

Federal Control of Reservation Virtually Ends After 96 Years

Portland - Ninety-six years of federal control and supervision over Klamath Indians and their property in southern Oregon was virtually ended Friday, except for a few details that are little more than routine.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs Thursday put the last of the property resources of the tribe up for sale under the terms of the Klamath Termination Act, originally passed in 1954. There were no bidders for the \$21,235,030 timber resources so the property will go to the forest service with other forest units previously offered for sale for which no bids were received. The Klamath Falls sales office will be closed this week end.

Yet to be completed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs is the final distribution of the more than \$71 million that will be divided evenly among the 1,660 withdrawing members of the tribe, which means that each will receive approximately \$43,000. In addition, these members already have received distributions totaling \$2,155.

Some Owe Money
Not all of them will receive that amount in cash. Some of them owe money to the government for loans or they have obligated portions of their prorata share of the final settlement for purchase of property. Such obligations will be deducted from the final distribution.

The final closing out of the reservation includes transferring title to 525,744 acres of timber land from the tribe to the federal government for management by the forest service.

The government under the

School of Hope Starts Third Year Of Classes Here

The third year of classes has begun for the School of Hope, a private, non-profit training school for mentally retarded children in Medford. Seven youngsters are attending the morning classes at Westminster Presbyterian church.

Mrs. Tom Furnas, a graduate of Southern Oregon college, is instructor. Almost 20 children have participated in the school since it was formed in 1959 by interested parents who felt a need existed for the classes.

Students learn their names, addresses, physical coordination, simple skills and how to travel about their community. The program aims at providing "affection, sense of belonging, achievement, social approval, self-importance and independence," all fundamental needs for all children, board members reported.

Persons who wish to visit the school should make appointments with Mrs. Furnas, SPing 3-5144. Classes are held from 9:30 a.m. to noon and the Red Cross assists with transportation.

United Medford Crusade provides the principal financial support, although many service clubs and private contributors also assist the organization.

Richard Travis is president of the 18-member board of trustees. Paul Gandt, special education teacher for Medford public schools, is education chairman.

N.H. Vets May Get Korean Bonus

Local Veterans Service Officer Jerry V. Bianconi reminded residents from New Hampshire that the deadline for applying for the Korean bonus in New Hampshire is Dec. 31, 1960.

The New Hampshire bonus pays \$10 per month for active service between June 25, 1950, and July 27, 1953, to a maximum of \$100, Bianconi said.

Service must have been for 90 days or more, and applicant must have been a resident of New Hampshire at the time of entering the service. Veterans medically discharged for service-connected disabilities are entitled to the \$100 maximum payment regardless of the length of service.

The Kentucky legislature in September removed the requirement that its veterans must still live in Kentucky to qualify for that state's bonus. The original act provided that the veteran not only must have been a Kentucky resident for six months prior to military service, but also must have been living in Kentucky on the effective date of the act.

Further information and application forms may be obtained from the veterans office in the county courthouse, Medford.

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termination program, is to pay the tribe \$68,716,691 for this timber land, but will have to go before Congress for a supplemental appropriation to make the payment. All of this timber land was offered in private sales in 10 different units, but there were no bidders. Another tract, the Antelope Desert unit, was sold for \$1,642,182.

Those sums are included in the financial assets in the distribution to the withdrawing members. In addition, the assets include approximately \$2½ million derived from the sale of 84 fringe units and \$230,000 from the sale of personal property.

The fringe units include the agency buildings, which a group of withdrawing members purchased by assigning their shares or portions of their shares from the prorata sums. They will operate the agency as a private enterprise, renting the buildings and operating the picturesque site 30 miles from Klamath Falls as a business venture.

Includes Desert Unit
The \$2,155 distribution to

each withdrawing member included funds from the sale of the Antelope Desert unit, the Klamath Marsh to the bureau of sport fisheries and wildlife, which will operate it as a game refuge, miscellaneous revenues, and treasury cash.

The payments made to the tribal members in the termination proceedings are tax free. There were 473 members who did not join the withdrawing group. They took their prorata shares in property, which has been placed in a private trust.

The Bureau of Indian Af-

fairs will continue to protect the property against damage and trespass until title is transferred to the forest service, expected to be accomplished in April.

Other events in the termination include official final proclamation by the Secretary of the Interior declaring the end of Federal supervision over the affairs of the Klamath Indians which, according to the law, must come by next Aug. 13.

Began in 1864
The proclamation will end Federal trusteeship that began

in 1864 on a tree covered area, now known as Council Grove, near the present agency where the first treaty was negotiated. More than two dozen chiefs and tribal leaders met there with J. W. P. Huntington, superintendent of Indian Affairs in Oregon, Capt. Lindsay Applegate, agent in charge of Indians of southern Oregon, William Logan, Indian agent at Warm Springs, and others to work out the treaty and set up the reservation.

Among the Indian leaders present were La-Lakes, chief

of the Klamaths, Chocktoot of the Paiutes, Schonchin of the Modocs and Kientpoos, who became known as Captain Jack of the Modoc war.

Throughout its existence the Klamath Reservation has been filled with historical events in the settlement of the west. Blessed with what has been described as some of the best standing timber that grows out of doors, the reservation has contributed heavily to the lumber industry of the Northwest.

The sale of timber began in 1913 and in the years since then this resource has brought in approximately \$50 million for stumpage alone, all of which was distributed to the

tribal members on an annual per capita basis. This timber, both in logging and processing, provided employment opportunities for the Indians that brought them revenue in addition to the per capita payments. Under a management program of logging, the timber resource is as good, if not better, now than it was when logging first was started.



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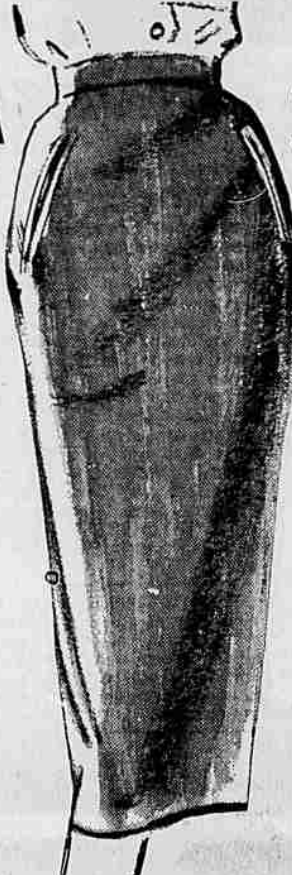
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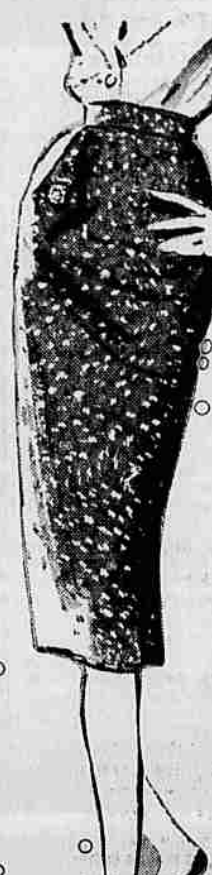
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