

Ochopee Florida.  
June 30th 1934.

Mr. W. B. Thomas and Attorney H. P. Hancock.  
West Union Iowa.

Gentlemen:-

Yours 14th inst just received; first let me <sup>apologize</sup> most sincerely for not writing you sooner but the situation down here has been just as bad as it could be and I have been out here struggling to keep alive and at the same time protect your interest by not permitting tax deeds to issue against my holdings against which you hold first mortgage; I have managed to keep the record straight except as to Section 4 T. 8. 52. S. Range 30 E. against which a Tax Deed has been issued but which I hope to have set aside by legal procedure or compromise very shortly.

As a matter of fact Tax Deeds were issued against several Sections but I at a great sacrifice have had same cancelled by paying up all taxes, penalties, costs etc etc. ; I do not mean that I have kept all taxes paid for I have not as there is about six thousand dollars in taxes due on all the lands against which you hold mortgage, but the STATE holds the Certificates and they can be paid or compromised at any time, had I not been out here and had the situation in hand the probability is that Tax Deeds would have issued against every section of land against which you hold mortgage the land would have been strapped of its timber and cross-ties and you would have had very little security for your mortgage.

**TIMBER**-----No timber has been cut from the land against which you hold mortgage, nor will I permit any to be cut unless the purchase price is remitted to you direct or is paid on account of taxes.

On account of the high water it has simply been impossible to cut any timber from any of the lands against which you hold mortgage; were I to tell you the true conditions of water ( from ankle to waist deep) on the lands against which you hold mortgage you might think I was over stating the facts at this time, but the saw mill people are building a tram-road to reach Sections 30 and 32 Township 52 South Range 31 East ; this tram road will be complete sometime this fall or winter, and as any timber is cut from land against which you hold mortgage I will monthly remit you the amount received from such sales or apply same on payment of taxes.

My reasons for staying out here is-----  
**FIRST**-----To see that you and I do not loose title by Tax Deeds.  
**SECOND**-----That no timber is cut from the lands against which you hold mortgage, and to try to arrange some kind of financing where-by I can make payments to you.

Will appreciate any suggestions from you; will be more prompt in answering your letters in future; you can rest assured that I am trying to protect your interests as well as my own.

With personal regards , I am,

Very truly yours,

J. F. Jaudon.