with Germany and Czechoslovakia accounting for most of the imports, mainly unembroidered. In the later thirties, Japan became the major source of imports, and embroidered gloves also became more important.[21]

During World War II, domestic production of seamless knit gloves increased appreciably. A large part of the gloves then produced had leather palms, required by the armed services. But since these gloves were too expensive for general civilian needs after the war, the industry probably would have found it difficult to maintain a market for them, even without increased imports.

Before 1949, when Japan reentered the market, knit gloves valued at more than $3.50 per dozen pairs were the major category. The duties on these had been lowered in 1939 in the trade agreement with the United Kingdom, and rates were further reduced at Geneva in 1948. The following year, the Japanese industry had completed its recovery and could take advantage of these lower rates so that already in 1949 imports amounted to about one-third of U.S. domestic production; by 1950 they constituted two-thirds.

The Korean war caused another expansion in domestic production, but by 1953, the industry was back to pre-World War II levels. In 1954, the industry applied for relief under the escape clause on wool knit gloves and mittens valued at over $1.75 per dozen pairs. The Tariff Commission refused to recommend withdrawal of concessions granted on import duties because of the "lighter weight" of Japanese gloves which are not competitive with the domestic article and because unusually high inventories carried over from 1953, as well as the mild fall weather had made for lower imports in 1954 than would have been the case otherwise. The Commission implied that after inventories were used up, the domestic industry would get more orders, or at least an increased share of the total.[22]

ALTERNATIVES FOR FULTON COUNTY

In the absence of a Federal trade adjustment program, Fulton County glove producers appear to have several ways of getting themselves out of their difficulties: Continue to press for higher tariffs to protect themselves against competitive imports; [23] undertake a nationwide advertising campaign to improve their sales; [24] or take part in a program of industrial diversification.

Attempts to secure new industries, while less expensive than an adequate advertising campaign, are complicated by the fact that glove manufacturers and glove workers do not wish to let glovemaking become second to another industry. This basic attitude toward change notwithstanding, some elements in the community have taken steps to become more adaptable to the new competitive situation. These adjustment measures will be briefly reviewed before the illustrative trade adjustment program is presented.

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[21] U.S. Tariff Commission, "Summaries of Tariff Information" (Washington, D.C., 1948), vol. 2, pt. 2, p. 74.

[22] U.S. Tariff Commission, "Wool Gloves and Mittens, and Gloves and Mitten Linings of Wool," report on escape-clause investigation No. 35, under sec. 7 of the Trade Agreements Extension Act of 1951 (Washington, D.C., December 1954).

[23] Little success has met these efforts thus far.

[24] This is considered to be too expensive. See Goldwasser and Huber, op. cit.