

Well, we have had an interesting discussion.

Mr. HARTUNG. I would like to say one other thing. The Government doesn't set those prices. They bid them.

I told you about one sale where they put it up for \$5,000 and somebody bid \$54,000. So don't say that we are trying to put a sales tax on in some devious way.

When these people can afford to go out and bid that, they know what the price is and they know they are going to come out, and I don't know of anybody that went broke as long as they had timber. Guys that could have gone broke, that was because they couldn't get timber. So they can meet their obligations even at the prices that they have to pay.

Senator MORSE. I want to say most respectfully that they do bid them, and the record shows that in many instances they can't get them because of the higher excessive prices the Japanese are paying. And, you are talking about the big boys, but you are not talking about what the evidence shows is the smaller mills that have had to go out of business because they couldn't buy the logs at those prices, since what they could get for the finished lumber didn't make it possible for them to make a profit on the basis of what they would have to pay for the logs.

That is the issue that faces me as the chairman of this committee. I am going to do everything that I can to see to it that we get a reform in the forestry practices of this Government, that makes it possible for the small mills to operate at a fair profit, which this evidence shows many of them have not been able to do.

But I want to say, Mr. Hartung, as usual, I couldn't have enjoyed a discussion more than I have with you. On this one, we are apart as of now, but I hope we can work out, as a couple of old mediators, a fair mediated settlement.

Mr. HARTUNG. Well, I hope you take a lot of this testimony that I heard this morning from some of these employers, one, two, three, four, five, to a dozen, with everybody saying, "Amen", to a dozen, when asked anything, and you will find that maybe the answers will be just a little bit different than they tried to make you believe, and especially about these mills that have gone out of business, because they can't buy logs.

I would check that very good.

Senator MORSE. In fact, we didn't say "Amen." We filed many a caveat.

Thank you very much, Mr. Hartung.

(The subcommittee subsequently received two further communications from other officials of Mr. Hartung's union, the International Woodworkers of America, which the chairman directed to be inserted in the record at this point, as follows:)