

that this be done prior and without curtailment of log exports, so that there is no loss in the interim period at all, and we think that this is something that either by oversight on the part of all concerned or lack of sufficient thought in advance we have not done so thus far. I have searched very hard—as have many other people—for such a report, and one does not exist that I can find, and there are Government agencies who make marketing studies that I have on fish and all kinds of products produced in the United States, but I do not find one on this subject, and it is one that these people are in dire need of at this moment, and one that we can assist them in as far as shipping costs and handling costs and so on are concerned, and are very willing to do so, and we think that this is the solution to the problem, to get a market, because we believe that, if we shut off any portion of log exports tomorrow, that they still could not produce something with it unless they had a market, and the market does not exist. We have to develop it.

Representative POLLOCK. Thank you very much, Mr. Van Brunt. I would just like to speak as an Alaskan and say while you may not care in what form your timber is shipped out we in Alaska do. We like to have it processed in whatever port it goes.

Senator MORSE. Senator Gruening, do you want to ask these witnesses any questions?

Senator GRUENING. No questions.

Senator MORSE. Mr. Soike and Mr. Heinke, do you know what the position of the Oregon port authorities is in regard to the Japanese export log program?

Mr. SOIKE. Senator Morse, in prior hearing here at the end of November, a representative from the Oregon port was in attendance. He did not state their position at that time, but endorsed the one that I made for the Washington Public Ports Association, and I felt sure that he had forwarded some information back to your office as a result of that hearing.

Senator MORSE. Counsel tells me that the port authorities were invited to send witnesses, and that they are sending a statement. The statement has not arrived. I wanted to know whether or not you had been in communication with them. The statement from the Oregon port authorities—counsel will take note—will be inserted in the record when it arrives at the conclusion of the testimony of you three gentlemen.¹

Mr. Van Brunt, I think I will read to you a letter that the chairman has received from Cliff R. Taro, president and general manager, Southeast Stevedoring Corp., the Wrangell Stevedoring Co., Ketchikan, Alaska. I think you are entitled to an opportunity to make whatever comment you wish about it:

DEAR SENATOR MORSE: AS President and General Manager of the only two contracting Stevedoring Companies in Southeast Alaska, comprising the ports of Ketchikan, Wrangell, Juneau, Haines and Sitka. We have been operating in Alaska for 16 years. I would like to point out some figures to show the growth of the various ports during these years—which has been due to the export of timber products from these ports to the Pacific Rim countries.

Ketchikan:

1953—10 regular employed longshoremen, deriving earnings from weekly supply vessels from Seattle—averaged two days work per week.

¹ The information subsequently submitted for the record by the Oregon Ports Association will be found in app. 2.