

There comes a day when we have to draw a line on imports and think of our own industries and manufacturers. Maybe it would be better for the American people to pay 2 to 3 cents per pound more for hamburger, or 2 cents per pound more for frankfurters and still have a job and be able to purchase these much needed foods than to be without employment.

We, the officials of the city of Conneaut, Ohio, and the Conneaut Port Authority, support fully the Iron and Steel Orderly Trade Act of 1967 (Senate 2537) and the House of Representatives (H.R. 14120) which will, if enacted, help preserve the economic well-being of the Nation, the State of Ohio, the city of Conneaut, and provide for national security through a system of fairly established quotas limiting the quantities of foreign pig iron and steel that can be brought into the United States which is the main concern of the citizens of the city of Conneaut, Ohio. But we, the citizens of the United States, should be concerned about all imports into the United States, and how they can affect the economic well-being of the Nation.

We strongly urge your honorable body to take all the time necessary and weigh all facts before coming to any decision on this very important issue, not only to the city of Conneaut, but to all of us in this great country of ours.

The proposed act contains no mention of the restrictive import and export subsidies needed to help correct the United States balance of payments.

We ask for your consideration and approval and that of the Congress of the United States on the Steel Orderly Act of 1967.

I have tried to keep this testimony short and to the point. I wish to express my thanks and that of the citizens and officials of the city of Conneaut, for allowing us this opportunity to appear here before your honorable body and present our views on this very important matter.

Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. We appreciate your taking time from your busy schedule to be with us.

Are there any questions?

Thank you, sir.

Mayor GRISWOLD. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Palmer, president of the Tobacco Associates.

Mr. Palmer, we are pleased to have you with us today, sir, and, if you will identify yourself for our record, we will be glad to recognize you.

STATEMENT OF JOHN D. PALMER, PRESIDENT, TOBACCO ASSOCIATES, INC.

Mr. PALMER. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, for this privilege of appearing before your committee.

My name is John D. Palmer. I am president of Tobacco Associates, Inc., a nonprofit association supported by some 200,000 growers of Flue-cured tobacco in Virginia, the Carolinas, Georgia, and Florida, as well as by banks, merchants, fertilizer manufacturers, and other interests related to tobacco in these States. Its primary function is to protect and to expand foreign markets for Flue-cured tobacco.