

Oct 8, 1945

Mr. Bell, Surplus Property Board stated that the Board is now in process of classifying ordnance plants, hospitals, etc to Federal Works Agency, industries and industrial project to RFC, cleared land, safety areas etc. to Agriculture, etc.

Stated that on Sept 20th he sent authorization to Mr. Fred E. Berquist, Deputy Director, Surplus Property Division of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to proceed with preliminary negotiations, even though the properties involved might later have to be reclassified to other agencies. Said no reason why RFC cannot proceed at once with preliminary negotiations for sales, etc.

L.W.

Oct 3rd

Talked with Mr. H.O.Pond, Ext. 78093 U.S. Engineers, who stated that the housing units at the ordnance plant at Pryor had been declared excess, but that the actual declaration of their being surplus property had not yet come to his office. Said contact

Mr. Fanflik, ⁷⁸⁴⁵²78971, Real Estate Dept of Corps of Engineers.

Mr. Fanflik stated that the entire Oklahoma Ordnance works including housing, was surplus on September 22nd to the Surplus Property Board and referred me to Mr. George E. Fuller, Extension 5312, Deputy Real Estate Director, Surplus Property Board. 71263

Called Mr. Fuller, who was out of town. Was referred to Mr. Nigel H. Bell, in charge of disposal of plants, Extension 6812, of the Industrial Real Property Division, and Mr. Donald McCormick, Extension 3451, Chief of that Division.

Mr. Bell stated that this whole thing has been sent to RFC, with authorization for them to proceed with interim negotiations for disposal or lease, pending receipt of formal papers from the War Dept. Stated he will be on the Hill tomorrow morning and would like to advise with the Congressman as to how to proceed with RFC.

L.W.

August 8, 1945

Mr. H. O. Pond, of U. S. Engineers, called me today. I had called him on Monday, August 6, the day your letter reached me. You, of course, already have the information about the "dismountable" houses in an earlier letter from me on this subject. In regard to the "dormitories," Mr. Pond stated today: At the moment, those have not been declared surplus. They are not available. They are still in active status. If and when they are declared surplus, and notice is sent to the Surplus Property Board, and that will be passed on to the R. F. C. (Reconstruction Finance Corporation) for disposal, as they have been designated to dispose of that type of property."

C. M. Geneau

GEORGE B. SCHWABE
1ST DISTRICT, OKLAHOMA

HOME ADDRESS:
TULSA, OKLAHOMA

Housey

COMMITTEES:

INDIAN AFFAIRS
MINES AND MINING
PATENTS

SCHWABE

COLL

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.

August 2, 1945

Miss Camille M. Geneau
102 House Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Geneau:

I enclose herewith letter from one of my constituents, Mr. W. P. Phillips, and carbon copy of my letter to him in reply, which I think will be sufficiently explanatory.

Some days ago I wrote one of you, I think Mrs. Warren, in reference to the residence properties, telling her that I had a constituent who desired to purchase approximately twenty of the cottages in the Addition to Pryor. This is a different proposition, but does apply, so far as the residences are concerned, to their sale. I asked one of you in that former letter to try to determine who or which bureau has the authority to dispose of those residences.

Now I am interested in your finding out what the War Surplus Board or bureau, or whatever designation it carries, has done in connection with the dormitories and other buildings and other buildings at the Ordnance plant. There are some sixty-five of these large three-story frame dormitories in which there is a vast amount of materials that can be used by so many people in that vicinity or within forty or fifty miles of the plant which lies between Pryor and Chouteau. I recall distinctly having talked to a Mr. Pond in the office of the U. S. Engineers. I wish you would contact him and see whether or not the Ordnance Works, land and improvements, have been declared surplus property. If they have, then I am anxious to know just who is in charge and to whom I should appeal to make this material available for my constituents who need it so badly and with whom it can be put to such good use.

Please attend to this at your early convenience and inform me.

GBS:s

Very truly yours,

Geo. B. Schwabe
George B. Schwabe, M. C.

Box 473.
Tulsa, Oklahoma.
July 27th 1945.

George B. Schwabe, M.C.
Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Dear Congressman:

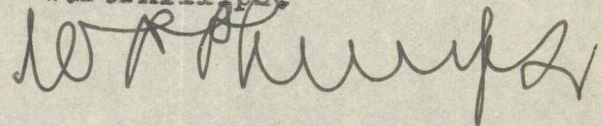
I would say sell the Federal Buildings at Pryor and Choteau just as they stand, not to promoters and speculators but to farmers and dairymen in that great agricultural belt, permit only one to be bought by any man in order to get the greatest distribution over the country. The country is destitute of houses while the towns and cities are overbuilt in so far as houses to live in are concerned, what we need and the country needs is development in the country, here in Oklahoma, a land of plenty and people starving for food, the people themselves have brought on this condition, the great masses of the people, the rank and file are all buying their food instead of raising and producing much of it, these people generally speaking belong on the soil but first we must secure more and better housing facilities, when and if we can get this old mother earth or soil working as it should we will and can get somewhere, here in Tulsa we have rooms to rent, getting \$40.00 per month for a \$10.00 house will never build Tulsa.

If Dallas, Oklahoma City and Wichita had what we have in eastern Oklahoma, the greatest water in the world, with the Grand River Dam, The Ft. Gibson and probably the Markham Ferry there is no end to our possibilities, these towns or cities would clean up, if they can reach out and build cities in the desert, no water no nothing except hot winds, we certainly here in the heart of the Ozarks, water, soil, climate and everything should make the best of it.

We need those buildings right here and let these farmers and dairymen have them, what the government losses are will come back in increased production.

Yours truly,

W.P. Phillips



August 2, 1945

Mr. W. P. Phillips
Box 473
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of the 27th ultimo suggesting the sale of the houses built at Pryor for the use of Oklahoma Ordnance Works employees with the idea that you have in mind clearly expressed.

In the first place, I want to thank you for the suggestion. It is very appropriate and I am transmitting it to the proper authority with the request that due consideration be given the same.

I have been working along the line of using the material in the dormitories and other buildings, so far as it may be salvaged, for the use of our people in the construction of houses, barns and other improvements on their places in the smaller towns and cities, as well as on the farms in that area. This is the same idea you have in mind, except for the fact that I think the disposition of the houses, the residence properties, which were built on the Addition to Pryor, and separated several miles from the Ordnance Works property, will be handled by a different organization, or bureau. However, the same purpose can be served in each instance and by each bureau.

Again thanking you for the suggestions you have made and any further suggestions you may offer, I beg to remain

GBS:s

Very truly yours,

George B. Schwabe, M. C.