

Mr. McCracken. Rather than interrupt the context, Mr. Chairman, if we could have him go into that point later.

Senator Morse. I misunderstood you. I thought you wanted to take it up now.

Mr. McCracken. This type program of reducing excessive growing stock is consistent with prudent and progressive timber management on other properties. It appears entirely feasible that harvest of such an additional volume could be carried out over a sufficient period to avoid unnecessary disruptions in the region's economy, particularly with the overseas demand.

The Alaskan opportunity to contribute to our Nation's timber supply needs appear to be timely and in the interest of prudent management. In September 1967, the Forest Service issued a report, in depth, of Alaska's timber resources. This report indicated substantial volumes and timber growing capacities exist in Alaska's forests, in excess of any earlier published data. The Alaskan Forest Products Task Force reported in September 1967, the actual harvest in fiscal 1967, referred to many times by the Alaskans in their testimony, reached historic high harvest of national forest timber of 451,551,000 board feet within a current declared allowable cut on Alaska's national forests of 891 million board feet. This committee also reports a future cut of 1¼ billion feet may be expected as Alaska's economy advances.

Unfortunately, timber harvested from Alaska's national forests during the first 5 months of fiscal 1968 averaged only \$3.24 per thousand. The question of whether it is fortunate or unfortunate depends on your point of view.

With these new Forest Service data available, Western Forest Products Association requested a competent timber consultant, Dr. Carl Newport, to analyze these reports. Dr. Newport is a forester with a graduate degree in economics. For many years he headed the Division of Forest Economics and Survey of Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, Forest Service. His jurisdiction included the national forests in Alaska. From his analysis—a copy is appended—it is apparent the annual allowable cut on Alaska's national forests promptly could be raised to 1,670 million feet.

I should break in at this point to say that it is important for anyone analyzing this statement to read the appended report of Dr. Newport. It contains much data and analysis and assumptions backing up this statement. What I am basically saying is that there are many areas of potential increase in timber supply. Some of them, if there were investments made by our Federal Government, could be enjoyed very quickly. Others would be more of a long-range nature. But I would also indicate that even with these increases, which I think are certainly in the region's, in the public's and the Nation's interest to provide. We are still in my opinion not going to be able to take care of our needs and the Japanese and the Europeans also in softwoods. We should certainly do our best, however.

IV. CONCLUSION

In July 1961 Senator Morse met with WFIA, the International Woodworkers of America, the Lumber & Sawmill Workers and representative mill owners. This was a very important meeting at the Sheraton Hotel. Senator Morse spent several hours listening to the pleas of all of us for Federal action to control the export of raw logs