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WILL ALL OF THE PRESENTS STAY ON THE WORKSHOP SH-ELF?

SANTA'S DISGRUNTLED WORKERS STAGE STRIKE JUST DAYS BEFORE CHRISTMAS!

Reported by: Jack. P. Frost

The prospect of Santa being able to deliver presents to children worldwide on Christmas Eve was left in disarray yesterday as his entire North Pole workshop workforce walked out in protest over their pay and conditions. With just days to go until the big event, all forty-three of Santa's elves refused to make, wrap or pack another present until Santa had met their extensive new demands.

Shortly before 10 a.m. yesterday morning, the infuriated elves with their glum faces downed their tools and formed an angry mob outside of Santa's workshop home. Despite Santa's desperate pleas, the disgruntled workers were adamant that they would not help Santa prepare for his annual Christmas Eve deliveries until they were given new, fairer contracts.

Ernie Elf (4' 2"), the Elf Union spokesperson, was quoted as saying, "This has gone on for far too many years and it's time for us elves to make a stand. Every December, Santa expects us to work our little fingers to the bone and for what...a hot meal each day and free lodgings? Santa has always had his favourites and we certainly don't receive the preferential treatment that the reindeers do. Well no more!"

Working tirelessly to rectify the situation, Santa was seen to bring out hot mulled wine and freshly-baked mince pies to the elf mob, but they still went on jeering and protesting in the icy winds and snow.

The infuriated elf mob holding up their protest banners.

He later said, "I wish my beloved elves would just return to work or there are going to be millions of disappointed children all over the globe. We can sort all of this mess out in the New Year. They have my word." Mrs Claus was unavailable for comment, but local villagers say that she told them that the elves were a bunch of endless troublemakers who need to be given the sack!

So does Santa have a backup plan or will he have to enter into emergency talks with the elves before it's too late? This is the most problematic run-up to the festive period that he has faced since The Great Elf Walkout in 1976. The children of the world will be looking on in anticipation to see how this situation progresses and whether or not their toys will arrive on time for Christmas morning.

KEY WORDS

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