

THE BEND BULLETIN

and CENTRAL OREGON PRESS

The Bend Bulletin (Weekly) 1908-1941... The Bend Bulletin (Daily) Est. 1916... Published every afternoon except Sundays and certain holidays...

TIMBER EXCHANGE UNDERSTANDINGS

We commented here the other day on the news of the hearing in Klamath Falls on the Klamath-Lake protests against the Shevlin-Hixon-forest service timber exchange transaction.

Most of the underbrush of confusion is now cleared away and, for the most part, the Klamath understandings of the matter as set forth in the Epley column is correct.

Epley, you will notice, quotes us as saying that the county taxation base is not seriously affected "because otherwise (that is, if there were no exchange) the lands would be clear-cut and, as reforestation lands, would yield a tax of only \$210.00."

We did not miss the prospective 13,000 acre transaction mentioned by Epley. We knew that it was coming up but it was not involved in the business in which we were trying to get the facts understood and therefore was not introduced.

Epley presents, as one of the chief reasons for the Klamath objection to the exchange transaction, the fact that, since no money is involved there is no 25 per cent payment to the interested counties. That is a condition that has been protested in this column many times.

We deal now, however, with the facts as we find them and not as they would be were some ideal arrangement in effect. Those facts, it seems to us, point clearly to the value of the exchange plan as aiding in the perpetuation of the forest.

MILK SURVEY

The study of the conditions under which milk is produced in Central Oregon has been completed and the report made. While a few producers gained a high rating the report presents a rather sorry picture for the majority.

It has been the increased incidence of undulant fever in the Portland area that led to the demand for the milk survey and the proposal that pasteurization be required for all milk. The report of the Central Oregon survey suggests that whether or not pasteurization becomes mandatory there is much else that can and should be done to protect milk supplies.

We suggest that the authorities do those things at once.

Sewell Avery's union suit is keeping him warm.

The Klamath Timber Exchange

From Klamath Falls Herald and News

Active and informative discussion has followed the protests, lodged by Klamath and Lake county courts, against a proposed land exchange transaction between the Shevlin-Hixon Lumber company of Bend and the national forest service, involving some 17,553 acres of cut-over and selectively cut lands in the two counties.

The protests touched off a whole series of editorials in the Bend Bulletin, and brought a conference here last Friday in which forest service officials defended the land exchange program and WPB and Shevlin-Hixon officials warned that the protests might disrupt Shevlin-Hixon production of lumber for the war effort.

Inasmuch as a major objective of the protests, as we saw it, was to promote just such discussion and to develop facts about this deal and the whole exchange program, it appears that the protests have already accomplished good purpose. Whether they will be pressed further, or will be withdrawn as has been suggested by a WPB official, remains to be determined at another conference on January 17 when further information is to be presented by the forest service.

We are sure the courts will not take a stubborn stand that is shown to them, conclusively, to be retarding the war effort.

Non-Cash Deal What is proposed is this: that Shevlin-Hixon deed the lands to the forest service, and in return will receive an equal value of timber from forest service lands.

The county courts objected mainly on the grounds that the transfer to federal ownership would remove the Shevlin-Hixon lands and timber from the tax rolls, that the non-cash transaction would prevent the county from getting its share of the 25 per cent of stumpage values usually allotted to counties, and that Klamath county was not asked for permission to make the exchange.

Space will not permit publication here of the lengthy treatment of the question by the Bend Bulletin, which, from the standpoint of Bend community interest, has made a sincere effort to get at the facts. The Bulletin claims a basic misunderstanding of the proposal on the part of the Lake and Klamath courts and of this columnist. Its arguments tally closely with those of forest service officials at the conference here last Friday, which were reported, as space would permit, in Saturday's pa-

However, in defense of our mis-

Yeh, But Some of Mother's Cases Are Most Urgent



understanding, we quote from a letter from the state tax commission to N. B. Nelson, Klamath county assessor, on this very question:

"... We held that the assessment of the timber included in the reservation and exception in the deed in question... must be limited to the quantity of timber actually remaining on such lands on July 1 of each year. In other words, the assessment cannot apply to timber cut and removed from the land between January 1, the assessment date, and July 1, the lien date.

"... We were somewhat reluctant to accept this conclusion, since it deprives the county of a large part of the revenue which would normally accrue from such timbered lands. However, the conclusion was reached only after careful study of state and federal laws, which convinced us that there was no possibility of enforcing payment of any tax assessed against timber cut and removed from the lands prior to July 1 of any year. As a matter of fact, there is some doubt as to the state's authority to tax any of the timber involved in this transaction and, if the matter became a subject of lawsuit, it appears possible the court might hold that all the timber was exempt from taxation."

In other words, our mistaken conclusion that the timber would not be taxed seems to have legal justification, but we gladly correct any impression that the reserved timber would go off the rolls.

Acreage Figures

There have been some conflicting figures on acreages in this discussion. We were informed, from a good source, that the Klamath acreage involved in this particular transaction was 16,000, whereas it is \$436.47. However, as we have said, another 13,334 of Shevlin-Hixon land will soon be offered on a similar basis.

The Bend paper quotes the forest service to the effect that 52,737 acres have been acquired by the forest service in Klamath county by land exchange. The forest service men have given us a figure of more than 68,000, while the county court claimed it was told that the figure was 48,000. Inasmuch as the 68,000 acre figure came out of the brief case of the regional forester when he was here, we assume it is correct.

As sequel to our discussion yesterday of the protested Shevlin-Hixon land exchange program in northern Klamath county, we want to point out that the basic problem of steadily increasing federal ownership of tax-free land in this and similar counties remains unanswered. This was the underlying concern which led to the protest against this transaction.

It is true that the forest service does make certain payments to local government, and that the sum has become quite substantial in recent years. (It brought more than \$100,000 to Klamath county last year, and may go to \$130,000 in the next fiscal year.) This money comes chiefly from our share of returns from timber sales and other forest revenues, and probably will fall off when the heavy wartime timber cutting subsidies. Forest service people, at the conference here on January 17, are expected to offer some estimates on probable future payments of this nature to Klamath and Lake counties.

Federal legislation to provide for adequate, steady payment in lieu of taxes on property, taken from the tax rolls for government purposes, is being widely discussed. Just this week, President Roosevelt and Harold Ickes were quoted as favorable to such action, in stories relating to the Jackson Hole monument in Wyoming.

It should be kept in mind, however, that usually when the federal government makes contributions to local government, there are strings attached. As our local government depends more and more on Uncle Sam and less and less on private taxpayers, it be-

comes more and more subservient to federal authority, and government gets farther and farther away from the people. Those who are avaricious for power for the federal authority are pleased to see local government coming with its hand out.

As the federal government, through one agency or another, takes on more and more property, remaining private taxing sources become inadequate and there is no other alternative but to ask Uncle Sam for the dough.

And so, it can be seen, the protest lodged by two little county courts out in Oregon against handing over additional big slices of private land to a federal agency, touches on a mighty big subject.

This columnist has been called to Los Angeles because of a family illness, and personal appearances here may be on a hit-and-miss basis for a few days. We'll try, if we can, to drop a few lines in the mail from the south.

Washington Column

By Peter Edson (NKA Staff Correspondent)

Differences between American and British points of view on such tough questions as the future of Italy, Greece, or Poland are easy to build up into insurmountable obstacles. The fact is, however, that these are only three of the current tangles.

At the start of the war there was broad general agreement that the two governments would keep each other fully informed on what they were doing. This agreement was at all levels—Roosevelt and Churchill, Hull and Halifax, Eden and Winant, through joint chiefs of staff, combined supply boards, shipping boards and even humbler officials.

The record of this exchange of information has by no means been an open book. A lot of the information swapped has been of top secret nature. There have been notable slip-ups. The British forgot to inform the United States that Count Carlo Sforza would not be acceptable to His Britannic Majesty's government as Italian foreign minister. The United States government didn't inform the British that Italians would not be treated as enemy aliens in this country.

Agreement between Great Britain and the United States on most international questions is complicated by one fundamental difference. The British lie right up against Europe and the Americans don't. Americans therefore can look at continental European problems with a more detached and idealistic point of view while the British must wrestle with practical politics in establishing neighboring governments they can get along with.

That situation is neatly reversed when it comes to the Argentine. All the British want out of the

Argentine is plenty of good red meat and what form of government the Argentinos have is of small matter. On the other hand, the United States normally needs no Argentine meat but is vitally interested in making sure there is no incipient nazism a-borning down under.

In spite of such variances in interests, American and British governments have been able to agree on many economic policies for dealing with Portugal, Spain, Sweden and other neutrals. They have also been able to get together on many major political policies. They followed a common course of action with regard to France, leading up to simultaneous recognition of De Gaulle. They have worked out a mutually acceptable plan for policing Germany after her defeat.

By far the greatest causes of

discord in American-British relations come not from disputes involving third parties, but in the settlement of postwar economic questions primarily involving only the two countries. Here you have such puzzlers as competition for world oil rights, world shipping, world air rights. The British favor cartel arrangements and the Americans don't.

What should be emphasized in looking at the whole pattern of American-British relations, say the diplomats, is that never before in history have two nations tried so hard to work together, and never have two nations come so close to agreeing on so many things.

COMMUNICATIONS

Communications are invited on matters of current and local interest. Letters should be not over 400 words in length, on only one side of the paper and, if possible, typewritten. Letters or manuscripts submitted for publication will not be returned.

THANKS OFFICER

Bend, Jan. 11, 1945

To the Editor: The other day I made a slight mistake in parking my car and a state officer drove up beside me and called my attention to it.

At once I got the usual case of "jitters" that comes with the appearance of an officer of the law.

But, outside of a brief word of correction, the officer made me realize that they were human and their duty was to help keep people in line and not to stamp on every one the authority vested upon them.

I want to thank this officer for showing me that officers of the law are to be respected and not feared.

Marsha Kenton.

Bend's Yesterdays

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

(Jan. 12, 1920)

(From The Bulletin Files)

Central Oregon delegates returned from the Oregon Irrigation congress in Portland and report that Fred N. Wallace of Tumalo had been named president of the organization.

Members of the Bend Painters' union settle their differences with W. C. Birdsall, manager of the Pilot Butte Inn, and resume painting the new addition.

Employees of both Bend mills, members of the American Legion

Advertisement for 'Just Unpacked' house dresses. Features a woman in a dress and text: 'Georgianna and Lady Alice HOUSE DRESSES. Newest styles! Newest colors! Yes, here they are - the prettiest and most practical of the New Year. Gay colors and rayons - 12 to 44. 3.98 to 6.95. DON'T OVERLOOK OUR BARGAIN TABLES. THE PEOPLES STORE, 1st National Bank Bldg.'

FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS



Advertisement for a high school student: 'HELP WANTED: HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT TO MIND YOUNGESTER WHILE PARENTS ARE AWAY EVENINGS. RIGHT STUDENT CAN DO HOMEWORK AT SAME TIME, AND LEARN WHILE HE EARNS. \$10 PER WEEK. ADDRESS BOX 502-A.'

Advertisement for Bank of Bend: 'YOU'D BETTER ANSWER IT, LARD! \$10 A WEEK ISN'T TO BE SNEEZED AT! YOU SAID IT! THIS IS NO TIME TO DEVELOP HAY FEVER! Bv MERRILL BLOSSER. BANK OF BEND, A Home-Owned State Bank.'

and business men, form an indoor baseball league. C. H. Hardy, George A. Jones and C. H. Wigmore are nominated for directors of the Central Oregon Irrigation district. R. A. Ward, T. H. Foley and Hugh Kane return from Portland where they attended sessions of the Oregon Irrigation congress. C. Ritchey of Tumalo is a Bend caller. Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Wells, who have been visiting their daughter, Mrs. Jack Horton in Bend, return to their Pendleton home.

City Drug Co. — City Drug Co. — City Drug Co.

Advertisement for City Drug Company: 'Topsy-Turvy Tummy? You don't have to turn yourself upside down to get that "topsy-turvy" feeling in your stomach. It also comes from gas, flatulency, or dyspepsia due to hyperacidity or slow digestion. It may be caused by over-eating or over-indulgence. Whichever of these causes, you'll find the corrective in NYAL ANTACID TABLETS. peppermint flavored "chewy" tablets that curb bad effects and give your stomach that "upright" feeling. Two sizes—sold only at Your Nyal Drug Store. Bottle of 100 75c, Bottle of 200 1.19. City Drug Company, "Home Of Office Supplies", 909 Wall St., Phone 555.'

Advertisement for Post-War Bend: 'Post-War Bend... Bend, like hundreds... yes, like thousands of other cities, will face a period of readjustment after the war. Bend must plan now as other cities are doing, for this important post-war development period. Our county, city and school governments are arranging plans and projects to be started at the earliest possible date. Groups who are concerned with industrial development will work toward interesting new industries in Bend. It will be a big program. All these activities are directed toward making more jobs for Central Oregonians who will be returning from the armed forces. "Let's All Get Behind the Program" CONSUMERS GAS "A Local Institution"'

Advertisement for Bank of Bend: 'Working with LIVESTOCK MEN. This bank is showing a constant willingness to cooperate with livestock men in financial matters. They are doing a big wartime job and we are trying to help them in every way we can. BANK OF BEND, A Home-Owned State Bank.'