turbingly reminiscent of the 1950's when the domestic lead-zinc industry was literally driven to the wall by the adverse impact of excessive imports, while endeavoring over more than a decade to utilize any and every administrative remedy that was supposedly available.

Pending before your committee are a number of bills to set up a flexible quota system for lead and zinc. I think the industry is to be congratulated for having taken the initiative in proposing a solution that is fair to American and foreign producers alike.

Turning to agriculture, a few segments of our economy have been so hard hit by the influx of imports as the farm community.

The fears of dairy farmers have actually been enhanced by the administration's actions in this regard. By the middle of 1967, imports had risen to an annual rate of 4 billion pounds and Secretary Freeman was forced to buy over 8 billion pounds of milk equivalent to maintain the support price. Farm organizations were protesting by calling for milk-holding actions, and many of us wondered just how serious the situation would have to get before the administration acted.

Paradoxically, the Attorney General was able to get a Federal restraining order against certain aspects of the milk-holding action 1 day after filing suit, while Secretary Freeman waited months before urging the President to take steps. The President asked the Tariff Commission to study the problem and then imposed an import quota of 1 billion pounds per year. Of course, by then the damage was done, and it was noted by one of our colleagues that dairy imports were equivalent to the production of 6,000 dairy farms with 50 cows each. It just so happens that during this period 6,000 domestic dairy farms went out of existence.

The President's quota did not solve the import problem and so a few days ago, he imposed temporary import quotas on condensed and evaporated milk and cream. While welcome, the President's proclamation just doesn't have the force of law. That which is a "temporary restriction" at the end of June may well be a "terminated restriction" at the end of November. Dairy farmers know this better than anyone else, so they continue to write the Congress begging for help.

In my district, Joe Hall, manager of the Idaho Dairymen's Association says:

> Action by the President during 1967 to curb runaway dairy product importing was badly needed and apparently effective as far as it goes; however, this action falls far short of what is needed. Effective control of the quantity and quality of dairy products imported into this country can only come about through passage of the Dairy Import Act.

And C. M. Carlson, general manager of the Dairymen's Creamery Association, in Caldwell, recently wrote to me as follows:

> We feel it would be most helpful if you would indicate to the Ways and Means Committee that dairy farming and dairy processing are very important to the economy of your district as well as to the entire State of Idaho; and unneeded imports are harmful to this important industry and are adding millions of dollars of unnecessary cost to the price support program as well as draining millions of dollars out of this country at a time when our balance of payments is already in a precarious condition. Existing import controls have been characterized by repeated and flagrant evasion. In order to stop this from continuing, it is indeed very important that the proposed Dairy Import Act be enacted into law.