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A Statement of Facts By The Woodworkers and Longshoremen

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International Woodworkers of America

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THAT THE PEOPLE MAY KNOW

A STATEMENT OF FACTS BY THE WOODWORKERS AND LONGSHOREMEN

Thursday noon, October 14, the men employed at the Hobbs, Wall logging camp walked off the job in a body, refusing to work with non-union labor, some of the men having stated they would not sign up. The walk-out also was in protest against the hiring of outside, non-union choppers in place of local union men laid off several weeks ago. The mill was not involved.

On Friday, the next day, the Hobbs, Wall Company announced thru the press that the strike was a "sit-down," and inferred that it was due to a quarrel between the A. F. of L and the C. I. O. Such is not the case, since the men walked out and left the woods, and no dispute existed or now exists between the Teamsters, or the A. F. of L. workers or members of the C. I. O. The truck drivers have agreed to join the Teamsters, which is agreeable to the Woodworkers.

The following day, Saturday, the company's representative agreed to meet the plant committee of the Woodworkers to arbitrate the dispute, setting 4:30 p. m. as the time of the conference. At 4:00 p. m., without further notice, the company shut the mill down, not having listened to the committee, or discussing the matter in any way. This is a lockout, in our opinion, and unwarranted, as there are sufficient logs in the mill pond to keep the mill running for several weeks.

On Saturday night the Woodworkers notified the Company that unless the mill started up Monday morning they would declare all lumbering operations unfair, excepting THE STORE AND LIGHT PLANT. Also agreeing that all local freight would be moved from the boat by the Longshoremen without interference.

On Sunday morning the company dispatched its boat, the Brunswick, without unloading merchandise for local merchants, without contacting the Longshoremen to learn the status of the freight, and what their attitude would be. The Longshoremen had stated that they would not refuse to work cargo other than lumber, and both the Woodworkers and the Industrial Union Council knew this.

At present the only controversy existing that is not in a fair way of being adjusted is the re-employment of local men, who were displaced by non-union outsiders in the woods. As an example Sam Lopez, who has been active in union organization work, being considered by his fellow workers to be an excellent faller. The only excuse the company has to offer is that he is a poor insurance risk, having had a number of accidents. This is far fetched, since Sam has been injured but once, that by a limb falling and striking him.

Mr. Charles H. Jonas, managing director for the company, has in the past appealed to the public for support and sympathy, misquoting the facts to make his case seem fair. As a matter of fact he has broken faith with unions time after time, despite the efforts of the organizations to avoid any disruption in industrial conditions.

In settling the Teamsters strike at his store, Mr. Jonas agreed to sign an agreement, but later repudiated his word. He has agreed to pay the Humboldt scale in all departments, but months have passed and no change in wages has been made. He has refused to sign the agreement of the Retail Clerks, when every other establishment in Crescent City has done so. He has encouraged the formation of a rival union, when over eighty per cent of his workers in mill and woods are in the I. W. of A. He has written letters containing direct threats, contrary to our interpretation of the law, and in other ways hampered and obstructed peaceful settlement of what we deem to be just and fair claims.

In view of the many misstatements made by company officials in connection with the present crisis, we present the above facts for consideration by the people of Del Norte County.

INTERNATIONAL WOODWORKERS OF AMERICA—LOCAL No 61,
Charles Hardwick, President.
Kenneth Turner, Secretary.

INTERNATIONAL LONGSHOREMEN & WAREHOUSEMENS UNION—LOCAL No. 49,
Labor Relations Committee:—Ted Baldwin,
Les Horne and Dee Spann.

TEAMSTERS UNION—LOCAL No. 415,
Wm. Ohlheiser, Secretary.