

As I said earlier in examination of Mr. Kramer, I assume that when you get the population and you get the industrial growth, you too would welcome the operation of lumber mills for the export trade that would produce finished lumber in all dimensions as well as cants. I am not qualified to pass judgment on which would be best for the economy of Alaska, but for the economy of Oregon I have no hesitancy in saying that we would like to run our mills at full capacity in the production of finished lumber.

Representative DELLENBACK. May I add not only just hearty commendation on what you have just said, but just a word more, in view of what my highly esteemed colleague, Congressman Pollack of Alaska said a few minutes ago when he was raising the question of the possibility that there could be more profitability to a mill in producing cants than in producing finished lumber.

We say this is one of the critical elements that has existed in Oregon right at this time. It is not just a case of maximum profitability that is the point, because that is what some of the private owners of timber are finding right now, that they can take the round log, and because of this extreme price that the Japanese producers are willing to pay for the round log, they are actually finding themselves where they can sell that log for a greater profit than they can take that log and put it through a full processing or a partial processing and then sell the finished product.

One of the matters that is of such critical importance to the State of Oregon at the present time is what that is doing to our economy, at a time when national unemployment is rising, at a time when the President in his state of the Union message, and elsewhere, talks in terms of the Government having to be the employer of final recourse and possibly putting on Government payrolls a great number of possible unemployed. We feel it is imperative that where we have an industry that in functioning effectively and supplying through private enterprise as many jobs as this forest-oriented industry is supplying in the State of Oregon and the State of Washington, imperative that we take these steps to preserve those jobs at this time, and this I read as part of what you said, Senator Morse, and what was developed in your statements, and I just wanted to back that up just as enthusiastically and as firmly as I can.

Senator MORSE. I completely agree.

Congressman Pollock.

Representative POLLOCK. I would like to respond and say that we certainly are in no disagreement whatever with any of you gentlemen from Oregon. To us the question is not whether you process a little bit or process to completion. It is whether you process at all. This is the decisive thing.

If we are talking about a minimum standard, then we feel that we are complying with that minimum standard now. If you ship round logs from Oregon, then I am sure you are not employing your people. And if there were a minimum requirement of some primary processing, whatever else was done, then you certainly would put more people to work.

Senator MORSE. May I again say to the Alaskan witnesses, we appreciate the very valuable contribution you have made to this record. I shall excuse you from the witness chairs at this time.