

concern to my constituents, and I am sure each industry will present testimony which will be more detailed. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you again, Mr. Walker, for your statement. Congressman McClure, our colleague from Idaho, is our next witness. Welcome, Mr. McClure, it is good to have you with us today.

**STATEMENT OF HON. JAMES A. McCLURE, A REPRESENTATIVE IN
CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF IDAHO**

Mr. McCLURE. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the opportunity to submit this statement on trade problems as they affect the First District of Idaho and to congratulate you and the members of your committee for conducting such an exhaustive study on a matter of deep concern to many Americans today.

Trade means many things to many people. It is a diplomatic tool to the State Department official. The economist views it from a theoretical standpoint. To the average citizen it can often be a matter of survival.

In my district, miners, farmers, and ranchers have all felt the sting of foreign competition as well as the hopelessness that an unconcerned government can bring. These people are not advocates of straight protectionist legislation. After all, we know that our State's economy is in part dependent upon a spirit of reciprocity among the nations of the free world. Wheat exports are a good example of this, peas and lentils are another.

At the same time, they know that many citizens have had a lifetime's productivity completely wiped out because of unrestricted imports. My district is made up of a series of small towns. When miners and farmers feel the pinch of foreign competition, it is usually felt by one and all.

And so, on their behalf, I appeal to you to review the trade policies of our Nation—not from a selfish, one-way street approach, but rather from the vantage point of correcting the injustices that cause the imperfections in an otherwise flourishing economy.

Historically, the lead and zinc mining industry has been one of the major bulwarks in Idaho's economic structure, and my district ranks third in domestic lead production, fourth in zinc. It would be inaccurate to say that lead-zinc producers in my State have not participated in the prosperity enjoyed by the rest of the Nation over the years. However, we must remember that during the steel strike, imports increased. We thought that they would decline after the strike was over. But they didn't and prices were cut \$20 per ton. Lead imports in 1967 increased 60 percent over the previous year, and it now appears that they will increase another 60 percent during 1968.

The future for zinc is equally gloomy, because of the increase in the number of smelters in Japan and Europe. World productive capacity is increasing faster than world consumption. And those nations will, of course, look to the United States for their markets.

As Al Teske, secretary of the Idaho Mining Association, said in a letter to the Senate Finance Committee last fall:

It is obvious that excess world supplies are again seeking and finding an outlet in the domestic market. Lower foreign prices have exerted and are continuing to exert heavy pressure on the domestic price * * *. The situation today is dis-