

By nature these folks were deeply religious and solidly moral.

For many generations they lived lives of isolation and security and contentment; remarkably free of frictions among themselves and their outside neighbors.

Certainly there was an occasional renegade turned up among them, but, for every such character there were a dozen highly intelligent young men and women who moved into other areas and proved their abilities in commerce, arts and sciences, in law and medicine and letters.

These were proud and hardy folks. None was rich, some were very poor, but proud and dignified and, I repeat, contented in their isolation and traditions.

Then progress encroached upon them. Progress—personified in the form of Federal Land-Grabbers. (The word "grabber" is applied with its fullest implications.)

They bought at prices as low as \$2.00 per acre, in the face of vociferous opposition of the owners, some sixty-five thousand (65,000) acres of the heart of the forests to set up a "game preserve".

This land-grab, having been solidified, was followed by the moving in of the Tennessee Valley Authority who acquired many more thousands of acres of land at prices that would have been insulting to a backward Hindu.

Kentucky Lake was impounded then development of Barkley Lake reservoir began and progressed rapidly.

Then, as though signalled by a warning rocket, the TVA sprung a scheme to acquire all, that is, *all*, of the acreage in Lyon and Trigg counties in Kentucky and part of Stewart county, Tennessee between the rivers, for the purpose, they claim of establishing a one hundred seventy thousand (170,000) acre camping and recreational area. All of this against the wishes or the wills of a vast majority of the inhabitants involved.

And, again, at proposed prices which are totally inadequate to permit the relocation of the victims of this vicious and utterly deceptive scheme.

In this acquisition program TVA has used utterly indecent means and methods indiscriminately.

This statement is made with full understanding by the deponent as to his allegations. Threats of financial retribution are routinely used.

FRANCIS UTLEY,
Eddyville, Ky.

A COMPLAINT LODGED THIS 17TH DAY OF APRIL A.D. 1968, BY ALEX CRUTCHER,
AGAINST TVA

NATURE OF COMPLAINT

I own 62 acres. The land is lake view. I bought the land 20 years ago for an investment and a retirement home. I built the house in 1963. It has 3 bedrooms, a living room, kitchen and bath and a basement. The walls are panelling.

My biggest complaint is the fact that TVA is trying to buy about 60% under the market price. Also Donald Athey the TVA land buyer was insulting and derogatory about the price. He accused my wife of wanting to take taxpayers money and was rude. He told her she didn't know anything about the value of our house.

People from other states who owned land here were always paid much higher prices. Usually 50-60% more than natives who have always lived here.

Tom Crites TVA Appraiser said "I won't look for good things about a place, I look for the bad."

I have kept the price cutting appraisers off since I was made such a ridiculous offer.

We are afraid to leave home since TVA came in and started this LBL project there is so much thievery. People from adjoining counties and states cruise around taking anything they so desire. Well pumps, TV sets and even a truck load of cattle have been stolen from my neighbors.

The Land Branch of TVA is just a bunch of vultures. I was employed by TVA and have just retired. I think they tried to take advantage of me because I was their employee.

ALEX CRUTCHER.
MARY E. CRUTCHER.