when the domestic market was not at its peak. And by the same token, they have not traditionally—over the last 20 years—taken imports as seriously as they might have. What we do need is to instill in industry a greater sense of urgency and participation in international trade, and to provide Government assistance to the extent appropriate.

It is very simple for a country like the Low Countries in Western Europe, where their international trade is upward of half the total GNP, to be export minded. They must be, in order to live.

Mr. STANTON. Mr. McQuade, one last question to you. Mr. Clawson spoke about the 7-, 8-, and 9-year terms that were quoted in regard to export and import agreements. Are you familiar at all with what we call the Berne Union with regard to the control of the time element of support and imports?

Mr. McQUADE. I am. But Mr. Linder is about as familiar with that as anybody could be.

Mr. STANTON. Is this Berne Union involved in this?

Mr. LINDER. Yes; it is. If you would like to know about the Berne Union, I could talk about it for a long time.

Mr. STANTON. I thought they were limited to a 5 year——

Mr. LINDER. We have an agreement but we——

Mr. BARRETT. Would the gentleman yield to me?

Mr. STANTON. Sure.

Mr. BARRETT. I wonder if Mr. Linder and Mr. McQuade would answer that in writing for you. Would that be agreeable?

Mr. STANTON. Very good.

(The information requested follows:)

The Berne Union is a voluntary association of 26 private and governmental insurers of international trade transactions. Its members represent some 20 countries, and include the industrialized countries of Western Europe and several countries in Africa and Asia. The Export-Import Bank and the Foreign Credit Insurance Association (FCIA) are the U.S. members of the Union. The original purpose of the Union when it was first organized in 1934 was to provide a vehicle for the exchange of information among the members regarding their respective practices and techniques in the field of export financing. In the Post World War II period the membership of the Union was expanded and its activities broadened to include understandings regarding appropriate repayment terms for commodities sold on credit terms abroad. In their mutual interest of avoiding a credit war, the members exchange information as to the prevailing terms on which various types of goods are normally sold in international trade. The members are not legally bound, however, to observe any fixed term since the understandings are purely informal and there are no sanctions provided to penalize members who for special reasons decide to exceed the generally accepted maximum term of 5 years. The only obligation members have is to let other members know whenever they insure or guarantee a credit transaction in which the repayment term exceeds 5 years, or such other period as may be applicable for certain items which have been specifically recognized to warrant other maximum terms.

Mr. BARRETT. Mr. Moorhead.

Mr. MOORHEAD. Mr. Linder, does the Eximbank hold more than 25 percent of the external debt of any country?

Mr. LINDER. Yes, sir.

Mr. MOORHEAD. Maybe you could supply the names of the countries for the record. I do not think we need them right here.

(The information requested follows:)