

Court Decision Affects Huge Timber Stand

Judge Wimberly Issues Decree in Case Pending Almost Two Years

Decree of the Circuit Court in the long-pending suit brought by Umpqua Forest Industries, trustee of the now defunct Roseburg Plywood Corporation, to quiet title to a vast area of Douglas County timber lands has been issued by Circuit Judge Carl E. Wimberly.

The decree declares a deed to the property to be a mortgage, as asked in the complaint, establishes the property ownership, provides for the payment of liens in the form of mortgages and taxes, for the execution of a trust as set up by the plaintiff for the payment of bills outstanding against the Roseburg Plywood Corporation, payment of the principal and interest on stock in the company, and for division of the holdings of claimants to the property in specified proportions.

The timber land, located on Jackson Creek above Tiller on the headwaters of the South Umpqua River, contains more than 40,000,000 feet of timber.

The judge ruled that a deed executed by the Roseburg Plywood Corporation to Orval C. Schaefer and Edmund Stafford to secure a \$6,714 loan, was in effect a mortgage. The deed had been given originally by the corporation with the provision that Schaefer and Stafford would give the corporation in return an option to repurchase the land.

Defendants in the suit included Orval C. and Edna L. Schaefer, Edmund and Elizabeth Stafford, Vi Finch, Roseburg Plywood Corporation, Herald A. O'Neill, and May Kruse, nee May Bean.

all of whom were represented by their attorneys at the trial nearly two years ago, and other named defendants who were not represented.

The suit involved not only the land of the Roseburg Plywood Corporation, but a small part held by O'Neill in trust for May Kruse.

Ownerships Decreed

Based upon his findings of facts and conclusions of law, the judge decreed: That defendant May Kruse, nee May Bean is the owner, except for unpaid taxes, to the undivided one-half interest in the south half of the south half of section 35, township 29, south range 1, west of Willamette Meridian, and the south half of the northwest quarter and the north half of the southwest quarter of section 2, township 30, south range 1, west of Willamette Meridian.

Umpqua Forest Industries was declared the owner in fee simple, except for the mortgage of Schaefer and Stafford and taxes levied and assessed since Nov. 29, 1946, of the remaining undivided one-half of the above described property, and of the following described property:

All of the west one-half of the southeast quarter, section 16, township 30, south range 1 west of Willamette Meridian; the north half and west half of the southeast quarter of section 10, township 30, south range 1, west of Willamette Meridian; the north half of the north half, south half of the southwest quarter, the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter, the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 2, township 30, south range 1, west of Willamette Meridian; and the west half and the southeast quarter of section 12, township 30, south range 1, west of Willamette Meridian, all in Douglas County.

Indebtedness Set Forth

The judge ruled that there is now due, owing and unpaid from the defendant Roseburg Plywood Corporation to the defendants, Stafford and Schaefer, the \$6,714 mortgage loan, plus interest at six per cent from Feb. 24, 1942, when the mortgage was first executed in the form of a deed to Schaefer; \$771.36, plus six per cent from March 24, 1945, and \$84.84, plus interest from April 2, 1945. An assignment of one-half interest in the mortgage was made by Schaefer to Stafford March 23, 1943. The mortgage was ruled to be a first, prior and superior lien upon the real properties of Umpqua Forest Industries, or of any other defendant, except Douglas County, for unpaid taxes.

If the property is to be sold for satisfaction of the judgment of the defendants, Stafford and Schaefer, against the Roseburg Plywood Corporation, the amounts received shall be ap-

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By Jimmy Haddo



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Council Reports Economic Status First Half of '48

WASHINGTON, July 31.—(AP)—President Truman's Council of Economic Advisers reported these findings, covering the first half of 1948, in a report given by Mr. Truman to Congress yesterday.

Production—Industrial output, recovering from the coal strike, is again near the postwar peak of February, 1948. Government orders "give promise of continuing high-level output for the rest of the year."

Agriculture—Total farm production may exceed last year's but much of it will not reach the market until 1949. Therefore marketings will be 3 to 4 per cent lower. Americans through 1948 face "a relatively tight supply of food." The all-time record corn crop will not be reflected in better meat and livestock supplies until some months after the harvest.

Consumer Income—It has reached an annual rate of about \$208,000,000,000 compared with \$195,000,000,000 last year.

Spending—Consumer expenditures increased somewhat less than income. This left a slight increase in savings, apparently interrupting the postwar downward trend.

Income Distribution—About 50 per cent of American families are "falling substantially behind in the race of incomes with living costs." In 1947 one-fourth of all families spent more than they earned.

Profits—Business earnings exceeded last year's average, are likely to remain high through 1948. Corporate profits after taxes are at a rate of \$18,600,000,000 a year, half a billion larger than in 1947.

"First-quarter data, however, indicated a drop in profits of small manufacturing firms," the report stated.

Total Output—The "gross national product," or dollar value of all goods produced and services rendered, has reached a peace-time record rate of \$246,500,000,000 a year. This reflects "some increase in production but

mostly the rise in prices." Housing—More than 1,000,000 units will be added in 1948. But the increase in costs "is outrunning consumers' ability to pay." Prices—"By midyear, price increases appeared to be accelerating. The index of consumers' prices has now reached an all-time high." It stands 171.7 per cent of the 1935-39 average.

Budget—The record federal cash surplus of \$7,600,000,000 in first-half 1948 will be "virtually eliminated" during the rest of the year because of the tax cut and new outlays for defense and European recovery.

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Plywood Workers' Vote Heavily Favors CIO

SEATTLE, July 31.—(AP)—The National Labor Relations Board reported yesterday that workers at the U. S. Plywood Corporation at the U. S. Plywood plant in Seattle voted 542 to 3 for the Plywood Workers' Union (CIO) in a union shop election.

The union is affiliated with the International Woodworkers of America.

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Consumer Resistance Fails to Slash Prices

PORTLAND, July 30.—(AP)—Housewives aren't buying so much meat this week—but their reluctance hasn't brought down retail prices so far.

That is the report of William Weller, Portland representative for the Federal Dressed Meat News Service.

The only effect the buying halt has had on prices so far is to decrease the wholesale cost of lamb, cow beef, smoked ham, and sliced bacon by 1 cent a pound.

Hawaii consists of nine inhabited and several uninhabited islands.

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