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B U L L E T I N.  
EVERGLADES DRAINAGE LEAGUE.  
September, 1918.

25 CENT SPECIAL TAX SET ASIDE.

The State Supreme Court has just declared the Special Drainage tax paid by many of our members, UNDER PROTEST, to be unconstitutional. This decision was given in a case filed by other interests than the LEAGUE and while it disposes of this tax it does not settle any principle. In our case we are asking for the return of this tax to those who paid same UNDER PROTEST.

Our case against the N.B. Broward Drainage District was argued for dismissal at the request of the defendants, but the judge did not dismiss. This would make it appear that there was some merit to the case. We certainly think that its decision would go far towards settling the questions which have prevented Everglades Development. As soon as full text of decision is available, we will advise our members.

Among other contentions, it will settle, we hope, which plat is which. In other words whether your land is where you thought it was or moved (on paper) an indefinite distance by later instructions for platting.

It will settle, we hope, in connection with our other case vs. the State Drainage Board, whether the drainage trust lands pay for drainage or whether YOU DO, IN TAXES.

NEAR-DRAINAGE BY DRAINING THE LANDOWNERS' POCKETS.

The attempt to drain wholly by taxation has been both a repudiation of the trust agreement of 1850, as it seems to us, under which the lands were received, but this pernicious system has always left the project short of funds.

Taxes alone or bonds supported by taxes have only produced enough money to make a showing of activity, without real drainage except on exceptionally located lands.

The project needs and should have the 1,000,000 or more acres of drainage trust lands, still remaining, put squarely back of drainage and sold, mortgaged or pledged in any way to raise the money to FINISH THE DRAINAGE.

Yes, it seems to take a long time, but what is there else to do? Shall we weakly give in and take whatever the "powers that be" choose to give to the landowners? We have now what they choose to give us. Viz, a program for drainage financed by taxation alone, under which method of payment it has taken over ten years to do very little.

There is only one course to pursue, it seems to us, and that is, to make a fight for something better, and that is what we propose to do and are doing. We are counting on our loyal members to stay with us and see it through.

EVERGLADES DRAINAGE LEAGUE.