

Mr. TRIGGS. We have no policy that would permit me to say that we should.

We do notice that an expansion of—let's say strawberries, as an example—in Mexico, an increased importing of fresh strawberries, and processed strawberries from Mexico into the United States, that there is a rising demand for import tariffs or restrictions on strawberries from Mexico, and there have been several bills introduced in both the House and the Senate on this point.

This disturbs us, because looking at the interests of agriculture as a whole, we have a major stake in expanding foreign trade—not protectionism.

Mr. FORD. I had already mentioned some of the names. It appears that some of the people who are doing this are members of your organization, but the particular thrust of the article that you presented to us as an exhibit is not criticism of what the potential danger might be in Mexicans growing strawberries and processing them and sending them up here, but the potential danger of the expansion of American companies which also own American farms, going into places like Mexico to raise specific crops, and, I assume, take advantage of whatever differences they seem to think are there, including the climate, and compete with their own American farmers.

The last paragraph of your exhibit says:

Ironically American dollars and technology have contributed heavily to the advances in European canning and agriculture that have made overseas foods competitive with U.S. products. Until recently, American exports were cheaper and of higher quality than European products.

As I read that, what the author is saying is that the real threat to the importation of foreign-grown products is not coming from foreigners, but coming from American capital engaging in this practice.

Now, separating the two, and I want to say that I agree with you, I am not a protectionist, either, and I don't think that would solve our problem. This committee has been concerned in another subcommittee with the growing use of American capital which goes to a foreign country, produces a product that is not even sold in that foreign country—for example, almost every computer that is sold by major companies in this country today is being wired in the—either Hong Kong or Taiwan.

We ship them there. Almost every toy that you can find now in the average toy shop in this city is manufactured by the big names in toy manufacturing in this country, and it now has at least some part of it manufactured in an American-owned factory, an American-owned factory in Taiwan or Hong Kong.

As a matter of fact, Mattel manufactures parts for the toys assembled in this country by their competitors.

This is American capital that goes to that country not to take any advantage of any world market or to expand outward in the world market or get our share of the world market, but to take advantage of the very cheap labor of Hong Kong and bring the product back in here to compete with American businesses.

Does this concern you in the same way that this article here seems to be of concern to you, when you consider other products, other than processed food products?

Mr. TRIGGS. Well, I have no policy in our Bible that would permit me, or direct me, to answer your question.