

barriers to trade other nations have erected. Certainly, the emergency conditions which brought about the uncritical attitude on the part of the United States no longer exist and it is time that we develop a more realistic posture. We can no longer afford to say, as I believe we have indicated in effect, that we will be willing to lower our tariffs only on the promise that other nations will not raise their barriers against our products.

In North Carolina, we have several major industries which are in various stages of difficulty because of present trade policies. Certainly, the textile industry is a major factor in our State and it is obvious now that serious problems are ahead for that industry if present trends continue. We need only to look at what is happening in our own marketplace.

In 1967, imports of cotton, wool, and manmade fiber textile products amounted to about 2.6 billion square yards or 10.1 percent of the U.S. market. This compares with an import penetration of 6.2 percent in 1961, indicating the very large increases in textile imports today.

As the committee is aware, there is in existence an international cotton textile trade arrangement, which is supposed to provide some measure of control over imports. Negotiated in 1961, it was extended during the Kennedy round negotiations to 1970. The arrangement does not provide for absolute import quotas.

As it has developed, cotton textile imports have risen from 720 million square yards in 1961 to 1.5 billion square yards in 1967.

No restraints of any sort exist on manmade fiber or wool textiles. Wool textile imports now account for over 22 percent of the U.S. market, while manmade fiber textile imports rose from 151 million square yards in 1961 to 933 million in 1967.

For the first 4 months of 1968, total textile imports were 1,055,600,000 equivalent square yards—a record for any 4-month period. Should they continue at this rate, textile imports in 1968 would reach almost 3.2 billion square yards. The previous import record, set in 1966, was 2.8 billion square yards.

All indications, therefore, are that without Government action to restrain the growth of textile imports, they will continue to increase, undermining a basic U.S. industry.

The textile industry has plants in 42 States, employing 950,000 people on a payroll of \$4.5 billion. The apparel industry employs 1.4 million people in every State at more than \$5 billion annually. Manmade fiber producing involves some 90,000 employees who are paid almost \$650 million.

Textile, apparel, and manmade fiber employment account for one out of nine U.S. manufacturing jobs. This complex supplies 27 percent of all manufacturing jobs in the Appalachian region where the Government is trying to encourage industrial development.

In the State of North Carolina, the textile industry is the leading manufacturing employer. Textiles alone, employing almost 265,000 people, account for 43 percent of industrial employment in North Carolina, with an annual payroll of almost \$1.2 billion. The State's more than 1,000 textile plants produce almost one-fourth of all broad-woven cotton goods in America; more than one-third of all manmade fiber fabric; almost 10 percent of the woolen and worsted goods; and nearly one-half of all cotton sales yarn.