## Live Bait & Ammo #147: What the Workers Said

WOOD TV claims that Fast Eddie says the GM parts plant in Grand Rapids may close if he doesn't get concessions from the union. Why?

Have Fast Eddie and Possum Johnson screwed things up that bad?

According to all accounts the plant has never lost money. The plant has the highest percentage of low paid new hires of any of the five former Delphi plants. They make valve lifters for GM and Toyota. Both GM and Toyota are gaining momentum. So what's the problem? It can't be labor.

Let me remind you that WOOD TV is the same news source that claimed Gregg Shotwell scared Toyota out of Michigan.

First I came for the bears and the salmon, but since no one who spoke English was a bear or a salmon, no one spoke up. Then I came for Toyota and since WOOD TV is a spawn of corporate interests Tom Van Howe-Did-I-get-Here put his elbow on the table and enunciated a thoughtful belch before he blamed me for driving Toyota out of Michigan, and therefore, belch, he asked, "Can't somebody shut him up?"

This is the level of professional spin that Possum Johnson hires (so named because, like a possum, you can't tell if he's smiling or just showing his teeth) when his back is against the wall.

Workers aren't willing to pay for Fast Eddie's bonus. So he threatens to close the plant and go home. We have a better idea. Outsource Fast Eddie and Possum Johnson. Better yet, replace them with rental pencils. No one would miss them and GM would save beau coup bucks.

Does a company ever open a contract when they are making excess profits? Does the union ever say, "Hey, we deserve a bigger share. Let's open the contract and let the company make some concessions?" Of course not. Only suckers would do that.

What did workers do at Ford?

When Bob King said, "Can you hear me?"

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