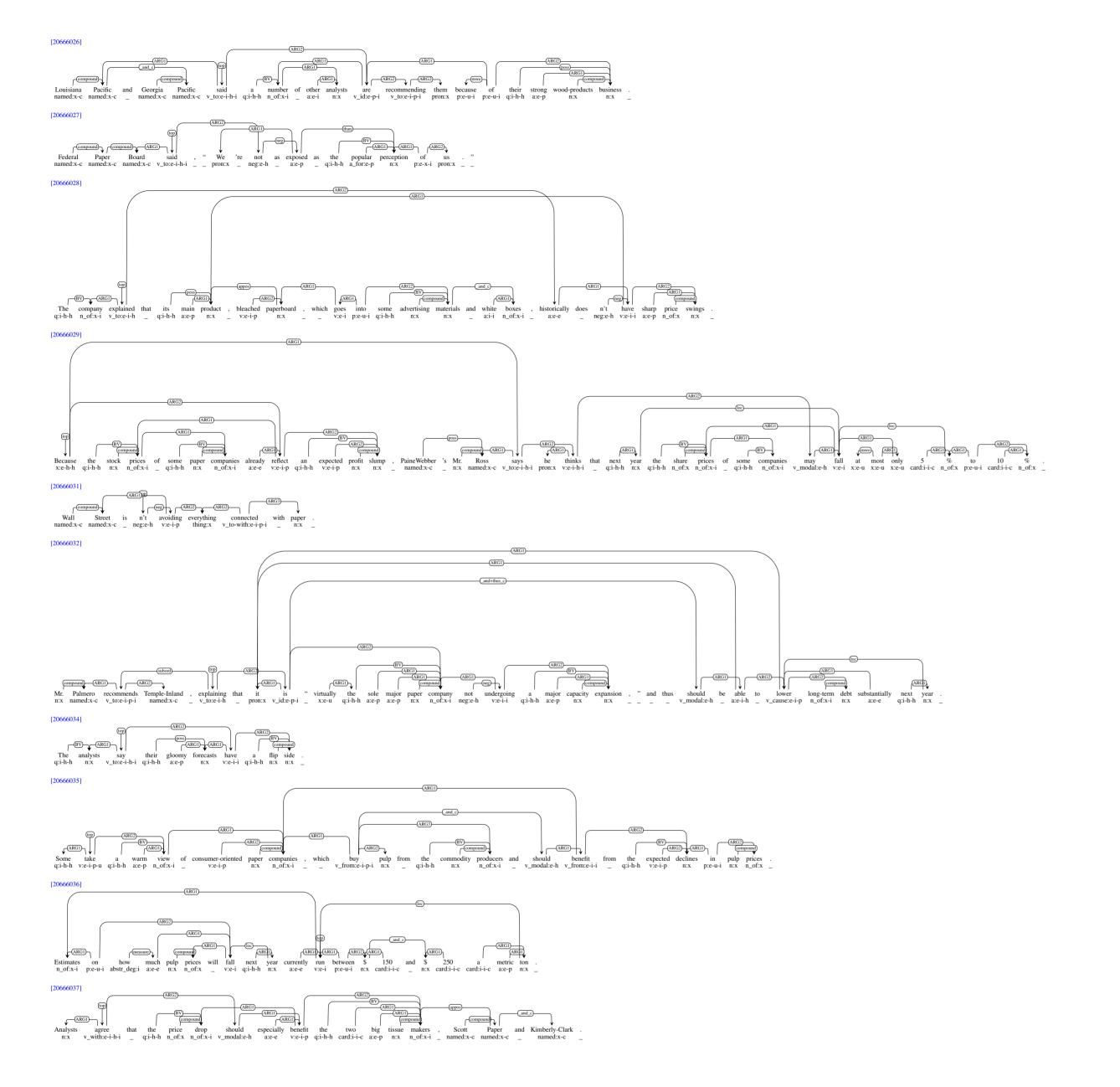
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                   For three years , a healthy economy and the export-boosting effects of a weak dollar propelled sales and earnings of the big paper companies to record levels pre-u-i cardi-i-i-c n:x _ q:i-h-h a:e-p n:x _ q:i-h-h v_to:e-i-p-i n:x p:e-x-i q:i-h-h a:e-p n:x v:e-i-p n_of:x-i _ n:x p:e-x-i q:i-h-h a:e-p n:x n_of:x-i p:e-u-i n_of:x-i n:x .
                   But now the companies are getting into trouble because they undertook a record expansion program while they were raising prices sharply c:i-i-i a:e-h q:i-h-h n_of:x-i __v_state:e-i-h pre-u-i n:x x:e-h-h pron:x v:e-i-p q:i-h-h a:e-p n:x n_of:x-i x:e-h-h pron:x __v_cause:e-i-p n_of:x a:e-e
                     Third-quarter profits fell at several companies .

n_temp:x n:x v:e-i p:e-u-i a:e-p n_of:x-i _
                                                                         ARGI
                    Other analysts are nearly as pessimistic a:e-i n:x _ a_to:e-e _ a:e-p
                       Gary Palmero of Oppenheimer & Co. expects a 30 % decline in earnings between now and 1991 for "commodity-oriented" paper companies, which account for the majority of the industry named:x-c named:x-c niamed:x-c niamed:x-c
                     Paper companies concede that business has been off recently p:e-i a:e-e
                But they attribute much of the weakness to customer inventory reductions c:i-i-i pron:x v_to:e-i-p-i much-many_a:e-p _ q:i-h-h n:x _ n_of:x-i
                                                                    n't be an earthshaking drop , " a Weyerhaeuser spokesman says . neg:e-h v_id:e-p-i q:i-h-h a:e-u n_of:x-i _ q:i-h-h named:x-c n:x v_to:e-i-h-i _
                                                                          compound
                                                             r 's Mr. Palmero , meanwhile , is steering clear of Gaylord Container , Stone Container and Federal Paper Board named:x-c name
                     Mr. Schneider is cool to Georgia Pacific and Abitibi-Price n:x named:x-c a:e-p p:e-u-i named:x-c named:x-c
                     Lawrence Ross of PaineWebber would avoid Union Camp named:x-c p:e-x-i named:x-c v_modal:e-h v:e-i-p named:x-c named:x-c
                                                                                                                                                                                                    (ARGI)
                                                                                      (ARGI)
                                (BV) (ARG1) (ARG2)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                            comp_too
                                                                                                                                                                       _BV →
                   The companies in question believe the analysts are too pessimistic q:i-h-h n_of:x-i p:e-u-i n_about:x v:e-i-h q:i-h-h n:x _ comp:e-u-u a:e-p _
                     Great Northern Nekoosa said , "The odds of the dire predictions about us being right are small . "
named:x-c named:x-c named:x-c v_to:e-i-h-i _ _ q:i-h-h n:x p:e-x-i q:i-h-h a:e-p n_of:x-i p:e-u-i pron:x _ a:e-p _ a:e-p _ a:e-p _ _
                 He expects the price for that product to rise even more next year pron: v:e-i-h q:i-h-h n_of:x p:e-u-i q_dem:i-h-h n:x v:e-i a:e-p comp:e-u-u q:i-h-h n:x _
                     Gaylord Container said analysts are skeptical of it because it 's carrying a lot of debt . named:x-c v_to:e-i-h-i n:x _ a_of:e-p-i _ pron:x _ v:e-h-h pron:x _ v:e-i-p q:i-h-h n_of:x-i _ n:x _ _
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