

MR. VAN BRUNT. I would also like to point out that relative to the market, we believe the industry, the lumber and plywood industry, the U.S Government, your committee in particular, the public port authorities, the longshore stevedoring industries, are all busy defending their own individual positions. Most certainly as you know I have been. I think we are all missing a great opportunity. The Japanese are doing something with this material, and that which they are doing could be done by us perhaps. But I find no studies, and I think I have almost the same truckload of material you have, I find no studies as to the specifics, grade, price, et cetera that the Japanese might be interested in, in finished products. And I note, and I think it should be corrected for the record, that on several occasions people have referred, including yourself, to the finished lumber shipped from Alaska. Rest assured there is nothing, and I have been to every one of those mills and have watched personally the loading of the cargo from every one of them in Alaska, there is no one stick of what you or anyone else could possibly consider to be finished material shipped from Alaska to Japan.

Senator MORSE. What about Canada?

MR. VAN BRUNT. Canada not as you and I or the general public would consider finished material, although theirs is far closer to finished material than is anything shipped from Alaska. Alaska they are not even shipping what the industry considers to be general cants. They are not four-sided surfaces. They are only two-side surfaces, and sometimes you must have a vivid imagination to even see those two sides that have been touched with a saw. They are what is termed primary processed, that is they have been touched in some manner by a saw. I have seen some of them or a great number of them that were sawed into three pieces, and the center piece most certainly was sawed on two sides. But the two outside parts that were back on it were simply slabs. However, this is not the average. The average is canted, that is it is two sides cut, not surfaced, and these are then put into rough packages and shipped to Japan, and they are then cut into some type of finished product. However, in Canada you will find that there is a 5 by 6, 6 by 6, 4 by 8, something you could recognize as a dimension. There is not true from Alaska. It is merely enough to get by the regulation. It is not sawed lumber, and in my opinion some money, some time, and some effort should be spent in determining the Japanese need in specifics of actual finished product, and then we must be prepared to give them what they want, not what we want to sell.

Senator MORSE. I think this is very important testimony, Mr. Van Brunt. You are quite right. The committee has got to get all the information. You are saying to the committee that so far as your observations are concerned, and your knowledge is concerned, when you come to the question of lumber that Canada exports to Japan, it is not finished lumber in the sense that we ordinarily think of it. It is not in the form in which it can go directly into, let us say, house construction or office building construction without further processing in Japan.

Am I to understand, Mr. Van Brunt, that so far as your observation and knowledge are concerned, that the lumber that is shipped from Canada to Japan is not in the form of finished 2 by 4's, finished 2 by 6's, panels, rounds, all the other dimensions of lumber that are used in house construction and office construction, warehouse construction, and other building construction?