with only 40 percent of the taxes collectable, it was impossible to meet the demands of welfare aid, schools, hospitals, to say nothing of aid for the indigent, transients and unemployed.

Mrs. Turner said that federal regulations provide every political subdivision of a state must conform to the schedule in order for any old age, child or blind funds to be allotted to the state.

Make Tax Offer To Del Norte Co.

(Continued from Page 1)

sending the Del Norte companies attended the meeting. They strongly expressed themselves in favor of a compromise plan along the general outlines as suggested by Senator Fletcher.

SEEK LIBERAL SETTLEMENT

Burns laid stress on the fact that the Del Norte companies like the Ward holdings found themselves where fifty or more of the stockholders were unable to pay at the present time. And in order to get the delinquent taxes paid a very liberal settlement would have to be made.

Senator Fletcher pointed out that in a recent case similar in character involving over a million dollars in San Diego county where three errors identical with those made in Del Norte county the San Diego county Superior Judge L. N. Turrentine last Thursday rendered a sweeping decision invalidating the assessments of 1931 in the San Diego case.

And unquestionably any court in Del Norte county will do likewise if the case goes to court Senator Fletcher said. The board of supervisors asked Senator Fletcher not to file mandamus proceedings until a full attendance of the supervisors could be held. Supervisor Scott was absent yesterday on account of sickness. This was agreed to.

One of the supervisors said that county warrants amounting to approximately \$110,000 were outstanding and that the county owed in addition about \$40,000. He said if the county could take in enough money to clear up indebtedness and start on a cash basis, he would favor such a settlement.

40 CENTS ON DOLLAR

It was explained that should a settlement be reached 35 to 40 cents on the dollar would be paid. Senator Fletcher said this would be satisfactory.

Senator Fletcher's victory in the San Diego tax title case is reprinted from the San Diego Tribune of December 18 as follows:

"Holding 1931 assessments illegal, Judge L. N. Turrentine ruled that the Santa Fe Irrigation Co. may not take tax title to about 2000 acres of land lying between Rancho Santa Fe and the ocean. The suit was brought by the irrigation district against the Ed Fletcher Company, Grossmont Park Company, Ed Fletcher, Mary C. B. Fletcher, Rancho Solana Corporation, and others. Plaintiffs had taken a deed to the land for delinquent taxes and suit was brought in superior court to quiet title. In his verdict favorable to Fletcher and the other defendants, Judge Turrentine declared the assessments void because proper notice had not been given by the district tax collector; property had been assessed and taxed without deduction for public roads and there were errors in computations and descriptions. The court stated that to quiet title defendants will have to make a settlement on the taxes. Defense counsel announced that an adequate settlement probably would be sought."

Senator Fletcher Visits Eureka; Tells of Session

Senator Ed Fletcher of San Diego, passed through Eureka yesterday on his way to Crescent City on business. Speaking of legislative matters of greatest benefit to the state he said that bill 200 by Senator Garrison gives greater opportunity to promote public ownership of utilities through the use of revenue bonds. The bill which has received the signature of the governor permits the sale of bonds to be paid for out of the revenue of the utilities purchased. They do not become a general obligation against the real estate of the community.

Another bill of general interest is the venerable disease legislation which has also received the governor's approval. Also of much importance, according to the senator, are the liberalized old age pension act, the state and county irrigation district legislation, and the moratorium laws which protect the owner over a given period from foreclosure.

Senate Bill No. 33, he said, provides for reduction of the amount of interest that bond brokers may charge. In the past the sky has been the limit but under the new law the maximum interest that can be charged on a small loan is 2 per cent per month and on amounts over \$500 the maximum that can be charged is 12 per cent per annum. As approximately 90 per cent of the people cannot borrow money from the banks, this new law will afford some relief to those who must go to the brokers for their borrowing. The bill not only establishes the maximum that can be charged but also provides that interest can be collected only on unpaid balances.

Senator Fletcher said: "I have enjoyed the acquaintance of Senator Irwin Quinn of this district and it has been a pleasure to work with him in the Senate. He has gained the friendship and respect of all of his confreres in the legislature and has made good in a big way."

The senator said that of the 4200 bills introduced less than 1000 will finally become laws. Many of the bills introduced were for the purpose of amending existing laws and many of the others were to do away with obsolete laws now on the statute books. For instance one of the bills introduced by Senator Fletcher does away with 210 useless acts.

Lumber Tumble

Some Key Prices Sag At Big Northwest Mills; Hint on Home Building

Lumbermen Blame Tighter Housing Credit; One Notes Postponements by Builders

Trouble With Transit Cars

BY RAY J. SCHRICK

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

PORTLAND, Ore.—Fir lumber prices, often barometer of the nation's home-building plans, are sagging here in the Pacific Northwest timberland.

"Green fir is off \$5 a thousand from five weeks ago," says a large Portland wholesale lumber buyer, confirming a typical report from sawmills hereabout. Good grade green (undried) two-by-four's are selling for \$73 a thousand board feet compared with \$78 late in August.

"Mills offer us two-by-four's at \$75, but we tell them we'll give \$73 and they accept the order," adds the sales manager for one big mill that buys some lumber from competitors for resale to the building trade.

Fir Studs Soft

Fir studs—the eight-foot long two-by-four's that are the first lumber raised when a new house goes up—are especially soft price-wise. One Portland wholesaler, for example, now pays \$64 for a thousand board feet of studs that cost him \$70 a month ago.

To many lumber men here, this price slide means just one thing: Fewer houses will be built in the U. S. in the next few months, and probably in the coming year. About 1,000 sawmills in this area are the nation's No. 1 source of framing lumber that forms the skeletons—floor joists, wall studs and roof rafters—of the thousands of new homes built every year in the U. S.

Fir lumber prices still are above the levels of past seasons. The \$73 price for green two-by-four's compared with \$68 a year ago and with \$55 two years ago. But the roaring home-building volume that shoved prices up may now be tapering off.

If so, it means that one major source of U. S. prosperity in 1933 may be slipping. Up to September 1, the nation's home builders had started more than 822,000 new houses, compared with about 800,000 in 1934. Such a pace meant a steady demand for countless household goods, from freezers to lawnmowers, as well as for building materials such as this area's lumber.

Current lumber price dips may be misleading, of course, and may only be temporary. The nation's home builders, in fact, upped the number of new houses started in August to 123,000 from 115,000 in July. But timber men here, some of whom consider the post-Labor Day period as a pattern-setter, report the current price downturn is the longest they've seen in 15 months. Order backlogs dropped by 10% in the four weeks ended September 25. Prices for green dimension lumber, which held firm throughout September last year, have slipped downward by an average \$1 a thousand board feet each week since just before Labor Day. Although prices usually decline seasonally in September, the dip this year was twice as deep as in 1933 and 1932.

Other Price Dips

Other home-building lumber besides fir is also falling in price in the Pacific Northwest. Green hemlock dimension lumber sells for close to \$64 a thousand board feet, down from a \$70 peak. In the western pine region east of Oregon's Cascade Mountains, white fir two-by-four's have dropped \$3 a thousand board feet to approximately \$78.

The industry is also eyeing another indicator of lumber demand: "Transit cars" of unsold lumber that are sent rolling across the country on railroads in the hope they can be sold, while en route, to an Eastern buyer who needs a quick supply.

"Right now, transit cars are a millstone on the market—they're hard to give away," declares one Portland wholesaler. "Until they get cleared off the tracks, people continue to hold off buying in the face of a falling market."

"Some large contractor in nearly every big metropolitan center has now postponed housing starts he'd planned for this fall—this has an immediate effect on purchases by retail lumber yards to supply October housing starts," says a large Western Oregon shipper who has transit cars scattered all over the nation.

Another wholesale shipper is surprised that a current boxcar shortage—cars are as much as 50% short of normal needs—in Western Oregon hasn't strengthened the market.

Credit Curtailment

"It's the first time I've seen a car shortage as bad as this one in a falling market," observes Vince Bricher, co-owner of Daugherty Lumber Co., in Cottage Grove, Ore. Like many of his colleagues, Mr. Bricher points to credit curtailment as the cause of the lull in lumber demand.

"Tightening mortgage money is causing bigger project builders around the country to postpone some of their starts this fall," he says.

Lumber Tumble: Price Decline in Northwest; Home-Building Hint

Continued from First Page

whose firm is also a lumber wholesaler. "They're cautious because of uncertainty about what the credit tightening will do to new starts on housing from here on."

Inventories Fade

Retail lumber yard inventories dropped for four successive months to the beginning of August, the latest officially available. And they've gone even lower since, according to a spokesman for a firm that owns a chain of retail lumber yards in the Midwest.

It is no secret, of course, that efforts are being made all over the nation to restrain construction credit. Late in July, for example, both the Veterans Administration and the Federal Housing Administration gave official evidence of the trend. A prospective buyer now finds down payment requirements for V.A. and F.H.A. loans are higher. On a \$12,000 home, for example, he has to plunk down \$240 more than previously.

Despite the rise in August housing starts that followed the action of the V.A. and F.H.A., lumber men here in the Pacific Northwest think their price slump is evidence that the building brakes are being effectively applied.

"August and early September housing starts boomed because builders got big projects going on the basis of earlier financing commitments they obtained before mortgage money tightened," says one lumber industry official.

New Jersey Builder

One New Jersey builder who's starting 900 new homes is cited as an example. According to lumber sellers here, he's offering 30-year mortgage, no down-payment deals because he arranged his financing prior to July 23, when the V.A. lowered the mortgage limit to 25 years and required a 2% minimum down payment.

Here in Portland, project builders applied to the V.A. in the month ending September 25 to build only about half as many homes as in August and 64% fewer than in September, 1934. These applications, like lumber orders, point to building that will start in the near future.

"The thing that bothers builders," explains a V.A. official in Portland, "is inability to obtain mortgage money from Eastern insurance companies and banks at a fixed discount rate."

With mortgage money scarce, banks and insurance companies often will agree to buy V.A. and F.H.A. mortgages only at discounts—a lender, say, may offer \$9,900 for a \$10,000 mortgage. Some 6% discounts are reported in the Pacific Northwest on V.A. 25-year loans with a 2% down payment, compared with a West Coast maximum of 4% to 5% less than a month ago.

A number of millmen and wholesalers main-

tain that the current market break may not signal a cutback in housing starts.

"Too Much Lumber"

"It's not so much a slowdown in home building as the fact we're making too much lumber for the demand," argues one mill sales manager.

But although this area's mills are ripping out lumber at a 20% faster pace than incoming orders in recent weeks, production is not at record levels. For the first eight months of 1935, 6,621,000,000 board feet were turned out, compared with 6,720,000,000 in 1933 the last comparable year, since a 12-week strike cut 1934 output.

Not all fir prices weakened in the recent slump—lumber for non-residential uses, for example, is still strong. Big foot-square timbers for schools, bridges and warehouses, are selling for \$85 a thousand board feet, compared with \$78 two months ago and \$88 a year ago. Also, higher quality finishing lumber, less subject to price wavering than rough framing lumber, is steady: B and better grade one-by-four vertical grain fir flooring, for example, is selling for \$167 a thousand board feet at mills.

Strong non-residential building rates give local lumbermen consolation for the dip many expect in housing starts:

"The rising industrial building pace in 1934 will more than offset the decline of 8% to 10% in housing starts," predicts an official of one large lumber company.

Work on new non-farm dwelling units in August was valued at \$1.3 billion, down 2% from July—the first month-to-month dip since last February. But non-residential construction continued its climb, rising to \$683 million in August, up 3% from July.

riplirate

Established 1883; Coast Times, established 1912.

In the Land of the
Giant Redwoods —
Tallest Trees in the
World — Where Na-
ture's Beauty is Un-
surpassed.

OCTOBER 21, 1933.

NUMBER 1

Proposed Settlement Meets State Opposition

\$263,000 Offer of Timber People Looks Big To Del Norte, But Attorney General Not Impressed — Orders District Attorney Not to Sign Papers Stipulating Irregularities in Tax Levy and Collections

Acceptance of \$263,000 cash payment in full for Del Norte county's delinquent timber tax bill variously estimated to total from \$500,000 to \$650,000, and advocated by many as good business for the county under the circumstances, ran into a definite snag this week. In order to complete the settlement, permitting the payment of the \$263,000 to the county under court order, the board of supervisors, by resolution, proposed to stipulate certain technical discrepancies in levying county taxes since 1930.

County Officials Demand Rights

Senator Ed Fletcher, San Diego politician, and his associates, M. E. Durham, Los Angeles tax expert, through their attorneys, Stater & Dawson, also of Los Angeles, have filed a voluminous 56-page brief containing allegations of certain discrepancies in the levying and collection of Del Norte county taxes covering the period since 1930, but even this lengthy weighty document has failed to convince Del Norte county officers that the allegations will stand up in court.

Headed by Supervisor W. A. Howe, county officials have written District Attorney John L. Childs demanding 48 hours notice before the hour of the proposed court hearing of the Ed Fletcher case against the county of Del Norte.

Under date of Oct. 18, the county officers, including Supervisor Howe, Assessor Frank J. Burtchell, Tax Collector C. J. Byrne, Auditor George W. Smith, and Treasurer L. A. Driskill, filed a further letter with the district attorney as follows:

"The undersigned officials for Del Norte county have notified the Board of Supervisors that they deny the board's right under Section 4041.22 of the Pol. Code or any section of the code, whereby the board may upon advice, seek to control, stipulate for or bind in any manner the said officials in suits or compromises of delinquent timber taxes—and as the legal advisor to the said board of supervisors, we claim you have no right to aid, assist or represent the supervisors in proceedings that seek means to control, or bind said officials to act in any manner of proposals for settlement of delinquent timber taxes without our written consent."

Now comes Attorney General U. S. Webb with an order forbidding District Attorney John L. Childs from signing any such stipulation. The attorney general rules that "Section 4041.22 of the Political Code in no wise confers the power upon the board of supervisors to validate an illegal act performed by you or any other county officer, including themselves."

In commenting upon the order, District Attorney Childs said yesterday: "I was convinced from the first that the proposed settlement could not be legally consummated and explained my position to the board when the resolution was up for consideration. However, I acceded to popular demand and the order of the board of supervisors and proceeded to negotiate with representatives of the timber people."

"Receipt of this letter from the Attorney General leaves me no other alternative but to withhold further action, for the present at least."

The full text of the Attorney General's letter, signed by James J. Ardillo, deputy, and dated at San Francisco Oct. 15, 1933, is as follows:

"To the Honorable Board of Supervisors, Del Norte County, California:

"I have before me your communication of October 7th, in regard to the above entitled matter. Please be advised that in view of the fact that you have indicated and others have advised us that you are apparently about to enter into a stipulation agreeing that every contention made by Messrs. Durham and Stater in the above entitled matter is true, I am taking this opportunity to advise you not to enter into or sign any such stipulation in the above entitled matter, nor on the other hand take any course in this matter other than to actively oppose to the best of your ability any claim made by the delinquent timber owners or their representatives that the assessment or levy of the taxes in the above entitled matter was illegally or irregularly made.

"It is my opinion that it is not your duty to perform an illegal act merely because the Board of Supervisors of your county, or rather four members thereof, request you to do so. On the contrary, it is your duty to refrain from illegal action on your own part and to oppose and if possible prevent such action on the part of the others."

"Section 4041.22 of the Political Code in no wise confers the power upon the Board of Supervisors to validate an illegal act performed by you or any other county officer including themselves."

"I feel that it is only fair in view of our previous conferences and advice rendered after such conferences, that I now advise you not to proceed along a course of action which you and your Board of Supervisors have been informed is without justification under all pertinent statutory and case law of this state."

VOL. CLVIII

your mileage Jan. 20, 1953

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA



AP Wirephoto

This air view shows the inundation in the town of Klamath, Del Norte County, after the Klamath River, swollen by heavy rain, overflowed its banks and forced evacuation of homes. The water was reported draining off today.

Del Norte Triplet

Published 1879; Once a Week City News, established 1883; Coast Times

DELCORTE CITY, CALIFORNIA, FRIDAY, APRIL 9, 1937.

TIMBER LANDS OFF COUNTY TAX ROLLS

SALE OF WARD PROPERTY TO
STATE CUTS A MILLION OFF
COUNTY VALUATION.

Del Norte county property which has been deeded to the State for delinquent taxes must not remain upon the tax rolls of the county, according to advices received this week by County Assessor Frank J. Burtchell from Walter J. Hicks, county assessor of Sacramento county. Mr. Burtchell wrote to Hicks, who is a prominent authority on tax matters, inquiring as to a method of procedure.

In replying to Burtchell the Sacramento county assessor says: "I was particularly interested in your statement that you had one holding in your county that was deeded to the state in 1936, the valuation of which amounted to over a million dollars, and this worried your Board, apparently by reason of the loss of such a large assessment from the Assessment Rolls. However, in this connection I might state that it would be more harmful to put the valuation on than to leave it off as the tax rate must be based upon the total value of the rolls and with a parcel of such value on the rolls, in basing the tax rate on same your county would certainly be short in estimated revenue, which would create a considerable worse condition than having a slightly higher rate."

"If this parcel were placed on the rolls and the Board of Supervisors in setting their tax rate would presume this parcel would again remain delinquent and so based their calculations in setting their rate, your entire tax rolls would be illegal and could be thrown out in its entirety."

Money Available For Mill Creek Purchase, Said

A dispatch from Sacramento yesterday stated that surplus funds of the state park commission can be used for purchase of the Mill Creek grove of redwoods in Del Norte county, the state attorney-general's office ruled today.

The legislature appropriated \$150,000 to match Humboldt county funds for purchase of a grove in Humboldt county. The grove cost less than estimated and the park commission asked if it would be legal to use the surplus funds for purchase of the Del Norte county grove.

Smith River Co. Buys Interest In Timber Deal

In one of the largest timber deals in Northern California in many years, a newly organized California corporation, the Robinson Logging Corporation, announced the first of the week the purchase of 150,000,000 feet of virgin Douglas fir and redwood, covering some 4,500 acres on the east bank of the Klamath river, Bitter creek and Bear creek areas, that has been known for generations as the "Bull Estate Timber", which has remained untouched since pioneer days in northwestern California.

The sellers in the transaction are heirs of the Bull estate, including the following: the widow of the late Ralph W. Bull, Mrs. Bernice Bull; Miss Yetta Bull, of Arcata, and many others.

The purchase price, it was indicated, would run in the neighborhood of \$1,500,000.

Principals in the newly organized corporation are the Simonson Logging Company of Smith River, O. E. Davis of Klamath, Calif.; Albert Wirrkala, Naselle, Wash.; and G. A. Bloomquist, of Brush Prairie, Wash.

It is reported that the new corporation will start logging operations this spring, planning to cut 10,000,000 board feet per year, selling the logs as the market develops.

Initial Purchase Plan Favored By U. S. Commission

Section Near Klamath Chosen for First Development

Long-standing proposals for the establishment of a national forest in the redwood area of northern California took definite form this week with the announcement by Secretary of War Harry H. Woodring that the National Forest Reservation Commission had approved an initial purchase of 6,251 acres of forest land in Del Norte county.

The area proposed to be purchased for national forest purposes is about four miles north of Klamath, in the Ward and Hotchkiss holdings on Milhot and Hunter Creeks.

If the deal is consummated on lines approved by the commission, it would mean the payment of all delinquent taxes against the property, a matter of deep importance to the hard-pressed Del Norte county treasury.

WON APPROVAL HERE

When areas proposed for inclusion in the projected new national forest were announced several years ago, there was some alarm on the part of county officials over the possibility of having large parcels of land removed from the tax rolls. At a public meeting in the Humboldt county courthouse, however, forestry officials explained that acquisition of the forest would be a gradual process, depending on congressional appropriations and with due regard for the effect on local taxing agencies. They also explained that a substantial part of all revenues accruing to a national forest, from sale of timber, grazing rights, or other means, is returned to the counties in which the forest is located. Expressions at the meeting in Eureka were favorable to the national forest project by a large majority.

Over a period of years acquisition of the proposed redwood national forest would involve an expenditure of about \$6,000,000. It has been estimated. The initial purchase area in Del Norte, approved by the federal commission this week, is expected to cost approximately \$150,000.

PLAN SELECTIVE LOGGING

National forests are not withdrawn from development, but are administered along lines calculated to produce permanent returns. Recreational and sportsmen's activities also are fully recognized by national forest management. In the first Del Norte purchase area, it is understood the service has outlined an experiment in selective logging, designed to permit the cutting of certain selected trees without denuding the entire area.

As tentatively outlined, the proposed national forest eventually would include some of the finest timber in Humboldt county along Prairie creek and Redwood creek, together with areas along the Klamath in Del Norte county, and a southern unit principally along the Navarro river in Mendocino county.

The government has been advocating the purchase of redwood for several years past but it has not been until the last few years that an effort has been made to convince the people of Del Norte county that this should be done.

AMERICA

THE LEADING COUNTY

Redwood Deal Said Okayed by Forest Board

A United Press dispatch appearing in an evening paper yesterday stated that the national forest reservation commission had approved an initial purchase of 6,251 acres of virgin redwood in Del Norte county.

The land approved for purchase, it is said, is on the Klamath river and the commission also has its eyes on another tract up Smith river and tracts in Humboldt county.

Yesterday M. M. Barnum and J. K. Brandeberry, forestry men from San Francisco, and G. E. Mitchell, supervisor of the Siskiyou forest at Grants Pass, were here conferring with local citizens in an effort to "sell" them on the idea of the purchase of redwood lands that would be turned into the national forest and the timber sold on a selective logging basis. These gentlemen showed maps of the area and explained that from the sale of timber, under the plan, 25% would be turned in to the county plus 10% that would be used for road building in the forest area.

The forestry men stated that it was the desire to purchase 260,000 acres in Del Norte and Humboldt county with 40% of that amount being in Del Norte. They figured that on a selective logging program that area of timber would keep three mills the size of Hobbs, Wall & Co. operating indefinitely.

The government has been advocating the purchase of redwood for several years past but it has not been until the last few years that an effort has been made to convince the people of Del Norte county that this should be done.

Redwood Is Popular

California's redwood is popular among the men who design homes in the United States, Canada, Mexico and Hawaii, a California Redwood Association survey shows.

Seven out of 10 architects queried said they used redwood in their own homes and 95 out of 100 said they would use it again if they built another home.

The survey got 1,300 replies from a questionnaire sent to architects.

Hobbs, Wall & company, the one big lumber manufacturing concern operating in Del Norte county, will continue to pay its taxes promptly . . . surely good news to every small taxpayer. For the entire sixty-two years during which this company has operated its mills and camps here the firm has regularly, year after year, paid thousands of dollars toward the expense of government. Another payment soon to be made for the last half of the company's 1936-37 tax bill will put another \$10,000 into the county treasury.

Compare this record with that of the timber speculators who now owe Del Norte county approximately half a million dollars in back taxes and who apparently are determined to stall along until the little fellow will have to hear the entire tax load. This year over a million dollars' worth of tax delinquent timber land will be removed from the assessment rolls. Next year another three million in valuation will also be removed from the rolls which will bring a terrific increase in taxes to resident property owners.

In the meantime the county's outstanding warrants are piling up to a staggering sum and it is becoming more and more difficult to peddle the yellow paper even at a big discount. The situation will soon reach the point where the county's credit will become exhausted entirely and we will then be forced to take any compromise offered by the timber barons.

Let's have some action now!

Jan 18, 1955

Vast Acreage Of Bull Estate On Klamath River Purchased By Logging Corporation

Involving approximately one and one half million dollars and an estimated 150,000,000 board feet of redwood and Douglas fir timber embracing some 4,500 acres on the Klamath River, one of the largest and most important timber deals in many years was disclosed here today by parties and attorneys concerned in the negotiations.

The huge transaction embodies property owned by heirs of the J. C. Bull estate and is located in the Blue Creek and Bear Creek areas fronting on the Klamath. Known for generations as the "Bull Estate timber," the vast stand consists of virgin growth which has remained untouched since pioneer days in northwestern California. The tract is one of largest remaining unharvested timber stands in this entire region.

Buyer of the immense forest area is the Robinet Logging Company, a newly organized California corporation. Principals in the corporation are the Simonson Logging Company, of Smith River; Albert Wirrkala, of Napa, Wash.; G. A. Bloomquist, of Brush Prairie, Washington, and O. E. Davis, of Klamath. Wirrkala, incidentally, represents interests which conduct one of the largest timber operations in the state of Washington.

It was indicated that the Robinet organization will start logging operations on the newly acquired timber this spring, planning to cut about 20,000,000 board feet per year, selling the logs as the market develops. As a result, the operation will become one of the largest in northern California at the present time.

The sellers in the transaction are heirs of the Bull estate including the following: Mrs. Bernice Bull, widow of the late Ralph W. Bull; Miss Yetta Bull, of Arcata; Colonel W. Frank Bull, of Rutherford, New Jersey, cousin of Bull; Mrs. Lillian Henderson, widow of the late G. Y. Henderson, now living in Oakland; Clarabelle Hink, Oakland; Mary Siegfried, Oakland, and Jeanne Rankin, of Los Angeles. Mrs. Bull's interests, incidentally, also include those of the old Newburg Redwood Co.

Attorneys representing the sellers in the deal were John Leddy, of the firm of Leddy and Sautter; G. Edward Goodwin, of Huber and Goodwin, and Blaine McGowan, all of Eureka. Representing the buyers as counsel was Don Falk, of the firm of Falk and Falk, also of Eureka.

\$1,500,000 DEAL

Although the exact purchase price was not disclosed, stamps affixed to documents involved in the negotiations indicate that the figure will approximate one and one half million dollars.

The title and transfer operations involved in the immense deal were handled through the Belcher Abstract and Title Company, of Eureka, in whose hands the papers were in escrow until today.

The transaction, in addition to its immediate significance,

was viewed as illustrating a trend in the lumber and logging industries which has been apparent during recent years, in which great holdings have become available and accessible for harvest. This trend began during the World War II period, when Douglas fir operations were opened up in this region for the first time in history, resulting in a vast expansion of logging projects, sawmills and associated enterprises which, in turn, has been largely responsible for the unprecedented population growth of this area.

The deal also carries with it a historical aspect in its relationship to the Bull family. The late J. C. Bull was one of the county's early day pioneers and took a leading hand in building up both industrial and business enterprises. Bull's son, the late Ralph W. Bull, long was a prominent figure in the California political scene and served for a number of years on the California Highway Commission. Also he was president of The Times Printing Company for many years.

Demand For Fir Tree Seed Held Critical

County Forester Eugene Hofstead this week issued a general appeal to county residents to gather fir cones from an already light natural crop for the reseedling of some 30,000 acres of prime forest lands destroyed in three major fires last month.

The cones are worth from six to eight dollars per sack, to the finders, Hofstead said.

Various Boy Scout units already had volunteered for cone-gathering expeditions when the official call was issued.

Portions of the burns included areas where conscientious effort by land owners and cooperative woods workers had retained a source of tree seed and growing stock for future harvests. This effort is lost and the seed trees, carefully protected during logging, are dead, Hofstead reported.

Here is what to look for: Douglas-fir cones are 2 to 4 inches long with a three pointed fork on each cone scale. When ripe, they change color from green to brown, but remain closed until the seed is lost. Dark brown cones with scales spread out fan-shaped are from last year's crop and have lost their seed.

There are two seeds under the base of each cone scale. Cut a few sample cones in half the

long way and be sure the seeds are full and firm. Don't collect cones where your cut samples show empty seeds or insect burrowing.

The best gathering places are squirrel caches, cones on down trees harvested in September, or from standing trees. Deliver cones promptly, since they mold in storage. The unit of measure is a large feed sack which contains 2½ bushels.

The cones are worth \$6 to \$8 a sack now in Humboldt county. For further picking instructions on for delivery of cones contact one of these offices: California Division of Forestry, Fortuna, phone Fortuna; Six Rivers National Forest, 23 Fifth st., Eureka; District Ranger Stations at Orleans, Mad River or Salyer, or the Humboldt County Department of Forestry, 802 Fifth st., Eureka.

Small or large quantities are needed.

Eureka Independent
10-5-55

*Good news -
Dear Thom place
read report my*

VOL. 49. NO. 128

Forest Titan

Sky-Scraping Redwood Is in Growing Demand For Homes, Industry

California Mill Output Runs 11% Ahead of Record '52; Outgains Rest of Industry

House Fronts and Foundries

BY WILLIAM A. CLARK
Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
EUREKA, Calif.—The towering redwood tree, long a California tourist lure, is turning into a fast-rising attraction for the home and factory as well.

Here in the 300-mile-long "Redwood Empire" of Northern California, sawmills are gobbling up the tree's dark logs and spitting out redwood boards at a rate more than double that of pre-war days. Production in 1953 promises to top last year's record 870 million feet; major mills are chalking up an 11% gain. The lumber industry generally recorded a gain of less than 4% for the first 10 months this year, most recent period for which figures are available.

Behind these statistics: A steadily climbing demand for redwood by builders of modern houses and makers of a wide range of industrial and commercial products from cocktail tables to brewery vats.

Against the Trend

It's true that the most recent monthly figures show some interruption of this pattern of annual increase. Shipments and new orders slipped below a year ago in November, although production continued to run ahead. Most redwood men continue optimistic.

"We're confident that demand for redwood will continue strong because it's a specialty wood, more a finished product than a raw material," says Kenneth Smith, vice president of Pacific Lumber Co., one of the largest redwood producers. "It's not really in the same market with pine and fir," he adds.

"We've got the glamor girl of the conifers," declares Sherman A. Bishop, sales manager of Union Lumber Co., another big producer. He adds: "Today it's a 'must' in lumberyards in the Eastern states. Where ten years ago these yards might have had a single bin of redwood, now they have whole alleys—and there's at least one 100% redwood yard there now."

The reddish, light-colored wood has scored its most notable success in homebuilding. Its resistance to weather and decay and its color have made it a favorite of many modern architects. Its main use in houses is for exterior siding; it's also widely used for interior paneling and exposed interior beams.

Part of Design

Says Philip Farnsworth, general manager of the California Redwood Association: "It's not just a raw material which may or may not be used in building—it's an integral part of the architect's design."

Such styling isn't found only in more expensive, custom-designed houses. It has appeared in developments such as the 3,000-unit "Pueblo Gardens" at Tucson, Ariz., and the Del Rosa development at Jackson, Miss., among others.

Redwood is also showing up in storefronts and showrooms of such shops as the House of Cashmere in New York, Peacock's jewelry store in La Grange, Ill., and Rich's department store in Atlanta. It's used for the seating in the new memorial stadium at Selma, Ala., and in 30 other stadiums across the land. It's also used in the construction of several modern churches in the U. S., in the new municipal airport building at Greenville, S. C., and in some of the latest Pennsylvania Railroad stations such as the one at Edgewood, N. J.

"As successful as redwood is in construction, we're counting heavily on industrial uses, too," says sales manager Bishop of Union Lumber. The wood's resistance to moisture, decay and insects has already led to its use in vats in such rot-favoring surroundings as wineries, distilleries and breweries, as well as in containers for greenhouses, pulp mills and chemical plants.

Refineries and Power Plants

About 60 million board feet of redwood a year are used to build water-conserving "cooling towers" for oil refineries, power generating plants and atomic energy installations. Water absorbs the heat, cools by circulating through redwood towers, then is re-circulated.

The rot-resisting wood is also finding increasing use in "gas scrubbers," towers in which escaping waste gases from industrial plants are "washed" by being circulated with water, through many-layered grids of redwood planks. This treatment helps prevent air pollution. Sixteen redwood gas-scrubbing towers, each 10 feet wide and 50 feet tall, are used at the Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corp. plant at Spokane, Wash.

Redwood's "dimensional stability"—it shrinks less while drying than any other commercial wood—is a quality which makes it good for such special flooring problems as the underlayers of warship and aircraft carrier decks. It's also used for pattern-making in foundries, where its shape-holding powers are of prime importance.

The redwood trees are native only to this stretch of California coastal ridges. They are the tallest type of tree. When one of these titans is felled in the forests near here, it must be carefully aimed so its 150-ton-falling weight doesn't shatter its own wood when it crashes to the ground and doesn't ruin nearby trees.

Then it's hacked into 40-foot pieces by big circular saws, and the 3-to-16-foot-wide logs dragged away by diesel-powered tractors. The wood is next hoisted onto trucks and hauled to the sawmills along special roads built to hold 170-ton loads that would buckle ordinary highways.

From the sawmills will come almost one billion feet of redwood boards this year, industry leaders predict. There are 34 billion board feet contained in the redwood trees still standing, almost all of them on land.

Please Turn to Page 8, Column 1

Ed Fletcher Papers

1870-1955

MSS.81

Box: 71 Folder: 2

Newspaper Clippings



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