

Senator HATFIELD. So, if these small- and medium-sized mills would automate, do you feel then they could probably survive in this market today?

Mr. HARTUNG. They could, but only to this extent, Senator. There are enough plywood mills in the United States that they could produce double the footage any time they want to. They have got 28 or 29 mills in the South, and they are building more right along, and there are about three or four being built on the west coast, and they are building some in the Midwest.

Of course, the plywood industry figures that by 8 or 10 years there will be a market for 20 billion square feet, which at the present time it is about 14 billion, and the increase this year, 1967, over 1966, is about 800 million feet.

As a general rule, it has been going up, 1 million, a billion and a half, every year, but it still went up this year. So they have got plenty of plywood mills today that they could flood the market with.

Many of them only operate one shift. All they have to do is put on two.

Senator HATFIELD. I just wanted to point out for the record, I think it is very significant that you, as a recognized leader in organized labor, and for many years, that you have the foresight, and I think the perception to recognize that the only way that some of the small- and medium-sized mills can survive, amongst other factors, of course, all are not going to survive because of one factor, but at least the factor does exist, if they automate. Automation does become the answer to much of this.

Mr. HARTUNG. That is right. We are in that period of time when you can't compete with a horse and buggy against a good automobile, and run a stagecoach any more. That is the way some of these mills about stack up with industry.

Senator MORSE. Thank you very much, Senator Hatfield.

Mr. Hartung, I only want to ask a few questions to carry out my responsibilities referred to earlier as chairman, to see to it that we make the record pro and con on all these issues.

You spoke about your membership of your union in Oregon and Washington. You have some plants organized in the South, too.

Mr. HARTUNG. Yes. We have, I guess, the largest union there. We have around 16,000 members in what we call the 16 Southern States. It is far from being organized, Senator, but we do have about 16,000 members there.

Senator MORSE. I would like to return to the problems we have in regard to meeting some of the practices in the South that put us at a competitive disadvantage in the Northwest. Then you have some members in Canada, too, do you not?

Mr. HARTUNG. Yes, we do.

Senator MORSE. How many do you have in Canada?

Mr. HARTUNG. We have right around 48,000 members in all of Canada.

Senator MORSE. How many?

Mr. HARTUNG. 48,000.

Senator MORSE. More than in Washington and Oregon?